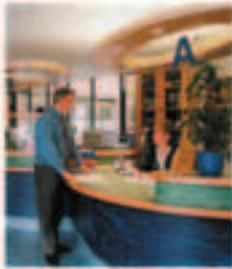


South Gloucestershire Council Local Development Framework Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

March 2008



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Non-Technical Summary

Sustainability and the Sustainability Appraisal Process

1. The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process is a way of ensuring that all plans and programmes which relate to land use issues are compatible with the aims of sustainable development. This includes the constituent documents that will form the South Gloucestershire Local Development Framework (LDF).

2. While the issue of 'sustainable development' is a complex one, sustainable development can be defined as:

“Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

3. The origins of the SA process lie with the European Union's Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive, which acts to ensure that all plans/policies with land use implications take into consideration environmental issues and impacts. The UK's SA process has widened this scope, to also include consideration of social and economic issues when assessing specific plans and programmes relating to land use issues.

The Scoping Report

4. This Scoping Report sets out a Framework for how the SA will be carried out for the following Development Plan Documents (DPDs):

- Core Strategy;
- Gypsy and Traveller; and
- Site Allocations

(The Joint Waste DPD, which the Council is also preparing, is the subject of a separate SA as it is being prepared jointly with the other three unitary authorities in the West of England)

5. It will also be used to appraise a number of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) that will form part of the LDF (DPDs and SPDs are collectively known as Local Development Documents (LDDs)).

6. The first stage of the scoping process has been to identify and review a large number of relevant plans and programmes that influence the LDF. This includes looking at documents at an international, national, regional and local level. They have been identified and reviewed in order to ensure compliance with the aims and objectives of complementary plans and programmes.

7. In order to assess what options would be most sustainable for the future development of South Gloucestershire, it has been necessary to identify those key environmental and sustainability issues that currently exist in the District. This process has included looking at a range of information and indicators on environmental, social and economic conditions to illustrate the issues relevant to the District.

8. The Report then sets out the SA Framework. This will be used to assess, against relevant sustainability criteria, the different options and alternatives being considered when producing each DPD and SPD.

9. The Framework consists of a set of sustainability objectives against which the LDF's emerging objectives and policy options will be tested. The chosen sustainability objectives (below) are derived from the Strategic Sustainability Assessment of the South West Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). As these had been formulated through the Regional Sustainable Development Framework process and have been subject to consultation with groups involved in the development of the RSS, it was considered useful to utilise this work for the purposes of this SA. They consist of six broad 'high-level' objectives that are explained/clarified by 31 more specific sub-objectives.

Consultation

The Draft Scoping Report was subject to stakeholder consultation for six weeks in November and December 2007. Comments were received from nine stakeholder organisations and a number of changes were made to the document as a result. A range of officers from throughout South Gloucestershire Council has also made significant contributions to the report. The final version of the Scoping Report was then approved by the Council in March 2008.

What Next?

11. Following this scoping stage, SAs will be undertaken for each DPD and SPD that the Council intends to publish. For each, a Draft SA Report will be published alongside draft DPDs and SPDs and a Final SA Report will then be published along with the adopted DPD/SPD.

12. The Council will simplify the outcome of the appraisal process by producing simplified, non-technical summaries with each published SA document.

Sustainability Appraisal Framework Objectives

1. Improve Health

- 1.1 Improve health.
- 1.2 Reduce health inequalities.
- 1.3 Promote healthy lifestyles especially routine daily exercise.

2. Support communities that meet people's needs

- 2.1 Help make suitable housing available and affordable for everyone.
- 2.2 Give everyone access to learning, training, skills and knowledge.
- 2.3 Reduce crime and fear of crime.
- 2.4 Promote stronger, more vibrant communities.
- 2.5 Increase access to and participation in cultural activities.

3. Develop the economy in ways that meet people's needs

- 3.1 Give everyone in the district access to satisfying work opportunities paid or unpaid.
- 3.2 Help everyone afford a comfortable standard of living.
- 3.3 Reduce poverty and income inequality.
- 3.4 Meet local needs locally.
- 3.5 Increase the circulation of wealth within the area.
- 3.6 Reduce the vulnerability of the economy to climate change and harness opportunities arising.

4. Provide access to meet people's needs with least damage to communities and the environment.

- 4.1 Reduce the need/desire to travel longer than walking or cycling distance. Where travel beyond this is necessary ensure that the form of transport chosen has minimal environmental impact.
- 4.2 Help everyone access basic services easily, safely and affordably.
- 4.3 Make public transport, cycling and walking easier and more attractive.
- 4.4 Encourage a switch from transporting freight by road to rail or water.

5. Maintain and improve environmental quality and assets

- 5.1 Protect and enhance habitats and species (taking account of climate change).
- 5.2 Promote the conservation and wise use of land.
- 5.3 Protect and enhance landscape and townscape.
- 5.4 Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness including rural ways of life.
- 5.5 Maintain and enhance cultural and historical assets.
- 5.6 Reduce vulnerability to flooding and sea level rise (taking account of climate change).

6. Minimise pollution and consumption of natural resources

- 6.1 Reduce non-renewable energy consumption and "greenhouse emissions".
- 6.2 Keep water consumption within local carrying capacity limits (taking account of climate change).
- 6.3 Minimise consumption and extraction of minerals.
- 6.4 Reduce waste not put to any use.
- 6.5 Minimise land, water, air, light, noise, and generic pollution.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 South Gloucestershire Council is preparing a joint set of planning policy documents for the District. These policies are being prepared in stages and, together, they will form the Council's Local Development Framework (LDF).

1.2 The first two key documents being prepared are the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) and the Gypsy and Traveller DPD. Over time, these documents will be complemented by more detailed documents, which will set out site allocations and policies for determining planning applications. Collectively, these DPDs will be the basis for decision-making on new development and the use of land.

1.3 DPDs will be supported by Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) that also form part of the LDF (DPDs and SPDs are collectively known as Local Development Documents (LDDs)). Further information on the LDF is contained in the Council's published Local Development Scheme.

1.4 Sustainability Appraisal has been introduced by the Government to ensure specific plans and policies (including those of the LDF) are prepared to accord with the principles of sustainable development. SAs incorporate the requirement of European Directive 2001/42/EC, to undergo a process known as Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

1.5 The overall aim of the appraisal process is to ensure that the South Gloucestershire LDF, and the LDDs it contains, makes an effective contribution to the pursuit of 'sustainable development'.

Sustainable Development

1.6 The term sustainable development originates from the Brundtland Commission Report of the World Commission of Environment and Development in 1987, which defined sustainable development as:

"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

1.7 In order to promote sustainable development, the UK Government has developed a strategy for sustainable development that it uses to guide its own national policy development and implementation. This strategy, released in March 2005, sets out a number of guiding principles:

- Living within environmental limits;
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;
- Achieving a sustainable economy;
- Promoting good governance; and
- Using sound science responsibly

1.8 The UK Government's Sustainable Development Strategy further sets out a number of shared priorities for UK action. These are:

- Sustainable consumption and production;
- Climate change and energy;
- Natural resource protection and environmental management; and
- Sustainable communities.

1.9 In addition to the objectives set out in the Government's overarching Sustainable Development Strategy, Planning Policy Statement 1 ('PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development') also provides guidance on integrating sustainable development within the spatial planning system. In particular, PPS1 promotes urban and rural regeneration that:

- Promotes regional, sub-regional and local economies;
- Promotes communities which are inclusive, healthy, safe and crime free;
- Brings forward land of suitable quality in the right locations;
- Gives high priority to ensuring access for all to jobs, health, education, shops, leisure and community facilities; and
- Promotes a more efficient use of land.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

1.10 Under the requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC (known as the SEA Directive) Local Authorities are required to carry out, in almost all cases, a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the LDDs that make up their LDF.

1.11 The purpose of SEA is to consider issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage and landscape and to determine how the Council's policies and proposals in the LDF could influence each of these.

1.12 By considering these issues in detail, SEA seeks to ensure that environmental considerations are fully integrated in the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes which are likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

Sustainability Appraisal

1.13 Whilst SEA focuses on environmental issues, Sustainability Appraisal (SA) widens the approach to also include social and economic issues. The purpose of SA is to ensure that the principles of sustainable development are taken fully into account when preparing the LDDs that form the LDF.

1.14 The SA process has been designed so that, by carrying out one appraisal process, local authorities can also satisfy the requirements of the SEA Directive. Therefore, it should be taken that where the Scoping Report

refers to the SA process it also incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive.

1.15 The process of SA requires an examination of the state of South Gloucestershire as it is today and the identification of key issues that could affect the future sustainability of the District. Using this information, sustainability objectives are then developed, against which the draft policies and proposals of the LDF will be assessed in order to ensure that they best achieve the sustainability objectives.

1.16 The SA will also put in place a framework to monitor such policies and proposals once in operation, in order to ensure that they are working in a way that accord with sustainability objectives. This will enable future amendments to be made to policies as necessary.

Scoping Report

1.17 The Scoping Report is the first step in undertaking a SA. This Scoping Report has been prepared in accordance with guidance from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) published in 2005. The Scoping Report undertakes the following tasks:

- it identifies environmental, social and economic objectives contained in other plans and programmes that are relevant to the LDF;
- it assesses the broad environmental, social and economic characteristics of South Gloucestershire, and how these are changing;
- it then, in light of these reviews, considers key issues and problems that the LDF should address in the pursuit of sustainable development; and
- it sets out an appropriate framework for carrying out SAs for those LDDs that will make up the LDF. This includes setting:
 - i) objectives against which draft policies and options may be assessed; and
 - ii) indicators against which the progress towards meeting those objectives can be monitored in the future through the Annual Monitoring Report.

1.18 Following on from the Scoping Report, work will continue with individual SAs for the various LDDs that will make up the LDF.

1.19 As identified, the first two documents being prepared are the Core Strategy DPD and the Gypsy and Traveller DPD. The Gypsy and Traveller DPD will seek to find solutions for the shortfall in authorised accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers in South Gloucestershire, while the Core Strategy DPD will set out the basic principles and policy direction for planning and development in South Gloucestershire. The Council is also committed to completing a Site Allocations DPD at a later date, which will identify specific land allocations to deliver the Council's Core Strategy.

Consultation

1.20 The consultation for the Draft Scoping Report took account of the requirements of the SEA Directive and the Government's SA guidance to consult the following statutory environmental consultation bodies for a period of five weeks:

- Natural England
- The Environment Agency
- English Heritage

1.21 Consultation on the Draft Scoping Report exceeded these statutory requirements by lasting for six weeks in November and December 2007. Additionally, in line with Government guidance, the Council consulted a range of other bodies, taking account of the need to achieve some balance between those concerned with social, environmental and economic issues, including all Parish and Town Councils within South Gloucestershire, neighbouring authorities, planning agents and developers, stakeholder groups and environmental groups.

1.22 Comments were received from a range of stakeholders, which resulted in a number of changes being made to the Draft Scoping Report, which are present in this final version. This final version was approved by the Council in March 2008.

2.0 Methodology

Introduction

2.1 Government Guidance 'Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents', published in November 2005, defines five key stages (below) leading up to the production of a Scoping Report. The guidance should be referred to as a comprehensive guide for the methodology used for this first stage of the SA as well as the subsequent stages in the process.

- Task A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives.
- Task A2: Collecting baseline information.
- Task A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems.
- Task A4: Developing the sustainability appraisal framework.
- Task A5: Consulting on the scope of the sustainability appraisal.

Information Gathering

2.2 The focus of the initial information gathering stage is a review of all the other relevant plans, programmes and strategies (Task A1) and the collection of baseline environmental, social and economic data (Task A2). This is used to identify the key sustainability issues and objectives (Tasks A3 and A4). The Council, using our own environmental information where available, but also relying heavily on data from other agencies and organisations, has carried this work out 'in-house'.

2.3 The key outcomes from each of these information-gathering stages are summarised in the body of this Scoping Report. A full list of the relevant plans, and programmes reviewed as part of the Scoping Report is given in Appendices A and B. A description of the current state South Gloucestershire is set out in Section 4 and Appendix C.

Limitations

2.4 Part of the SA process is to establish what information is currently available and whether there is other information that should be collected in the future. This involves a wide range of organisations that may hold different sets of data. The data they hold may not always be comparable or it may not have been collected at regular intervals.

3.0 Task A1: The requirements of other plans, programmes and policies

3.1 The purpose of reviewing other plans and programmes is to identify relevant sustainability objectives and to ensure that the aims and objectives of the Local Development Documents (LDDs) forming the Local Development Framework (LDF) are consistent with their strategies, objectives and policies. It is important to identify where there may be potential conflicts, and also where the LDF's documents and policies can contribute to the aims of these other plans/programmes.

3.2 The SEA Directive requires the relationship of the LDF with other plans and programmes and *'the environmental protection objectives established at the international, EC or national level, which are relevant to the plan...and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation'* to be set out. This in itself is a useful task for checking that the SA Framework covers all the objectives that it needs to cover, and also to identify any targets and baseline information that will be relevant to the SA process.

3.3 The review meets the requirement of the SEA Directive to include the environmental protection objectives established at international, European Community (EC) or national level that are relevant to the LDF.

3.4 Key environmental protection objectives established at the EC level include those contained in the Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (The Birds Directive, 79/409/EEC) and the Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (The Habitats Directive, 92/42/EEC), which together establish a legislative framework for protecting and conserving Europe's wildlife and habitats. The Directives implement in Community law the international requirements of the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species and the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats. However, the review in this Scoping Report of environmental protection objectives goes beyond those specifically mentioned in the SEA Directive, to include other international objectives (e.g. Kyoto Protocol to the UN Convention on Climate Change, 1992), other EU Directives (e.g. Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC), national objectives (e.g. Planning Policy Guidance 9 Nature Conservation), and regional policy objectives (e.g. Our Environment, Our Future – The Regional Strategy for the South West Environment 2004 – 2014).

3.5 The review has been split into two parts: one that reviews international, national and regional plans, policies and strategies; and one that deals with those at the local level. These can be found in Appendices A and B.

3.6 Through the process of this review, a number of relevant issues were identified which will need to be addressed in Sustainability Appraisals and the Local Development Framework. These issues are outlined below:

- Need to protect, conserve and enhance internationally, nationally and locally recognised biodiversity and habitats;
- Ensuring diverse, socially cohesive communities are maintained/created;
- Meeting South Gloucestershire's strategic housing and employment needs;
- Better and more sustainable access to services, facilities and amenities for all;
- Reduce the need to travel by car;
- Need to address flooding and flood risk;
- Provision of high levels of renewable energy generation/carbon saving;
- Minimisation of waste and more prudent use of resources;
- Improve air quality and reduce all kinds of pollution; and
- Provision and protection of green open spaces and green infrastructure.

3.7 These issues, along with those identified in analysis of the Baseline Data in Appendix C, have been used to develop the objectives of the Sustainability Appraisal (as set out in Table 2) and will therefore go on to help shape the Local Development Framework.

4.0 Task A2: Baseline information and assessment

Introduction

4.1 Before an assessment can be made of how the Local Development Framework might contribute to sustainable development, it is necessary to have an understanding of the current 'state' of South Gloucestershire through the collection of baseline information, including data on the environment and its characteristics, in accord with the SEA Directive.

4.2 This section of the Scoping Report provides a written description of the current state of South Gloucestershire. The information used to inform the description is drawn from the data displayed in Appendix C, as well as from discussions with South Gloucestershire Council Officers and Members, as well as from South Gloucestershire Council/local publications (as reviewed in Appendix B).

Methodology

4.3 The data and description used here and in Appendix C is held by a large number of different organisations. Most of the information is available through relevant websites, although some is available only in paper format. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information shown in this report is up to date, the baseline data used in this Scoping Report should not be relied upon for other purposes.

4.4 In collecting baseline data, the aim has been to provide current District data for each indicator along with regional and national comparison. Where possible a comparison with earlier data has also been included to try and identify possible trends. Whilst, in many cases, there is not enough information to be certain of likely trends, this is an important starting point for future work. Government guidance suggests a wide range of possible indicators and data sources but recognises that not all of these will be relevant in every case.

4.5 There are limitations on the range and type of information that is available, and it is hoped that future work will be able to draw upon a more comprehensive data set. There are identified gaps in data for a broad range of themes, although economic and demographic statistics are reasonably comprehensive. There tends to be greater deficiencies relating to environmental considerations. For example, there is a shortage of information on the condition of priority wildlife habitats and species. Other identified data deficiencies include figures for those participating in leisure and sports activities.

4.6 The indicators and baseline information that has been used to compile this section is contained primarily at Appendix C. It is not expected that this information will be exhaustive, and it may be added to or refined as the SA process progresses.

Gaps in Baseline Data and forthcoming Studies

4.7 As part of the ongoing collection of evidence to inform the production of the Local Development Framework, major studies will be undertaken to inform policy formulation. At the time of writing (February 2008) several studies are currently being undertaken, or are planned to be undertaken:

Housing Studies

4.8 A key objective of the planning system is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent home. In order to inform decisions about the type, mix and tenure of new dwellings required in South Gloucestershire it will be important for the LDF to understand the range of housing needs and housing market pressures operating in the District. In this respect, while the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West will identify the overall number of new dwellings required over the next 20 years, as well as the broad spatial strategy that will guide where new dwellings should be provided, it will be the role of the LDF to ensure their delivery. To achieve this, PPS 3 advises Councils preparing Core Strategies to undertake two important studies to ensure the conditions operating in the local housing market are fully understood. These are Strategic Housing Market Assessments and Strategic Land Availability Assessments. They are an important part of the LDF policy production process as they provide information on the level of need and demand for housing and the opportunities that exist to meet it.

4.9 The *Strategic Housing Market Assessment* will:

- Estimate housing need and demand in terms of affordable and market housing within the context of future demographic trends
- Consider the mix of housing to be provided
- Determine how the distribution of need and demand varies across the plan area, for example, as between the urban and rural areas.
- Identify the accommodation requirements of specific groups such as, homeless households, Black and Minority Ethnic groups, first time buyers, disabled people, older people, Gypsies and Travellers and other significant groups in an area such as, students.

4.10 The *Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment* will:

- Assess the likely level of housing that could be provided if unimplemented planning permissions were brought into development.
- Assess the potential level of housing that can be provided on other identified land
- Assess additional land availability by identifying buildings or areas of land (including previously developed land, land allocated for other uses and Greenfield land adjacent to or within existing settlements) that have development potential for housing, including within mixed-use developments.
- Identify constraints that might make a particular site unavailable and/or unviable for development

- Identify sustainability issues and physical constraints that might make a site unsuitable
- Identify what action could be taken to overcome constraints on particular sites
- Assess and evaluate past trends in windfall land coming forward for development and estimate the likely future implementation rate.

4.11 The Government has set out good practice guidance that will be followed in carrying out these assessments. Both studies are anticipated at the time of writing to be completed by April/May 2008.

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

4.12 Flooding and flood risk are important issues that the planning system needs to address when considering future locations for development. In this respect, the operation and management of local river catchments and water systems needs to be fully understood at the time when options and choices are being considered about where to locate future development. In South Gloucestershire the River Avon and River Frome are the main watercourses. In accord with guidance in PPS25 a SFRA will be undertaken to evaluate the degree of risk posed by each river system and the means by which flooding and flood risk can be minimised. This is in addition to the Avonmouth/ Severnside SFRA undertaken in 2006/07, and still ongoing. This study has looked in some detail at the flooding issues associated with the coastal and inter-tidal area within the Severn Estuary flood plain administered by Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire Council.

4.13 When considering the high tidal risks associated with the Severnside area it is vital that the SFRA fully identifies/documents the tidal functional floodplain. These risks have already been identified through the Avonmouth / Severnside flood risk study and these outcomes should be incorporated within the SFRA.

4.14 It is anticipated at the time of writing that the SFRA will be completed by Autumn 2008.

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment

4.15 The 2004 Housing Act and Planning Circular 1/2006 require local authorities to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers residing or resorting to their areas. The production of a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) provides the means by which this work is undertaken and is the basis upon which policies for the provision of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation are further developed to inform the RSS and LDF processes. In accord with Government guidance the purpose of undertaking a GTAA is to provide:

- a. Reliable estimates of future accommodation needs
- b. Assess demographic characteristics
- c. Review current accommodation
- d. Evaluate aspirations for various types of accommodation

4.16 In October 2006, consultants were appointed by the four West of England Unitary Authorities to undertake the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). The objective of the West of England GTAA was to examine the shortfall in accommodation, as well as making projections of future growth in accommodation needs. This takes into account latent demand such as population growth and concealed households e.g. Gypsies currently in bricks and mortar. The findings of the study were published in October 2007 and will support the West of England at the forthcoming South West RSS Partial Review for Gypsy and Travellers additional pitch requirements which is due to be held in March 2008. It will also provide the evidence base to support the Council's Gypsy and Traveller DPD.

An introduction to the current state of South Gloucestershire

4.17 South Gloucestershire is an area that has undergone rapid expansion over recent decades, arising principally from its strategic road and rail communications and location adjoining the City of Bristol.

4.18 It is a generally prosperous area, with relatively little deprivation, low unemployment, good scores on health indicators and lower than average crime rates. It also contains important environmental assets.

4.19 Growth has brought increasingly acute transportation pressures, with high rates of car ownership and usage, and of road traffic growth.

Population and Demography

4.20 South Gloucestershire has experienced rapid population growth in recent decades, due to the area's location adjoining the major city of Bristol, the opportunities it has presented to accommodate household growth generated in other parts of the sub-region, its strategic road and rail communications which have attracted economic growth, and its high quality natural environment.

4.21 Some key statistics:

- At the time of the 2001 Census, the population of South Gloucestershire was 245,641 (49.4% male and 50.6% female), growing from 220,364 in 1991.
- It is estimated (Registrar General's Mid-year Estimates) that in 2005 the population was 248,100.
- The population has grown by 11.5% between 1991 and 2001, compared with 7.1% growth across the South West region.
- Based on mid year estimates, the population has grown 0.9% between 2001 and 2005 compared with a 2.5% growth in the South West (Source: South Gloucestershire 2001 Census Profile; Office for National Statistics)

4.22 The age structure of South Gloucestershire's population is broadly similar to the national average, but generally slightly younger and with a lower proportion of single person households. The highest concentrations of older

people are in older suburban housing areas and some rural areas. Areas of new development, such as Bradley Stoke, show high proportions of young adults and children.

4.23 Although South Gloucestershire has a lower proportion of elderly people than the UK average, the numbers will increase significantly in the next 20 years with the biggest increase in the over 85 age group. There will be a 20% increase in the over 65-age group in the next 20 years. The greatest concentrations of elderly people are in Kingswood, Downend and Filton. Thornbury and the rural areas also have a significant proportion of over 65s. Many of the risk factors that contribute to poor health in the elderly are the same as in the population as a whole but the ways in which they are addressed may be different. These factors include low income, poor housing, poor nutrition, obesity and lack of exercise. The elderly are also more prone to isolation that contributes to significant levels of depression.

Housing and Residential Accommodation

4.24 The South Gloucestershire Local Plan (adopted January 2006) identifies a total of 17,760 dwellings to be built in the district over the period 1996-2011. As at 31st March 2006, the 10th year of the Local Plan period, a total of 10,690 dwellings had been completed. This equates to an average annual completion rate of 1,069 dwellings per annum (dpa) compared with a national plan average of 1,184 dpa. In real terms average annual completions recorded over the last 10 years (1996-2006) have fallen just under 10% short of the average build requirement over this period. The dwellings completions of 3,698 achieved over the last 5 years (2001/02 to 2005/06) therefore needs to be seen in this wider context, given the higher levels of housing achieved in the period 1996 to 2001. Similarly with regard to the rates of house building currently being achieved for 2005/06 of 636 dwellings, although relatively low by past build rate standards, it is still considered within acceptable limits in light of higher than average past rates.

4.25 The South Gloucestershire Local Plan sets a target of 50% of all new dwelling completions to be on previously developed land (PDL) for the duration of the Local Plan period. Current monitoring of dwelling completions indicates that for the period 1996 – 2006 34% of total dwelling completions have been from PDL sources. This represents a 16% shortfall from the Plan's overall target. Over the next 5 years it is expected that completions from PDL sources will rise, taking account of the increased dwelling construction being delivered from PDL sources. However, it is looking increasingly unlikely that the 50% PDL target will be met, with a figure of 40% instead being considered more realistic. This is caused in the main by the high overall strategic dwelling requirement of 17,760 set in the South Gloucestershire Local Plan, coupled with the fact that a high proportion of this requirement is identified to come from Greenfield site sources in the absence of significant PDL sources that could be prioritised ahead of the need to bring Greenfield sites forward.

4.26 The affordable housing completions total for 1996-2006 is 631 gross (429 net). This represents 5% of the total gross figure or 4% of the total net

completions. These figures show that, like many councils, the provision of affordable housing is significantly off target. A number of major sites are currently progressing through the planning process. In total these represent around 8,700 new dwellings. It is expected these will be completed over the next 5 – 10 years and will contribute in the order of 3,000 new affordable homes. In addition the Council is preparing a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) that will clearly set out our approach for negotiating affordable housing.

4.27 The contributions that dwelling conversion schemes make to the overall delivery of new homes looks likely to rise in future years. While the benefits of this are recognised, both in the form of bringing under-used/vacant properties back into more productive use and in providing a better mix and type of dwellings, careful monitoring will be needed to make sure that flat conversion schemes do not significantly erode the quality of urban/suburban life. There is potential that a proliferation of this form of development could give rise to unacceptable levels of on-street car parking and congestion, thus impacting detrimentally on communities' amenity and living conditions.

4.28 Current completion rates are low and necessitate rates well above current levels to meet local plan targets, i.e. possibly around 1400 per year. Failure to meet these targets could result in the unplanned release of greenfield sites on appeal, so the objective must be to ensure the speedy planned implementation of sites.

4.29 There has been a drop in the vacancy rate for the 2 authorised Gypsy/Traveller sites. The council aims to keep these sites at less than 2% vacancy rate so this drop is a positive shift towards this target. It is assumed that the reason for the vacancy rate is the result of neighbourly disputes, which often result in many Gypsy's vacating a site at one time.

Economy

4.30 South Gloucestershire has one of the fastest growing economies in the country with an estimated 40,000 jobs being generated between 1996 and 2006, predominantly in the Bristol North Fringe area. There were an estimated 150,000 persons employed in South Gloucestershire at April 2006 (employees and self employed).

4.31 For many years the economy of South Gloucestershire has been closely associated with the aerospace industry with Airbus UK and BAE Systems (formerly British Aerospace) based at Filton and Rolls Royce at Patchway. The aerospace industry is a key economic sector, employing some 11,000 people: major projects include the design and manufacture of wings for Airbus and the design and manufacture of military jet engines (Rolls Royce).

4.32 Other significant manufacturing industries in South Gloucestershire include electrical engineering and packaging. Local and central government (the Ministry of Defence), the health sector, retailing, higher education (the

University of the West of England) and further education and telecommunications are also well represented.

4.33 Kingswood, Yate and Thornbury contain well-established industrial areas providing local employment opportunities. Prominent companies in the Kingswood / Warmley / Hanham area include Knorr-Bremse and Alcan Packaging. However the older urban areas of Staple Hill, Kingswood and Hanham continue to experience changing economic fortunes. These areas have not benefited to the same degree as other parts of South Gloucestershire in terms of continued economic prosperity and wealth generation. These older, traditional urban areas have performed less well in economic terms than neighbouring areas, experiencing a loss of economic vitality and enterprise created by employment closures, rationalisation programmes, relocations and changing shopping patterns.

4.34 To maintain the area's strategic competitive advantage in research and development the Council, working with other key stakeholders, has identified land for a science park comprising 25ha at Emersons Green, east of the A4171. The identification of this local employment area will help provide jobs and training opportunities for local people at Emersons Green providing a convenient alternative location for existing small and expanding business wishing to relocate from constrained sites.

4.35 Warehousing and distribution uses is also a sector experiencing significant growth and expansion that will require additional land. Recently the Severnside area has seen considerable activity and development by this market sector. It fulfills a sub-regional role as a strategic location for distribution warehousing and industrial uses. The principle objective, is to ensure a balance between the promotion of the area as an employment resource and the protection and enhancement of the ecologically important, fragile and visually prominent coastal zone. There are also significant and severe drainage, amelioration of flood risk and health and safety issues that need to be addressed.

4.36 Beyond the direct influence of the Greater Bristol area Yate and Thornbury are important centres for locally based employment. Almost 200 companies occupy premises on the five industrial estates in Yate, while Thornbury Industrial Estate is home to over 50 companies.

4.37 The development of the Regional Shopping Centre at Cribbs Causeway, the relocation of major companies from Bristol (e.g. AXA, Royal Mail, GE Capital Equipment) and large-scale business park development have established Bristol North Fringe as one of the largest employment areas in the South West. The collocation of the Defence Procurement Agency to Abbey Wood in the late 1990s brought over 6,000 jobs to the North Fringe: the proposed move of the Defence Logistics Organisation will bring another 1,500+ jobs.

4.38 Unemployment levels have remained reasonably constant at around the 1,500 mark over the past five years - at December 2006 the rate stood at

1.0% (Great Britain 2.5%): only one of the 35 wards in South Gloucestershire had an unemployment rate of over 2% at December 2006.

Education and Skills

4.39 South Gloucestershire's children show higher academic achievement at GCSE level compared with the national average. However, the number of South Gloucestershire working residents achieving NVQ3 is lower than national achievement.

- Proportion of children achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSE grades: South Gloucestershire; **57%**. National average; 54.6%
- Working age residents achieving NVQ level 3: South Gloucestershire; **48%**. England and Wales; 51.6%

(Source: South Gloucestershire Education BVPI 38; Office for National Statistics - Labour Force Survey, 2004)

Social Inclusiveness and Deprivation

4.40 Within the authority, detailed statistical information suggests the highest rates of deprivation are located in parts of Staple Hill, Patchway and Kingswood.

- In 2004, South Gloucestershire ranked as the 299th highest-ranking authority out of 354 in terms of national indices of multiple deprivation.
- In 2001, **4.1%** of households were without central heating, the second lowest proportion in the South West and compared with 8.5% nationally.

(Source: ODPM Indices of Deprivation 2004; Deprivation in South Gloucestershire report; South Gloucestershire 2001 Census Profile)

Health

4.41 In general, residents of South Gloucestershire are healthier and have a better life expectancy than the national average. However, this hides a widening gap between the most and least affluent in the area. For example, those in the areas of highest deprivation are twice as likely to die of lung cancer, than those in the richest areas and have up to 4.7 years shorter life expectancy. The most deprived wards are Kings Chase, Staple Hill, Patchway, Woodstock and Filton (Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2004-5).

4.42 Major health problems in the area are cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer. For each of these the incidence is lower than the national average. As well as the "big killers" there are a range of chronic diseases which are not life threatening but which have a big impact on quality of life such as arthritis, depression, Alzheimer's and chronic bronchitis. The trend in many of these conditions is upwards due in part to the increase in the elderly population.

4.43 Increasing levels of obesity, including childhood obesity, contribute to a number of health problems including heart disease, stroke, Type 2 diabetes and some cancers. The prevalence of obesity in England has trebled since the 1980's and 22% of men and 23.5% of women are now obese. Well over half of all adults are either overweight or obese (65% of men and 55% of women). Rates of obesity in children are also rising. Data for children in South Gloucestershire show that in 2004/5, 14.6% of 4-5 year olds starting school were overweight while a further 8.7% were obese.

Crime and Community Safety

4.44 Total crime rates in South Gloucestershire are lower than the national and regional averages. Despite this, fear of crime has been identified as a key issue in the Community Strategy. The number of racial incidents has risen in recent years; this may possibly be as a result of increased reporting.

Crime rates (per 1,000 households)

- Household burglary – **11.5**
- Vehicle crime – **11.6**
- Violent crime – **13.9**

Total crime rate (per 1,000 population) 2004/05

- South Gloucestershire: **75**
- England and Wales: 108.2

Number of reported racial incidents 2004/05: 138

(Source: Avon and Somerset Police Constabulary, 2005; South Gloucestershire Quality of Life Survey, 2006)

Transport and Accessibility

Congestion

4.45 Congestion is a feature of many of the major roads in the urban areas of South Gloucestershire. The economic success of the North Fringe in particular has led to increased traffic growth in recent years. The North Fringe has seen traffic growth of 52% (1991-2006). Since 2001 this has been, year on year, 30% greater than the national average.

4.46 Bristol remains a hub for commuting and other trips. However commuting patterns are complex and trips across local authority areas are common. For example some 10,000 people travel to work from the North Fringe into Bristol to work each day and 18,000 travel in the opposite direction. 18,000 people travel from Kingswood and the East Fringe into Bristol, but only 5,000 in the opposite direction (data from the 2001 Census).

4.47 Congestion leads to journey time unreliability, which potentially impacts on public transport reliability and the economy of the area.

4.48 Much of South Gloucestershire has a rural nature and a higher than average car ownership and usage. The 2001 Census identified that 87% of

households had at least 1 car or van compared with 73% nationally. High levels of car use for work, leisure and shopping trips create significant sustainability issues. The latest South Gloucestershire “Snap Shot Survey” (March 2007) of major employers shows that 66% of their employees travel to work alone in a car.

Accessibility

4.49 Despite high car ownership levels, a significant proportion of the population does not have access to a car or may only have access to a car at certain times. Accessibility by public transport, walking and cycling to services, facilities and employment in the rural areas is limited. Current information indicates the following:

Accessibility to health services:

- In 2006 54% of households live within 30 minutes travel time by public transport of those health facilities in the Bristol Health Service Plan (revised target 61% by 2011). Sources: JLTP and South Gloucestershire Local Area Agreement (LAA).
- 33% of households live within 500 metres of a GP Surgery (2006) (Source South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust [PCT])

Accessibility to employment:

- In 2006, 65% of households live within 40 minutes travel time by public transport from key employment sites (revised target 66% by 2011). Sources: WoEP, JLTP and LAA.

Accessibility to education:

- In 2006, 65% of 16-19 year olds live within 30 minutes travel time by public transport from a further education establishment. Sources: WoEP, JLTP and LAA.
- In 2006, 73% of 16-19 year olds live within 60 minutes travel time by public transport from a further education establishment. Sources: WoEP, JLTP and LAA.

Buses

4.50 Bus routes have traditionally been provided on radial roads serving Bristol city centre and have therefore not necessarily served well the newer large-scale developments in South Gloucestershire or provided bus links between these new areas. Orbital bus links have been improved; however both these and the radial routes are adversely affected by congestion impacting on the reliability of bus services and consequently their use.

4.51 A showcase bus corridor has been completed linking Bristol with the North Fringe and design work has been undertaken on a second showcase corridor to Kingswood. Bus lanes and HOV lanes give bus priority and assist in ameliorating the impact of congestion on bus reliability.

4.52 New and improved peak time services in rural areas, enhanced hourly services on 8 key routes and improved bus rail links have resulted in increased passenger levels up to 5.6% in 2005/06.

4.53 Community Transport provides improved bus accessibility to the rural areas. Four rural interchange hubs have been delivered in Pucklechurch, Wick, Alveston and Almondsbury, providing facilities for community transport to link with conventional bus services.

Rail

4.54 Rail usage is relatively low. However, this conceals significant growth in passenger numbers on parts of the local rail network in recent years e.g. at Yate, Bristol Parkway and Filton Abbey Wood. For example, at Bristol Parkway in 2000 there were 5800 users per day that increased in 2006 to 10297 users per day (Source: West of England Annual Rail Survey and SGC APR 2005). The need for additional rail infrastructure at Yate and Parkway Stations has been identified to improve service frequency and reduce congestion. Forecast increases in demand mean there will be a need to increase car parking at Parkway Station.

Freight

4.55 There are concerns about the suitability of some road freight routes, particularly in relation to access to and from Yate/Chipping Sodbury area. South Gloucestershire has contributed to the development of a Regional Freight Strategic Hierarchy ensuring consistent route classification for HGVs throughout the South West. In partnership with neighbouring authorities a Commercial Vehicle Driver's Atlas is being produced for the Sub Region.

Town Centres and Retailing

4.56 The past two decades have seen the role and function of the main town centres becoming more focused on meeting day-to-day convenience¹ needs with comparison² shopping dominated by out of centre facilities. In some cases this is impacting on the viability of the town centres due to competition from out of centre investment and relatively high car ownership and mobility.

4.57 Some town centres have developed an evening economy. Some have lost retail space to financial (A2) services but mergers have decreased that pressure over recent years. Some centres and local parades have lost retail units but gained take-away facilities. This is reflected in the increasing proportion of shopping frontage in non-retail retail use (e.g. cafes and food take-away outlets, building societies and similar). The retail profile has also changed with an increase in lower value A1 retail units.

4.58 Overall vacancies are generally low. In part, growth of charity shops may have masked the general decline in retail.

¹ Convenience retailing is the provision of everyday essential items, including food, drinks, newspapers/magazines and confectionery.

² Comparison retailing is the provision of items not obtained on a frequent basis. These include clothing, footwear, household and recreational goods.

4.59 Less than 30% of the total retail floorspace in South Gloucestershire is now within or on the edge of the new and established town centres. Of this floorspace about half is comparison, convenience is nearer 40% and service floorspace 8%. Only 2% of this floorspace is vacant.

4.60 Nearly 50% of all retail floorspace is in retail parks or freestanding out of centre stores and 25% is at The Mall. This floorspace represents over 80% of all the comparison floorspace in the district. The retail warehouse parks, when initially developed, were intended to allow for bulky goods sales. These are, or have, undergone change with significant redevelopment, often with little restriction to particular classes of goods, such that their role has widened and brought them into competition with traditional town centres. Some have also developed mezzanine floorspace so that overall trading areas have increased significantly.

Town Centres

4.61 The traditional town centres are Kingswood, Yate, Thornbury, Staple Hill, Chipping Sodbury, Hanham and Downend and new town centres at Filton and Emersons Green. The emergent town centre at Bradley Stoke has recently been approved.

4.62 Some centres have experienced edge of centre development – e.g. Somerfield, Kingswood and Lidl, Morrisons and B+Q Yate, Tesco Thornbury.

Local Centres

4.63 There are 50 local centres within the Bristol urban area, Yate, Thornbury, Winterbourne and Frampton Cottrell that comprise small recognisable centres.

4.64 Many of the rural settlements have Villages/Neighbourhood stores. While these shops are generally in decline with high car ownership, etc, some are adapting. Increasingly, petrol stations are now offering a basic level of convenience goods.

4.65 In addition to defined centres, retail facilities in South Gloucestershire have also developed in out of centre locations. Cribbs Causeway is the main area where such development has taken place and comprises a regional shopping centre, retail warehousing, freestanding supermarkets, employment areas and a leisure/multi-screen complex. The whole area is car dependent although there is a strategic bus interchange adjacent to the Mall.

Regional Shopping Centre

4.66 The Mall at Cribbs Causeway is a regional/sub-regional centre that provides a range of comparison floorspace found in traditional high streets. The Mall is close to Junction 17 of the M5 and has been developed essentially to serve the car borne market. It is characterised by an undercover shopping “high street” surrounded by open-air car parking.

Retail Parks

4.67 There are retail parks at Cribbs Causeway, Abbeywood and Longwell Green.

Free Standing Superstores

4.68 The freestanding out of centre stores are B&Q and Sainsbury's at Stoke Gifford and Aldi (formerly Somerfield) at Bradley Stoke. In addition the Asda Walmart and Morrisons stores at Cribbs Causeway and Asda at Longwell Green are freestanding stores adjacent to retail warehouse parks.

Tourism, Leisure, Open Space and Recreation

4.69 In recent years major leisure development has taken place at The Venue, Cribbs Causeway and Aspects Leisure Complex, Longwell Green. Both include multi-screen cinemas, bowling alleys, restaurants and bars. There are public leisure centres in Yate, Kingswood (Soundwell), Thornbury, Longwell Green and Bradley Stoke, which include swimming pools, sports halls and fitness training areas. In addition a number of the secondary schools have become specialist in particular sports and have opened their facilities for general community use.

4.70 In 2003 (the last time a survey was undertaken) the District attracted around 4.5 million tourists per annum, which generated around £137.5m per annum for the local economy.

4.71 Across the district there is a wide range of open space, sport and recreation facilities, both formal and informal. Currently however, the Council is not in a position to identify where all of these facilities are situated, or judge the quality of provision. Work is currently being conducted with the aim of creating one comprehensive database containing both qualitative and quantitative information about open space, sport and recreation facilities in South Gloucestershire.

4.72 The Forest of Avon covers a total of 57,300Ha, of which 26,840Ha lies within South Gloucestershire. The Forest plays a crucial role in giving people in South Gloucestershire access to opportunities for leisure, open Space and recreation. Within the wider Bristol area the Forest of Avon has been assisted by the four local authorities (including South Gloucestershire) to develop the 45 mile orbital Community Forest Path that runs close to many communities offering access to the countryside, and potential opportunities for local people to participate in health promoting exercise.

4.73 As the highway authority for South Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire Council is responsible for 783 miles (1257km) of public rights of way. Many of the rights of way in South Gloucestershire are promoted through leaflets and guidebooks. These routes vary from short circular walks designed to be easily accessible, to long-distance walking routes such as the Cotswold Way and Severn Way. The Council keeps records and maps of these rights of way and their locations.

Biodiversity

(see also paragraphs 7.4 to 7.16 for further detail on biodiversity and information on Appropriate Assessment)

4.74 As most of the district is rural in nature this helps give rise to South Gloucestershire being home to 7 Local Nature Reserves, covering a total of over 106 hectares, and 22 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) covering 553 hectares. South Gloucestershire also contains part of the shoreline of the Severn Estuary. The Estuary is notified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, covering a total of 4,104 hectares. It is also protected under European law (the Habitats Directive 1992) – it is designated as a Special Protection Area and a RAMSAR site; and is a candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC).

4.75 South Gloucestershire also contains a rich array of wildlife and geology outside these legally protected sites. In reflection of this, there are some 268 Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCIs) and 52 Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS), both non-statutory designations and of critical importance for local biodiversity. Its wildlife includes a diverse variety species of flora and fauna, from the locally notable (Wild Service Tree, Slowworm and Barn Owl), to national rarities (Bullfinch and Adder's Tongue Spearwort) to internationally protected species such as Great Crested Newt, Dormice and the Lesser Horseshoe Bat. The Forest of Avon covers 57,300 hectares and is home to an array of habitats, forming an important contribution to biodiversity. New woodland is also being planted, with 522.2 hectares of woodland being planted between 2003 and 2004. Appendix A sets out Biodiversity Action Plan priority species and habitats. These were chosen to reflect habitats and species that can be easily identified, will inspire action and reflect a healthy ecosystem. Development should seek to be sensitive towards all biodiversity and these species can be used as indicators to assess the state of biodiversity in the district.

Green Infrastructure

4.76 The protection and provision of Green Infrastructure is recognised as an important issue in South Gloucestershire and the West of England sub-region. At a sub-regional level, the 'Green Infrastructure in the West of England: Mapping Environmental Assets and Opportunities' commissioned by the Countryside Agency and undertaken by a consortium of local organisations in the West of England provides a first stage in the development of a strategic framework and toolkit to ensure that environmental quality and sustainability are built into the rapid development that is planned across the sub-region in the next 20 years. The Draft RSS and subsequent Examination in Public Panel Report confirm the importance of developing a network of green infrastructure. The West of England Green Infrastructure Working Group is working to develop the initial findings of the Green Infrastructure in the West of England publication.

4.77 At a local level, the Council are currently conducting an audit of open space, sport and recreation provision in the District, with a view to develop local standards to be applied through Core Strategy Policy. This work is planned to coincide with the production of the Core Strategy, and will

comprise a view of quantity, quality and accessibility of current provision, as well as developing local standards to be applied to through the Core Strategy to new development.

Historic and Cultural Heritage

4.78 There are a number of towns, such as Yate/Chipping Sodbury and Thornbury, and numerous villages and hamlets scattered throughout the district all with their own distinctive character. Within these historic centres there are 30 Conservation Areas. In addition, the relics of historic settlements and the industrial past texture the landscape of the area. These introduce their own individual characteristics and are particularly sensitive to development pressures. A number of sites are recognised as being of National Importance; there are 33 Scheduled Ancient Monuments 8 historic parks and gardens and one registered Battlefield in the district as well as over 2000 listed buildings all of which make important contributions to South Gloucestershire's built environment character and heritage. These numbers give only a taste of the much larger numbers of regionally and locally important sites, monuments and structures that pepper the landscape of the authority. The built heritage and historic landscapes of South Gloucestershire are an important element in providing a sense of place and civic pride for residents and visitors.

Landscape

4.79 The South Gloucestershire area has a predominantly rural and agricultural landscape, greatly influenced by large-scale scarp, ridges, vales, levels and estuary landforms, overlain by a variety of land cover, in places comprising unique natural or historic features. The landscapes of South Gloucestershire have many contrasts, ranging from the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (which covers 11,800 hectares in South Gloucestershire), to the urban landscape within the edge of Bristol. Here the landscape is undergoing significant change, with recent large areas of new residential and commercial development, such as Bradley Stoke and Emersons Green, as well as the large retail and commercial development at Cribbs Causeway.

4.80 The Council published the South Gloucestershire Landscape Character Area Supplementary Planning Document in 2005. This provides a statement of the existing character of the landscapes of the district and their distinctive attributes and features, subdividing the district into 8 character types and 21 landscape areas. It also contains an assessment of the present condition of the landscape, recent and potential future changes including land use/management and built development and the sensitivity of the landscape to future change. The character types and landscape areas are listed in Appendix B.

Water and Air Quality and Flooding

4.81 Part IV of the Environmental Act 1995 established a framework for local air quality management requiring all local authorities to conduct regular reviews within their areas. Air quality is not only important for the environment, but for the general health and well being of the population.

4.82 Objectives are adopted for certain pollutants, with these being published as part of the Air Quality Strategy by the Government in 2007. Any areas that do not meet these objectives will be designated as Air Quality Management Areas.

4.83 There are air quality and noise problems in some locations, particularly in the urban areas adjoining Bristol and close to motorways caused by the high use of road vehicles and congestion. South Gloucestershire declared an air quality management area along the M4, M5, M32 and M49 motorways in November 2001. Following more work, this was revoked in March 2004. There are currently no designated Air Quality Management Areas in South Gloucestershire.

4.84 The Environment Agency currently monitors river water in terms of biology, chemistry, nutrients and aesthetic quality. However, over the next few years, a new European law - the Water Framework Directive - will be implemented. This Directive came into force on the 22nd December and will require all inland and coastal waters to reach 'good status' by 2015. It will concentrate even more on biological quality, including plants and fish and will look at all surface freshwater bodies (lakes, streams and rivers), groundwaters, transitional water bodies (estuaries) and coastal waters.

4.85 South Gloucestershire Council and Bristol City Council have jointly conducted a Flood Risk Assessment for the Severnside and Avonmouth area. This assessment highlights that the Severnside area is highly susceptible to flooding and is therefore unsuitable for further housing development.

Renewable Energy and Climate Change

4.86 It is predicted that in South Gloucestershire, as in the rest of the UK, climate change will lead to an increase in average temperatures with greater seasonal variations and an increased risk of flooding and droughts. There will be some positive effects but overall more negative effects. The key impacts in South Gloucestershire are likely to be an increased likelihood of coastal flooding, more heat related deaths in the summer, increased problems relating to ozone in urban areas in summer and, in the short term, an increase in fuel prices which could lead to fuel poverty and the health risks associated with poorly heated homes. It is important to have in place an energy strategy that reduces dependence on fossil fuels by replacing with cleaner and renewable forms of energy generation in order to ensure that there is no shortage of energy in the future.

4.87 Fossil fuels (coal, gas and oil) are our main source of energy. They are a non-renewable source of energy and when combusted to release energy they

release carbon dioxide (CO₂), a major greenhouse gas, as well other pollutants that are harmful to the environment and to human health. Alternative cleaner, “renewable” or “green” energy sources are available (e.g., solar, wind, tide, geothermal and biomass – energy crops), as well as more efficient technologies (e.g. Combined Heat and Power – CHP). The Government has set a national target of 10% of electricity to be supplied from renewable sources by 2010. Additionally, Regen South West has carried out an assessment of the potential for renewable electricity in the former Avon area (Bristol, North Somerset, Bath and North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire). Results of the research predicted that the former Avon area has the potential to produce 35-52MWe of renewable energy by 2010. Currently, South Gloucestershire Council is falling well below this target producing only 1.681 MWe in 2005/2006 – a decrease in the amount produced in 2004/2005. However, the Regen South West study was for the former Avon Area. This means that the renewable energy capacity for South Gloucestershire is unknown. Therefore, how we are performing with regards to the capacity of the South Gloucestershire area is unclear.

Waste and Recycling

Municipal Waste

4.88 The Council manages about 140,000 tonnes of waste a year, most of which is collected from households in ‘wheelie’ bins (including garden waste, cardboard and recyclates), household waste recycling centres (Sort IT! centres), and small scale facilities (i.e. bottle banks, recycling bins) in car parks.

4.89 Within South Gloucestershire SITA operate waste transfer facilities at Yate and Mangotsfield (Kingswood), both of which also operate a ‘Sort IT!’ facility, and Sort IT! centres at Thornbury and Stoke Gifford. In addition there is a bulking up facility at Yate for doorstep-collected recyclables.

4.90 Composting material is sent to various places, predominantly outside South Gloucestershire, the main one being an on-farm composting site at Chipping Norton, although a small amount goes to the on-farm composting facility near Thornbury. There are small community composting facilities at Yate, Thornbury, Patchway and Hawkesbury Upton and the Council has composting facilities in Yate and at Cribbs Causeway for its own park and garden waste. All landfill waste goes to sites near Swindon (Hills Minerals and Waste) and to Hempsted in Gloucester (Cory Environmental). This waste is sent via road, thus impacting upon sustainability through the addition of transport emissions to the atmosphere and adding to traffic congestion.

4.91 Just over 40% of municipal waste is recycled or composted, with the remainder going to landfill. A new landfill site is under development at Shortwood by Cory Environmental. This will be an open-gate site for non-inert waste (both municipal and commercial and industrial) from any source.

Commercial and Industrial Waste

4.92 Commercial and industrial waste represents the largest proportion of waste arising in the West of England and was estimated at 1.3 million tonnes in 2000/1 (figures for individual unitary authorities are not available).

4.93 Within South Gloucestershire facilities for managing commercial and industrial waste include a landfill site near Hallen and, as referred to above, a landfill site under development at Shortwood, which could accept commercial and industrial waste. There are a number of waste transfer facilities - the largest is at Filton and several are on industrial estates – and a few small-scale metal-recycling facilities. Once sorted and bulked up, the material from these facilities is sent for processing both within and outside the West of England.

Construction and Demolition Waste

4.94 Accurate data for Construction and Demolition/Inert waste is difficult to obtain, as much of it is not disposed of at licensed sites but is dealt with on the sites where it is generated, through recycling and re-use. There is no recording mechanism for this. Where material is taken off-site for disposal, much of it is used at sites that are exempt from licensing, such as golf course developments and in acoustic bunding and, therefore also free from any recording mechanism.

4.95 The majority of construction and demolition waste taken off-site is handled at waste transfer stations (as detailed above) where it is screened and leaves as a marketable material. The amount of inert waste disposed of to landfill includes material used within the landfill operation (e.g. lining of cells, capping of waste and cells, and in the construction of on-site haul roads) and in the restoration of landfill sites.

Minerals

4.96 Mineral working in South Gloucestershire is predominantly Carboniferous Limestone for the aggregates industry. Production in recent years has been in the order of 2.5 – 3 million tonnes per annum from the four active quarry units in the district - Chipping Sodbury, Tytherington, Wickwar and Wick. The former 2 quarries are operated by Hanson and the latter two by Cemex. Each of the quarries have an extensive processing plant where the aggregate stone is crushed and screened before leaving the site and, particularly in the case of the Cemex units, this stone is also the main supply for the on-site concrete block making and asphalt plants.

4.97 There is also a quarry between Cromhall and Charfield, which although inactive since the early 1990s, contains significant reserves. In addition to these, a quarry near Cromhall produces a modest amount of Quartzite Sandstone for use as high specification aggregate.

4.98 Ibstock's Cattybrook Brickworks near Almondsbury produces about 50 million bricks per annum. The clay for this brickworks comes from the adjacent claypit, the satellite claypit at Shortwood, and from selected imported clays. These clays are blended in varying proportions to produce a range of

heritage bricks. Although not a major brick manufacturer, the Brickworks is an important local employer both directly (over 100 employees on site) and indirectly.

4.99 The South Gloucestershire Minerals and Waste Local Plan identifies Preferred Areas for future aggregate working at Wickwar, Tytherington and Chipping Sodbury and for clay at Cattybrook and Shortwood. No working has yet taken place in these areas, although both of the clay Preferred Areas are in use/to be used for clay stockpiling rather than mineral extraction. The current landbank (the stock of reserves with planning permission at any one time) as set out in the Local Plan is a minimum of 15 years for crushed rock aggregate and 20 years for clay. Sufficient resources are available through existing planning permissions (many of which date back to the 1950s and 60s) and Preferred Areas to meet landbank requirements both throughout the Local Plan period (i.e. to 2011) and at the end of the Local Plan period (i.e. to 2026/2031).

5.0 Task A3: Key Sustainability issues and the Local Development Framework

5.1 The SEA regulations state that Assessments should report on the environmental problems experienced in the area under study. Government guidance extends this requirement to sustainability issues (including both problems and opportunities). This section describes sustainability problems and issues that the Local Development Framework needs to address. These have been identified through:

- Discussions with South Gloucestershire Council officers;
- Review of the baseline data (Appendix C and Section 4 of this Report – references to specific indicators have been included);
- Comments made during the consultation on the draft version of Scoping Report; and
- Review of other plans, programmes and sustainability objectives (Appendices A and B).

5.2 Where possible, the following table (Table 1) sets out the role of the LDF in tackling identified issues. It is not the intention here to formulate policy at an inappropriately early stage. This column serves purely to highlight possible future courses of action for the LDF that would be subject to appropriate sustainability appraisal and consultation should they be taken forward. Also considered, as required by the SEA Directive, is the likely evolution of each issue without the implementation of a new LDF and its constituent LDDs. Such scenarios will be considered in more detail in later SA stages, when predictions are made about the effects of individual plans and policies. The baseline data sources used to deduct the key issues are also referred to in the table.

Table 1 – Current and likely future Sustainability Issues in South Gloucestershire and the role of the LDF

| Key Issue (and comments) | Potential Influence of the LDF (and likely evolution of issues without the new LDF) | Possible Role of LDF |
|--|---|--|
| <i>Environmental</i> | | |
| <p>Large area of the district at Severnside subject to flood risk</p> <p>Conflict between flooding, employment growth and biodiversity at Severnside.</p> <p>(See Avonmouth/Severnside Flood Risk Study Report,</p> | <p>Moderate/Major</p> <p>Continuation of the current trend, although the extent to which new development is at risk is reduced by national planning guidance elevating the issue of flood risk through the planning policy and</p> | <p>The LDF can ensure that areas of flood risk are not developed in the future. In addition, policies on Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems and rainwater harvesting could help reduce runoff into the District's watercourses to reduce the risk of flooding. The promotion of flood storage areas, balancing</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| 2007 and ongoing) | planning application development control processes. | ponds, etc related to new development could also be promoted. |
| <p>The District has significant historical cultural assets that could be threatened by development and land allocations.</p> <p>As identified in the baseline assessment, the District has a large number of listed buildings, archaeological sites and conservation areas.</p> <p>(See indicators ENVI 15 and ENVI 17 in Appendix C)</p> | <p>Major</p> <p>Continuation of current trend.</p> | <p>Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Scheduled Ancient Monuments and their immediate surroundings (whether they are designated nationally or locally) can all be protected, or where they are lost the loss of character can be required to be mitigated, through the LDF. In addition, further policies relating to the economic reuse of buildings not listed or within conservation areas could be included within the LDF.</p> |
| <p>The District has important biodiversity and landscape assets, which could be threatened by development and other human activity.</p> <p>There are significant areas of both statutory and non-statutory nature conservation sites across the District. There is scope for the improvement of some of these areas. Biodiversity is in decline in some instances.</p> <p>(See indicators ENVI 15 and ENVI 17)</p> | <p>Moderate</p> <p>Continuation of current trend, although other strategies and initiatives (for example, local Biodiversity Action Plan) will also have a critical influence on future patterns.</p> | <p>The LDF should ensure that biodiversity and landscape assets are protected and enhanced in the location, masterplanning and design of new development.</p> <p>The scope of influence of the LDF is largely restricted to controlling development requiring planning permission. However the LDF should also provide the opportunity to promote biodiversity through high quality design measures such as green roofs, and the creative use of watercourses benefiting flood storage capacities within Sustainable Drainage Systems. Changes to both landscapes and natural habitats arising from changing agricultural or management practices cannot be addressed through the LDF.</p> |
| <p>Action to reduce South Gloucestershire's contribution to climate change and adapt to the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Planning has a central role to play in both slowing/preventing climate change and reducing the impacts of it. With large areas of S. Glos at Severnside being susceptible to flooding it is important that the effects of climate change are taken into account when planning here.</p> | <p>Moderate</p> <p>Continuation of current trend, although other strategies and initiatives also have a strong influence on patterns.</p> | <p>Energy reduction could be delivered through minimising the need to travel and locating new development in existing areas well served by public transport and close to local services and facilities. New developments could also be encouraged or required to provide on-site renewable energy and embrace energy efficient design. Need to investigate the extent to which areas of the district have potential to accommodate renewable energy schemes to help achieve renewable energy targets set out in the Regional</p> |

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| <p>(See indicators EI 3, EI 14, ENVI 2, ENVI 3, ENVI 4, ENVI 8, ENVI 9, ENVI 10, ENVI 13, ENVI 16)</p> | | <p>Spatial Strategy.</p> <p>Masterplanning and design of new development should incorporate measures to adapt to climate change including sustainable drainage, avoiding areas at risk of flooding and where existing flooding issues would be exacerbated.</p> |
| <p>Need for protection and improvement of environmental quality (air, land, water, noise)</p> <p>Planning has an important role to play in ensuring that new development does not lead to lessening of environmental quality and to also ensure that development is not introduced into areas of existing poor environmental quality.</p> <p>(See indicators ENVI 2, ENVI 3)</p> | <p>Moderate</p> <p>Continuation of current trend, although other strategies and initiatives may well impact on this trend.</p> | <p>The LDF can seek to not allow development in areas where any facet of environmental quality is poor. The LDF can require mitigation measures for developments for certain types of problem, e.g. noise.</p> |
| <p>Need for protection of mineral resources</p> <p>Ensure there is a steady and adequate supply of minerals to support development activity.</p> <p>National issue.</p> | <p>Moderate</p> <p>Continuation of current trend</p> | <p>The LDF can ensure that sufficient reserves are released to meet demand, and in a timely manner to prevent squandering of this finite resource, as well as ensuring that the resource is protected from development that would prevent its use in the future.</p> |
| <p>Social</p> | | |
| <p>There are concentrations of deprivation in some parts of the District where access to housing and local job opportunities are below that of the majority of residents of South Gloucestershire. This has created the situation that for certain sectors of the community, located principally in the older 'urban' parts of the District, there is a widening inequality between their quality of life and that for the majority of the District.</p> | <p>Moderate/Major</p> <p>Continuation of current trend, although other strategies and initiatives may well impact on this trend.</p> | <p>New employment land provision, housing and associated community facilities could help reduce deprivation within the most disadvantaged parts of the District.</p> |

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| (See indicator SI 26) | | |
| <p>Declining school rolls in Yate, Thornbury and some villages. Increasing pressure for school places that have experienced housing growth, especially in the Mangotsfield/ Emersons Green/Downend area where capacity has been reached.</p> <p>(See South Gloucestershire School Organisational Plan 2007-2012)</p> | <p>Moderate</p> <p>Continuation of current trend, although other strategies and initiatives may well impact on this trend.</p> | <p>Debate needed over levels of housing growth required to support schools in these areas and whether there should be significant growth in order to protect existing social character of these places. The LDF will allocate land for development and will therefore determine the locations for, as well as levels of, growth.</p> |
| <p>Need for new health and community facilities other than to meet future housing growth</p> <p>(Based on community engagement exercise results conducted by South Gloucestershire Council Spatial Planning Team, 2007)</p> <p>(See also Locality Health Profiles reference in Appendix B)</p> | <p>Moderate</p> <p>Continuation of current trend, although other strategies and initiatives may well impact on this trend.</p> | <p>To ensure that need created through new development is catered for, and does not add to existing problems in provision.</p> |
| <p>Need to improve health and well being</p> <p>Deprived areas in South Gloucestershire experience higher levels of illness and mortality than less deprived areas.</p> <p>(See indicator SI 26)</p> | <p>Moderate</p> <p>Continuation of current trend, although other strategies and initiatives may well impact on this trend</p> | <p>LDF can ensure that the location, masterplanning and design of new development promotes improved health and well being through: facilitating increased physical activity, access to fresh food, reducing the fear of crime, considering the needs of the elderly, air quality and access to good quality open space, services and facilities.</p> |
| <p>Need for protection and provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities.</p> <p>Planning has an important role to play in the protection of valued open space, sport and recreation facilities, and the provision of new facilities, primarily through new development.</p> <p>(Quantitative Audit of open space in S. Glos shows deficit of provision in certain</p> | <p>Major</p> <p>Continuation of the current use of nationally derived standards for open space, sport and recreation provision and negotiation on a site-by-site basis.</p> | <p>As part of the evidence base for the Core Strategy, a comprehensive review of the quantity and quality of open space, sport and recreation facilities in the District is underway. This will support open space, sport and recreation policy in the Core Strategy.</p> |

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| areas, ongoing background work to Core Strategy DPD) | | |
| Economic | | |
| <p>Existing town centres in variable states of success</p> <p>(As evidenced by annual audits of Town Centres and Retailing in South Gloucestershire)</p> | <p>Major</p> <p>Continuation of current trend, although other strategies and initiatives may well impact on this trend</p> | <p>The LDF can review the Local Plan strategy and develop a strategy to address current imbalances and work towards achieving vital and viable town centres.</p> |
| <p>To meet the future needs of businesses for additional land and premises</p> <p>Maintain a ready supply of sites and premises to meet local requirements for business expansion and inward investment.</p> <p>(Evidenced by emerging (as of Jan 2008) findings from Employment Land Review – due for publication Spring 2008)</p> | <p>Major</p> <p>The achievement of the right balance between the distribution of housing and employment across all settlements in South Gloucestershire during this plan period.</p> | <p>This will be important to enable the Council to take the pro-active steps required in South Gloucestershire towards restoring a closer balance between employment and housing in a manner that would not conflict with the longer term objectives of the District, having regard to the sustainability objectives of reducing travel distances and safeguarding scarce land resources.</p> |
| <p>Continuing pressure for out of centre retail floorspace</p> <p>(As evidenced by receipt of planning applications at Cribbs Causeway, Longwell Green and other locations)</p> | <p>Major</p> <p>Continuation of current trend.</p> | <p>The LDF can review the role of out of centre retail parks and develop a strategy that addresses the current imbalance in floorspace provision and the adverse impact on traditional town centres.</p> |
| Spatial | | |
| <p>Pressure for housing development on Greenfield sites</p> <p>The Regional Spatial Strategy allocates areas of search for housing in the east and north fringes of the Bristol urban area that fall within South Gloucestershire that comprise urban extensions into greenfield land. Brownfield sites will not meet housing levels allocated by the RSS.</p> <p>(See Draft Regional Spatial Strategy 2006 and Panel Report 2008, indicators EI 16, EI 15, ENVI 1)</p> | <p>Major</p> <p>The extent of brownfield sites is, to an extent, likely to diminish irrespective of the new LDF because Government planning policy guidance already promotes the reuse of previously developed land ahead of greenfield sites. Brownfield sites alone will not meet regional housing requirements thus suitable greenfield sites will need to be found.</p> | <p>The LDF will need to put in place policies and proposals that appropriately reuse vacant previously developed land. However, there will be other factors to take into consideration in deciding a site's suitability for redevelopment; the existence of previously development land is not a reason alone to allow development.</p> |

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| <p>Pressure for housing development in/around locations already experiencing high levels of traffic congestion</p> <p>The Regional Spatial Strategy allocates areas of search for housing in the east and north fringes of the Bristol urban area that fall within South Gloucestershire that are already highly congested.</p> <p>(See Draft Regional Spatial Strategy 2006 and Panel Report 2008).</p> | <p>Major</p> <p>Continuation of current trends; worsening of congestion and air pollution.</p> | <p>The LDF will need to put in place policies that mitigate traffic congestion, improve public transport, ensure that services and employment are easily accessible by walking/cycling or public transport.</p> |
| <p>The District has higher than average car usage and poor public transport use and congestion problems in specific areas of the authority.</p> <p>Particularly relevant to the large amount of employment in the North Fringe, where car parking is plentiful and free and the numbers of jobs in the area far outnumber homes within walking/cycling distance.</p> <p>Large parts of the district are rural in nature where public transport is usually sparser.</p> <p>(See indicators ENVI 8, ENVI 10, ENVI 13, ENVI 14)</p> | <p>Moderate</p> <p>Continuation of current trends leading to congestion and air quality issues, although Joint Local Transport Plan also addresses this issue.</p> | <p>The LDF can allocate new developments in locations well served by or capable of being well served by public transport, thereby placing less emphasis on the need to travel by car.</p> <p>The LDF can require that the design of new development provides for and encourages walking and cycling and requires the early implementation of infrastructure and facilities to facilitate walking and cycling right from the early stages of occupation.</p> <p>The LDF can ensure that new development makes a sufficient contribution to transport infrastructure and where appropriate services to meet the extra demand it creates and that demand management measures are also incorporated into any development proposals. For example the use of travel plans, car pools, home working etc.</p> <p>The LDF can allocate mixed-use developments to encourage walking and cycling to facilities and services and places of employment.</p> <p>The land use aspects of the Local Transport Plan should be safeguarded in LDF documents. For example Showcase Bus Routes, rapid transit routes park</p> |

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| | | <p>and ride sites. Thereby encouraging walking, cycling and public transport.</p> <p>The LDF will need to reflect any land use implications there may be from any decision that is made in respect of the road pricing and workplace charging</p> <p>The LDF can consider the possibility of additional development in key villages/towns to help them become more sustainable and reduce the need and length of travel by car.</p> |
| <p>What priority should be given to maximising residential densities?</p> <p>National issue.</p> | <p>Major</p> <p>Continuation of current trends.</p> | <p>The LDF will allocate land for development and will specify levels of housing and density for each site identified. It is vital that the LDF facilitates the creation and consolidation of mixed communities, in which accommodation and its associated development/environment for a variety of different types of people is offered, including family housing and affordable housing.</p> |

The Local Development Framework

5.3 The South Gloucestershire Local Development Framework will over time be made up of several Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Document (SPDs). Each document will have different aims and outcomes and may therefore have differing impacts on sustainability. The paragraphs that follow outline what the possible impacts on sustainability might be for each of the DPDs that are identified in the Council's Local Development Scheme (available separately).

Gypsy and Traveller DPD

5.4 This document will aim to provide solutions to the shortfall in authorised accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers in South Gloucestershire, which will include allocating land for future Gypsy and Traveller sites. The document will cover the period 2006 – 2011, which is the same period as the pitch requirements in the Regional Spatial Strategy Partial Review on Gypsy and Traveller Sites.

5.5 Sustainability implications of the Gypsy and Traveller DPD, both positive and negative, will differ depending on the policy or option being appraised. In broad terms, it is considered that an increase in authorised site provision for

Gypsies and Travellers will have a positive effect on sustainability in general. This is because Gypsies and Travellers living in unauthorised sites do not have the same access to medical facilities, other essential services and the education system as the settled community.

5.6 An increase in authorised site provision should ensure better access to education and health facilities, reduce the need to travel and should see a reduction in unauthorised sites, which can have positive environmental impacts.

5.7 Depending on the location of specific sites, site allocations have the potential to cause adverse environmental effects. These may include increased consumption of natural resources and waste production, impact on environmentally sensitive areas, impact on habitats and species, pressure on biodiversity and the landscape/natural environment and change in local character due to site allocations.

5.8 Mitigation measures will be required to address any potential adverse effect. These may include: ensuring site allocations are in the most sustainable and suitable locations (within close proximity to health, leisure, education and community facilities as well as strategic transport networks), using 'brownfield' sites where available to reduce the impact on natural environment and 'greenfield' sites, ensure a flood risk assessment is undertaken, encouraging the use of sustainable construction methods as well as promoting where feasible on site renewables/microgeneration.

Core Strategy DPD

5.9 The South Gloucestershire Core Strategy is the key planning document that will set out the long-term vision for the area and the policies needed to deliver the vision over the next twenty years and the resources and means of delivery needed to achieve the overall vision and spatial objectives over the period 2006-2026.

5.10 The document will identify in broad terms where new development will take place, its type and scale, as well as protecting what is valued about the area. However the core strategy will have to be produced within the context of the Government's national planning guidance and the requirements of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West (RSS), which indicates the level of housing and employment growth which South Gloucestershire will have to accommodate.

5.11 The document will also need to express those elements of the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement that relate to the development and use of land. In addition, other strategies and plans that have land use implications will also be considered. This is in order to ensure that the Core Strategy is prepared as a spatial plan that has strong inter-connections to other non-land use plans and strategies.

5.12 The Council has a duty in preparing the Core Strategy to achieve the most sustainable pattern of development in South Gloucestershire. Although

the RSS will set the number of dwellings and associated development to be built in South Gloucestershire, the Core Strategy will test the scale of opportunity, sequence, means of delivery and establish the impact of future development in accord with locational strategy and spatial objectives set by the RSS. As such it will have potentially large impacts for sustainability in terms of travel generation, access and the principles it sets out for how people travel and the creation of sustainable communities. It may also impact on sustainability in terms of how it sets out policies on topics such as open space provision, natural environment conservation/protection/enhancement and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.

Site Allocations DPD

5.13 In turn, based on the overall vision and spatial objectives set out in the Core Strategy, the Site Allocations DPD will bring forward the non-strategic development, outside of the main growth areas of search identified by the RSS and Core Strategy. The purpose of this DPD will be to provide sufficient land to meet the needs for future employment, residential, commercial and leisure and community in those locations and settlements identified in the Core Strategy as suitable for development.

Supplementary Planning Documents

5.14 Several SPDs are currently in production and several more are planned to be produced. As the purpose of SPDs is to supplement parent policies in a Development Plan Document (and until they are adopted, the South Gloucestershire Local Plan), they should not have significant impacts on sustainability, beyond what will already have been appraised in the SA of the parent DPD.

5.15 Although at present the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that SPDs undergo SA, proposals have been put forward in both the Local Government White Paper (2006) and the Planning White Paper (2007) that this requirement be repealed as soon as reasonably practicable. However at the time of writing no timetable is in place that indicates when this will take place.

6.0 Task A4: The Sustainability framework: objectives and indicators

Introduction

6.1 The Government's methodology for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) recommends the development of objectives and indicators with which to appraise Local Development Documents (LDDs) and plan options and to enable subsequent monitoring; together they form the SA Framework. Where possible, the objectives should be linked to targets, the achievement of which should be measured using selected indicators.

6.2 Government guidance also indicates that the most appropriate starting point is the UK Sustainable Development Strategy and the various Regional Sustainable Development Strategies. Therefore, the chosen sustainability objectives (below) were originally derived from the Strategic Sustainability Assessment of the South West Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). As these have been formulated through the Regional Sustainable Development Framework process and have been subject to consultation with groups involved in the development of the RSS, it was considered useful to utilise this work for the purposes of this sustainability appraisals of South Gloucestershire's LDF. However some further refinement of the objectives was necessary in order to ensure that they were all relevant specifically to South Gloucestershire, using baseline data and the issues identified in Table 1, and the issues arising from the review of plans, policies and programmes (as set out at paragraphs 3.6 and 3.7).

6.3 Each SA objective is accompanied by one or more decision-making criteria, which are a series of questions/targets that will be used in scrutinising and evaluating potential options for Local Development Documents. Whilst decision-making criteria are assigned to individual SA objectives, they will in certain cases be applicable to other objectives.

6.4 For each objective and set of decision-making criteria, a small number of indicators have been selected to allow South Gloucestershire's performance on that issue to be gauged, now and in the future. The objectives and indicators, which form the proposed SA Framework for the South Gloucestershire LDF, are shown together in Table 2 on the following pages.

Table 2 – The Sustainability Appraisal Framework

| High Level Objective | Sub-objective | Detailed decision-making criteria/Targets (i.e. SA will look for...) | Indicator(s) (number in brackets refers to reference number of indicators in Appendix C) | Relevant SEA Topic |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Improve Health | 1.1 Improve health | Development that contributes to positive well-being, through (e.g.) pleasant surroundings and living conditions, freedom from noise and pollution, and enabling lifestyles free from stress, anxiety and exhaustion. Well designed housing, attractive public space. Facilities that encourage social networking and physical activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average life expectancy (SI 26) • Proportion of residents whose health is 'good' (SI 27) | Human health, population |
| | 1.2 Reduce health inequalities | Development that avoids exposing poorer people to more pollution/noise and that gives equal access to leisure, health facilities and recreation for all. Safe outside spaces for children to avoid accidents. Access to public transport. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a GP (SI 27) • Index of multiple deprivation (SI 10) | Human health, population |
| | 1.3 Promote healthy lifestyles, especially routine daily exercise | Patterns of development that make walking and cycling easy and discourage the use of the private car. Permeable and legible development with green corridors between centres. Adequate provision of play facilities. Increase travel choices. | Indicator to be identified | Human health, population |

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| 2. Support communities that meet people's needs | 2.1 Help make suitable housing available and affordable for everyone | Match of housing to households; cost of appropriate housing relative to disposable incomes especially for less well off people; whether people are forced to move away from their chosen communities or workplaces to afford housing. Meeting strategic dwelling requirements of which an appropriate proportion will be affordable. 'Lifetime homes' accreditation on new dwellings. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing completions per annum (net and gross and by type) (EI 15/EI 16) • Affordable housing completions (SI 17) • Average house prices Vs earnings (SI 16) • House price averages (SI 15) • Housing need and homelessness (SI 28) | Population; human health |
| | 2.2 Give everyone access to learning, training, skills and knowledge | Quality and accessibility of schools, colleges, libraries. Encouragement for a diversity of choice of employment, particularly in the more deprived areas and educational and other service provision (e.g. Centres of Excellence for Skills) as part of regeneration efforts. Affordable housing for key workers. New communities adequately served by schools, libraries and other community facilities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE results (SI 18) • Number of adults achieving NVQ level 3 or higher (SI 19) | Population |
| | 2.3 Reduce crime and fear of crime | Development that 'designs out' crime, e.g. by providing passive surveillance and avoiding 'dead' spaces. 'Secured by design' and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) accreditation on new dwellings. Suitable street lighting. Adequate taxi rank provision to disperse drinkers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recorded crime (SI 20) • Fear of crime (SI 21) | Human health, population |

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| | 2.4 Promote stronger more vibrant communities | Patterns of development that allow people to meet more needs within local communities and reduce the need to travel. New communities adequately served by local community facilities, shops and open spaces. Permeable and legible development with green corridors between centres. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of people within 500 metres of key services (SI 23 & SI 24) | Population |
| | 2.5 Increase access to and participation in cultural activities | Cultural facilities integral with development. Development of environment-based visitor attractions (not damaging the resource they are based on). Preservation/conservation of cultural heritage. | Indicator to be identified | Cultural heritage |
| 3. Develop the economy in ways that meet people's needs | 3.1 Give everyone in the region access to satisfying work opportunities, paid or unpaid | A variety of jobs should be available that people enjoy doing and gain satisfaction from as well as payment. Meet strategic employment requirements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployment/economic activity rates (SI 11 & SI 12) Number of jobs per resident worker (EI 2) | Population |
| | 3.2 Help everyone afford a comfortable standard of living | Whether lower incomes are sufficient to buy a reasonable standard of living – taking account of housing and travel costs. Avoidance of types of economic development that raise housing costs or make people on lower incomes have to spend more on car travel or on services that used to be public. Adequate provision of affordable housing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Index of multiple deprivation (SI 10) Car ownership (ENVI 14) | Population; material assets |
| | 3.3 Reduce poverty and income inequality | Reduce disadvantage caused by (e.g.) not being able to afford a car or pay for commercialised services. Meet strategic employment requirements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployment rates (SI 11) Car ownership (ENVI 14) Access to services (SI 23 & SI 24) | Population |

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| | 3.4 Meet needs locally | Maintenance and enhancement of businesses meeting local needs. Encouragement for farmers' markets and farm shops. New communities adequately served by local shops and facilities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of people within 500 metres of key services (SI 23 & SI 24) | Material assets |
| | 3.5 Increase the circulation of wealth within the region | Encouragement to local businesses, especially micro and SMEs that adopt sustainable practices. Adequate availability of suitable premises. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average earnings (SI 13) Index of multiple deprivation (SI 10) | Material assets |
| | 3.6 Reduce vulnerability of the economy to climate change and harness opportunities arising | Economic patterns of development that avoid unnecessary dependence on long distance trade and travel. Visitor and recreation developments that will encourage people to stay/visit the South West rather than go further afield. New employment provision located in areas not at risk of flooding. | Indicator to be identified | Material assets |
| 4. Provide access to meet people's needs with least damage to communities and the environment | 4.1 Increase choice of method of travel | Improvement of viable alternatives to car use that are of less environmental impact. Development patterns that reduce the need to travel, such as ensuring that people can live closer to their work and other services and facilities. Avoid developments that create further road traffic. Policies that progressively reduce road space. Policies that encourage more efficient use of car travel, e.g. car sharing. Increasing travel choice. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to services (SI 23 & SI 24) Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport of key services (EI 14) | Air; climate |
| | 4.2 Reduce the need/desire to travel by air | Develop alternatives, especially better and faster rail links. New development should make strong links with existing rail links, e.g. Parkway Station. | Indicator to be identified | Air; climate |

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| | 4.3 Help everyone access basic services easily, safely and affordably | Distance to, and ease of accessing, schools, shops, places of work and recreation. Good quality of local services. Encourage greater use of ICT. New developments well served by services. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of people within 500 metres of key services (SI 23 & SI 24) | Air; climate |
| | 4.4 Make public transport, cycling and walking easier and more attractive | Good provision of bus routes and stops, and safe, attractive and direct routes for walking and cycling. Patterns of development that support their use, e.g. short distance to local services, concentration of amenities in town centres served by radial bus routes. Improvement of urban, inter-urban and rural public transport services. Safe routes to schools. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of bus passenger journeys per year (ENVI 11) • % of rural households within 13 minutes walk of an hourly or better bus service (ENVI 12) | Air; climate |
| | 4.5 Encourage a switch from transporting freight by road to rail or water. | Encouragement of local goods and services. Development of better and faster rail links and interchanges. Make strong use of existing rail links, e.g. Parkway Station. | Indicator to be identified | Human health; air; climate |
| 5. Maintain and improve environmental quality and assets | 5.1 Protect and enhance habitats and species (taking account of climate change) | Protection and conservation not only of designated area but also of ecological interests everywhere. Encouragement of wildlife corridors, habitat restoration and ecological surveys and monitoring. Nurture wildlife in towns and cities in ways that encourage a flourishing biodiversity together with the development of a functional green infrastructure. Development guided by the priorities established in both the local and regional Biodiversity Action Plans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in areas and populations of biodiversity importance (ENVI 5) • Change in areas designated for conservation interest (ENVI 17) • Change in SSSI area (ENVI 17) | Biodiversity; fauna; flora |

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| | 5.2 Promote the conservation and wise use of land | Avoiding development that leads to the permanent loss of bio-productive soils, taking into account their contributions to sustainable food production, biodiversity, flood storage, groundwater recharge, etc. Encourage development of brownfield land. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of dwellings built on brownfield land (ENVI 1) • Dwelling completions densities (ENVI 20) • Loss of high quality/Grade 1 Agricultural Land to development (ENVI 17) | Soil |
| | 5.3 Protect and enhance landscape and townscape | Location and design of development to respect and improve character and settlement setting. Ecologically friendly land management. Protection and enhancement of designated landscapes of importance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total area of Cotswolds AONB (within S. Glos) (ENVI 18) • No. of trees given TPOs (ENVI 19) | Landscape |
| | 5.4 Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness including rural ways of life | Policies should avoid 'suburbanising' the countryside. Farmers and other land workers and their families should be enabled to live in the countryside. New development should be sensitive to its surroundings. Use of appropriate construction materials that respect local character. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of agricultural workers dwellings approved/removal of conditions (SI 28) • Affordable housing schemes in villages (SI 29) | Population; cultural heritage; landscape |
| | 5.5 Maintain and enhance cultural and historical assets | Protection of culturally and historically significant assets and qualities. Not just designated sites and buildings, but also non-designated features such as locally valued landmarks. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of conservation areas (ENVI 15) • No. of listed buildings (ENVI 15) • No. of historic parks and gardens (ENVI 15) | Cultural heritage |

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| | 5.6 Reduce vulnerability to flooding and sea level rise (taking account of climate change) | New development and infrastructure should not be built in areas at risk. Relocation and managed retreat where appropriate. New development should include 'sustainable urban drainage systems' to ensure that the new development does not impact on water quality, biodiversity, or increase flood risk in the district. Follow guidance contained within the SFRA and PPS25. Developments undertaken within Flood Zone 1 through the effective application of the Sequential Test. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties at risk of flooding (ENVI 16) | Climate; material assets |
| 6. Minimise pollution and consumption of natural resources | 6.1 Reduce non-renewable energy consumption and 'greenhouse' emissions | Building designed and orientated to utilise natural heat and light. Use/provision of renewable energy where appropriate. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of vehicles on road in peak period (ENVI 10) • Proportion of municipal waste recycled (ENVI 7) • Carbon emissions by sector per year (ENVI 13) • KW installed capacity of renewable energy in S.Glos (ENVI 4) | Climate; material assets |
| | 6.2 Keep water consumption within local carrying capacity limits (taking account of climate change) | Maximise use and opportunity for use of rain and grey water. New dwellings as a minimum meet Level 3 of the Code for Sustainable Homes, which requires internal water consumption of no greater than 105 litres per person per day. | Indicator to be identified | Water; material assets |
| | 6.3 Minimise consumption and extraction of minerals | Greatest possible reuse of old material in new construction; provision for reuse and recycling. | Indicator to be identified | Material assets |
| | 6.4 Reduce waste not put to any use | Provision for composting, digestion and recycling in new development. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household waste collected and recycled (ENVI 6) • Proportion of municipal waste recycled (ENVI 7) | Material assets |

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| | 6.5 Minimise land, water, air, light and generic pollution | Development that minimises diffused as well as point source pollution. Approaches to transport that will reduce emissions. Development that encourages dark skies at night, tranquillity and enhancement of the overall sensory environment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality; No. of poor air quality days (ENVI 2) | Soil; water; air; human health |
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Internal compatibility of the Sustainability Objectives

6.5 The internal compatibility of the SA objectives is tested here for conflict. Government Guidance suggests that such a test is useful. There may be tensions between objectives that cannot be resolved: the compatibility assessment should clarify these so that subsequent decisions are well based, and mitigation can be considered. As a reminder, the list of SA Objectives is shown below. The diagram on the following page assesses each of the sub-objectives (as numbered).

1) Improve Health

- 1.1 Improve health.
- 1.2 Reduce health inequalities.
- 1.3 Promote healthy lifestyles especially routine daily exercise.

2) Support communities that meet people's needs

- 2.1 Help make suitable housing available and affordable for everyone.
- 2.2 Give everyone access to learning, training, skills and knowledge.
- 2.3 Reduce crime and fear of crime.
- 2.4 Promote stronger, more vibrant communities.
- 2.5 Increase access to and participation in cultural activities.

3) Develop the economy in ways that meet people's needs

- 3.1 Give everyone in the district access to satisfying work opportunities paid or unpaid.
- 3.2 Help everyone afford a comfortable standard of living.
- 3.3 Reduce poverty and income inequality.
- 3.4 Meet local needs locally.
- 3.5 Increase the circulation of wealth within the area.
- 3.6 Reduce the vulnerability of the economy to climate change and harness opportunities arising.

4) Provide access to meet people's needs with least damage to communities and the environment.

- 4.1 Reduce the need/desire to travel longer than walking or cycling distance. Where travel beyond this is necessary ensure that the form chosen has minimal environmental impact.
- 4.2 Help everyone access basic services easily, safely and affordably.
- 4.3 Make public transport, cycling and walking easier and more attractive.
- 4.4 Encourage a switch from transporting freight by road to rail or water.

5) Maintain and improve environmental quality and assets

- 5.1 Protect and enhance habitats and species (taking account of climate change).
- 5.2 Promote the conservation and wise use of land.
- 5.3 Protect and enhance landscape and townscape.
- 5.4 Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness including rural ways of life.
- 5.5 Maintain and enhance cultural and historical assets.
- 5.6 Reduce vulnerability to flooding and sea level rise (taking account of climate change).

6) Minimise pollution and consumption of natural resources

- 6.1 Reduce non-renewable energy consumption and "greenhouse emissions".
- 6.2 Keep water consumption within local carrying capacity limits (taking account of climate change).
- 6.3 Minimise consumption and extraction of minerals.
- 6.4 Reduce waste not put to any use.
- 6.5 Minimise land, water, air, light, noise, and generic pollution.

Key for Diagram

Effect uncertain: ?

Positive effect: ✓

No/negligible effect: -

Negative effect: x

6.6 The diagram shows that uncertain compatibility between a number of the objectives exists. The ultimate effect of the objectives on one another is dependant on the way that they are implemented in South Gloucestershire.

6.7 It is considered that the uncertainties identified do not necessitate the SA objectives to be re-written. Some areas of potential conflict will always remain. The conflict between the provision of a buoyant and diverse economy and conserving biodiversity will always be difficult to reconcile but are key elements of ensuring sustainable development. Negative impacts can however, be avoided through the correct implementation.

7.0 Other Assessments to be Incorporated in the SA Process

Equalities Impact Assessment

7.1 Ensuring equality of opportunity for all members of the community is at the heart of sustainable development. South Gloucestershire Council works with all parts of every community and is committed to ensuring that its policies and plans provide equality of opportunity for all. The Council has an adopted Equalities and Diversity Policy in order to maintain this commitment.

7.2 Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Policy S11 requires an Equalities Impact Assessment of development and transport policies in Local Development Documents (LDDs). The Policy suggests that not all policies in LDDs affect everyone in the same way. Local authorities need to ensure at an early stage of policy development, that policies do not have unfavourable effects on certain groups, mitigating any potential negative impacts.

7.3 In order to ensure that the plans, policies and strategies produced by the Council accord with the Equalities and Diversity Policy, a brief but concise Equalities Impact Assessment is undertaken. It seems appropriate to use this Equalities Impact Assessment framework to assess all future Local Development Documents produced as part of the South Gloucestershire Local Development Framework and to conduct the assessment as part of the SA process. The Equalities Impact Assessment framework is set out at Appendix E.

Appropriate Assessment of the SA under the Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994

7.4 In recognition of its internationally important natural features and wildlife, the Severn Estuary is protected by a range of national and international nature conservation legislation.

7.5 As well as being notified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000, it is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) under EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds ('the Birds Directive'); and is a Ramsar site under the Ramsar Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of Importance.

7.6 The Severn Estuary is also a candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC) under European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora ('the Habitats Directive 1992'), implemented in Britain by the Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994 ('the Habitat Regulations').

7.7 Regulation 48 of the Habitats Regulations (transposing Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive) requires that:

*‘A competent authority, before deciding to undertake, or give any consent, permission or other authorisation for, a plan or project which –
(a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site in Great Britain (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and
(b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site,
shall make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of that site’s conservation objectives’.*

7.8 An appropriate assessment addresses the likely impact on those features of interest (e.g. waders or wildfowl) for which the site has been designated and has to be carried out regardless of whether those effects are direct or indirect, temporary or permanent, alone or in combination, negative or beneficial. The ‘competent authority’ can ask for sufficient information as is reasonable to enable that assessment to be carried out. Under European and national law, this has to be carried out before any planning permission can be granted.

7.9 The same legislative protection and constraints applies to habitat (e.g. coastal floodplain grassland) used by the European protected species, even if the land in question lies outside the SPA/Ramsar site.

7.10 In October 2005, the European Court of Justice ruled that the UK had failed to correctly transpose the provisions of Articles 6(3) and (4) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna – the Habitats Directive – into national law. Specifically, the UK had failed to ensure that land use plans are subject to Appropriate Assessment (AA) where they might have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site (Special Areas of Conservation, SACs and Special Protection Areas, SPAs). (It is Government policy to treat Ramsar sites as if they are Natura 2000 sites when applying the Habitats Regulations).

7.11 The Habitats Directive applies the precautionary principle to protected areas; plans and projects can only be permitted having ascertained that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the site(s) in question. This is in stark contrast to the SEA Directive which does not prescribe how plan or programme proponents should respond to the findings of an environmental assessment; it simply states that the assessment findings (as documented in the ‘environmental report’ or in this case, the SA Report) should be ‘taken into account’ during the preparation of the plan or programme. In the case of the Habitats Directive, plans and projects may still be permitted if there are no alternatives to them and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest as to why they should

go ahead. In such cases, compensation will be necessary to ensure the overall integrity of the site network.

7.12 In order to ascertain whether or not site integrity will be affected, an AA should be undertaken of the plan or project in question:

“Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant affect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site’s conservation objectives.” Article 6(3)

7.13 Following the European Court ruling, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) (now the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)) indicated that the regulations implementing the Habitats Directive in the UK would be amended to ensure that AA explicitly applies to land use plans, which Development Plan Documents are.

7.14 The policies contained in the DPDs in the LDF that may impact upon any Natura 2000 sites in the district must therefore be subject to AA.

7.15 Therefore, where AA is necessary during the production of any of the Council’s DPDs, the SA process will incorporate the AA process. The results of the AA process will be published in the SA Reports that accompany each DPD. The purpose of AA will be to assess the impacts of any of the DPDs against the conservation objectives of the European sites within South Gloucestershire (i.e. the Severn Estuary SPA/pSAC/Ramsar); and to ascertain that the plans would not – even in combination with other plans and projects – adversely affect the integrity of the site.

7.16 Any policy in the LDF relating to, or impacting in any way upon, the conservation objectives of the Severn Estuary SPA/Ramsar/pSAC will be tested in law in strict accordance with the provisions of the Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994.

8.0 Next Stages and Methodology for the SA

What happens next?

8.1 This Scoping Report is the first stage of the SA process (Stage A). The stages that follow are:

- Developing and refining options (Stage B)
- Appraising the effects of the Plan (Stage C)
- Consulting on the Plan and the SA Report (Stage D)
- Monitoring the implementation of the Plan

Developing and refining options (Stage B)

8.2 During the preparation of Local Development Documents (LDDs), the Council will develop various policy options capable of meeting the spatial planning objectives of the LDF. Each reasonable policy option, including the 'do nothing' option, will be tested against the SA Framework to determine their performance in sustainability terms.

8.3 Initially the various policy options will be appraised against SA objectives, in order to identify whether their effects are positive, negative or uncertain; whether such effects will arise in the short, medium or long term; and whether they will be temporary or permanent.

Appraising the effects of the plan (Stage C)

8.4 The next stage of the SA process is to assess, in more detail, each preferred policy option in Local Development Documents, in order to determine whether it is likely to have a significant effect on the environment and sustainable development (see Table 3 below). The purpose of this stage is to predict and evaluate the effects of policies and proposals so that, where adverse effects are predicted, consideration will be given to what mitigation measures may be required. This stage will lead to the production of the final SA Report.

8.5 Each preferred policy option will be assessed and, where necessary, recommendations made for refining the policy option included in the process. At this stage, if there are limitations in the data that is available, it is expected that the predictions regarding the policy impacts may be broad based and qualitative rather than detailed and quantitative. Where possible, the potential effects will be quantified, but, where this is not possible, a subjective judgement will need to be made.

8.6 Completion of this process will make it possible to decide if any of the policies are likely to have any adverse impacts. Where adverse impacts are predicted, information will be presented on the measures proposed to prevent, reduce or offset these adverse effects. Where an adverse effect cannot be mitigated, the Council will consider deleting or modifying the policy. Even if a policy does not have any adverse impacts, the Council will where possible seek to enhance its positive and beneficial effects.

8.7 Where policies are proposed for alteration in light of the SA process, these will be highlighted in the final SA Report. The SA process will also provide a commentary on any sustainability issues that arise during the refinement of the preferred policy options. Conclusions on the overall sustainability effects of the preferred policy options will also be provided as part of the final SA Report.

8.8 Table 3 below sets out SEA regulation requirements for how significant effects on the environment should be determined. These criteria will be used throughout Stages B and C of the SA process but will also be applied to the determination of significant effects on social and economic circumstances, as well as the environment, so that the likely significant effects on broader sustainability may be determined.

**Table 3 SEA REGULATIONS CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT
(Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations 2004)**

1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to -
 - (a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;
 - (b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;
 - (c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;
 - (d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme; and
 - (e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).

2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to -
 - (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;
 - (b) the cumulative nature of the effects;
 - (c) the transboundary nature of the effects;
 - (d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);
 - (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);
 - (f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to -
 - (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;
 - (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or
 - (iii) intensive land-use; and

 - (g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

Consulting on the plan and Sustainability Appraisal (Stage D)

8.9 The final SA Report will be available for consultation at the same time as, for a Development Plan Document (DPD), the public participation stage and, for a Supplementary Plan Document (SPD), the public participation stage on the draft document.

8.10 If, in the case of a DPD, significant changes are made to the preferred options in light of the public participation stage, SA will be required for all

changes. The final SA Report will need to be amended as necessary to reflect any changes.

8.11 In the case of DPDs, the final SA report (revised to take account of necessary changes) will be submitted to the Secretary of State alongside the submission of the DPD, which will be subject to a process of independent examination by a Planning Inspector. The independent examination will consider whether the SA process has been incorporated into the production of the submitted DPD and whether the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met.

Monitoring the implementation of the plan

8.12 It is a requirement of the SEA Directive that the significant environmental effects of the implementation of Plans must be monitored to identify any unforeseen adverse effects and to enable appropriate remedial action to be taken. SA monitoring will allow the Council to answer the following questions:

- Were the assessment's predictions of sustainability effects accurate?
- Is the plan contributing to the achievement of desired SA objectives and targets?
- Are mitigation measures performing as well as expected?
- Are there any adverse effects? Are these within acceptable limits, or is remedial action desirable

8.13 The SA Framework (as set out in Table 2) sets out each of the SA objectives that will be used to assess LDF documents. Where appropriate and relevant, each objective has a set of indicators, which have been drawn from the baseline assessment in Appendix C. Future Annual Monitoring Reports (in which these indicators are referred to as 'Significant Effects Indicators') that are produced by the Council will set out the most recent indicator data available each year to assess how well LDF policies are performing in delivering sustainable development. This is undertaken so that the impacts of planning policy on sustainability in the district can be monitored.

Appendix A

Review of International, National and Regional Plans, Programmes and Policies

Scope of the review of Plans and Programmes

European Directives and commitments established at the European level

The review refers to a number of the more important Directives, such as the *Directive on Conservation of Wild Birds (79/4098/EC)* and the *Directive on the Conservation of natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC)*.

National Strategies, Plans and Programmes (including Planning Policy Guidance Notes and Planning Policy Statements)

The review identifies a number of high level policy and strategy documents, such as PPGs, PPSs, the Air Quality Strategy and so on. Although the review only identifies the main PPGs and emerging PPSs that are seen as most relevant, planning authorities must take the content of all PPGs and PPSs into account when preparing their plans.

Regional Strategies, Plans and Programmes

A number of other regional strategies exist which will be important in the preparation of the Core Strategy. These have been listed in the review and include the Environment Agency Water Resources Strategy, the Cultural Strategy and the Regional Economic Strategy.

| Title of Policy, plan and programme | Objectives | Implications for Local Development Framework Development Plan Documents |
|---|---|---|
| General | | |
| 1. The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, | A number of the sustainable development commitments originating from WSSD, are relevant to land use planning, and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate energy into country-led poverty reduction processes; | Many of these commitments are followed up and elaborated in more in detail in UK guidance and strategies, |

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| <p>(September 2002). Commitments arising from Johannesburg Summit.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove market barriers and create a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency; • Greater resource efficiency (incl. decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation); • Support business innovation and take-up of best practice in technology and management; work on waste and producer responsibility. <p>Targets There are a number of follow-up processes, but no specific targets.</p> | <p>including Planning Policy Guidance and Planning Policy Statements.</p> <p>Consider policies to support objectives.</p> |
| <p>2. Planning Policy Statement 1 – Delivering Sustainable Communities. ODPM, 2005</p> | <p>Draft PPS1 supports the reform programme and, in particular, the Government’s vision for planning, and the key policies and principles that should underpin the planning system. These are built around three themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable development – the purpose of the planning system. • The spatial planning approach. • Community involvement in planning. <p>The key policy messages are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for planning authorities to take an approach based on integrating the four aims of sustainable development: economic development; social inclusion; environmental protection; and prudent use of resources. • The need for positive planning to achieve sustainable development objectives and proactive management of development, rather than simply regulation and control. • The need for plans to set clear visions for communities and help to integrate the wide range of activities relating to development and regeneration. • The need for the planning system to be transparent, accessible and accountable, and to actively promote participation and involvement. <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives.</p> |
| <p>3. DETR (1999). A Better Quality of Life, A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK.</p> | <p>Objectives The Strategy for sustainable development has four main aims. These are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. social progress which recognises the needs of everyone; 2. effective protection of the environment; 3. prudent use of natural resources; and 4. maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment. <p>For the UK, priorities for the future are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more investment in people and equipment for a competitive economy; • reducing the level of social exclusion; | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and incorporate the principles.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting a transport system which provides choice, and also minimises environmental harm and reduces congestion; • improving the larger towns and cities to make them better places to live and work;• directing development and promoting agricultural practices to protect and enhance the countryside and wildlife; • improving energy efficiency and tackling waste; • working with others to achieve sustainable development internationally. <p>Targets</p> <p>Does not contain any targets, but does contain ten guiding principles which Government policy will take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • putting people at the centre; • taking a long term perspective; • taking account of costs and benefits; • creating an open and supportive economic system; • combating poverty and social exclusion; • respecting environmental limits; • the precautionary principle; • using scientific knowledge; • transparency, information, participation and access to justice; • making the polluter pay. | |
| <p>DEFRA (2005). Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy</p> | <p>Objectives</p> <p>The Strategy sets out five guiding principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Living within environmental limits 2. Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society 3. Achieving a sustainable economy 4. Promoting good governance 5. Using sound science responsibly <p>Priorities for UK action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable production and consumption • Climate change and energy • Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement • Sustainable communities <p>Targets</p> <p>Does not contain any targets but does include the following key commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • producing an integrated policy approach for protecting and enhancing natural | |

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| | <p>resources with stakeholders in 2005</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • researching environmental limits and environmental inequalities • taking account of natural systems as a whole, through the use of an ecosystems approach • bringing together all the UK Government's policy frameworks, targets and strategies for natural resources • modernising the delivery framework through the creation of new agencies to manage the marine and terrestrial environments • launching Environmental Stewardship to incentivise farmers to deliver environmental benefits • addressing problems of degraded resources and environmental inequalities by enhancing the role of the Environment Agency, the creation of the Integrated Agency, and by strategic partnership work nationally and locally between Defra and the Department of Health and their agencies • working with international partners to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss worldwide, and • encouraging partner countries globally to integrate principles of sustainable development into poverty reduction and development processes, assisting developing countries in negotiation and implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and supporting multilateral institutions such as the UN Environment Programme. | |
| <p>4. United Nations Millennium Declaration (2000)</p> | <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger • Achieve universal primary education • Promote gender equality and empower women • Reduce child mortality • Improve maternal health • Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases • Ensure environmental sustainability • Develop a global partnership for development <p>Targets</p> <p>By 2015 all 191 UN Member states have pledged to meet these goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TARGET FOR 2015: Halve the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day and those who suffer from hunger. • TARGET FOR 2015: Ensure that all boys and girls complete primary school. | <p>The declaration and the goals have a key focus on developing countries and issues such as poverty, gender equality and education. However the declaration also contains commitments to address a broad range of issues some of which have relevance to identifying policy actions and priorities, particularly those relating to environmental sustainability.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TARGETS FOR 2005 AND 2015: Eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005 and at all levels by 2015. • TARGET FOR 2015: Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five. • TARGET FOR 2015: Reduce by three quarters the ratio of women dying in childbirth. • TARGET FOR 2015: Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and the incidence of malaria and other major diseases. • Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources. • By 2015, reduce by half the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water. • By 2020, achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers. • Develop further an open trading and financial system that includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction — nationally and internationally. • Address the least developed countries' special needs, and the special needs of landlocked and small island developing states. • Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt problems. • Develop decent and productive work for youth. • In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries. • In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies — especially information and communications technologies. | |
| <p>5. South West Regional Assembly (2001). A Sustainable Future for the South West - The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England.</p> | <p>Lists a number of objectives and proposed indicators under 15 broad themes covering a range of economic, social and environmental issues for the region.</p> <p>Does not contain any targets.</p> <p>N.B. Being reviewed as of 2006/2007</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives.</p> |
| <p>6. Planning Policy Guidance Note 2: Green Belts.</p> | <p>Objectives The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the most important attribute of Green Belts is their openness. The objectives of the policy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to provide opportunities for access to the open countryside for the urban population; | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation near urban areas; • to retain attractive landscapes, and enhance landscapes, near to where people live; • to improve damaged and derelict land around towns; • to secure nature conservation interest; and • to retain land in agricultural, forestry and related uses <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | |
| West of England Joint Study Area – first detailed proposals, West of England Partnership, August 2005 | <p>Document sets out the Partnership’s aspirations for what the West of England sub-regional element of the RSS should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land to be made available to meet a jobs growth rate of 5000 jobs per annum and accommodate 4,625 additions to the housing stock per annum. • Actively re-structuring land uses and transport networks to meet physical, economic and social changes. • Reinforcing the role and function of town and district centres in the sub-region, to focus regeneration initiatives and to meet needs for additional retail, office and leisure floorspace. • Creating new mixed residential and commercial districts that make more efficient use of land and design. • Promoting regeneration in areas of multiple deprivation. • Secure an integrated approach to renewal, regeneration and growth to deliver sustainable change. | Consider policies to achieve these objectives |
| Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Joint Replacement Structure Plan, adopted September 2002 | <p>AIM: Through the planning system, to secure sustainable development which will help to improve the area’s environment and the quality of life of all its present and future residents.</p> <p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To safeguard, conserve and enhance the quality of the natural and historic environment. • Minimise the consumption of natural resources. • Maintain and enhance economic prosperity through sustainable initiatives. • Meet housing, community services and shopping needs. • Sustainable transport and access • Conserve and enhance the character of rural areas. • Recognise the importance of existing communities and to retain and enhance their identity, variety and vitality. | Consider policies to achieve these objectives. |
| Planning Policy | This PPS is essentially procedural and does not contain any objectives as such. | DPDs will need to be in |

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| Statement 11: Regional Spatial Strategies (2004) | | 'general conformity' with the RSS, which is one of the tests of soundness. |
| Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks (2004) | To streamline the local planning process and promote a proactive, positive approach to managing development. | Need to ensure that the aims and objectives of PPS12 will be properly taken account of within Plan preparation. |
| Planning Policy Guidance 14: Development on Unstable Land (1990) | Minimising the risk of land instability on property, infrastructure and the public, Ensure development should not be placed in unstable locations without precautions. Ensure that the physical constraints of land are taken into account in the planning stage | Need to ensure that any potential development land is not unstable |
| The Planning Response to Climate Change – Advice on Better Practice, ODPM, (2004) | Does not contain objectives or targets but a useful source of good practice. | Consider policies that follow the good practice. |
| Improve Health | | |
| Valuing People: A New Strategy for Learning Disability for the 21 st Century (Government White Paper) | The overall aim of this white paper is better life chances for people with learning disabilities, with the following key themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled Children and Young People • More Choice and Control for People with Learning Disabilities • Supporting Carers • Improving Health For People With Learning Disabilities • Housing, Fulfilling Lives, and Employment • Quality Services | |
| Changing Places – Changing Lives | Changing Places – Changing Lives is a campaign by PAMIS, Mencap, Nottingham City Council, Dumfries & Galloway Council, Valuing People Support Team and the Scottish Executive Same as you Team. It aims to support the rights of people with profound and multiple learning disabilities to access their community. The Changing Places Consortium is campaigning for Changing Places toilets to be installed in big public places. | |

Support communities that meet people's needs

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| <p>Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing. 2006</p> | <p>Strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes, both affordable and market housing, to address the requirements of the community. (ii) To widen opportunities for home ownership and ensure high quality housing for those who cannot afford market housing, in particular those who are vulnerable or in need. (ii) To improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing the supply of housing. (ii) To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural. <p>The specific outcomes that the planning system should deliver are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) High quality housing that is well designed and built to a high standard. (ii) A mix of housing, both market and affordable, particularly in terms of tenure and price, to support a wide variety of households in all areas, both urban and rural. (ii) A sufficient quantity of housing taking into account need and demand and seeking to improve choice. (ii) Housing developments in suitable locations, which offer a good range of community facilities and with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure. (ii) A flexible, responsive supply of land – managed in a way that makes efficient and effective use of land, including re-use of previously developed land, where appropriate. <p>Local Planning Authorities should set out in Local Development Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) The likely overall proportions of households that require market or affordable housing, for example, x% market housing and y% affordable housing. (ii) The likely profile of household types requiring market housing eg multi-person, including families and children (x%), single persons (y%), couples (z%). (ii) The size and type of affordable housing required. | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets.</p> |
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| | Local Development Documents should set out a strategy for the planned location of new housing that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. Local Planning Authorities should, working with stakeholders, set out the criteria to be used for identifying broad locations and specific sites. | |
| Building Schools for the Future (programme) | To deliver higher standards of education (particularly secondary) and transform learning and working environments in schools, by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing Capital Investment in schools • Improving the quality of physical school accommodation, providing state of the art facilities either through improvements to existing buildings or the construction of new facilities To develop facilities which we be for the use of the school and when appropriate (i.e. out of school hours) the local community | |
| Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres (1996) | To promote and enhance the vitality and viability of town centres by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for growth and development of existing centres; and • Promoting and enhancing existing centres by focusing development in such centres and encouraging a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all. | Need to ensure documents are consistent with this national planning policy statement |
| Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004) | To promote more sustainable patterns of development through balancing agricultural, conservation and economic factors when considering the quality of the environment and local distinctiveness in rural areas. Recognises the importance of countryside around towns, which is accessible to urban residents and where the environment should be improved. | Ensure that development contributes to a sense of local identity and is of an appropriate design and scale for its location. Need to ensure the DPDs are consistent with, and support the objectives of, this national policy statement. |
| Planning Policy Guidance 24: Planning and Noise (1994) | No specific objectives | DPDs needs to take this guidance into account and ensure that future sites are not located within close proximity to existing activities that generate high levels of noise, |

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| | | or that noisy activities are not located close to sensitive areas. |
| Circular 01/2006: Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (2006) | To reduce the level of unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments by providing more authorised sites in appropriate and sustainable locations. To ensure that DPDs include fair, realistic and inclusive policies and to ensure that identified need is dealt with fairly and effectively. | Need to facilitate early involvement in the preparation of DPD by consulting with the community and all stakeholders. Options for site provision must be subject to sustainability appraisal. In 'exceptional circumstances', land can be taken out of the green belt for Gypsy and Traveller sites if no other suitable land exists. |
| South West Regional Housing Forum (2002). South West Regional Housing Strategy 2005-2016 | Priority 1 – the provision of additional affordable housing. Priority 2 – improving the quality of private sector homes. Priority 3 – meeting the Government's Decent Homes target in the social sector by 2010. Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the development of sub-regional housing market partnerships and introduce a pilot programme of 2-3 jointly funded housing market studies, with a view to completing them across the region by 2008. Supporting action – the SWHB will consider with partners how the role of rural enablers can be developed in the future. • Expect Local Authorities to deliver agreed levels of housing in accordance with current RSS and associated Structure Plan targets, and tackle any backlog of provision against these targets. • Promote a pro-active approach to planning for housing development using the full set of tools available within the new planning system, such as Area Action Plans. • Promote S106 good practice during 2005, including through a series of events in the region. | Consider policies to achieve these priorities. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SWHB will promote the efficient use of housing stock by RSLs and local authorities by supporting empty homes initiatives, and other tools to tackle under-occupation. • Ensure all new public housing developments (with access to natural gas heating) reach Very Good EcoHomes accreditation. • All other schemes will at least gain “Good” EcoHomes accreditation. • Expect RSLs and local authorities to include the principles of Future Foundations, Secured by Design and Lifetime Homes into all new schemes. • Encourage RSLs and Local authorities to improve over Decent Homes standards in the longer term, ensuring appropriate links with the Regional Waste and Environment Strategy are made. • SWHB will promote appropriate initiatives to develop the intermediate housing market through innovative use of the planning system or financial models. | |
| West of England Housing Need and Affordability Model, Prof. Glen Bramley for West of England Partnership, 2005 | The study provided robust and up to date assessments of housing need in South Gloucestershire and the other Unitary Authorities over the next 4/5 years. | Consider policies that make provisions for affordable housing need in South Gloucestershire and those targets expressed in the study. |
| 7. South West Housing Body (2003). Strategic Housing Priorities in the South West. | <p>Contains a number of recommendations and three key priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to deliver as many new affordable homes as possible. 2. private sector renewal (supporting vulnerable people living in the private sector) 3. decent homes for tenants in the social sector <p>Does not contain any targets.</p> | Consider policies to achieve these objectives. |
| 8. ODPM (2003). Sustainable Communities in the South West – Building for the Future. | <p>Document does not contain any ‘objectives’ for the Region, but contains an ‘Action Plan’ which includes action such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will help empower people and public services in disadvantaged communities by investing in the skills and know-how they need to turn their communities around (total funding of £148,500 for 2002/03). We will continue to work with SWRDA to establish a ‘centre of excellence’, providing services to enable the sharing of best practice on regeneration and renewal. • We will plan in the main towns and cities for growth, and transport infrastructure and services that reduce the need for travel and support sustainable development as with the Greater Bristol Strategic Transport Study. • We will work with local authorities to develop and implement effective local transport | Consider policies to achieve this Action Plan. |

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| | <p>plans to tackle the region's transport needs at a local level and support the delivery of key schemes supporting sustainable growth such as the Poole Harbour Bridge, Gloucester South West by-pass and Barnstaple downstream bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will use the planning system and other strategies to ensure that communities develop in a way that reduces the need to travel, particularly by private car. • We will develop in rural areas an increasing range of transport opportunities that reduce dependence on the private car, supporting initiatives such as the Cornwall Centre of Excellence in rural transport and innovative schemes such as the Wiltshire Wiggly Bus and On Call buses in Plymouth and Caradon. <p>Does not contain any targets.</p> | |
| <p>9. Local Sustainability Group for the South West (2000). Promoting Sustainable Tourism in the South West, A discussion paper by the local sustainability group for the South West.</p> | <p>There are no objectives, but there are a number of recommendations, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We recommend that a Sustainability Checklist be used by planning staff to give a quick indication of how any particular proposal matches up against sustainability criteria. • We recommend that the South West of England Regional Development Agency, Countryside Agency and South West Tourism concentrate their investment in the tourism sector on proposals that contribute to the development of a more sustainable tourism industry. • We recommend that each part of the region (city, county or district) should take a strategic approach to developing sustainable tourism, reaching a consensus involving private and public sectors, and identifying problems and opportunities in the existing tourism industry in the area. Provides a discussion and a background of information on sustainable tourism, parts of which may be relevant to the RSS. • We recommend that a Sustainable Tourism Officer is appointed in each area to promote a strategic consensus for the future of the industry in the locality, and to work with individual tourism businesses in minimizing their environmental impact, and supporting accreditation. <p>Does not contain any targets.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these recommendations.</p> |
| <p>Environment Agency (2006) <i>Fishing for the Future: Angling in 2015</i></p> | <p>Does not contain objectives or targets but a useful source of information regarding accessible opportunities for recreational angling.</p> | <p>Useful source of information to inform policy.</p> |
| <p>Environment Agency (2006) <i>A Better Place to Play: Our Strategy for Water-Related</i></p> | <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creating a better place to play by improving the environment 2. Improving access for all 3. Making recreation sustainable | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives.</p> |

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| <p><i>Recreation</i></p> | <p>4. Promoting the outdoors</p> <p>Future development/projects should contribute towards the government's targets of maximizing economic, social and environmental benefits of water-related recreation. Encouraging individuals/agencies to provide more and better opportunities for involvement and to increase community recreation opportunities.</p> | |
| <p>Develop the economy in ways that meet people's needs</p> | | |
| <p>Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (replaces PPG21)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that planners understand the importance of tourism and take this fully into account when preparing development plans and taking planning decisions; • To ensure that those involved in the tourism industry understand the principles of national planning policy as they apply to tourism and how these can be applied when preparing individual planning applications; • To ensure that planners and the tourism industry work together effectively to facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism developments in a sustainable way. | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives.</p> |
| <p>Towards 2015: Shaping Tomorrow's Tourism (SWRDA/South West Tourism)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving up Quality • Delivering Truly Sustainable Tourism • Creating Superior Destination Management Arrangements | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives.</p> |
| <p>Regional Development Agency-(2005) Regional Economic Strategy for South West England 2006 – 2015 and its accompanying Delivery Framework 2006 – 2009 and Spatial Annex</p> | <p>Concerned with the economy of the SW, within the wider context of sustainable development. The Strategy concentrates on those issues which are directly related to improving the economy and ensuring that more people can participate in that economy.</p> <p>Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ to harness the benefits of population growth and manage the implications of population change ■ to enhance our distinctive environments and the quality and diversity of our cultural life ■ to enhance our economic prosperity and quality of employment opportunity ■ to address deprivation and disadvantage to reduce significant intra-regional inequalities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment provided in accessible/sustainable locations. • Adequate employment allocations/safeguarding. • Policies to address deprivation/disadvantage/need for regeneration. • Allow communities good access to educational facilities. • Range of employment premises type/size available. |

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| | <p>■ to make sure that people are treated fairly and can participate fully in society.</p> <p>Objectives: 1A: Support business productivity 1B: Encourage new enterprise 1C; Deliver skills for the economy 1D: Compete in the global economy 1E: Promote Innovation 2A: Improve participation in the economy 2B: Regenerate the most disadvantaged areas. 2C: Plan sustainable and successful communities 3A: Improve transport networks 3B: Promote and enhance what is best about the region 3C: Improve leadership, influence and partnership</p> <p>Does not contain any targets</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport networks improved |
| <p>South West Regional Employment Forum (2002). <i>South West Framework for Regional Employment and Skills Action (FRESA)</i>.</p> | <p>The 3 strategic objectives that are identified to be taken forward by regional partners as part of a coordinated plan of work are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase employers participation in skills development in the SW; • To raise individuals aspirations and skills for working in the SW; and, • To develop the efficient and inclusive working of the SW Labour Market. <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |
| <p>Barker Review of Land Use Planning, Final Report December 2006</p> | <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General presumption in favour of development where development context is indeterminate or out of date unless economic, social or environment costs outweigh benefits • Developers could gain approval through ‘community goodwill payments’ – to win support from those directly affected by a development who might not be swayed by facilities funded through S106 deals. • Relaxed controls over minor commercial, householder and micro-generation proposals • Possibility of building on Green Belts where it offers the most viable site(s) for development. • Removal of needs tests for retailing policy | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationalising Policy guidance into a national framework • Revisions to preparing LDFs • Streamlining planning / more efficient practices • Backs case for more resources for planning departments. | |
| <p>Provide access to meet people’s needs with least damage to communities and the environment</p> | | |
| <p>Planning Policy Guidance Note 13: Transport.</p> | <p>In order to deliver the objectives of this guidance, when preparing development plans and considering planning applications, local authorities should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. actively manage the pattern of urban growth to make the fullest use of public transport, and focus major generators of travel demand in city, town and district centres and near to major public transport interchanges; 2. locate day to day facilities which need to be near their clients in local centres so that they are accessible by walking and cycling; 3. accommodate housing principally within existing urban areas, planning for increased intensity of development for both housing and other uses at locations which are highly accessible by public transport, walking and cycling; 4. ensure that development comprising jobs, shopping, leisure and services offers a realistic choice of access by public transport, walking, and cycling, that this may be less achievable in some rural areas; 5. in rural areas, locate most development for housing, jobs, shopping, leisure and services in local service centres which are designated in the development plan to act as focal points for housing, transport and other services, and encourage better transport provision in the countryside; 6. ensure that strategies in the development and local transport plan complement each other and that consideration of development plan allocations and local transport investment and priorities are closely linked; 7. use parking policies, alongside other planning and transport measures, to promote sustainable transport choices and reduce reliance on the car for work and other journeys; 8. give priority to people over ease of traffic movement and plan to provide more road space to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport in town centres, local neighbourhoods and other areas with a mixture of land uses; 9. ensure that the needs of disabled people as pedestrians, public transport users and | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |

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| | <p>motorists – are taken into account in the implementation of planning policies and traffic management schemes, and in the design of individual developments; consider how best to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and seek by the design and layout of developments and areas, to secure community safety and road safety; and</p> <p>10. protect sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choices for both passenger and freight movements.</p> <p>Does not contain any targets.</p> | |
| <p>Department for Transport (2000). <i>Ten Year Plan</i>.</p> | <p>Objectives</p> <p>The overarching strategy for transport is to tackle congestion and pollution by improving all types of transport rail and road, public and private in ways that increase choice. The ten-year plan sees the following as key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated transport: looking at transport as a whole, matching solutions to specific problems by assessing all the options. • Public and private partnership: government and the private sector working more closely together to boost investment. • New projects: our transport network in ways that make it bigger, better, safer, cleaner and quicker. <p>Sustainability issues raised by the ten year vision are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved public transport choice so more people will use public transport • Integrated light rail systems and bus services • Park and ride schemes so people do not drive into town centres • Access to jobs and services through improved transport links especially in regeneration areas • The role of integrated public transport information, booking and ticketing systems, with a single ticket or card covering the whole journey • Ensure transport system makes less environmental impact. <p>Targets</p> <p>Contains a number of relevant targets, which include:</p> <p>Locally across England:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double light rail use • 10% increase in bus passenger journeys • Extensive bus priority schemes, and improvements also benefiting coaches • Urban Bus Challenge Fund to improve links to deprived urban areas • More cities and towns with park and ride schemes | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of Rural Bus Subsidy Grant to cover more journeys serving market towns • Support for flexible transport in rural communities • Modern and integrated transport information, booking and ticketing services • Safer cycling and walking routes, more 20mph areas and Home Zones for safer roads, particularly around schools. • 50% increase in use, measured by passenger • 80% increase in rail freight • High speed Channel Tunnel Rail Link, also serving Kent and the Thames Gateway • Improved commuter services in London and other cities • Upgrading of freight routes to major ports • Better integration with cars, buses, taxis, bicycles and better links to airports. <p>Roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents • Accelerated take-up of cleaner vehicles to reduce air pollution and CO2 emissions. | |
| <p>Department for Transport (2004). <i>The Future of Transport a network for 2030</i>.</p> | <p>Objectives</p> <p>The strategy is built around three key themes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained investment over the long term. The spending review settlement honours this Government’s commitment to deliver sustained improvements to transport networks. It raises planned spending over the next three years from £10.4 billion this year to over £12.8 billion by 2007–08. And that higher level of spending will grow in real terms (by 2.25 per cent each year) through to 2015. Meanwhile, the other reforms we are putting in place will ensure that each pound of investment works harder for the British taxpayer. • Improvements in transport management. We will modernise the rail industry to improve performance, drive down costs and get better value from public spending. We will legislate to put in place a structure where Government sets the strategy and controls public expenditure. Better traffic management will ease congestion of our road network. And we will lock in the benefits of new capacity, introducing some tolling and High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes where they make sense. • Planning ahead. We cannot build our way out of the problems we face. Government will lead the debate on road pricing, working with stakeholders to establish and explain how and when pricing might provide the reliability and standards road users want. We are also committed to sharing decision making with regional and local stakeholders to ensure that transport decisions are taken alongside those for housing and economic growth. <p>Targets</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets.</p> |

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| | Provides some context for targets e.g. 'where we want to be'. The Annex also refers to the Department for Transport Public Service Agreements | |
| Eddington Review: Transport, November 2006 | <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overhaul of planning for major infrastructure such as transport, waste and energy approval for these types of projects would be taken as read where they are in line with national priorities and comply with European law and human rights legislation. • Independent commission comprising a range of experts to decide individual applications in nationally significant cases. The commission's decisions would be based on strategic objectives set by ministers. • Improve the capacity and performance of the existing transport network rather than pursuing 'grand projects' that offer speculative returns. • Recommends targeting growth and focus investment on growing urban catchments, key inter-urban corridors and key international gateways. • In favour of national road policy. | |
| Department for Transport <i>South West Regional Planning Assessment for the Railway (May 2007)</i> | This document sets out the Government's current thinking on how the railway might best be developed to allow wider planning objectives for a region to be met, and identifies the priorities for further development work. In the Bristol area the document identifies options for increasing rail capacity, including a turn back facility at Yate. | Consider policies and proposals to achieve these objectives. |
| Joint Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2007-11, The West of England Partnership | <p>The ROWIP vision is to increase the use of PROW by developing a network of safe and attractive routes which</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improves opportunities for sustainable access to essential services and facilities; and • meets the present and future recreational needs of all members of the community, including those with visual impairment or mobility problems. | Consider policies to achieving the vision of the ROWIP. |
| Maintain and improve environmental quality and assets | | |
| Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979). | <p>Objectives</p> <p>The Convention aims to ensure conservation of wild flora and fauna species and their habitats. Special attention is given to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species specified in appendices. The Parties undertake to take all appropriate measures to ensure the conservation of the habitats</p> | Consider policies to achieve these objectives |

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| | <p>of the wild flora and fauna species. Such measures should be included in the Parties planning and development policies and pollution control, with particular attention to the conservation of wild flora and fauna. The Parties undertake to promote education and disseminate general information concerning the need to conserve species of wild flora and fauna and their habitats. The aims of the convention are threefold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to conserve wild flora and fauna and natural habitats • to promote co-operation between States • to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species <p>General obligation for each Contracting Party to take action individually, with respect to the conservation of wild flora and fauna and all natural habitats in general, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting national conservation policies • having regard for conservation in regional planning policies and pollution abatement • promoting education and information <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | |
| <p>Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of international importance especially waterfowl habitat (1971).</p> | <p>Objectives The Convention makes the following commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 2: Signatories will designate wetland sites to be included in the list of wetlands of international importance and promote the conservation and wise use of these. • Article 3: Under the Convention there is a general obligation for the Contracting Parties to include wetland conservation considerations in their national land-use planning. They have undertaken to formulate and implement this planning so as to promote, as far as possible, “the wise use of wetlands in their territory”. • Article 4: Contracting Parties have also undertaken to establish nature reserves in wetlands, whether or not they are included in the Ramsar List, and they are also expected to promote training in the fields of wetland research, management and stewardship <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |
| <p>Bonn Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (1979).</p> | <p>Objectives The Convention was agreed based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition that wild animals in their innumerable forms are an irreplaceable part of the earth’s natural system which must be conserved for the good of mankind • Awareness that each generation of man holds the resources of the earth for future | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |

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| | <p>generations and has an obligation to ensure that this legacy is conserved and is used wisely</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consciousness of the ever-growing value of wild animals from environmental, ecological, genetic, scientific, aesthetic, recreational, cultural, educational, social and economic points of view • Concern particularly with those species of wild animals that migrate across or outside national jurisdictional boundaries • Recognition that the States are and must be the protectors of the migratory species of wild animals that live within or pass through their national jurisdictional boundaries • The conviction that conservation and effective management of migratory species of wild animals require the concerted action of all States within the national jurisdictional boundaries of which such species spend any part of their life cycle <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | |
| <p>Directive on Conservation of Wild Birds.</p> | <p>Objectives The main provisions of the Directive include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species across their distributional range (Article 2) with the encouragement of various activities to that end (Article 3). • The identification and classification of Special Protection Areas for rare or vulnerable species listed in Annex I (PDF 106KB) of the Directive, as well as for all regularly occurring migratory species, paying particular attention to the protection of wetlands of international importance (Article 4). (Together with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive, SPAs form a network of pan-European protected areas known as Natura 2000.) • The establishment of a general scheme of protection for all wild birds (Article 5). • Restrictions on the sale and keeping of wild birds (Article 6). • Specification of the conditions under which hunting and falconry can be undertaken (Article 7). • (Huntable species are listed on Annex II.1 (PDF 29KB) and Annex II.2 (PDF 73KB) of the Directive). • Prohibition of large-scale non-selective means of bird killing (Article 8). • Procedures under which Member States may derogate from the provisions of Articles 5-8 (Article 9) — that is, the conditions under which permission may be given for otherwise prohibited activities. • Encouragement of certain forms of relevant research (Article 10). | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements to ensure that introduction of non-native birds do not threatened other biodiversity (Article 11). <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | |
| Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna & Flora (Directive 92/43/EC) (The Habitats Directive). | <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of this Directive shall be to contribute towards ensuring bio-diversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies. • Measures taken pursuant to this Directive shall be designed to maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest. • Measures taken pursuant to this Directive shall take account of economic, social and cultural requirements and regional and local characteristics. <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | Consider policies to achieve these objectives |
| Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation | <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote sustainable development by ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development, so that policies and decisions about the development and use of land integrate biodiversity and geological diversity with other considerations. • to conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology by sustaining, and where possible improving, the quality and extent of natural habitat and geological and geomorphological sites; the natural physical processes on which they depend; and the populations of naturally occurring species which they support. • to contribute to rural renewal and urban renaissance by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) – enhancing biodiversity in green spaces and among developments so that they are used by wildlife and valued by people, so that healthy functional ecosystems can contribute to a better quality of life and to people's sense of well-being; and (ii) ensuring that developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high quality environment. <p>Local development frameworks should:</p> | Consider policies to achieve these objectives. |

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| | <p>(ii) (i) indicate the location of designated sites of importance for biodiversity and geodiversity, making clear distinctions between the hierarchy of international, national, regional and locally designated sites; and</p> <p>(ii) identify any areas or sites for the restoration or creation of new priority habitats which contribute to regional targets, and support this restoration or creation through appropriate policies.</p> <p>Does not contain any targets</p> | |
| Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment. | Does not contains a specific set of objectives, but does state that ‘the protection of the historic environment, whether individual listed buildings, conservation areas, parks and gardens, battlefields will need to be taken fully into account both in the formulation of authorities’ planning policies and in development control’. Does not contain any specific targets. | Consider policies to achieve these objectives |
| Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning (1990) | Where archaeological remains and their settings are affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their preservation. | Need to ensure that any potential development sites do not contain archaeological remains. If sites are found to contain archaeological remains, contingency methods/plans need to be in place to ensure any potential adverse effects are mitigated. |
| Planning Policy Statement 23: Planning and Pollution Control (2004) | To ensure that Local Development Documents play a positive role in steering development onto appropriate previously developed land, some of which may be affected by contamination, and to protect greenfield land from contamination. | Need to ensure that where any allocated sites are contaminated, suitable remediation techniques must be implementable. |
| Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation. | Does not contain a specific set of objectives, but does state that Open spaces, sport and recreation all underpin people’s quality of life. Well-designed and implemented planning policies for open space, sport and recreation are therefore fundamental to delivering broader Government objectives. Targets Does not contain any specific targets. | Consider policies to achieve these objectives |

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| <p>Planning Policy Guidance Note 20: Coastal Planning.</p> | <p>Objectives Does not contain a specific set of objectives, but does state that on-shore development can often have an impact offshore. And this should be taken into account when making planning decisions. Likewise, when considering the environmental impacts of developments outside the coastal zone, local planning authorities will still need to consider the effects on that zone.</p> <p>Targets Does not contain any specific targets.</p> | |
| <p>Directive 2006/113/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (2006) on the quality required of shellfish waters</p> | <p>The aim of the EC Shellfish Waters Directive is to protect or improve shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth, therefore contributing to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man. It sets physical, chemical and microbiological water quality requirements that designated shellfish waters must either comply with ('mandatory' standards) or endeavour to meet.</p> | <p>Consider policies that will maintain water quality standards in the Severn Estuary.</p> |
| <p>Environment Agency (2007) <i>Soil: A Precious Resource</i></p> | <p>Six goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People will value soil and recognise that it is an important natural resource that requires the same level of protection as water and air. • People will recognise the environmental importance of the links between soil, air and water and take this into account when managing soil. • Farmers and growers will manage their soils wisely to produce healthy food in a sustainable way that safeguards the environment. • People will value soil in the built environment because it provides recreation opportunities in gardens and community green spaces, because it supports biodiversity and also because it offers us benefits for air and water quality. Industry will adopt methods of preventing pollution which protect soils and soil will be better managed and used in construction activities. • We will know more about soil biodiversity. We will also improve our understanding of and ability to monitor the impact human activity and environmental change has on soil so that we can keep soils healthy. • We will fill the gaps in our knowledge of soils, make information on soils more accessible and share information with others so that we can make better informed decisions about managing and protecting soil. | <p>Policies should be informed by the strategy of the need to recognise the importance of soils. Consider policies to help achieve goals.</p> |
| <p>DETR (2000).</p> | <p>Objectives</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve</p> |

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| <p><i>Government Urban White Paper: Our Towns and Cities: the Future – Delivering an Urban Renaissance.</i></p> | <p>The central purpose of the paper is to arrest urban decline and it starts with a recognition of an holistic approach to policy (“joined up thinking”) which recognises the need to link together a range of initiatives on housing, planning, education, transport and law and order issues. Our vision is of towns, cities and suburbs that offer a high quality of life and opportunity for all. We want to see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people shaping the future of their community, supported by strong and truly representative local leaders; • people living in attractive, well-kept towns and cities which use space and buildings well; • good design and planning which makes it practical to live in a more environmentally sustainable way, with less noise, pollution and traffic congestion; • towns and cities able to create and share prosperity, investing to help all their citizens reach their full potential; and • good quality services – health, education, housing, transport, finance, shopping, leisure and protection from crime – that meet the needs of people and businesses wherever they are. <p>Targets Does not contain any specific targets, but does refer to a number of PSA targets.</p> | <p>these objectives</p> |
| <p>ODPM (2003) <i>Sustainable Communities – Building for the Future</i></p> | <p>Objective and target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authorities will take a pro-active role in identifying and responding to housing needs. • Maintain the target that 60% of additional homes should be on previously developed land. | <p>Consider policies to achieve this objective and target.</p> |
| <p>DETR (2000). <i>Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside – the Future – a Fair Deal for Rural England.</i></p> | <p>Objectives The Paper lists the Government’s rural policy objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1: To facilitate the development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside, tackling poverty in rural areas. • Objective 2: To maintain and stimulate communities, and secure access to services that is equitable in all the circumstances, for those who live or work in the countryside. • Objective 3: To conserve and enhance rural landscapes and the diversity and abundance of wildlife (including the habitats on which it depends). • Objective 4: To increase opportunities for people to get enjoyment from the countryside. To open up public access to mountain, moor, heath and down and registered common land by the end of 2005. • Objective 5: To promote government responsiveness to rural communities through | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets</p> |

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| | <p>better working together between central departments, local government, and government agencies and better cooperation with non-government bodies. These objectives will be taken forward in Departmental Public Service Agreement targets and their subsidiary Service Delivery agreements.</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>Contains Rural Services Standard, which set out minimum standards and targets covering access to and the delivery of public services in rural areas. Some of the more relevant standards and targets are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Government services to be available on line by 2005. • Presumption against closure of rural schools; • Formal requirement on the Post Office to maintain the rural network of post offices and to prevent any avoidable closures of rural post offices. <p>Targets set for the proportion of the rural population living within about 10 minutes' walk of an hourly or better bus service to increase from 37% to 50% by 2010, with an intermediate milestone of 42% by 2004.</p> | |
| <p>South West Regional Assembly in association with the South West Regional Environmental Network (2004). <i>Our Environment: Our Future – The Regional Strategy for the South West Environment 2004-2014.</i></p> | <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and respond to the risks, challenges and opportunities presented by climate change. • To ensure that our natural resources are used sustainably, with minimum environmental damage and waste generation, so as to reduce pollution and protect the quality of the region's environment. • To enhance the ability of the food, farming and forestry sectors to provide the environmental and social benefits that people in the region need and expect, and help to secure a viable future for them. • To promote a tourism and leisure industry that conserves and enhances the environment and maintains the region's distinctiveness. • To promote the wise use of land and a safe and healthy environment for local communities, through the provision of well designed, resource efficient development, contributing to sustainable development through environmental enhancement and ensuring that the South West remains a region of diverse and distinctive heritage, wildlife and landscapes. • To limit the environmental impact of the travel and transport necessary to support the social and economic needs of the region. <p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase by 20% the amount of land in National Parks, AONBs and Heritage Coast being managed in line with adopted protected area management plans. | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption and implementation of the 12 statutory AONB management plans and 2 National Park Plans. • Reduce the number of scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens and registered battlefields at risk in the region. • Increase the number of conservation areas with a conservation area appraisal to at least the national average of 29%. • Increase area of South West covered by Landscape Character Assessments. • Increase number of parish plans and village design statements carried out. • Enable 25% of household waste to be recycled or composted by 2005. • Improve air quality by meeting national air quality objectives for carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particles, sulphur dioxide, benzene and 1-3 butadiene. • Soils target and indicator (to be identified). • Ensure that, nationally, 95% of inland and coastal waters achieve the requirements of EC use-related Directives. • 11-15% of the region's generating capacity to come from renewable sources by 2010. • Bring into favourable condition by 2010 95% of all nationally important wildlife sites. • Maintain and increase populations of key species in the South West in line with UK Species Action Plan targets. • Maintain and increase area of biodiversity habitats in the South West in accordance with targets in RPG10. • Maintain and improve local environmental quality. • Health target and indicator to be developed in consultation with Health Authorities. • Total extent of 'tranquil areas' across the region no less than 90% of area in 1990. • Total extent of 'dark skies' across the region no less than 90% of area in 2000. • Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by 12.5% below 1990 levels by 2008-2012. • Deliver managed realignment at 10 coastal sites in the South West by 2010 to offset landscape and habitat loss due to coastal squeeze. • Restore wetlands at 5 floodplain sites by 2010. • Increase % of regional population living within 10 minutes walk of safe, attractive and diverse green space. • 95% of definitive rights of way signposted and easy to use. • Reduce water demand. • Reduce energy consumption. • Reduce the ecological footprint of the South West (in development). <p>Includes a number of additional targets.</p> | |
| English Heritage (2004). | Objectives | Consider policies to achieve |

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| <p><i>A Strategy for the Historic Environment in the South West.</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional priorities include: • Continue to improve our knowledge and understanding of the South West’s historic environment and reflect this in informed and positive conservation and enhancement of the historic environment. • Put conservation at the heart of urban renewal and regeneration strategies, initiatives and proposals right across the South West. • Encourage wider appreciation and conservation of the historic dimension of rural areas. Explore ways in which agri-environment and other funding initiatives could provide further support for the sustainable management of this part of the South West’s historic resource. Agri-environment schemes should be more closely tailored to the characteristics and potential of the rural historic environment. • Increase our understanding of the South West’s coastal and maritime historic environments and wetland landscapes as a matter of urgency. Work with those responsible for managing these environments and, where appropriate, seek adequate protection. • Promote the design of buildings and landscape that is sensitive to its location. Our aim should be to enhance the South West’s historic environment and, ultimately, to add to it by championing appropriate and contemporary solutions to design problems. • Promote the use of traditional conservation and management skills wherever possible and ensure professionals have a good understanding of current best practice. Encourage opportunities for training across the South West. • Ensure the education sector in the South West takes full account of the value of the historic environment. Promote the widest understanding and appreciation of the historic environment at local, county and regional levels. • Remove physical, cultural and social barriers that inhibit access, understanding or enjoyment of the South West’s historic environment. • Tackle the legacy created by poor management and maintenance of the historic environment across the South West. Encourage regular inspections and repairs, together with the positive re-use of redundant historic buildings. • Develop a co-ordinated research Strategy for the South West to fill key gaps in our understanding of the historic environment. • Improve communication between the public, private and voluntary interests on historic environment issues in the South West. • Increase the historic environment’s contribution to the economic well being of the region by encouraging and supporting its sustainable use and sensitive reflection in new development. <p>Targets</p> | <p>these objectives and targets</p> |
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| | <p>The strategy contains a number of actions, some of which will be directly relevant to planning authorities and the development of the RSS. These actions are linked to 'goals and timescales' and 'outcomes', For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Promote policies to support the positive and appropriate re-use of historic buildings • Goal and Timescale: Consider development of model policies by end of 2005 • Outcome: Fewer redundant buildings • Action: Encourage regeneration strategies, development plans, and development control decisions to reflect the positive economic potential of the historic environment • Goal and Timescale: All plans to contain positive policies encouraging the sustainable implementation of the HE's economic potential <p>Outcome: Greater emphasis on reflecting the HE in development and regeneration proposals, thereby bringing economic, social and conservation benefits</p> | |
| <p>Department for Culture, Media and Sport (2007) <i>Heritage Protection for the 21st Century</i></p> | <p>Core principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a unified approach to the historic environment; • Maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement; and • Supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system. | <p>Consider policies that embrace these principles.</p> |
| <p>Department for Culture, Media and Sport (2007) <i>Heritage Protection Draft Bill</i></p> | <p>The Draft Bill would reform and unify the terrestrial and marine heritage protection systems in England and Wales and the marine heritage protection system in Northern Ireland.</p> | |
| <p>DEFRA (2002). <i>Farming and Food Strategy 2002.</i></p> | <p>Objectives Key principles for sustainable farming and food now and in the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce safe, healthy products in response to market demands, and ensure that all consumers have access to nutritious food, and to accurate information about food products. • Support the viability and diversity of rural and urban economies and communities. • Enable viable livelihoods to be made from sustainable land management, both through the market and through payments for public benefits. • Respect and operate within the biological limits of natural resources (especially soil, water and biodiversity). • Achieve consistently high standards of environmental performance by reducing energy consumption, by minimising resource inputs, and use renewable energy wherever possible. | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a safe and hygienic working environment and high social welfare and training for all employees involved in the food chain. • Achieve consistently high standards of animal health and welfare. • Sustain the resource available for growing food and supplying other public benefits over time, except where alternative land uses are essential to meet other needs of society. <p>Achieving sustainable farming and food industries requires progress against all of these outcomes and indicators which link closely with the targets that Defra and other Government Departments are committed to delivering as part of their Public Service Agreements:</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Environmental sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced environmental cost of food chain • Better use of natural Resources • Improved landscape and biodiversity <p>Social sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better public health, in particular through improved nutrition and workplace health and safety • Higher animal welfare • More cohesive and productive rural communities <p>Targets</p> <p>Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced greenhouse gas emissions from food and farming • Improved river water quality Improved soil nutrient status • Favourable condition of designated wildlife sites • Reverse decline in farmland birds • Consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables • Improved time taken to clear up cases of farmland and transportation animal welfare cases Reduced gap in productivity between the less well performing quartile of rural areas and the English median by 2006, and improved accessibility of services for rural people. | |
| <p>English Nature, Environment Agency, RSPB (1997). <i>Action for Biodiversity in the South West – A Series of</i></p> | <p>Each of the habitats listed below appears in the South West's Regional Action Plan ('Action for biodiversity in the South West' (1997)'). This document includes a series of plans that highlight issues and actions at a regional level and has chosen its subjects accordingly. The criteria used to select the habitats included one or more of the following:</p> | |

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| <p><i>Habitat and Species Plans to Guide Delivery.</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they occur in >2 counties in the region • they represent 10% of the UK resource • a UK action plan has been prepared • they are of international importance and/or • they are a 'key' habitat in the UK report <p>Each plan closely reflects the action plan format used for the UK biodiversity action plans listing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • current status • current factors affecting the habitat • current action • benefits • UK biodiversity objectives and proposed targets • South West biodiversity objectives and proposed targets • proposed action required to meet objectives with lead agencies | |
| <p>South West Biodiversity Partnership and the Association of Local Government Ecologists (2000). <i>A Biodiversity Guide for Planning and Development Sectors in the South West.</i></p> | <p>Objectives Does not contain any objectives.</p> <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | <p>Useful source of good practice</p> |
| <p><i>Code for Sustainable Homes.</i> DCLG 2006</p> | <p>Objective: Intended as a single national standard to guide industry in the design and construction of sustainable homes.</p> <p>The Code measures the sustainability of a home against design categories, rating the 'whole home' as a complete package. Those familiar with building regulations, will recognise this as a major and welcome departure from current practice. The design categories included within the Code are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • energy/CO2 • pollution • water • health and well-being • materials • management • surface water run-off • ecology | <p>Some parts not a planning issue (building control), however some are and it is a useful source of good practice.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waste | |
| <i>Green Infrastructure in the West of England – A Countryside In and Around Towns.</i> May 2006. Avon Wildlife Trust, BRERC, Forest of Avon | To increase understanding of the Rural Urban Fringe around the main towns and cities in the West of England to inform and assist local and sub regional planning processes. | Future urban development should include the provision of connected accessible green spaces, and that natural and semi-natural habitats and multi-functional open spaces are considered an integral part of the overall strategy and design. |
| <i>Forest of Avon Plan</i> (2002) | The plan identifies strategies and priorities for the forest and shows how the Forest will contribute to the area's sustainability and biodiversity. | Consider policies that contribute to the aims of the Forest of Avon. |
| Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2008-2013, Consultation Draft, October 2007 | <p>Key principles for the management of the AONB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implications of all activities for climate change will be considered – seeking to minimise the output of greenhouse gases whilst taking action to mitigate or adapt to the effects of climate change in ways that conserve and enhance the Cotswold's special qualities. • In the context of climate change, the landscape of the AONB is managed in a ways which conserve and enhance landscape character, local distinctiveness, geology and geomorphology, historic features and habitats and enhances ecological diversity. • A sustainable approach is taken to all issues within the AONB, particularly in the development and management of its rural economy. • Increasing people's awareness, knowledge and understanding of the qualities of the AONB, and of the opportunities to enjoy and explore the area. | Consider policies that contribute towards the principles of the Cotswolds AONB. |
| The Cotswolds Landscape Character Assessment (2002), Cotswolds AONB Partnership | <p>The Cotswold Landscape Character Assessment has identified 19 different landscape character types in the AONB. Using the Landscape Character Assessment, Landscape Strategies and Guidelines are being produced for each of the 19 landscape character types.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> | Consider policies that contribute towards the conservation or enhancement of the landscapes of the Cotswolds AONB. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to provide an assessment of the character, distinctiveness and qualities of the Cotswolds AONB, including cultural and natural heritage resources and to identify and describe the AONB's component landscape character types and landscape character areas; • to summarise the key characteristics associated with each landscape type to inform the principles in respect of landscape change and guidelines; and • to promote awareness of landscape character in the AONB, and the importance of landscape conservation, enhancement and restoration. | |
| <i>Environment Agency (various) Pollution Prevention Guidelines series.</i> | The Environment Agency, Environment and Heritage Service and SEPA have produced a range of UK-wide Pollution Prevention Guidelines (PPGs). Each PPG is targeted at a particular industrial sector or activity and aims to provide advice on legal responsibilities and good environmental practice. | Consider policies that follow this guidance. |
| Minimise consumption of natural resources | | |
| Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992). | <p>Objectives The ultimate objective of the Convention is “to achieve stabilization of atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at levels that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic (human-induced) interference with the climate system...”. The Convention does not define what levels might be “dangerous”, although it does state that ecosystems should be allowed to adapt naturally, food supply should not be threatened, and economic development should be able to proceed in a sustainable manner. Defining what we mean by “dangerous” is a tough political question, involving social and economic considerations as well as scientific judgement.</p> <p>The Protocol set out a series of targets for specific greenhouse gases and established a framework of actions and requirements to meet these targets with the aim of achieving in a meaningful timeframe (up to 2012, with 1990 levels used as base) the objective of the UN Framework Convention. The two agreements are thus intrinsically linked with the Protocol essentially acting as a template for action to meet the commitments made in the Framework Convention.</p> <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | The LDF should be aware of, and seek to meet the Kyoto's commitments. |

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| <p>Air Quality Framework Directive (Directive 96/62/EC).</p> | <p>Objectives Objectives which may relate to regional planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain adequate information on ambient air quality and ensure that it is made available to the public, inter alia by means of alert thresholds, • Maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases. <p>Targets Targets and objectives from EU Directives must be adopted into UK legislation. This Directive covers the revision of previously existing legislation and the introduction of new air quality standards for previously unregulated air pollutants, setting the timetable for the development of daughter directives on a range of pollutants. The list of atmospheric pollutants to be considered includes sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, lead, ozone, benzene, carbon monoxide, poly-aromatic hydrocarbons, cadmium, arsenic, nickel and mercury.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets</p> |
| <p>Planning Policy Statement 22: Renewable Energy (2004)</p> | <p>Effective protection of the environment by reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases and thereby reducing the potential for the environment to be affected by climate change. The government has set a target to generate 10% of UK electricity from renewable energy sources by 2010 and 20% by 2020.</p> | <p>DPDs need to have regard to this policy statement. Future sites/developments should investigate the feasibility of on-site, micro renewable schemes.</p> |
| <p>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive</p> | <p>Objectives This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban wastewater and the treatment and discharge of wastewater from certain industrial sectors. The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of these wastewater discharges.</p> <p>Targets The directive lays down uniform emission standards, or percentage reductions in pollutant concentrations, for discharges from sewage treatment works serving a population equivalent of 2,000 or more.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets</p> |
| <p>Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)</p> | <p>Objectives This Directive has the objective of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources; and • preventing further such pollution <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |

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| <p>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC).</p> | <p>Objectives This Directive aims to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevents further deterioration and protects and enhances the status of aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to their water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly depending on the aquatic ecosystems; • Promotes sustainable water use based on a long-term protection of available water resources; • Aims at enhanced protection and improvement of the aquatic environment, inter alia, through specific measures for the progressive reduction of discharges, emissions and losses of priority substances and the cessation or phasing-out of discharges, emissions and losses of the priority hazardous substances; • Ensures the progressive reduction of pollution of groundwater and prevents its further pollution, • Contributes to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |
| <p>Directive to Promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EC).</p> | <p>Objectives The purpose of this Directive is to promote an increase in the contribution of renewable energy sources to electricity production in the internal market for electricity and to create a basis for a future Community framework thereof.</p> <p>Targets The UK target is for renewables to account for 10% of UK consumption by 2010.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets</p> |
| <p>Waste to Landfill Directive (99/31/EC).</p> | <p>Objectives In addition to the general requirements that result from landfills being regulated under PPC, the Landfill Directive introduces others that are particular to landfills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites must be classified as hazardous, non hazardous or inert waste landfills • Waste acceptance procedures have to be in place at the landfill • Waste must be pre-treated before being landfilled • Certain waste types cannot be landfilled anymore e.g. clinical, liquid, certain hazardous waste, tyres etc. • Technical standards are set out in the Directive and its Annexes. • Introduces a specific closure procedure • Ongoing training and development of staff must be provided | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives and targets</p> |

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| | <p>Targets</p> <p>The directive also establishes guidelines and targets for the quantity of biodegradable waste being sent to landfill that are legally binding. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not later than 2006 biodegradable municipal waste going to landfills must be reduced to 75% of the total amount (by weight) of biodegradable municipal waste produced in 1995 or the latest year before 1995 for which standardised Eurostat data is available • By 2010 biodegradable municipal waste going to landfills must be reduced to 50% of the total amount (by weight) of biodegradable municipal waste produced in 1995 or the latest year before 1995 for which standardised Eurostat data is available; • By 2015 biodegradable municipal waste going to landfills must be reduced to 35% of the total amount (by weight) of biodegradable municipal waste produced in 1995 or the latest year before 1995 for which standardised Eurostat data is available. | |
| <p>ODPM (2005). Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management</p> | <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource and looking to disposal as the last option, but one which must be adequately catered for; – provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste, and enable sufficient and timely provision of waste management facilities to meet the needs of their communities; – help implement the national waste strategy, and supporting targets, are consistent with obligations required under European legislation and support and complement other guidance and legal controls such as those set out in the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994; – help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment, and enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations; – reflect the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business, and encourage competitiveness; – protect green belts but recognise the particular locational needs of some types of waste management facilities when defining detailed green belt boundaries and, in determining planning applications, that these locational needs, together with the wider environmental and economic benefits of sustainable waste management, are material considerations that should be given significant weight in determining whether proposals should be given planning permission; – ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management. | |

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| | <p>Targets Does not contain specific targets</p> | |
| <p>The Environment Agency (2005) <i>The Bristol Avon Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy</i></p> | <p>Does not contain any objectives or targets, but is a useful source of information regarding water supply and extraction.</p> | <p>Policies should take implications of the strategy into account</p> |
| <p>Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk</p> | <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LPAs should prepare LDDs that set out policies for the allocation of sites and the control of development which avoid flood risk to people and property where possible and manage it elsewhere, reflecting the approach to managing flood risk in the PPS and in the RSS for the region. • Where climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term, LPAs should consider whether there are opportunities in the preparation of LDDs to facilitate the relocation of development, including housing to more sustainable locations at less risk from flooding. • Flood risk should be considered alongside other spatial planning issues such as transport, housing, economic growth, natural resources, regeneration, biodiversity, the historic environment and the management of other hazards. Policies should recognise the positive contribution that avoidance and management of flood risk can make to the development of sustainable communities, including improved local amenities and better overall quality of life. They should be integrated effectively with other strategies of material significance such as Regional Economic Strategies. | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |
| <p>Government Office for the South West (2003). <i>Regional Renewable Energy Strategy for the South West of England 2003-2010.</i></p> | <p>Objectives There are three core strands that weave together to form the overarching aims for the strategy. The strands can be in turn broken down into a number of objectives: Deploying Renewable Energy on the Ground</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To remove the barriers to physical deployment of renewable energy such that a target of 11-15% electricity generation can be achieved or exceeded by 2010 in a manner that is in line with the particular landscape needs of the South West • To accelerate the development of renewable heat generation in the South West • To support the development of the market for renewable energy through targeted financial support | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encourage a more consistent and transparent approach to the planning process for renewable energy. <p>Developing Skills and Awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop awareness of the need and potential for renewable energy throughout the South West • To build the capacity of the renewable energy industry to deliver consistent messages and services appropriate to the needs of the South West and beyond • To promote debate within the wider community about the pros and cons of renewable energy development and encourage informed opinion and decision making • To build capacity within the wider community to respond to the challenge of developing renewable energy. <p>Building the South West Renewable Energy Industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote indigenous renewable energy businesses and attract inward investment by others (national and global) • To establish a 'second to none' track record for the region in renewable energy, by ensuring that the South West completes as many exemplar projects involving as many technologies as possible by 2010 • To grow the number of renewable energy companies in the region and expand the turnover and jobs in the sector. • Sub-regional targets, guidance and locational criteria – Work is currently underway, led by GOSW and the SW Regional Assembly to develop sub-regional targets for renewable energy with local authorities, and to provide additional guidance and locational criteria for local authorities to assist the achievement of the regional target | |
| <p>Government Office for the South West and the South West Regional Assembly (2004). <i>REvision 2010: Empowering the Region – Renewable Energy Targets for the South West.</i></p> | <p>Objectives</p> <p>The Renewable Energy Strategy outlines what needs to be done to deliver the target in RPG10 for 11-15% of the region's power to be generated from renewable sources by 2010, and looks set to establish the South West as the UK leader in renewable energy. The strategy identifies 50 actions that will ensure the South West remains at the forefront of the UK's renewable energy industry, including working with farmers to develop energy crops, mapping the potential for renewable energy for every local Authority area in the region, and supporting experimental projects in wave and tidal power.</p> <p>As of June 2004, targets have been adopted or approved in Wiltshire, Somerset, Dorset, Devon, Cornwall and the former Avon.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |
| <p>Environment Agency</p> | <p>Objectives</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve</p> |

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| <p>(2001). <i>Water Resources for the Future – A Strategy for the South West Region.</i></p> | <p>The strategy concludes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in parts of the Region, water can be a scarce resource. In some places, environmental improvements are necessary. We will work to provide the water for these improvements; • continued availability of a reliable public water supply is essential. We recommend the enhancement of supply by about 5 per cent over the next 25 years by improving existing schemes and developing some new resources; • water efficiency should be actively promoted; • over the next 25 years we should expect household water metering to become widespread, in the context of the Government's broader social and environmental policies including the protection of vulnerable households; • continued progress in leakage control will be necessary; • agriculture must focus on using available water to best effect; • commerce and industry should pay increasing attention to water efficiency. <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p> | <p>these objectives</p> |
| <p>DEFRA (2007). <i>The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.</i></p> | <p>Sets out objective levels for 10 air pollutants to be achieved and then maintained indefinitely. Some changes since the previous 2000 strategy while some objectives have remained static.</p> | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives.</p> |
| <p>DEFRA (2004). <i>The First Soil Action Plan For England: 2004-2006.</i></p> | <p>Objectives The following 9 actions are seen as key to the success of this first Action Plan because they are likely to lead to significant changes on the ground or because they are making first steps to tackle particularly challenging issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defra will work with stakeholders to develop a programme of education and awareness of soil issues among the general public, those working with soils and the professionals that guide, advise or instruct soil managers. We will aim to develop partnerships and plans by 2005 and review progress in implementing those plans in 2006. • Defra will implement the CAP cross compliance conditions in a way that enhances management of soils in the farming industry. • Defra will encourage better management of agricultural soils that goes beyond the requirements of the Single Payment, through the provision of incentives under the Agri-Environment Scheme. • Defra will build on the output of its Learning Skills and Knowledge review and the | <p>Consider policies to achieve these objectives</p> |

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| | <p>pilots of the Whole Farm Appraisals, to develop within the next twelve months a strategy for providing farmers and other land managers with practical information and advice building good soil management into overall farm planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defra will work during the Spending Review 2004 process to embed soil protection into its forward strategy and, if appropriate, targets on natural resource protection. • Defra will work with stakeholders to identify the indicators that should be built into a national soil-monitoring scheme, in order to develop a scheme that meets both national and European requirements. • Defra will work with other Government Departments and Agencies (including in the Devolved Administrations), the National Soil Resources Institute at Cranfield University (as co-owners of key data sets) and other soil data users, to develop and provide better access to information on soils. • Defra will work with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), representatives of planning authorities and other partners to develop a consensus on the procedures needed to give soils appropriate protection during the planning process. The first milestone will be to examine criteria for designating soils that should be protected from building during the current review of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land. • English Nature will prepare and publish, in 2006, a position statement on the role of soil management and protection within statutory nature conservation sites. <p>Targets</p> <p>Does not contain any targets. This is partly due to there being no right or wrong type of soil and so for many soil issues it is difficult to set national targets in the way that can be done for air or water.</p> | |
| <p>Consultation Draft supplement to PPS1: Planning and Climate Change. 2006</p> | <p>Planning authorities should prepare and deliver spatial strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – make a full contribution to delivering the Government’s Climate Change Programme and energy policies, and in doing so contribute to global sustainability; – in enabling the provision of new homes, jobs, services and infrastructure and shaping the places where people live and work, secure the highest viable standards of resource and energy efficiency and reduction in carbon emissions; – deliver patterns of urban growth that help secure the fullest possible use of sustainable transport for moving freight, public transport, cycling and walking; and, overall, reduce the need to travel, especially by car; – secure new development and shape places resilient to the effects of climate change in ways consistent with social cohesion and inclusion; – sustain biodiversity, and in doing so recognise that the distribution of habitats and species will be affected by climate change; | <p>Include policies to achieve these objectives.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– reflect the development needs and interests of communities and enable them to contribute effectively to tackling climate change; and,– respond to the concerns of business and encourage competitiveness and technological innovation. <p>The core strategy should set out policies and proposals in line with the RSS and consider the local circumstances that would allow further progress to be made to achieving the Key Planning Objectives where this would be consistent with the RSS. In doing so, the core strategy should both inform and in turn be informed by the approach to climate change in the sustainable community strategy.</p> | |
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Appendix B Summary of Plans, Policies and Programmes at the Local Level

General/Multi-topic

| South Gloucestershire Sustainable Community Strategy Consultation Draft Vision – August 2007 | |
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| Aims and objectives | <p>South Gloucestershire is a place in which we take great pride, where our communities, organisations and businesses work in partnership within an outstanding natural environment to bring about sustainable success and well being for all. We want everyone who lives and works in South Gloucestershire to meet their aspirations and enjoy an excellent quality of life.</p> <p>We will achieve this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in children and young people so that South Gloucestershire's children and young people have the best possible start in life and are involved in shaping their future • Being healthier so that South Gloucestershire's people lead healthier lives and all communities share the benefits • Modernising health and community care services so that South Gloucestershire's people enjoy high quality health and community care services that focus on their individual needs and enable them to retain their independence • Promoting safer and stronger communities so that all South Gloucestershire's communities are strong and safe, people are encouraged to participate in the life of the communities to which they belong and differences are respected • Valuing the environment so that South Gloucestershire will be a place where people respect the natural world, take action to protect, enhance and enjoy their environment and live low carbon lifestyles • Maintaining economic prosperity so that South Gloucestershire's local economy is sustainable and balanced and prosperity is shared by all • Dealing with growth so that we deal positively with the challenges posed by more growth, by planning in an integrated way for high quality homes, local community facilities and a convenient and safe transport network, which meet our communities' needs and aspirations. |
| Focus for the LDF | <p>The LDF must have regard to the Sustainable Community Strategy. The LDF will be the method by which the spatial/land use aspirations of the Community Strategy will be delivered. The LDF therefore needs to be aware of the developing objectives of the SCS.</p> |

Council's Corporate Service Plan & Priorities (to be revised following completion of SCS)

| South Gloucestershire Strengthening Communities Strategy | |
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| Purpose: | To act as the bridge between the strategic vision contained in documents like the Community Strategy and the Councils Corporate Service Plan and the needs and aspirations of local communities. |
| Focus for the LDF | Pulls together current work by SGC that contributes towards the strengthening of communities and sets out an action plan for the next stages in developing the Strategy. LDF needs to be aware of current and developing strategies/plans/priorities which do/will contribute to strengthening communities' vision – relevant ones are set out in this summary report. |

| South Gloucestershire Local Area Agreement 2006-2009 | |
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| Focus: | To consider how services to achieve the longer term vision for the area could be delivered more effectively in partnership |
| Aims and Objectives: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved accessibility and the availability of transport services for local residents <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. improve access to facilities for targeted groups to widen social, educational and economic opportunities 2. increase cycling and walking and improve its attractiveness to all 3. reduce number of road casualties • Improve the health of children and young people <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. halt the rise in obesity 2. promote healthy lifestyles 3. reduce death and injury from accidents 4. design new developments to include accessible play space • Early intervention to improve the outcomes for children and young people in geographical areas of greatest need <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ensure early identification and preventative support for vulnerable children in North Fringe areas, Kingswood and Yate • Raise the standards of achievement 14 – 19 year olds <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. improved achievement at KS4 and post 16 2. engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school • To target health promotion activity at individuals with high health need <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. halt the rise in adult obesity 2. increase in breastfeeding 3. reduction in smoking 4. reduction in number of falls by older people • To help more vulnerable people to live at home <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. increased number of carers supported by services 2. more people able to live in their own homes and improved availability of housing for older people 3. more older people receive integrated health and social care service • To improve adult mental health <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. increased treatment of mental health problems • To increase the provision of community based services close to people's homes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. increased provision of health services in the community • Older people experience an improved quality of life <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reassuring older people and reducing fear of crime 2. Reduction in the number of accidents at home |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce crime, the harm caused by drugs and alcohol and to reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime, and anti-social behaviour and improve safety in homes and public spaces <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing crime 2. Tackle drugs and alcohol 3. Reassure the public, reduce fear of crime and build confidence in justice system 4. Improve safety through safer, cleaner, greener public spaces and protect the public from the risk of fire • To empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services by increasing the strength, capacity and engagement of local communities to create local solutions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase capacity of local communities to deliver local solutions to local problems 2. Improve communities understanding of local decision making and participation in the democratic process 3. Improve trust, respect and communications between generations and communities of place and interest • To improve the quality of life for those people and communities in greatest need through targeted service delivery <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Target support in priority neighbourhoods in Filton, Patchway, Kingswood and Staple Hill 2. Meet the basic needs of vulnerable individuals and families and isolated communities 3. Reduce the number of people at risk of financial exclusion 4. Improve community health through healthy eating and physical activity 5. Increase take-up of community learning and support provided at a community level • Maintain and improve local environmental quality and use the natural and historic environment to deliver stronger, safer and healthier communities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase provision and quality of the local environment and open space 2. Improve access to and increase the sustainable use of the local environment and open space 3. Increase level and diversity of community participation in the protection, enhancement and management of the environment and open space • To plan and deliver a high quality environment in new development to create vibrant new communities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To design and provide high quality healthy environment for developing new communities in which green infrastructure, schools, transport, community facilities and health provision are provided for • To provide more affordable homes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver more affordable homes via the planning system • To increase productivity and competitiveness among South Gloucestershire companies, particularly companies in key sectors including aerospace, engineering, other manufacturing sectors and the environmental technologies, ICT/high tech and creative industries sectors <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An increase in the number of businesses and employment in key knowledge sectors 2. To support the development of the environmental, ICT/high tech and creative industry sectors 3. The consolidation and further development of the aerospace sector |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The development of the science park at Emersons Green 5. An increase in the number and proportion of residents with NVQ4 qualifications • To increase the number and the survival rates of starter and small enterprises (enterprises employing fewer than 10 employees) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An increase in the number and survival rates of starter and small enterprises in South Gloucestershire including rural areas • To meet the land and premises requirements of indigenous businesses and businesses in targeted sectors (high tech, research and development, environmental and creative industries) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To meet the land and premises requirements of indigenous businesses across the full range of economic activities 2. To meet the land and premises requirements of indigenous and new businesses in targeted sectors 3. To support phased development at Severnside • An increase in the employment rate of sick and disabled people and over 50 year olds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To reduce the number of incapacity benefit claimants 2. An increase in the overall employment rate • The provision of local employment opportunities in selected wards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The provision of local employment opportunities in selected wards • To improve the vitality and economic vibrancy of town and district centres including Kingswood, Staple Hill, Downend, Yate and Thornbury <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To improve the vitality and economic vibrancy of town and district centres including Kingswood, Staple Hill, Downend, Yate and Thornbury • To enhance the role of Cribbs Causeway as a retail, leisure and employment centre for local communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To safeguard and improve existing facilities at Cribbs Causeway as a successful retail, employment and leisure destination 2. To adapt Cribbs Causeway to better meet the retail, employment and leisure needs of new and existing communities • Reduce Greenhouse gas emissions and manage the impacts of climate change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 2. Reduce and manage the risk of flooding 3. Reduce the amount of municipal biodegradable waste going to landfill |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that infrastructure and service provision is developed in tandem with new housing/employment development • Policies on Travel Plans and “active travel” • Highway design/management to improve road safety for children (“Safer Routes to Schools”) • Allocations for community/health/social services facilities • Allocations of land for physical sports activities both within and outside of schools and colleges • Allocations for play areas • Allocations/Policies which meet the accommodation needs of older people |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies which promote 'home for life' design • Allocations for health services • Policies to design out crime and improve safety • Policies to conserve/enhance historic environment • Policies to conserve/enhance natural environment • Policies on provision and protection of green infrastructure • Allocations and policies to deliver vibrant new communities • Policies/allocations on affordable housing provision • Safeguard and identify additional employment land suitable for businesses in key sectors and indigenous businesses • Future for Severnside • Policies to improve vitality and vibrancy of town and district centres • Expand future role of Cribbs Causeway to meet needs of new and existing communities • Reducing the impacts of climate change and greenhouse gas emissions to be taken account of in policies and allocations |
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| South Gloucestershire Council Equalities and Diversity Strategy (December 2006) | |
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| Aim: | To ensure that everyone is treated fairly, challenging inequalities and promoting opportunities for all |
| Objectives | <p>1.0 Welcome and celebrate diversity</p> <p>1.1 Provide support for community activities which promote mutual understanding and community cohesion</p> <p>1.2 Promote positive images of people from all sections of the community in Council publications</p> <p>1.3 Analyse census and other data and conduct research to maintain up to date baseline information and profiles of the community we serve</p> <p>1.4 Use appropriate and effective consultation methods to enable people at risk of discrimination and exclusion to influence the Council's decision making, policy and practice</p> <p>1.5 Work collaboratively with community based equalities groups and representatives in identifying needs, developing policy and overcoming barriers to services</p> <p>1.6 Take action to promote and implement equality of opportunity.</p> <p>2.0 Provide high quality inclusive services and facilities</p> <p>2.1 Take appropriate steps to ensure as far as possible that all service users have equal and independent access to services</p> <p>2.2 Ensure that any additional needs of service users are met and that they have opportunities to develop their full potential</p> <p>2.3 Provide clear information about our services in a variety of formats on request</p> <p>2.4 Ensure that physical and social barriers to accessing public facilities and services are removed or otherwise overcome</p> <p>2.5 Involve service users in the review and development of services</p> <p>2.6 Develop protocols and other guidance which recognise and help to meet the specific needs of diverse groups and individuals</p> <p>2.7 Use equality impact assessments (including racial impact assessments), and systematic user and resident surveys to ensure that our services do not discriminate and analyse the reasons for any apparent</p> |

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| | <p>under or over usage of services</p> <p>2.8 Ensure that equalities issues are addressed within service reviews and service audits so that resources can be targeted to meet the identified needs</p> <p>2.9 Work with contractors and other providers to ensure that relevant equalities issues are addressed within the procurement framework</p> <p>2.10 Act promptly and appropriately if we receive any complaints about the way we provide services</p> <p>3.0 Ensure employment policies and practices are fair and equitable</p> <p>3.1 Ensure that we select applicants for jobs solely on the basis of their relevant experience, qualifications and skills</p> <p>3.2 Ensure that an individual's age, gender, sensory, physical, impairment, emotional/mental distress and learning difficulty, faith, sexuality or ethnic origin is not a barrier to recruitment or career progression</p> <p>3.3 Promote the recruitment and retention of a more diverse workforce through publicity, improving physical access, workplace support and other reasonable adjustments</p> <p>3.4 Promote and implement positive action to ensure that we encourage and utilise the widest pool of talent to create a diverse workforce. This includes making the best use of training schemes, work placement and other access to work initiatives.</p> <p>3.5 Monitor the Equal Pay Policy and Procedures</p> <p>3.6 Produce an annual employment report that compares our recruitment and workforce profile to that of the South Gloucestershire population. The report will include promotion, training opportunities and take up, pay grades, the impact of personnel policies and exit from employment</p> <p>4.0 Challenge harassment and discrimination in the wider community</p> <p>4.1 Provide community leadership in promoting tolerance, understanding and respect</p> <p>4.2 Work closely with service providers, the police, other enforcement agencies and the community to take action to encourage reporting of harassment, reduce hate crime and to achieve successful prosecutions. We will continue to do this work through the Partnership Against Racial and Homophobic Harassment.</p> <p>4.3 Deal robustly with any incidents of harassment or discrimination within the Council or its services</p> |
| Focus for the LDF | <p>The Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West requires an Equalities Impact Assessment of Local Development Documents to ensure that any proposed policies which do not have an equal affect on different sectors of the community are assessed and where possible mitigated. The Council has developed an Equalities Impact Assessment Framework, and this has been included in the Sustainability Appraisal.</p> |

| South Gloucestershire Race Equality Scheme 2008-11 | |
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| Values: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming and celebrating diversity • Developing a shared understanding of the essence of equality which is to value and treat all people with respect and dignity • Promoting equality of opportunity • Through policies, services, employment, contracting, and funding practices ensuring that no service user, employee or job applicant will |

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| | <p>receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, colour, impairment, marital status, lifestyle and culture, nationality, race gender, sexuality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking all possible steps to eliminate discrimination, and undertaking action to remedy past discrimination and disadvantage. |
| Focus for the LDF | <p>The Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West requires an Equalities Impact Assessment of Local Development Documents to ensure that any proposed policies that do not have an equal affect on different sectors of the community are assessed and where possible mitigated. The Council has development an Equalities Impact Assessment Framework, and this has been included in the Sustainability Appraisal.</p> |

| The Vision for the West of England in 2026 and delivery priorities | |
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| Aim: | To set out the vision for the area in 2026 |
| Vision | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of Life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better quality of life for everyone • Closed gap between disadvantaged and other communities; inclusive and cohesive communities the norm; value and celebrate diversity • All communities value education and lifelong learning • Following healthy lifestyles is the norm • Significant and sustained economic growth matched by wide range of places to live that are accessible and provide quality affordable housing • Sustainable communities are being created linking existing and new housing to investment in transport, employment and economic growth • Cultural, sporting and leisure facilities are appropriate to an international destination; these and local community facilities add to quality of life and health of local people • The heritage of a diverse natural and built environment has been preserved and enhanced • A carbon neutral sub-regional economy has reduced energy consumption, increased renewable energy generation and adapted to climate change and rising sea levels • Connectivity and Accessibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT has reduced need to travel and improved quality of life • Much improved access to jobs, education and services, greater inclusion and more sustainable communities • Marked increase in cycling and walking, public transport investment and connectivity has assisted in the regeneration of disadvantaged communities • Strategic transport corridors and networks have improved movement between main towns and cities, Bristol International Airport, the Seaport and other strategic sites, encouraging business investment and supporting regeneration • Accessibility of transport links has increased competitiveness and growth of sub-region economy • Success in developing innovative, integrated and joined up solutions to connectivity and accessibility is attracting additional investment in transport and business |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated, encouraged and shaped high level of growth in employment, population and housing • The sub-region enjoys a robust and diverse economy • Achieving excellence in innovation through learning and research • South Bristol and Weston-super-Mare are benefiting from increased business investment, economic growth, accelerated regeneration and improved local environment • The benefits from the growth and development of Bristol International Airport, the Port and other strategic sites have been maximised • The large proportion of graduate level skills in the workforce has been complemented by a substantial increase in basic and vocational skills to produce a skilled, adaptable and well-motivated workforce • Strong links developed between communities, educational establishments and employers • Increased economic and social inclusion through better long term employment opportunities • A better distribution of economic opportunity across the sub-region |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for additional local health care facilities • Provision of new housing of the right type, including sufficient affordable homes, in quality neighbourhoods that work • Development to achieve quality of place and environment in neighbourhoods and secure safer and sustainable communities • Need for new cultural infrastructure in South Gloucestershire • Require energy efficiency in new development • Implement renewable electricity targets and provide for renewable energy projects • An effective and co-ordinated approach to waste minimisation and sustainable waste management • Reduce the need to travel, and promote cycling, walking and use of public transport through short and long term measures • Secure a strategic road network which improves connectivity to the motorway network in South Gloucestershire as well as reducing road congestion and local traffic on the motorway network • Reduce the need to travel by better access to local healthcare services and closer living to work and services • Provide adequate employment land sustained by proper investment in transport, housing and quality of life • Avoid accelerating development in North Fringe until investment is made in improved transport solutions |

Housing

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| South Gloucestershire Housing Strategy 2008 –2013, Consultation Draft | |
| Aim: | To set out the Council's priorities for resolving the housing problems existing in South Gloucestershire |
| Priorities of the | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessing high quality services |

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| Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting the future need for housing • Ensuring people in rural communities can meet their housing needs • Improving the condition of homes in South Gloucestershire • Maximising people's ability to live independently by reaching out to those in housing need • Reducing homelessness |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies on affordable housing provision • Allocations for affordable housing and/or include affordable housing element within general housing allocations • Policies on temporary/supported accommodation • Policies/allocations to meet housing needs of specific sectors of the population • Design policies to include housing design standards |

| South Gloucestershire Enabling Strategy 2005/6 – 2009/10 | |
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| Aim: | To set out the Council's strategy for meeting the needs and aspirations of the people of South Gloucestershire for affordable housing to 2010 |
| Objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliver 1400 affordable homes through Home West and the South Gloucestershire Housing Partnership • To negotiate 33.3% affordable housing on private sites of 15 units or more (5 in rural areas) • To bring 65 empty properties back into use per year, of which 35 are to be for affordable housing |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies/allocations for affordable housing which address the shortfall in housing stock to meet the needs and changing profile of homeless households. • Specific policies/allocations to address housing need in rural areas |

| South Gloucestershire Rural Affordable Housing Strategy 2006/7- 2009/10 | |
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| Aim: | To identify and meet affordable housing needs in the rural areas of South Gloucestershire. |
| Objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop two rural affordable housing schemes per year • To negotiate 33.3% affordable housing on private rural sites of 5 dwellings or more/0.2 hectares or more without the need for public subsidy • To develop a programme to review local level housing needs information for South Gloucestershire's rural areas |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific policies/allocations to address housing need in rural areas |

| Draft Joint Accommodation & Care Strategy for Older People in South Gloucestershire | |
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| Purpose: | To review current accommodation and care services offered to older people in the light of changing demographics and needs, recognising that the accommodation and care needs of older people are complex and diverse and that they are best addressed and delivered by the council working in partnership with others. |
| Key Outcomes: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced number of people entering residential care • Reduced hospital admissions • Increased number of older people remaining at home, and in 'home for life' properties • Increased health intervention and prevention in the community • Increased rehabilitation of older people • Greater focus on quality of life and quality of service • Fair access to services and use of equity to fund service provision. • Accommodation for older people which provides a 'context' for care rather than being dictated or constrained by care or support needs. • Provision of appropriate services and available to all older people in need • Provision of a range of accommodation to suit aspirations and needs • Information and advice available for older people to make their own choices about services • Joined up development and management approach for the provision of services to older people • Needs of Older People integrated into the Local Plan Framework • Meet the strategic aims of the Supporting People strategy, Community Care Strategy and Corporate Service Plan. |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocations/Policies which meet the accommodation needs of older people • Policies which promote 'home for life' design • Whether the strategy of supporting people in their own homes will have a land use impact on the traditional care provision of residential/nursing homes and hospitals and increase proposals for change of use/redevelopment, etc. |

| South Gloucestershire Council Empty Homes Strategy 2008-2013, <u>initial draft</u> (not approved at time of writing) | |
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| <u>Draft Objectives</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maximise the re-use of empty properties, including non-residential property. • To support HomeChoice objectives through targeting empty properties which can help meet housing need. • To improve the existing built environment, promote clean, attractive neighbourhoods and deliver safer, stronger communities. • To develop a comprehensive and community based empty homes service which raises awareness of empty homes issues. • To involve a range of partners and individuals to encourage action and make best use of limited resources. |
| Focus for the | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies to promote empty homes being brought back into use where |

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| LDF | appropriate. |
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Economy

No plans or strategies identified

Children and Young People

| Children and Young People Plan 2006 - 2009 | |
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| Vision: | <p>That South Gloucestershire children and young people have a right to a life in which they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoy the best possible physical and mental health and live a healthy lifestyle • Have equality of opportunity • Are given encouragement and opportunities to learn, develop, enjoy and achieve both inside and outside school • Are protected from harm and neglect and feel safe both at and outside of home and school • Are supported by their parents and carers and their peers • Are encouraged to play a full part in their communities and behave in a socially responsible manner |
| Priorities: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce health inequalities by targeting community health development and support in localities of high need and improving access for vulnerable children and young people. • To halt the rise in childhood obesity and to develop further a range of interventions to prevent children becoming overweight and to promote healthy eating and physical activity for all children to ensure healthy development and levels of nourishment. • To continue to develop the new comprehensive CAMHS service, to improve access to timely integrated high quality multidisciplinary mental health services and to promote emotional well being and early identification of difficulty. • To develop a multi agency framework of support to ensure that disabled children and their families receive child centered multi-agency, co-ordinated information, support and services from the point of referral through assessment and delivery. • Improve multi-agency processes and preventative approaches to more effectively safeguard children from abuse or neglect. • Improve the physical safety of children and young people, in terms of preventable and unintentional injury. • To ensure that children and young people feel safe and secure and that risk is appropriately managed for and with them. • Address the issues relating to out of authority placements. • Improve achievement in the Early Years and at KS1, 2 and 3 in those schools/ settings where standards are not as high as they should be. • Improve achievement in all secondary schools at KS 4 and Post 16. • Create and promote a culture of enjoyment, achievement and engagement for all young people in South Gloucestershire. • To endorse and implement a strategy for the inclusive participation of children and young people in consultation and decision-making |

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| | <p>processes and contributing to community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce offending rates and prevent incidences of Anti Social Behaviour and Hate Crime • To develop a clear 'Youth Offer' to young people that reflects what they want and need in relation to sporting, cultural and recreational activities and opportunities to volunteer. • To improve children and young peoples' access to transport, leisure, education and employment opportunities • To guarantee equality of opportunity and access for all young people to high quality services and provision • To improve access to childcare in line with the Childcare Bill. • To provide guidance and support tailored to the needs of young people. • To raise aspirations and achievement of all young people • To provide all young people with the safety and security to grow and thrive. |
| Focus for LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocations for community/health/social services facilities in areas of high need • Allocations of land for physical sports activities both within and outside of schools and colleges • Policies on Travel Plans and "active travel" • Highway design/management to improve road safety for children ("Safer Routes to Schools") • Policies to design out crime and improve safety • Allocations for play areas • Allocations to address shortfall in provision of facilities for young people. |

| South Gloucestershire Council, Children and Young People, Asset Management Plan, 2008-2013 | |
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| Aims | <p>The AMP will seek to set out the information required and the criteria used to make appropriate, reasoned and transparent decisions about spending on school premises which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help to raise standards of educational achievement; • ensure the efficient and effective management and use of new and existing school premises; • facilitate the use of school premises for Community/Dual Use; • ensure that the design of new buildings and other substantial schemes will reflect the future teaching needs of ICT based education • maximise value for money; • be consistent with Agenda 21 strategies. • Improve sustainability in the design of new buildings and the refurbishment and repair of existing building. |
| Objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure sufficient pupil places and suitability of new and existing provision; • To improve standards of existing accommodation in order to meet the needs of pupils and teachers and to ensure effective delivery of the National Curriculum; • To identify spending priorities, which will both, inform, and be influenced |

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| | <p>by, other Local and National plans and policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist governors and head teachers in developing and updating School Development Plans, Access Plans and to identify priorities for spending devolved formula capital by making fair and transparent the process of decision-making on premises related funding priorities across the Authority. • To enable the Authority, individual schools and other interested parties to develop partnership projects with the purpose of improving provision, raising standards of education and benefiting the wider community in the Authority's area; • To provide assurances to government (both national and local), education professionals, schools, governors, parents, pupils and other stakeholders that capital projects and maintenance schemes are soundly based, appropriate and represent good value for public money. In this latter regard, AMPs will help to deliver Best Value objectives and will assist the delivery of joined up, modernising projects that reflect both national and local priorities. • To support the Building Schools for the Future strategy; • To raise standards in all education sectors; • To support inclusion (e.g. providing efficient and accessible high quality provision for pupils with SEN and disabilities in both mainstream and specialist schools); • To support the schools workforce agenda; • To support the 14-19 agenda • To ensure that the National Curriculum can effectively be delivered (e.g. improving science and technology accommodation in schools); • To support specific funding priorities, e.g. school security and specialist status; • To operate in a spirit of partnership, with all stakeholders. • To improve the condition and quality of the existing provision • To support the emerging PCP strategy • To encourage diversity of provision • To support the every Child Matters Agenda. |
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Sport and Recreation

| South Gloucestershire Physical Activity and Sports Plan 2007 -2009 | |
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| Purpose: | The aim of this plan is co-ordinate work across the authority in order to reach the government target for physical activity of increasing numbers of active people by 1% year on year to ensure healthier communities. |
| Objectives: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Community Sports Network (CSN) • Support the development of existing Multi Sport Activity (Hub) clubs and encourage new strategic Multi Sports developments • Support clubs who have gained accreditation and encourage more clubs to achieve this status • Encourage formal links between schools and community clubs • Encourage Sport Clubs to develop the participation element in there work • Encourage young people to develop a breadth of sports skill through Multi Skills Sports Clubs • Coach Apprenticeship scheme |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase work with 5 to 7 year olds teaching movement and key sport skills • Improve access to sport and physical activity to non traditional sports organisations and hard to reach groups • Inspirational community sport events or challenges • Using the Physical Education School Sport and Club Links (PESSCL) Strategy, support schools in achieving 2 hours of high quality provision per week in school time and 2 hours beyond the curriculum, for all young people in order to raise participation rates, promote learning and raise standards of achievement. • Encourage take up of physical activity commitment memberships within Leisure and Sports Centres • Reverse decline in school swimming • Co -ordinate the delivery of Local Area Agreement (LAA) on Physical Activity across South Gloucestershire • Encourage employers to support an Active Workplace policy • Run initiatives on healthy lifestyles in community settings (Hard to Reach) • Encourage non - active young people to be more physical activity • Encourage Healthy Lifestyles in hard to reach young people • Changing Family Lifestyles, improving physical activity and health eating • Active for Life Promotions and Events week • Active for Life Healthy Lifestyles Community Clubs • Get Active Summer Holiday Schemes for Young people • Promote physical activity for individuals and groups in a community setting • Encourage healthy lifestyles in partnership with Community Care • Access to Physical Activity for new residential communities • Run patient-centred activity interventions across South Glos with additional interventions in targeted geographical areas • Run weight reduction programmes in specific targeted geographical areas • National Step Counter scheme in GP Surgeries • Hold Active Leisure Days • Promote access to local open space through walks and links with Natural Environmental team • Implementing possible pilot physical activity programme for overweight individuals • Provide Play Rangers to promote play in parks • Encourage non users / inactive people to use their Leisure Centres • Ensure Physical Activity / Healthy Eating is a priority in Youth Service planning - Develop effective partnerships with Sport / PCT / Food and Health • Employ Youth Service based Sports Development worker • Have cross branded projects with SGC PCT and other partners • Develop Children's and Family services at South Gloucestershire Leisure Centres • Hold Clinics / Surgeries in Leisure Centres • Attract local residents to become active in managing local open spaces • National Healthy School Status (NHSS) Schools will be supported to provide evidence to demonstrate that they meet the criteria in the 2 core NHSS themes of Healthy Eating and Physical Activity using a whole school approach involving the whole school community. These |
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|-------------------|--|
| | <p>themes are interrelated and interdependent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting a healthy lifestyle through childcare • Active for Life Grants • Support the development of a strategic group South Gloucestershire Physical Activity and Sports Association • Use of key information and data to influence planning • Support the development and associated actions of a sub regional and regional physical activity strategy • Support the development of sports facilities at Secondary Schools • Ensure an annual update is published on actions from this physical Activity and Sports plan • Improve communications channels • Influencing key decision makers • Celebration of South Gloucestershire Sport and physical Activity annually • Promotion of physical activity work to, Public, professionals and other organisations • Research why people lead unhealthy lifestyles • Coach Apprenticeship scheme • Development of new facilities • Develop a clear mechanism for co-ordinated activity at local community and neighbourhood level • Support Data collection, collaboration and communication • Ensure co-ordinated consultation, marketing, recruitment, planning, delivery, evaluation • Agree how we will measure and prove the outcomes • Secure funding for Healthy Early Years work • Secure investment into building of refurbishment and upgrade of Leisure and Play facilities • Improve co-ordination between council departments to ensure public more aware of services available • Involve more officers from planning |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement for new sports/leisure facilities • Developer contributions for formal and informal facilities for sport and recreation. • Healthy transport options/ "active" travel |

| South Gloucestershire Council Play Policy and Strategy | |
|---|---|
| Purpose: | To ensure that South Gloucestershire's children and young people have easy access to a range of quality play opportunities. |
| Priorities: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better Knowledge of Play and Informed Decision Making • Improved Quality of the Play Environment • Greater Access to Play |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving availability and access to play areas for children and young people • Design and location of play areas to be integral part of wider environment |

Education Facilities

| School Organisation Plan 2007 – 2012 | |
|---|--|
| Purpose: | A key strategic document that sets out how the Local Authority will provide sufficient school places to meet the needs of the school population in its area. |
| Findings: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Across South Gloucestershire there is a surplus of primary school places and the implications of reducing admission numbers and removing surplus places will be kept under review • Requirement for additional primary provision to serve new housing developments at Hortham Hospital and Emersons Green East to be kept under review • Requirement for new secondary school provision to serve new housing at Emersons Green East to be taken forward • Primary and secondary school provision in North Fringe to be kept under review in light of proposed and future housing development in this area • Keep the future size of the 3 secondary schools at Yate/Chipping Sodbury under review as part of annual admissions process |
| Focus for LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for additional primary and secondary school provision with new housing allocations • Implications of declining rolls in primary schools in some rural settlements, Yate and Thornbury • Implications of declining rolls in secondary schools in Yate |

Environment

| BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Aim: | The plan has priority habitats, UK priority species and local priority species. These were chosen by the Biodiversity Partnership to reflect habitats and species that can be easily identified will inspire action and reflect a healthy ecosystem. |
| Objectives | <p>Priority habitats</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arable farmland • Broadleaf woodland • Hedges, dry stone walls and field margins • Old meadows and pastures • Orchards • Ponds, rhynes, rivers and water bodies • Saltmarsh/coastal grazing floodplain <hr/> |

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| | <p style="text-align: center;">UK priority species</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullfinch • Dormouse • Great crested newt • Song thrush • Tassel stonewort • White clawed crayfish • Lesser horseshoe bat <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Local priority species</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adders tongue spearwort • Barn owl • Bath asparagus • Bithynian vetch • Glow worm • Hedgehog • Slow worm • Wild service tree <hr/> |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include policies on preserving and enhancing biodiversity and natural habitats in general. • Ensure biodiversity issues are properly taken into account in allocating sites for development, including opportunities for enhancement. |

| A Heritage Strategy for South Gloucestershire (2001) | |
|---|--|
| Aim: | A tool for South Gloucestershire in developing heritage projects, a framework and guide for all partners with an interest in heritage, and to form the basis of more effective joint working and more efficient use of resources in the future. |
| Objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide an over-arching long term vision and aims for heritage in South Gloucestershire • To identify the range of current projects, rolling programmes and possible future initiatives and demonstrates how these contribute to fulfilling the aims for heritage • To identify mechanisms for implementation and the resources which will be used in achieving those projects and programmes • To provide the means of forward planning and cross departmental and cross sector approach • To identify how progress towards meeting the vision and objectives will be monitored. |
| Focus for the | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include policies on preserving and enhancing heritage resources |

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| LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure heritage issues properly taken into account in allocating sites for development, including opportunities for enhancement of heritage resources • Address future heritage through policies on sustainable design and construction |
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| South Gloucestershire Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Document | |
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| The eight Landscape Character Types in South Gloucestershire | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plateau and Scarp • Shallow ridge • Parkland vale • Shallow vale • Broad valleys • Enclosed valleys • Undulating ridge • Estuary, shoreline and levels |
| The 21 Landscape Character Areas in South Gloucestershire | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badminton Plateau • Marshfield Plateau • Ashwicke Ridges • Cotswold Scarp • Wickwar Ridge and Vale • Pucklechurch Ridge and Boyd Valley • Falfield Vale • Yate Vale • Tytherington Plain • Earthcott Vale • Golden Valley • Westerleigh Vale and Oldland Ridge • Frome Valley • Kingswood • Patchway and Filton • Avon Valley • Rudgeway and Tytherington Ridge • Severn Ridges • Oldbury Levels • Pilning Levels • Severn Shoreline and Estuary |

Transport & Air Quality

| Greater Bristol Joint Local Transport Plan 2006/7 – 2010/11 | |
|--|---|
| Priorities of the Strategy | <p>Aim: To tackle congestion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote use of alternatives to the private car • Encourage more sustainable patterns of travel behaviour • Manage the demand for travel by the private car <p>Aim: To improve road safety for all road users</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure significant reductions in the number of the most serious road casualties |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve improvements in road safety for the most vulnerable sections of the community <p>Aim: To improve air quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve air quality in the Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAS) • Ensure air quality in all other areas remains better than the national standards <p>Aim: To improve accessibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve accessibility for all residents to educational services • Improve accessibility for all residents to health services • Improve accessibility for all residents to employment <p>Aim: To improve the quality of life</p> <p>Ensure quality of life is improved through the other shared priority objectives, contributing towards the enhancement of public spaces and of community safety, neighbourhood renewal and regeneration, healthier communities, tackling noise and protecting landscape and biodiversity</p> <p>Specific strategic infrastructure and enhanced service provision together with demand management measures identified. (see GBSTS)</p> |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and proposals to safeguard land for the implementation of the identified infrastructure • Policies to encourage public transport use, cycling and walking • Allocation of development to locations accessible by or capable of being accessible by public transport, walking and cycling • Policies and legal agreements to ensure that new development makes a sufficient contribution to transport infrastructure and associated facilities and transport services to meet the demand it creates. • Policies to ensure that transport and accessibility requirements contribute to good and safe design in new development and assist in developing sustainable communities, promoting social inclusion and tackling deprivation based on local access to places of employment, services and facilities including health care. • Policies that ensure that the scale of new development does not increase the rate of growth of traffic and exacerbate congestion and air quality problems. Consider location, land use mix and density and policy mechanisms to deliver necessary transport infrastructure, and associated facilities and transport services to support future developments. |

| Greater Bristol Strategic Transport Study (GBSTS) | |
|--|--|
| Priorities of the Strategy | <p>To provide integrated multi-modal strategies for strategic transport in the greater Bristol area up to 2031. The following strategic transport infrastructure requirements are identified within South Gloucestershire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Bristol Bus Network/showcase bus routes along strategic corridors; • major park and ride improvements; • strategic rapid transit network (Hengrove/North Fringe, Ashton Vale/Emersons Green, Bath/Cribbs Causeway); and • subject to further investigation the Bristol Parkway Link (Stoke |

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| | <p>Gifford Relief Road)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improvements to the Greater Bristol Rail network, such as additional turn back facilities (Yate) and platform capacity (Parkway); and • demand management measures to promote modal shift |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and proposals to safeguard land for the implementation of the identified infrastructure • Policies to encourage public transport use, cycling and walking • Allocation of development to locations accessible by or capable of being accessible by public transport, walking and cycling • Policies and legal agreements to ensure that new development makes a sufficient contribution to transport infrastructure and associated facilities and transport services to meet the demand it creates. |

Renewable Energy & Climate Change

| South Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan November 2006 | |
|--|---|
| Priorities of the Strategy | <p>Aims of the strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To reduce energy use and use energy more efficiently ○ To increase the generation of energy from renewable sources ○ To reduce emissions caused through travel ○ To reduce emissions caused by the disposal of waste ○ To enable a shift towards more sustainable lifestyles and development ○ To assess the likely impacts of climate change and to implement appropriate adaptation measures |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies that reduce carbon footprint of new developments, including requirements for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An energy strategy • Flood risk and water resource management • A waste strategy • BREAM and Eco Homes • Onsite energy production that will reduce CO2 emissions from energy use by 10% • Promote renewable energy including criteria based policy regarding large scale renewable energy developments |

Design

| Community Safety, Drugs and Alcohol Strategy 2005 – 2008 (Safer South Gloucestershire Partnership) | |
|---|--|
| Role: | A three year plan for the reduction of crime and disorder in South Gloucestershire |
| Objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the criminal justice system without compromising fairness |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the levels of crime in South Gloucestershire, particularly those in the 'basket of crimes' measured by the British Crime Survey and especially burglary • To reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol use both to the individual and the community • To reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour in South Gloucestershire • To create an overall environment in South Gloucestershire in which people can live, work and travel in safety • To improve the working of the Partnership |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure account has been taken of highway and personal safety and designing out crime in allocating land • Policies to require improved highway safety • Policies to require personal safety and security and crime prevention in the design and layout of new development |

Arts Strategy

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| Arts Strategy | |
| Aim: | To enable groups, organisations and individuals involved in the arts to work with each other to develop diverse opportunities for involving local people in quality arts activities and creative expression. |
| Areas for Action: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Training and Employment. • Quality Arts where you are and whoever you are. • Cultural Distinctiveness and Diversity. • Education and Learning. • Facilities and Resources. • Arts and the Built Environment. • Artist and Artform Development. |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on participation in Per Cent for Art initiative for major new development |

Community Facilities

Bristol Health Services Plan

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Bristol Health Services Plan | |
| Vision: | To safeguard and improve the health services in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset by reconfiguring existing services and providing better health services closer to home. |
| Programme: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amalgamation of existing acute and emergency hospital services at Frenchay and Southmead into a new purpose-built hospital on the Southmead site • New community Hospital on the current Frenchay hospital campus • New community health centre at Yate on current health centre site • Thornbury Community Hospital on current hospital site • Refurbishment of Kingswood health centre or a new building on the site to include services currently provided by Cossham Hospital and the current health centre (Consultation autumn 2006 – decision still to be taken). |
| Focus for the | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redevelopment opportunities on Frenchay and Thornbury Hospital |

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| LDF | sites from land surplus to health service requirements as a result of implementing the BHSP |
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| South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust Local Delivery Plan 2006/7 – 2007/8 | |
|---|--|
| Purpose: | To set out the strategic direction for the South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust over 2006/7 and 2007/8 |
| Priorities and targets: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the health of the population <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. increase life expectancy 2. reduce health inequalities 3. tackle underlying determinants of health and health inequality • Supporting people with long term conditions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. improve information exchange and treatment regimes 2. personalised health care plans for those most at risk • Access to services <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. set and adhere to maximum waiting times, including commissioning services from providers to increase capacity to reduce waiting times 2. improve take up, and successful completion, of drug treatment programmes • Patient/user experience <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. improve NHS patient experience 2. increase support to enable older people to stay in their own homes 3. reduce MRSA levels |
| Focus for the LDF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No capital works other than as set out in BHSP, but may be need for expansion of existing facilities from increased population levels and Practice Based Commissioning. • Land use implications/policies of commissioning increased secondary care capacity across a range of providers including independent sector |

| Our Area: Our Health – The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2005-2006 (South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust) | |
|---|---|
| Purpose | Annual report that outlines the stake of public health in South Gloucestershire. |
| Priorities and Targets | This report identifies key areas of change and challenge in public health terms. These include the potential impact of global warming, the health of the most deprived sections of the community, the need to address health in later life with an ageing population and the challenges presented by the huge amount of growth proposed in the next 20 years. |
| Focus for the LDF | Need to ensure that the location, masterplanning and design of new development takes into account the issues raised in this document. |

| Primary Care Trust Yate Locality Health Profile, October 2007 | |
|--|---|
| Purpose | Report that outlines the state of public health in the Yate area of S. Glos |

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|-------------------|---|
| | (one of three reports that covers the entirety of South Gloucestershire) |
| Key Points | <p><i>Areas with high deprivation AND more elderly people AND higher percentages of children under five years are likely to have greater healthcare need.</i></p> <p>The populations of Winterbourne and Westerleigh are likely to have greater health needs due to average levels of deprivation combined with a higher population of people over 65 years. Yate West and Dodington are likely to have greater health needs due to average levels of deprivation combined with higher percentage of the population under five years.</p> |
| Focus for the LDF | Ensure that health care need is met in both new and existing communities. |

| Primary Care Trust Kingswood Locality Health Profile, October 2007 | |
|---|--|
| Purpose | Report that outlines the state of public health in the Kingswood area of S. Glos (one of three reports that covers the entirety of South Gloucestershire) |
| Key Points | <p><i>Areas with high deprivation AND more elderly people AND higher percentages of children under five years are likely to have greater healthcare need.</i></p> <p>The populations of Kings Chase and Staple Hill are likely to have greater health need due to an increased proportion of elderly people and higher levels of deprivation. The population of Hanham is likely to have greater health need due to average levels of deprivation combined with a higher population of people over 65 years.</p> |
| Focus for the LDF | Ensure that health care need is met in both new and existing communities. |

| Primary Care Trust Severnvale Locality Health Profile, October 2007 | |
|--|--|
| Purpose | Report that outlines the state of public health in the Severnvale area of S. Glos (one of three reports that covers the entirety of South Gloucestershire) |
| Key Points | <p><i>Areas with high deprivation AND more elderly people AND higher percentages of children under five years are likely to have greater healthcare need.</i></p> <p>The population of Patchway is likely to have greater health needs due to the levels of deprivation. The populations of Alveston, Almondsbury and Filton are likely to have greater health needs due to average levels of deprivation combined with a higher population of people over 65 years.</p> |
| Focus for the LDF | Ensure that health care need is met in both new and existing communities. |

Appendix C Baseline Data

Social Indicators

| SI 1 | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|---|---|
| ONS Mid-2006 Population Estimates | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
| All ages | 254,400 | 1,041,900 | 5,124,100 | 53,728,800 | The average age of the population can have impacts on the levels of different types of housing that are required. | ONS Mid-2005 Population Estimates More children. About average for England and Wales Average, but less than South West as a whole. |
| Children - 0-15 | 49,900 | 186,400 | 922,200 | 10,235,200 | | |
| Working age - 16-64M/59F | 157,900 | 664,500 | 3,082,800 | 33,416,600 | | |
| Older people - 65M/60F and over | 46,500 | 191,000 | 1,119,000 | 10,077,100 | | |
| Percentage Children - 0-15 | 19.6 | 17.9 | 18.0 | 19.0 | | |
| Percentage Working age - 16-64M/59F | 62.1 | 63.8 | 60.2 | 62.2 | | |
| Percentage Older people - 65M/60F and over | 18.3 | 18.3 | 21.8 | 18.8 | | |

| SI 2 Population Change 1994 to 2004 | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Source |
|--|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|---|
| 1996 mid-year estimate | 233,000 | 962,600 | 4,789,500 | 51,289,100 | ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates |
| 2001 mid-year estimate | 246,000 | 994,000 | 4,943,400 | 49,449,700 | |
| <i>Percentage increase mid-1996 to mid-2006</i> | 9.2 | 8.2 | 7.0 | 4.8 | Rate of increase in South Gloucestershire slowing, while WoE as a whole has increased. South west seems to be fairly stable, while England and Wales is accelerating. |
| <i>Percentage increase mid-2001 to mid-2006</i> | 3.4 | 4.8 | 3.7 | 8.7 | |

| SI 3 Sub-National Population projections. | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------|--|---|
| 2006 | 250,200 | 1,016,500 | 5,096,900 | 50,483,200 | Increases in population will put increased strain and demand on resources and infrastructure and will generate need for further housing and associated facilities. | ONS 2004-based Subnational population projections |
| 2011 | 256,300 | 1,044,900 | 5,261,800 | 51,595,400 | | |
| 2016 | 262,900 | 1,073,700 | 5,429,400 | 52,770,300 | | |
| 2021 | 276,566 | 1,102,400 | 5,600,700 | 53,953,700 | | |
| 2026 | 276,566 | 1,130,100 | 5,764,000 | 55,025,100 | | |
| Projected population change 2006-26 | 26,366 | 113,600 | 667,100 | 4,541,900 | Longer-term population increases will need to be adequately addressed. | S Glos figures are 2004-based, others 2003. |
| Percentage projected population change 2006-26 | 10.5 | 11.2 | 13.1 | 9.0 | | |

| SI 4 GLA Population Projections - January 2005 | S.Glos | Issues for the LDF | Source/Comment |
|---|---------------|--|---|
| 2001 | 245,985 | Increases in population will put increased strain and demand on resources and infrastructure and will generate need for further housing and associated facilities. | These are the latest population projections from the model developed by John Hollis of the GLA on behalf of the JSPTU/WEPO. |
| 2006 | 256,363 | | |
| 2011 | 261,166 | Longer-term population increases will need to be adequately addressed. | The model incorporates the volume and location of new housing as a major part of its design. A revised run of the model has been delayed by uncertainty about the requirement for new development within the area. |
| 2016 | 264,196 | | |
| 2021 | 269,955 | | |
| 2026 | 279,705 | | |
| 2031 | 290,569 | | |

| SI 5 Ethnic population | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England | Issues for the LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| All people | 245,641 | 983,860 | 4,928,434 | 49,138,831 | All public authorities now have a statutory general duty to promote racial equality under the Race Relations (Amendments) Act 2000. | 2001 Census Key Statistics table KS06 |
| White | 239,845 | 939,671 | 4,815,316 | 44,679,361 | | |
| Total Black and Minority Ethnic population | 5,796 | 44,189 | 113,118 | 4,459,470 | | |
| Percentage Black and Minority Ethnic population | 2.4 | 4.5 | 2.3 | 9.1 | | |

| SI 6 <u>Ethnic population - 2004</u> <u>Estimates</u> | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England | Issues for LDF | Source |
|--|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------|---|--|
| All people | 247,500 | 1,006,600 | 5,038,200 | 50,093,100 | All public authorities now have a statutory general duty to promote racial equality under the Race Relations (Amendments) Act 2000. | ONS Experimental Statistics Use ethnic-specific fertility and migration rates, and based on population trends with no account taken of the volume or location of new housing. Note that these are 'Experimental Statistics' and do not have the status of 'National Statistics'. |
| White | 238,600 | 947,000 | 4,863,800 | 44,834,000 | | |
| Total Black and Minority Ethnic population | 8,900 | 59,600 | 174,400 | 5,259,100 | | |
| Percentage Black and Minority Ethnic population | 3.6 | 5.9 | 3.5 | 10.5 | | |

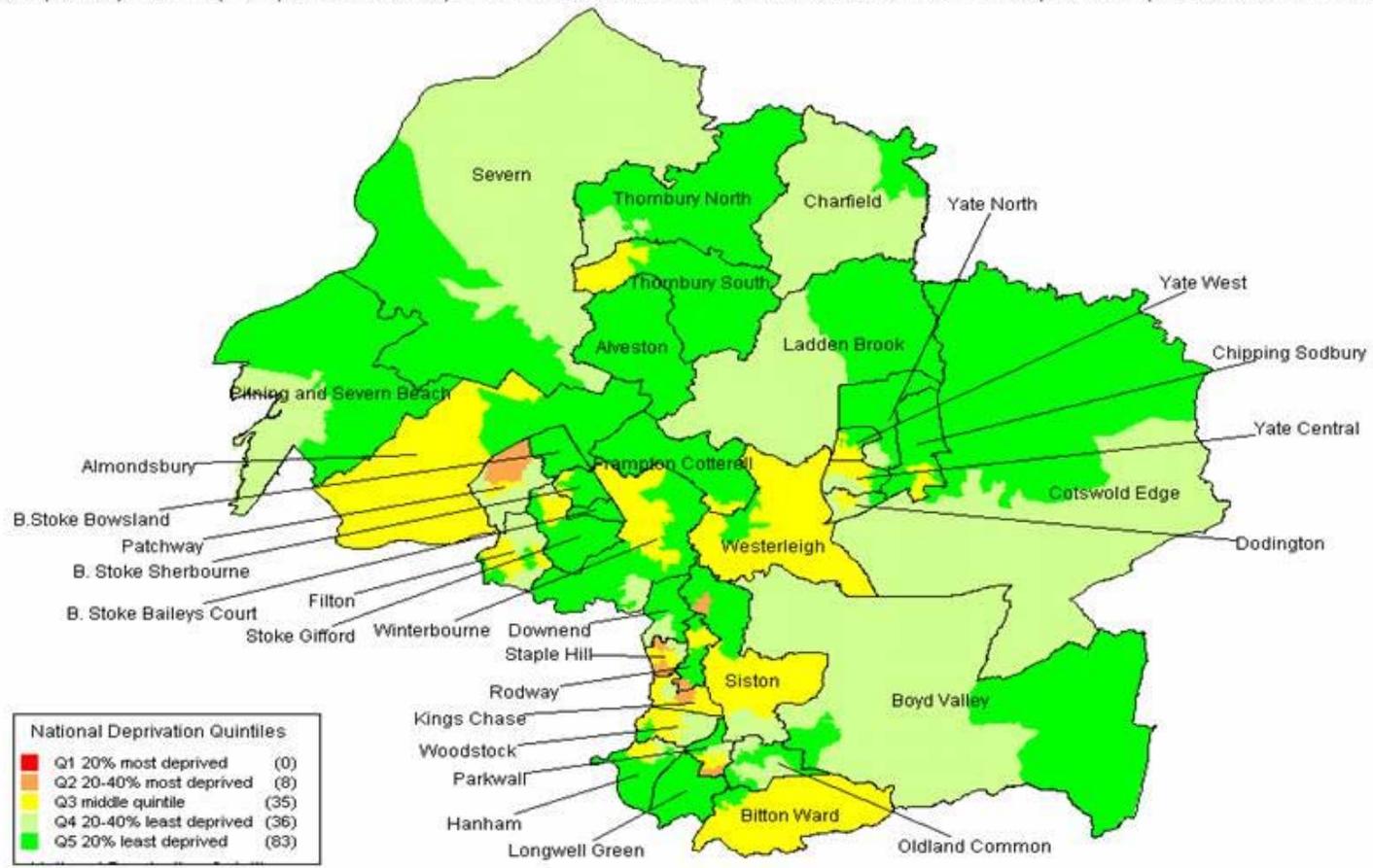
| SI 7 <u>Sub-National Household</u> <u>projections.</u> | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|---|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------|---|--|
| 2006 | 104,000 | 436,000 | 2,212,000 | 21,519,000 | ONS 2004-based Subnational household projections | LDF will need to allocate land in the most sustainable sites to accommodate dwelling requirements. |
| 2011 | 109,000 | 460,000 | 2,346,000 | 22,646,000 | | |
| 2016 | 116,000 | 486,000 | 2,489,000 | 23,837,000 | Due to be revised following mid-year estimate revision above - no date given. | |
| 2021 | 121,000 | 510,000 | 2,648,000 | 24,973,000 | | |
| 2026 | 126,000 | 532,000 | 2,752,000 | 25,975,000 | | |
| Projected household change 2006-26 | 22,000 | 96,000 | 540,000 | 4,456,000 | These projections are based purely on population trends and take no account of the volume or location of new housing. | |
| Percentage projected household change 2006-26 | 21.2 | 22.0 | 24.4 | 20.7 | | |

| SI 8 | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Full-time students | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
| All full-time students | 9,102 | 61,049 | 222,826 | 2,648,991 | The number of students attending further/higher education in the district can impact on the types of housing that is required, such as student lets, which can then place more strain on the supply for other types. | 2001 Census Univariate Tables table UV29 |

| SI 9 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|---|---|
| Population in Urban and Rural areas | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
| All people | 245,641 | 983,860 | 4,928,434 | 52,041,916 | Providing adequate facilities for those in rural areas. Public transport and employment in rural areas. | 2001 Census Key Statistics for the Rural and Urban classification 2004 Table KS01 |
| Urban - settlement of 10,000 people or more | 211,278 | 864,335 | 3,248,639 | 41,497,595 | | |
| Rural - Town and Fringe | 13,706 | 50,086 | 685,842 | 4,915,448 | | |
| Rural - Village | 12,846 | 48,895 | 679,769 | 3,887,225 | | |
| Rural - Hamlet & Isolated Dwelling | 7,811 | 20,544 | 314,184 | 1,741,648 | | |
| Percentage all people | | | | | | Possibly more of an urban based population than might be expected. Rural population would possibly be better all put together to give two figures only as the definitions of different Rural seem fairly arbitrary. |
| Urban - settlement of 10,000 people or more | 86.0 | 87.9 | 65.9 | 79.7 | | |
| Rural - Town and Fringe | 5.6 | 5.1 | 13.9 | 9.4 | | |
| Rural - Village | 5.2 | 5.0 | 13.8 | 7.5 | | |
| Rural - Hamlet & Isolated Dwelling | 3.2 | 2.1 | 6.4 | 3.3 | | |

| SI 10 <u>Index of Multiple deprivation</u> | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|---|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------|---|---|
| Population living within 20% most deprived | 0 | 125,182 | 419,150 | 9,791,497 | Policies to assist a strong and competitive economy will be vital in maintaining the District's low deprivation and maintaining overall prosperity. | ODPM 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation 2001 Census Key Statistics Table KS01 See also Map below that shows disparities between S. Glos wards. |
| Super Output Areas in the country. | 245,641 | 983,860 | 4,928,434 | 49,138,831 | | |
| Percentage | 0.0 | 12.7 | 8.5 | 19.9 | | |
| Number of SOAs in 20% most deprived Super Output Areas in the country. | 0 | | 278 | 6496 | | |
| Percentage | 0.0 | | 8.6 | 20.0 | | |
| Seven domains: Number of Super Output Areas in each domain. | | | | | | |
| Income deprivation | 2 | | | | | |
| Employment deprivation | 1 | | | | | |
| Health and disability deprivation | 0 | | | | | |
| Education, skills and training deprivation | 6 | | | | | |
| Barriers to housing and services deprivation | 9 | | | | | |
| Living environment deprivation | 0 | | | | | |
| Crime deprivation | 7 | | | | | |

The English Indices of Deprivation 2004
 Index of Multiple Deprivation (Composite Indicator): South Gloucestershire's SOA's based on national deprivation quintiles- set within ward boundaries



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| SI 11 | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------|-----------|----------------------------|---|--|
| Unemployment - ILO rate | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
| (Out of work as % of economically active population of working age) | | | | | | |
| Mar 1999-Feb 2000 (As % of working age) | # | 4.1 | 4.8 | 5.9 | Policies to assist a strong and competitive economy will be vital in maintaining the District's low unemployment. | Local Area Labour Force Survey Table: Unemployment rate: working age. Annual Population Survey |
| Mar 2000-Feb 2001 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 4.1 | 5.2 | | |
| Mar 2001-Feb 2002 | # | 3.1 | 3.8 | 4.9 | | |
| Mar 2002-Feb 2003 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 5.1 | | |
| Mar 2003-Feb 2004 | 2.5 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 4.9 | | |
| Jan-Dec 2004 (Unemployment Rate APS) | 2.3 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 4.8 | | |
| Apr 2004-Mar 2005 | 2.9 | 3.9 | 3.6 | 4.7 | | |
| Apr 2005-Mar 2006 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 5.1 | | |
| | # These figures are suppressed as statistically unreliable. | | | | | |

| SI 12 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|---|---|
| Claimant Count | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
| March 2001 | 1.1% | 1.9% | 2.0% | 2.7% | Policies to assist a strong and competitive economy will be vital in maintaining the District's low unemployment. | Nomis (ONS) - Claimant Count South Glos predictably and consistency has low levels of unemployment, though this overall figure masks higher levels in certain wards. In Aug 2006 Staple Hill 3.4 & Kings Chase 2.8 |
| March 2002 | 1.1% | 1.7% | 1.9% | 2.6% | | |
| March 2003 | 1.1% | 1.7% | 1.8% | 2.6% | | |
| March 2004 | 1.0% | 1.6% | 1.6% | 2.4% | | |
| March 2005 | 0.9% | 1.5% | 1.5% | 2.3% | | |
| March 2006 | 1.1% | 1.7% | 1.7% | 2.6% | | |
| March 2007 | 1.1% | 1.7% | 1.7% | 2.5% | | |

| SI 13 | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|---|-------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|---|
| Average Earnings | | S.Glos | WoE* | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
| Annual pay - Gross (£) - For full-time employee jobs: Workplace-based Earnings | | | | | | | |
| | 1999 | 19,606 | 21,163 | 16,727 | 17,974 | Policies to assist a strong and competitive economy will be vital in maintaining overall prosperity in the District. | ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings* Read in conjunction with residence-based earnings (below). South Glos jobs have a higher than average salary, but South Glos residents only marginally better off than the average. |
| | 2000 | 19,814 | 22,161 | 17,847 | 19,000 | | |
| | 2001 | 21,310 | 23,526 | 18,465 | 19,898 | | |
| | 2002 | 23,130 | 24,981 | 19,233 | 20,562 | | |
| | 2003 | 22,944 | 25,847 | 20,000 | 21,359 | | |
| | 2004 | 24,986 | 27,330 | 20,729 | 22,301 | | |
| | 2005 | 25,391 | 28,218 | 21,324 | 23,156 | | |
| | 2006 | 27,000 | 29,335 | 22,042 | 23,783 | | |
| | | *West of England Earnings figures are the mean average all others are median. | | | | | |

| SI 14 | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|---|
| Average Earnings | S.Glos | WoE* | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
| Annual pay - Gross (£) - For full-time employee jobs: Residence-based Earnings | | | | | | |
| 2002 | 20,584 | 24,424 | 19,308 | 20,596 | Policies to assist a strong and competitive economy will be vital in maintaining overall prosperity in the District. | ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings |
| 2003 | 22,024 | 25,725 | 20,120 | 21,387 | | |
| 2004 | 23,722 | 26,892 | 21,025 | 22,331 | | |
| 2005 | 23,880 | 27,934 | 21,736 | 23,200 | | |
| 2006 | 25,177 | 29,018 | 22,442 | 23,824 | | |
| | *West of England Earnings figures are the mean average all others are median. | | | | | |

| SI 15 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|--|
| House Price averages | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
| 1999 | 83,075 | 85,606 | 86,830 | 91,847 | Ensuring that residents are able to afford suitable housing through maintaining a strong economy and delivering sites for residential development. Adequate provision of affordable housing. | Land Registry |
| 2000 | 102,767 | 107,222 | 102,535 | 105,924 | | South Glos houses 5% cheaper. |
| 2001 | 110,673 | 118,388 | 115,633 | 117,398 | | Currently some of these figures provisional. |
| 2002 | 156,798 | 157,560 | 136,881 | 133,247 | | |
| 2003 | 155,756 | 163,621 | 164,036 | 149,935 | | |
| 2004 | 176,629 | 180,621 | 187,495 | 175,401 | | |
| 2005 | 180,403 | 188,199 | 195,496 | 184,924 | | |
| 2006 | 190,672 | 199,255 | 205,768 | 199,184 | | |

| SI 16 <u>Ratio of average house price to median salary</u> | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Issues for LDF | Source |
|---|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|---|
| 2002 | 5.9 | 6.3 | | 5.9 | Ensuring that residents are able to afford suitable housing through maintaining a strong economy and delivering sites for residential development. Adequate provision of affordable housing. | Land Registry and Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ONS). (In the Quality of Life report) South Glos residents better able to afford a house than E & W or WoE. Ratio has also increased less in South Gloucestershire. |
| 2003 | 6.9 | 7.4 | | 6.8 | | |
| 2004 | 6.9 | 7.8 | | 7.5 | | |
| 2005 | 7.3 | 8.3 | | 7.9 | | |
| 2006 | 7.3 | 8.2 | | 8.1 | | |
| Difference in ratio 2002 to 2006 | 1.4 | 1.9 | | 2.2 | | |

| SI 17 <u>Affordable housing completions</u> | S.Glos | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|---------------|--|-------------------------------|
| 2004/2005 | 77 | The LDF should encourage adequate provision of affordable housing (subsidised housing that is available for those that cannot compete for open market housing) in sustainable locations. | Annual Monitoring Report 2006 |
| 2005/2006 | 91 | | |
| 2006/2007 | 40 | | |

| SI 18 % LEA of pupils obtaining 5 or more GCSEs (grade A-C) | S.Glos | WoE | SW GOR | England | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|---------------|------------|---------------|----------------|---|---|
| 2000 | 48.5% | 48.5% | 52.3 | 47.9*% | Policies required in the LDF to allow adequate educational facilities to serve increasing population due to dwelling completions. | ONS Revised GCSE Figures & Annual Population Survey Little variation geographically, but a notable increase in South Glos in the last 5 or 6 years. Other education indicators available, e.g. Quality of Life report. |
| 2001 | 48.7% | 46.9% | 52.2 | 47.9% | | |
| 2002 | 52.4% | 48.8% | 53.5 | 49.5% | | |
| 2003 | 54.1% | 51.1% | 54.6 | 51.1% | | |
| 2004 | 50.0% | 50.1% | 54.6 | 52.0% | | |
| 2005 | 55.5% | 53.2% | 56.3 | 55.0% | | |
| 2006 | 54.9% | 56.0% | 58.2 | 57.5% | | |

* Unable to confirm whether this figure is for maintained or all schools in England.

| SI 19 Qualifications - 2005 | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England and Wales | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|---|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| % of working age population with NVQ4+ | 29.5 | 32.6 | 26.5 | 26.1 | | Annual Population Survey |
| % of working age population with NVQ3+ | 48.6 | 50.3 | 46.0 | 43.8 | | |

| SI 20 <u>Recorded crime</u> | S.Glos | SW | England and Wales | Issues for LDF | Source |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|---|---|
| Total BCS Crime per 1000 population | | | | Ensuring policies are included in the LDF to encourage good urban design to 'design-out' crime. | Recorded Crime - British Crime Survey (BCS) Comparator, Home Office |
| 2003/4 | 43.5 | 55.2 | 69.3 | | |
| 2004/5 | 44.4 | 52.7 | 64.0 | | |
| 2005/6 | 42.5 | 50.2 | 62.7 | | |
| 2006/07 | 45.2 | 51.0 | 60.3 | | |
| 2006/7 per 1000 population | | | | | |
| Recorded burglaries | 3.0 | 3.6 | 5.4 | | |
| Recorded vehicle crime | 11.0 | 10.9 | 14.1 | | |
| Recorded robberies | 0.6 | 0.7 | 1.9 | | |

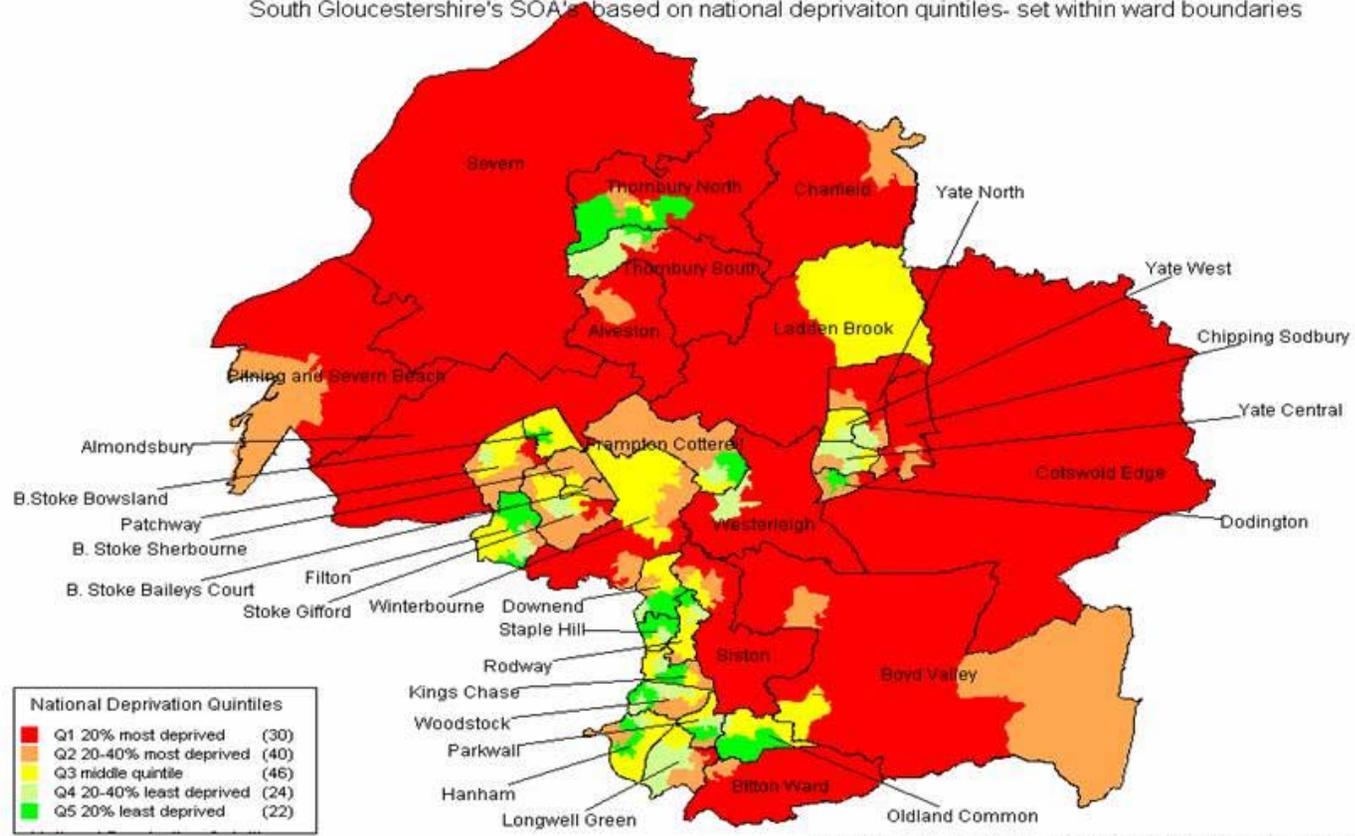
| SI 21 <u>Fear of crime</u> | S.Glos | Issues for the LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|---------------|---|--|
| Residents 'feeling unsafe' outside – Day time | | Ensuring policies are included in the LDF to encourage good urban design to 'design-out' crime and to encourage greater feelings of safety. | Source: South Gloucestershire Viewpoint Survey Relatively low day-time levels here, and fairly consistent. Night-time figures are decreasing, but still 1 in 4 residents feel unsafe outside during the night. A subjective issue which is difficult to measure accurately. |
| 2002 | 7% | | |
| 2004 | 4% | | |
| 2005 | 10% | | |
| 2006 | 5% | | |
| 2007 | 3% | | |
| Residents 'feeling unsafe' outside – Night time | | | |
| 2002 | 42% | | |
| 2004 | 27% | | |
| 2005 | 34% | | |
| 2006 | 27% | | |
| 2007 | 27% | | |

| SI 22 | | | |
|---|---------------|---|---|
| Quality of life: Better or Worse | S.Glos | Issues for the LDF | Source/Comment |
| Quality of life getting Better | | | |
| 1999 | 20% | Policies required in the LDF to ensure future development is of a high quality and that the overall environment of South Gloucestershire remains/becomes safe, clean and sustainable. | South Gloucestershire Viewpoint surveys Some level of consistency here, although this is a subjective measure which is difficult to measure. Some cause for optimism. Perhaps slightly fewer respondents think the quality of life is getting better, but those who think the quality of life is getting worse are showing a slight decline. |
| 2001 | 11% | | |
| 2002 | 11% | | |
| 2003 | 13% | | |
| 2005 | 11% | | |
| 2006 | 10% | | |
| Quality of life getting Worse | | | |
| 1999 | 26% | | |
| 2001 | 21% | | |
| 2002 | 24% | | |
| 2003 | 24% | | |
| 2005 | 25% | | |
| 2006 | 21% | | |

| SI 23 <u>Access to services - % of households within 500 metres of:</u> | S. Glos | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|----------------|---|--|
| GP Surgery (2006) | 33% | Policies required in LDF to encourage residential development that has good access to services in order to create/maintain sustainable communities and to lessen the need for journeys made by the private car. | National Statistics / South Gloucestershire PCT |
| Dentist (2004) | 24% | | See also map below that illustrates disparities in access to services between S. Glos wards, which shows high levels of deprivation in many wards. |
| Opticians (2004) | 14% | | |
| Pharmacy (2004) | 33% | | |
| Post Office | 40% | | Post Office PLC |

| SI 24 <u>Access to basic food provisions</u> | S.Glos | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|---|---------------|---|--|
| % of households within half a mile of shops selling: | | Policies required in LDF to encourage residential development that has good access to services in order to create/maintain sustainable communities and to lessen the need for journeys made by the private car. | Source: S. Glos AMR 2005/2006 |
| Bread and milk | 75.6% | | See also map below that illustrates disparities in access to services between S. Glos wards, which shows high levels of deprivation in many wards. |
| Bread, milk and 8 or more fresh fruit & vegetables | 45.8% | | |

The English Indices of Deprivation 2004
 Barriers to Housing and Services; GEOGRAPHICAL BARRIERS (SUBDOMAIN):
 South Gloucestershire's SOA's based on national deprivation quintiles- set within ward boundaries



| National Deprivation Quintiles | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------|
| Red | Q1 20% most deprived | (30) |
| Orange | Q2 20-40% most deprived | (40) |
| Yellow | Q3 middle quintile | (46) |
| Light Green | Q4 20-40% least deprived | (24) |
| Dark Green | Q5 20% least deprived | (22) |

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| SI 25 <u>Resident Satisfaction with their local area as a place to live</u> | S.Glos | | | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---|--|
| | <i>Fairly satisfied</i> | <i>Very satisfied</i> | <i>Total</i> | | |
| 1999 | 59% | 32% | 91% | Policies required in the LDF to ensure future development is of a high quality and that the overall environment of South Gloucestershire remains/becomes safe, clean and sustainable. | South Glos Viewpoint surveys A high degree of satisfaction, which seems consistent over time. |
| 2001 | 57% | 35% | 92% | | |
| 2002 | 55% | 36% | 91% | | |
| 2003 | 59% | 33% | 92% | | |
| 2006 | 55% | 39% | 94% | | |

| SI 26 | S. Glos | SW | England | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|---|----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------------------|--|
| Life expectancy - Males | 78.7 | | | | |
| Life expectancy - Females | 81.9 | | | | |
| Infant Mortality (deaths per 1000 live births) | 3.9 | 4.4 | 5.2 | | Compendium of Clinical Indicators (2005) |

SI 27
Health

Data available at regional level from Dept of Health publication:

www.dh.gov.uk

Health Profile for South Gloucestershire 2006 and 2007. A range of health data at LA level:

<http://communityhealthprofiles.info>

2007 profile: http://www.communityhealthprofiles.info/profiles/hp2007/lo_res/00HD-HP2007.pdf

2006 Profile: http://www.communityhealthprofiles.info/profiles/hp2006/lo_res/00HD-HP2006.pdf

| SI 28 <u>Housing Need and Homelessness</u> | S.Glos | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|---------------|--|-------------------------|
| Households accepted as homeless - 2000/1 | 578 | Ensuring that residents are able to afford suitable housing through maintaining a strong economy and delivering sites for residential development. Adequate provision of affordable housing. | South Glos Housing Dept |
| Households accepted as homeless - 2004/5 | 297 | | |
| Number of families in B&B accommodation (Average per month 2004/5) | 46 | | |
| Empty houses at April 2006 | 2153 | | |

| SI 29 <u>No. of agricultural workers dwellings approved/removal of conditions</u> | S. Glos | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 2006-2007 | 11 new dwellings approved, 6 removal of conditions | Ensuring provision of appropriate types and levels of housing in rural areas. | South Gloucestershire Council records |

| SI 30 <u>No. of affordable housing schemes in villages and No. of dwellings</u> | S. Glos | Issues for LDF | Source/Comment |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| 2006-2007 | 13 schemes resulting in 141 dwellings (gross) | Ensuring provision of appropriate types and levels of housing in rural areas. | South Gloucestershire Council records |

Economic Indicators

| EI 1 | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|---|---|--|
| <u>Economically Active:</u> | | | | | | | |
| | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF | |
| Economic activity rate - % of working age | | | | | | | |
| Mar2001-Feb 2002 | 85.3 | 82.5 | 82.1 | 78.3 | Local Area Labour Force Survey & Annual population Survey | Policies to assist a strong and competitive economy will be vital in maintaining the District's low unemployment. | |
| 2002-Feb 2003 | 85.6 | 82.4 | 81.6 | 78.2 | | | |
| Mar 2003-Feb 2004 | 83.3 | 81.6 | 81.4 | 78.2 | | | |
| Jan-Dec2004 | 85.6 | 81 | 80.6 | 78.1 | | | |
| Apr 2005-Mar 2006 | 86.7 | 81.3 | 80.4 | 78.2 | Figures seem to reflect a slightly younger population in SG and the lack of a large retired population. | | |
| | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | | | |
| % who are economically inactive - working age | | | | | | | |
| Mar2001-Feb 2002 | 14.7 | 17.5 | 17.9 | 21.7 | Local Area Labour Force Survey & Annual population Survey | | |
| 2002-Feb 2003 | 14.4 | 17.6 | 18.4 | 21.8 | | | |
| Mar 2003-Feb 2004 | 16.7 | 18.4 | 18.6 | 21.8 | | | |
| Jan-Dec2004 | 14.4 | 19 | 19.4 | 21.9 | | | |

| EI 2 | S.Glos | | SW | GB | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|---|---------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|---|
| <u>Number of Jobs per Resident Worker</u> | 1 | | 0.9 | 0.8 | NOMIS Labour Market Profile / Job Density 2004 In theory jobs and workers in balance. 2001 Census Origin-Destination statistics Table W203_out and Univariate Table 80 | Policies to assist a strong and competitive economy will be vital in maintaining the District's low unemployment. Policies should also seek to encourage employment to be situated close to residential areas to assist with reducing labour force commuting. |
| Residents living and working in the same ward | 21.79% | | | | | |
| Workforce arriving as car drivers | 67% | | | | | |
| Workforce travelling 20 k (12.4 miles) or more | 13.88% | | | | | |
| | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England & Wales | | |
| Resident Population aged 16-74 | 127,755 | 473,802 | 2,286,107 | 23,627,753 | | |
| Travelling over 10km to work | 31,665 | 110,710 | 566,558 | 6,578,982 | | |
| Percentage travelling over 10km to work | 24.8 | 23.4 | 24.8 | 27.8 | | |

| EI 3 | | | | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--|---------|--|----------|--|---|
| <u>Commuting patterns:</u> | | | | | |
| South Gloucestershire residents working in: | | | % | | Inclusion of policies in the LDF to encourage less commuting via the private car. |
| South Gloucestershire | 75,502 | | 59.2 | 2001 Census Origin-Destination statistics | |
| Bristol | 36,416 | | 28.6 | | |
| Elsewhere | 15,595 | | 12.2 | | |
| | 127,513 | | | Over 1 in 4 South Gloucestershire residents of working age work in Bristol. Residents from outside the Authority take 2 out of 5 South Gloucestershire jobs, with roughly 1 out of 5 jobs being taken by a Bristol resident. North Fringe is the major destination for those from outside South Gloucestershire. | |
| South Gloucestershire workers resident in: | | | | | |
| South Gloucestershire | 75,502 | | 59.0 | | |
| Bristol | 26,890 | | 21.0 | | |
| Elsewhere | 25,643 | | 20.0 | | |
| | 128,035 | | | | |

| EI 4 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|-----------|----------------------------|---|---|
| % in Employment by major occupation Group | S Glos | W of E | SW | England & Wales | Annual Population Survey | Issues for LDF |
| Residence based – April 2005 to March 2006 | | | | | | |
| 1: managers and senior officials | 22,900 | 79,100 | 363,600 | 3,772,600 | APS % in Employment by major occupation Group A bias towards upper management and admin and secretarial occupations, and a shortfall in groups 6, 7 and 8. | Policies in LDF to encourage and maintain a diverse and sustainable economy in South Gloucestershire. |
| 2: professional occupations | 16,300 | 67,800 | 286,400 | 3,170,200 | | |
| 3: associate prof. & tech occupations | 20,000 | 77,900 | 338,500 | 3,556,100 | | |
| 4: administrative and secretarial occupations | 24,200 | 71,700 | 295,900 | 3,124,200 | | |
| 5: skilled trades occupations | 12,900 | 48,700 | 288,600 | 2,730,000 | | |
| 6: personal service occupations | 9,900 | 34,400 | 203,400 | 1,960,800 | | |
| 7: sales and customer service occupations | 9,200 | 39,300 | 189,700 | 1,891,700 | | |
| 8: process, plant and machine operatives | 8,300 | 32,800 | 169,300 | 1,861,600 | | |
| 9: elementary occupations | 12,200 | 54,500 | 282,000 | 2,818,400 | | |
| with other flexibility | 6,300 | 27,000 | 124,000 | 1,177,000 | | |
| 1: managers and senior officials | 16.8% | 15.6% | 15.0% | 15.1% | | |
| 2: professional occupations | 12.0% | 13.4% | 11.8% | 12.7% | | |
| 3: associate prof. & tech occupations | 14.7% | 15.4% | 14.0% | 14.3% | | |
| 4: administrative and secretarial occupations | 17.8% | 14.1% | 12.2% | 12.5% | | |
| 5: skilled trades occupations | 9.5% | 9.6% | 11.9% | 10.9% | | |
| 6: personal service occupations | 7.3% | 6.8% | 8.4% | 7.9% | | |
| 7: sales and customer service occupations | 6.7% | 7.8% | 7.8% | 7.6% | | |
| 8: process, plant and machine operatives | 6.1% | 6.5% | 7.0% | 7.5% | | |
| 9: elementary occupations | 9.0% | 10.8% | 11.6% | 11.3% | | |
| with other flexibility | 4.6% | 5.3% | 5.1% | 4.7% | | |

| EI 5 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------|---|---|
| <u>VAT registrations/de-registrations</u> | S.Glos | WoE | SW | England and Wales | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
| Number of vat registrations 2004 | 675 | | 15,310 | 165,435 | NOMIS (and Labour Market Profile) Although VAT registrations are seen as a core indicator, they in fact only slightly exceed de-registrations, so little change. | Policies in the LDF to encourage and maintain a strong and sustainable economy that enables the establishment and growth of new businesses. |
| Number of VAT De-registrations 2004 | 660 | | 14,970 | 162,800 | | |
| Stock at end of 2004 | 6,855 | | 170,775 | 1,633,810 | | |
| | | | | GB | | |
| % of Stock - Registrations | 9.8 | | 9.0 | 10.1 | | |
| % of Stock - Deregsistrations | 9.6 | | 8.8 | 9.9 | | |

| EI 6 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|--|---|
| Employment levels by Industry 2006 | S.Glos | WoE | SW | GB | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
| Workplace data. | | | | | | |
| A B: Agriculture and fishing | ! | ! | 43,700 | 292,200 | 2005 Annual Population Survey, ONS | Policies in LDF to encourage and maintain a diverse and sustainable economy in South Gloucestershire. |
| C E: Energy and Water | 700 | 4,100 | 21,300 | 187,800 | | |
| D: Manufacturing | 10,700 | 59,400 | 305,400 | 3,298,8000 | This is workplace-based data, and shows the number and proportion of workers in each industry in South Glos, rather than the number and proportion of South Glos residents in each industry. | |
| F: Construction | 5,600 | 41,600 | 203,300 | 1,938,200 | | |
| G H: Distribution | 13,300 | 101,500 | 503,400 | 4,777,500 | | |
| I: Transport and Communications | 6,200 | 33,000 | 137,300 | 1,714,600 | | |
| J K: Banking, Finance, Insurance etc. | 10,300 | 96,200 | 344,200 | 3,994,300 | | |
| L N: Public Admin, Education and Health | 17,500 | 155,900 | 720,400 | 7,022,300 | | |
| O-Q: Other Services | 3,400 | 28,900 | 148,800 | 1,511,500 | | |
| | 67,000 | 520,600 | 2,427,800 | 24,737,200 | | |
| | ! = Sample size too small to estimate | | | | | |
| A B: Agriculture and fishing | ! | ! | 1.8% | 1.2% | The figures therefore show the industrial structure of the area rather than what industries residents are working in. | Another version of this below. |
| C E: Energy and Water | 1.0% | 0.8% | 0.9% | 0.8% | | |
| D: Manufacturing | 16.0% | 11.4% | 12.6% | 13.3% | Another version of this below. | |
| F: Construction | 8.4% | 8.0% | 8.4% | 7.8% | | |
| G H: Distribution | 19.9% | 19.5% | 20.7% | 19.3% | | |
| I: Transport and Communications | 9.3% | 6.3% | 5.7% | 6.9% | | |
| J K: Banking, Finance, Insurance etc. | 15.4% | 18.5% | 14.2% | 16.1% | | |
| L N: Public Admin, Education and Health | 26.1% | 29.9% | 29.7% | 28.4% | | |
| O-Q: Other Services | 5.1% | 5.6% | 6.1% | 6.1% | | |
| | ! = Sample size too small to estimate | | | | | |

| EI 7 | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------|---|---|
| Industry Group - Workplace data. | S Glos | SW | GB | Source/Comment | Issues for the LDF |
| % total employee jobs in: | | | | Annual Business Inquiry employee analysis (2004) (Via NOMIS Labour Market Profile) | Policies in LDF to encourage and maintain a diverse and sustainable economy in South Gloucestershire. |
| Manufacturing | 15.3 | 11.6 | 11.9 | | |
| Construction | 6 | 4.6 | 4.5 | | |
| Services | 77.7 | 81.8 | 82.1 | Relative strengths of manufacturing and service industries compared to the regional and national figures a bit of a surprise, and the balance healthier than might be expected. | |
| Distribution, hotels and restaurants | 22.6 | 26.9 | 24.7 | | |
| Transport and communications | 8.9 | 4.9 | 5.9 | | |
| Finance, IT, other business activities | 19.7 | 17 | 20 | | |
| Public admin, education and health | 22.8 | 28.3 | 26.4 | | |
| Other services | 3.6 | 4.6 | 5.1 | A different version of the above. | |
| Tourism related | 4.8 | 9.1 | 8.2 | | |

| EI 8 | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|---|--|--|
| Amount of floorspace developed for employment. | 2004/5 | 2005/6 | Source/Comment | Issues for the LDF | |
| B1a - Business - Offices other than financial | 0 | 1,200 | Annual Monitoring Report 2006 Preponderance of storage and distribution here, with relatively little productive industry. The amount of office development (below) re-enforces this impression. | Ensure that sufficient land is made available in the appropriate sub-areas to meet employment land requirements. | |
| B1b - Research and development | 0 | 0 | | | |
| B1c - Light industry | 1,610 | 162 | | | |
| B2 - General industrial | 505 | 0 | | | |
| B8 - Storage and distribution | 440 | 50,899 | | | |
| Sui Generis | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Total - Sq Metres | 2,555 | 52,261 | | | |

| <i>EI 9</i> <u>Amount of completed office development</u> | 2004/5 | 2005/6 | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Sq Metres | 21,288 | 4,984 | Annual Monitoring Report 2006 | Ensure that sufficient land is made available in the appropriate sub-areas to meet employment land requirements. |

| <i>EI 10</i> <u>Employment Land Completions</u> | S.Glos | WoE | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--|---------------|------------|--|--|
| Industry - Hectares | | | Employment Land Surveys (West of England Key Statistics) | Ensure that sufficient land is made available in the appropriate sub-areas to meet employment land requirements. |
| 2000/2001 | 4.60 | 10.63 | | |
| 2001/2002 | 12.28 | 20.87 | | |
| 2002/2003 | 8.25 | 31.62 | | |
| 2003/2004 | 6.12 | 21.15 | | |
| 2004/2005 | 9.66 | 26.39 | | |
| Office - Sq Metres | | | | |
| 2000/2001 | 28,752 | 69,156 | | |
| 2001/2002 | 14,800 | 50,351 | | |
| 2002/2003 | 38,235 | 65,344 | | |
| 2003/2004 | 4,135 | 17,535 | | |
| 2004/2005 | 21,438 | 66,152 | | |

| <i>EI 11</i> <u>Employment Land Commitments</u> | S.Glos | WoE | Source/Comment | Issues for the LDF |
|--|---------------|------------|-------------------------|--|
| At April 2006 | | | Employment Land Surveys | Ensure that sufficient land is made available in the appropriate sub-areas to meet employment land requirements. |
| Office B1 Sq Metres | 83,141 | 347,538 | | |
| Industrial B1, B2, B8 Hectares | 468.75 | 709.3 | | |
| Sue Generis | 5.44 | 5.44 | | |

| <i>EI 12</i> <u>Amount of completed retail development</u> | 2004/5 | 2005/6 | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|---|---------------|---------------|--|--|
| Sq Metres | 6,802 | 13,070 | Annual Monitoring Report 2006 Practically all outside town centres. B&Q North Fringe a large part of this for 2005/6. | Policies should ensure that out of town centre retail development does not detract from the quality or range of retail premises in town centres. |

| <i>EI 13</i> <u>Amount of total primary frontage in LP Policy</u> | | | | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|--|---|
| RT9 town and district centres. | 2003/4 | 2004/5 | 2005/6 | AMR 2006, from South Glos annual Retail Survey | Policies should ensure that town centres remain prosperous areas in order to encourage sustainable communities. |
| Total primary frontage | 4346.3 | 4386.2 | 4386.2 | Continuing apparently healthy state of town centre shopping. Vacancy rates not taken into consideration and, perhaps, should be. | |
| Amount in A1 use | 3376.5 | 3388.7 | 3363.7 | | |
| Percentage in A1 use | 77% | 77% | 76.70% | | |

| <i>EI 14</i> <u>Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport of:</u> | | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--|---|--|--|
| GP Hospitals Primary Schools Secondary Schools Major Retail Centre Employment | 2005/6 80% 59% 80% 77% 79% 77% | Annual Monitoring Report 2006 Sustainability issues here. | Ensure that new residential development is close to essential services and frequent public transport routes. |

| <i>EI 15</i> <u>Dwelling Completions</u> | S.Glos | WoE | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|---|---------------|------------|--|--|
| 1989/90 | 2,050 | | Source: Residential Land Surveys (From West of England Key Statistics from 1996/97). | Ensure that sufficient land is made available in sustainable and appropriate areas to meet housing requirements. |
| 1990/91 | 1,677 | | | |
| 1991/92 | 1,983 | | Clearly a fall in numbers since the 1990s in South Glos, but overall figures for the West of England are fairly stable year on year. | |
| 1992/93 | 1,258 | | Small site completions have tended to increase as large site developments have dried up. Over | |
| 1993/94 | 1,218 | | 1 in 3 completions were on small sites in | |
| 1994/95 | 1,532 | | 2005/6, whereas 1 in 15 completions on small | |
| 1995/96 | 1,287 | | sites is not an unusual proportion when large | |
| 1996/97 | 1,187 | 3,146 | site development is progressing apace. | |
| 1997/98 | 1,510 | 3,620 | | |
| 1998/99 | 1,587 | 3,870 | | |
| 1999/00 | 1,456 | 3,358 | | |
| 2000/01 | 1,252 | 2,887 | | |
| 2001/02 | 826 | 3,299 | | |
| 2002/03 | 942 | 3,669 | | |
| 2003/04 | 748 | 4,671 | | |
| 2004/05 | 546 | 3,901 | | |
| 2005/06 | 424 | | | |

| <i>EI 16</i> <u>Dwelling Commitments</u> <u>(Net)</u> | S.Glos | WoE | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--|---------------|------------|---|--|
| 1996/7 | 7,040 | 22,237 | Residential Land Surveys | Ensure that sufficient land is made available in sustainable and appropriate areas to meet housing requirements. |
| 1997/8 | 5,813 | 19,664 | The sum of uncompleted dwellings on A sites and estimates of development on B sites identified for housing. | |
| 1998/9 | 4,846 | 17,625 | | |
| 1999/00 | 4,079 | 16,450 | | |
| 2000/01 | 7,293 | 20,769 | | |
| 2001/02 | 7,975 | 24,824 | | |
| 2002/03 | 7,925 | 25,169 | | |
| 2003/04 | 7,446 | 24,916 | | |
| 2004/05 | 9,540 | 25,241 | | |
| 2005/06 | | | | |

Environmental Indicators

| ENVI 1 | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------------------|---|
| Greenfield/Brownfield | S.Glos | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
| Total development - Hectares - 2004/05 | 28.0 | | |
| Brownfield | 15.5 | SGC Spatial Planning Team | Policies must seek to ensure that the best and most efficient use of land is made but also that a variety of housing types are brought forward. |
| Greenfield | 12.5 | | |
| Total Dwellings completed - 2005/06 | 636 | | |
| Brownfield | 420 | | |
| Greenfield | 216 | | |
| Percentage of dwellings built on Brownfield | | | |
| 1996/1997 | 22 | | |
| 1997/1998 | 13 | | |
| 1998/1999 | 17 | | |
| 1999/2000 | 23 | | |
| 2000/2001 | 42 | | |
| 2001/2002 | 41 | | |
| 2002/2003 | 42 | | |
| 2003/2004 | 39 | | |
| 2004/2005 | 63 | | |
| 2005/2006 | 66 | | |

| <u>ENVI 2</u> <u>Air pollution</u> | | | | | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|---|---------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------|---|--|
| Average nitrogen dioxide levels at continuous monitoring sites | | | | | | |
| | Filton | Kingswood | Yate | | | |
| 1998 | 24.4 | 58.3 | | | SGC, Environmental Protection (Specialist) team Quality of Life report | Policies must seek to ensure that use of the private car is discouraged. |
| 1999 | 16 | 38.6 | | | | |
| 2000 | 26.2 | 36.7 | 31.5 | | | |
| 2001 | 26.2 | 46.2 | 39.5 | | | |
| 2002 | 23.9 | 35.7 | 36.1 | | | |
| 2003 | 25.4 | 34 | 35 | | | |
| 2004 | 22.7 | 30.8 | 31.3 | | | |
| 2005 | 22.5 | 26.2 | 28.7 | | | |
| 2006 | | | | | | |
| Poor quality air days | 2002/3 | 2003/4 | 2004/5 | 2005/6 | | |
| Number of days pollution exceeds National Air Quality Standards. | 42 | 114 | 55 | 13 (Trajectory 72) | AMR 2006 from Local Transport Plan Annual Progress Report 2006. | |

| <i>ENVI 3</i> <u>Emissions in South Gloucestershire by industrial sector</u> | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | South Gloucestershire 2003 | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
| Total emissions of CO2 Land use change Road Transport Home energy use Industry and Commercial Commercial and industrial waste to landfill Household waste to landfill | 2,688,000 tonnes 1% of total 34% of total 23% of total 37% of total 3% of total 2% of total | South Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy – data supplied by DEFRA | Policies required to encourage the decreasing of emissions. |

| <i>ENVI 4</i> <u>Renewable Energy capacity in South Gloucestershire installed by type</u> | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| | 2004/2005 (MWe) | 2005/2006 (MWe) | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
| Landfill gas (Berwick Farm/Harnhill Quarry) | 2.6 | 1.675 | SG Waste Management Team/ SGC Development Control records Figures to not incorporate domestic installations | Policies required to increase installations in suitable locations. |
| Wind turbine (Pilning) | Not operational | 0.006 | | |
| Geothermal heat (Patchway Town Council Community Centre) | No data | 0.014 | | |
| TOTAL | 2.6 | 1.695 | | |

| ENVI 5 Biodiversity | | | Source/Comment |
|---|------------|--|--|
| Changes in areas and population of biodiversity importance 2005/2006 | | | South Gloucestershire Annual Monitoring Reports |
| Priority Habitats – 2005/06 | | Priority Habitats – 2004/05 | |
| Ancient woodland | Static | Ancient woodland | |
| Coastal Salt marsh floodplain grazing | Static | Coastal Salt marsh floodplain grazing | Data not available |
| Old meadows and pastures | Static | Old meadows and pastures | |
| Ponds, Rhynes, rivers and water bodies | Static | Ponds, Rhynes, rivers and water bodies | |
| Hedges and field margins | Declining | Hedges and field margins | |
| Arable farmland | Static | Arable farmland | |
| Priority Species – 2005/06 | | Priority Species – 2004/05 | |
| Bythynian Vetch | Unknown | Bythynian Vetch | |
| Wild Service Tree | Increasing | Wild Service Tree | |
| Adders Tongue Spearwort | Increasing | Adders Tongue Spearwort | |
| Song Thrush | Unknown | Song Thrush | Data not available |
| Glow Worm | Declining | Glow Worm | |
| Slow-Worm | Unknown | Slow-Worm | |
| Tassel Stonewort | Static | Tassel Stonewort | |
| Bath Asparagus | Static | Bath Asparagus | |
| Dormouse | Declining | Dormouse | |
| Bullfinch | Unknown | Bullfinch | |
| White Clawed Crayfish | Declining | White Clawed Crayfish | |
| Great Crested Newt | Declining | Great Crested Newt | |
| Barn Owl | Increasing | Barn Owl | |
| Hedgehog | Declining | Hedgehog | |
| | | | Although figures for Bullfinch and Song Thrush in S. Glos are unknown at the present time, they are declining in the former Avon area as a whole so it is almost certain that they will also be declining in S. Glos. Also very likely that Slowworms are declining. |
| | | | Since the 2006 AMR was published, Orchids have been added to the priority species list as declining, as well as the Lesser Horseshoe Bat (static). |

| ENVI 6 | | | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--|---------------|--|--|--|
| <u>Household waste collected and recycled</u> | | | | |
| Tonnes of waste collected | S Glos | | SGC, Waste Management Team / Quality of Life Report. | Policies need to address sustainable waste management and move away from landfilling waste - i.e. minimise waste arisings and maximise reuse and recycling of waste. |
| 1996/1997 | 113,660 | | | |
| 2000/2001 | 135,520 | | | |
| 2004/2005 | 142,656 | | | |
| Percentage recycled | | | | |
| 1996/1007 | 5.4 | | | |
| 2000/2001 | 19.8 | | | |
| 2004/2005 | 37.8 | | | |

| ENVI 7 | | | | Source/Comment | Issues for the LDF |
|---|--|---------------|---------------|--|--|
| <u>Amount of municipal waste arising and managed</u> | | 2004/5 | 2005/6 | | |
| Total Municipal Waste | | 131,481 | 132,801 | Annual Monitoring Report 2006 Clearly a great increase in recycling, with the proportion almost doubling since 2000/2001. | Policies need to address sustainable waste management and move away from landfilling waste - i.e. minimise waste arisings and maximise reuse and recycling of waste. |
| BV82a - Waste recycled | | 22,723 | 25,505 | | |
| BV82b - Waste composted | | 19,981 | 24,157 | | |
| BV82c - Waste used to generate heat | | 0 | 0 | | |
| BV82d - Waste landfilled | | 88,777 | 83,139 | | |
| Total Municipal Waste | | 100.0% | 100.0% | | |
| BV82a - Waste recycled | | 17.3% | 19.2% | | |
| BV82b - Waste composted | | 15.2% | 18.2% | | |
| BV82c - Waste used to generate heat | | 0.0% | 0.0% | | |
| BV82d - Waste landfilled | | 67.5% | 62.6% | | |

| ENVI 8 | | | | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|---|---|
| <u>Rate of traffic growth</u> | S Glos | National | | | |
| 1991 to 2005 | 30% | 21% | | SGC, Transport Policy / Quality of Life report. Clearly above the national figure, but an urban/rural comparison might be interesting. North Fringe figure probably predictable. | Ensure that the rate of growth is slowed or halted by planning for increased accessibility of services by foot/bicycle/public transport, e.g. sustainable siting of new residential and service developments. |
| North Fringe increase 52% | | | | | |

| ENVI 9 | | | | | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|---|--------------|----------------|------------------|--|--|---|
| <u>Proportion of School Trips by car</u> | Total | Primary | Secondary | | | |
| 2001/2 | 39% | 47% | 25% | | SG Local Transport Plan - Annual Progress | Ensure that the rate of growth is slowed or halted by planning for increased accessibility of services by foot/bicycle/public transport, e.g. sustainable siting of new residential and service developments. New communities must have adequate on-site education provision. |
| 2002/3 | ? | 47% | ? | | Report 2005 (Annual School 'Hands up' survey) | |
| 2003/4 | 37% | 45% | 22% | | | |
| 2004/5 | 35% | 43% | 21% | | | |
| 2005/6 | 27% | | | | A notable reduction here, and 'On track' to reduce total to 20% by 2010/11 | |

| ENVI 10 <u>Number of vehicles/Km in Peak Period</u> | | | Source/Comment | Issues for LDF |
|--|-------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 2000/1 | 100.0 | 2.26 million vehicles/Km | SG Local Transport Plan - Annual Progress Report 2005 (Annual School 'Hands up' survey) On track to limit growth 70 7% in period 2000/1 to 2005/6 | Ensure that the rate of growth is slowed or halted by planning for increased accessibility of services by foot/bicycle/public transport, e.g. sustainable siting of new residential and service developments. |
| 2001/2 | 102.7 | 2.31 million vehicles/Km | | |
| 2002/3 | 105.2 | 2.37 million vehicles/Km | | |
| 2003/4 | 106.4 | 2.40 million vehicles/Km | | |
| 2004/5 | 106.9 | 2.41 million vehicles/Km | | |
| 2005/6 | 107.0 | 2.42 million vehicles/Km | | |

| ENVI 11 <u>Number of Bus Passenger Journeys per year</u> | 2002/3 | 2003/4 | 2004/5 | Source/Comment | Issues for the LDF |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|--|--|
| Thousands | 10400 | 7700 | 7800 | SG Local Transport Plan - Annual Progress Report 2005 Trajectory of 8,250 journeys by 2007/8. | Increase attractiveness of public transport by ensuring new communities are well served. |

| ENVI 12 <u>% of Rural Households within 13 minutes walk of an hourly or better bus service.</u> | | Source/Comment | Issues for the LDF |
|--|--------|--|---|
| 2001 | 58.50% | SG Local Transport Plan - Annual Progress Report 2005 Improvement much better than predicted, as the trajectory suggested a figure of only 66% by 2004. | Ensure new communities are well served by public transport. |
| 2002 | 58.50% | | |
| 2003 | 70.14% | | |
| 2004 | 78.00% | | |

| ENVI 13 | | | | | Source/Comment | Issues for the LDF |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------|--|--|---|
| <u>Journey to work by mode</u> | S Glos | SW | E & W | | | |
| | | | | | 2001 Census | |
| People who work mainly at or from home: | 8.5 | 11.0 | 9.2 | | A large proportion of car drivers, but again this may compare with other rural areas. A reasonable number of people travelling on foot. More scope for public transport. | Ensure that new residential developments as well as new commercial developments are located in sustainable locations that encourage travel to work by means other than the private car. High quality urban design to encourage walking/cycling. |
| Percentage who usually travel to work by: | | | | | | |
| Underground; metro; light rail; Tram | 0.0 | 0.1 | 3.0 | | | |
| Train | 0.6 | 0.9 | 4.1 | | | |
| Bus; Mini Bus or coach | 6.5 | 5.1 | 7.4 | | | |
| Motorcycle; Scooter; moped | 1.8 | 1.5 | 1.1 | | | |
| Driving a car or van | 65.4 | 58.8 | 55.2 | | | |
| Passenger in a car or van | 6.3 | 6.3 | 6.3 | | | |
| Taxi or minicab | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 | | | |
| Bicycle | 3.0 | 3.3 | 2.8 | | | |
| On foot | 7.3 | 12.2 | 10.0 | | | |
| Other (10) | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.5 | | | |

| ENVI 14 | | | | | | Issues for LDF |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|------------------|--|---|
| <u>Car Ownership</u> | S Glos | WoE | SW | E & W | Source/Comment | |
| Households with no car/van | 13.4 | | | 26.8 | 2001 Census Predictably high figures. | Policies to ensure continuing levels of wealth among residents, but also that discourage the common use of private transport as a means for travelling to/from work/services. |
| Households with 1 car/van | 44.6 | | | 43.8 | | |
| Households with 2 or more cars/vans | 42.0 | | | 29.4 | | |
| Total number of cars (16) | 138,792 | | 2,565,747 | 23,936,250 | | |
| Total households | 99,038 | | 2,085,984 | 21,660,475 | | |
| Mean cars per household | 1.40 | | 1.23 | 1.11 | | |

| <u>ENVI 15</u> <u>Quality and assets of the built environment</u> | S Gos | SW | England | Source/Comment | Issues for the LDF |
|---|------------------|-----------------|----------------|---|--|
| Number of Conservation Areas Number of listed buildings Number of historic parks and gardens (Source: English Heritage) | 20 2,038 7 | 1,513 88,932 | 371,971 | Annual Monitoring Report 2006 Much of South Gloucestershire has a good quality historic built environment. | Policies to ensure the conservation of buildings/areas of historic interest, but that also allow change and adaption to changing circumstances and need. |

| <u>ENVI 16</u> <u>Properties at risk from Flooding in S.Glos as of August 2007</u> | Issues for the LDF | Source/Comment |
|---|---|---|
| Properties at risk of a 1:100 year event: 2606 – 2.4% of all dwellings in South Gloucestershire Properties at risk of a 1:1000 year event: 4278 – 3.9% of all dwellings in South Gloucestershire | Policies required limiting the number of properties at risk from flooding by avoiding development in floodplains. | Source: Environment Agency % figures based on Environment Agency records of there being 110280 properties in S. Glos. as of August 2007. The 1:1000 year properties is a total value as it includes the properties that would already have been effected in a 1:100 year event. Numbers are liable to change as new modelling is undertaken and floodplains change. Figures should be used as guidance only. |

ENVI 17

Key Environmental Assets in South Gloucestershire

Number of Nature Reserves

- There are 7 Local Nature Reserves in South Gloucestershire, a total of 106.25ha.
- Of these LNRs, 4 were designated in 2004/5, as part of the Wildspaces project.

- Cotswolds AONB (area within South Gloucestershire) - 11,800 Ha

SSSIs (total area) - 4656.28 Ha

- Severn Estuary SSSI (also SPA/RAMSAR and proposed SAC) - 4104 Ha
- Other SSSIs – 22 sites in South Gloucestershire - 553 Ha

Forest of Avon: 57,300Ha, **of which 26,840Ha lie within South Gloucestershire. 35% or 19,800 ha (76 square miles) is urban or not in agricultural use, for example airfields and docks, leaving 37,500 ha of farm and open land, the target planting area.** There is a proposal to extend the boundary of the Avon Forest to cover the whole of the former Avon Area. This will be implemented in 2007. **The Forest area has one of England's lowest rates of woodland cover at only 6%, one long term goal is to increase this to 30%. More than 15 million new trees will be planted over the next 40-50 years.** (Source: English Nature, South Gloucestershire Wildspaces! Project & Countryside Agency; Forest of Avon Org, www.oursouthwest.com)

Between April 2003 and April 2004, 522.2 hectares of woodland were newly planted or managed in South Gloucestershire. This high figure reflects the fact that the Tortworth Court Estate (508 hectares) was brought into management during the year.
(Source: Natural Environment and Design Team, South Gloucestershire Council)

268 locally designated Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCIs)

52 Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| ENVI 18 <u>Loss of high quality/Grade 1 agricultural land</u> | | Issues for the LDF | Source |
| 2006-2007 | Nil S. Glos | Ensuring conservation of this important resource while also meeting strategic housing requirements. | S. Glos Council records |

| | | | |
|---|--|---|-------------------------|
| ENVI 19 <u>No. of trees given Tree Preservation Orders</u> | | Issues for the LDF | Source |
| 2004-2005 2005-2006 2006-2007 | S. Glos 39 individual trees, 63 trees in groups 48 individual trees, 27 in groups, 1 area order, 1 woodland order 58 individual trees, 9 trees in groups, 4 area orders, 5 woodland orders | Policies must seek to protect/conservate trees that add to local character and/or that form habitats. | S. Glos Council records |

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------|
| ENVI 20 <u>New dwellings densities</u> | | | | Issues for the LDF | Source |
| | 2004/2005 | 2005/2006 | 2006/2007 | | |
| less than 30 dwellings per ha | 19% | 9% | 2% | Ensuring that new developments are constructed at suitable densities | S. Glos Council records |
| between 30 and 50 dwellings per ha | 30% | 28% | 30% | | |
| above 50 dwellings per ha | 51% | 63% | 67% | | |

Appendix D

Structure for Sustainability Appraisal Reports

Structure of report Information to include:

1. Summary and outcomes

- 1.1 Non-technical summary.
- 1.2 A statement of the likely significant effects of the plan.
- 1.3 Statement on the difference the process has made to date.
- 1.4 How to comment on the report.

2. Appraisal Methodology

- 2.1 Approach adopted to the SA.
- 2.2 When the SA was carried out.
- 2.3 Who carried out the SA.
- 2.4 Who was consulted, when and how.
- 2.5 Difficulties encountered in compiling information or carrying out the assessment.

3. Background

- 3.1. Purpose of the SA and the SA Report.
- 3.2. Plan objectives and outline of contents.
- 3.3. Compliance with the SEA Directive/Regulations.

4. Sustainability objectives, baseline and context

- 4.1 Links to other policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives and how these have been taken into account.
- 4.2 Description of the social, environmental and economic baseline characteristics and the predicted future baseline.
- 4.3 Main social, environmental and economic issues and problems identified.
- 4.4 Limitations of the information, assumptions made, etc.
- 4.5 The SA framework, including objectives, targets and indicators.

5. Plan issues and options

- 5.1 Main strategic options considered and how they were identified.
- 5.2 Comparison of the social, environmental and economic effects of the options.
- 5.3. How social, environmental and economic issues were considered in choosing the preferred options.

Structure of report Information to include

- 5.4. Other options considered, and why these were rejected.
- 5.5. Any proposed mitigation measures.

6. Plan policies

- 6.1 Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the preferred policies.
- 6.2 How social, environmental and economic problems were considered in developing the policies and proposals.
- 6.3 Proposed mitigation measures.
- 6.4 Uncertainties and risks.

7. Implementation

7.1. Links to other tiers of plans and programmes and the project level (environmental impact assessment, design guidance, etc.)

7.2. Proposals for monitoring. Note: The table signposts the components of the SA Report that make up the Environmental Report for the purposes of the SEA Directive.

**Appendix E
 Equalities Impact Assessment Framework for future South Gloucestershire Local Development
 Framework Documentation**

Equality Impact Assessment

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Equality Impact Assessment | | |
| 1 | Name of strategy, project or policy: | |
| 2 | Officer completing assessment: | David Oakhill (Spatial Planning) |
| 3 | Contact details: | David.Oakhill@southglos.gov.uk |
| 4 | What is the main purpose of the strategy / project / policy | |
| 5 | List the main activities of the project / policy (for strategies list the main policy areas): | |
| 6 | Have you consulted on this policy? | |
| 7 | Have you explained your policy to people who might be affected by it directly or indirectly? Who are they and why are they affected? – give details | |
| You may find it useful to complete section 14 'Equality Target Groups' before completing section 8-14 | | |
| 8 | Who will be the main beneficiaries of the | |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| | strategy / project / policy? | |
| 9 | What improvements to the strategy, project or policy could mitigate adverse equalities impact? | |
| 10 | Have you set up equalities monitoring systems to carry out regular checks on the effects your policy has on: a) racial groups b) other equality target groups - Give details. | |
| 11 | Have you introduced changes you planned, with any necessary training? Does everyone involved in the policy know and understand what you have done? – Give details. | |
| 12 | How is the success of the policy and functions measured? – Give details of equality outcomes. | |
| 13 | What are your equality related performance | |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
| | indicators for this policy? | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|

| 14 | Equality Target Group(s) | Positive Impact – it could benefit | | Negative Impact – it could disadvantage | | Reason |
|------|--|------------------------------------|----------|---|----------|--------|
| | | High ✓ | Low ✓ | High ✓ | Low ✓ | |
| 14.1 | Gender | | | | | |
| | Women / Girls | | | | | |
| | Men / Boys | | | | | |
| 14.2 | Race | | | | | |
| | Asian or Asian British People | | | | | |
| | Black or Black British People | | | | | |
| | Chinese people | | | | | |
| | People of mixed heritage | | | | | |
| | White People (including Irish people) | | | | | |
| | Travellers (Gypsy/Roma/Irish heritage) | | | | | |
| | Any other ethnic background | | | | | |
| 14.3 | Disabled people | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
| 14.4 | Lesbians, gay men and bisexuals | | | | | |
| 14.5 | Transgender people | | | | | |
| 14.6 | Older people (60+) | | | | | |
| 14.7 | Children and Young people (0-19) | | | | | |
| 14.8 | Faith groups | | | | | |

This information can be made available in other languages, in large print, braille or on audio tape. Please phone 01454 868009 if you need any of these or any other help to access Council services.

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