



**South Hams
District Council**

**SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL /
STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT of
SOUTH HAMS COMMUNITY STRATEGY &
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

April 2005

Prepared by

enfusion



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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

<i>date:</i>	April 2005	
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Report

- 1.1 This is the Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the South Hams Community Strategy and Local Development Framework (LDF). It sets out the key sustainability issues¹ and objectives for South Hams, and is intended (through consultation) to prompt discussion regarding priorities for the Community Strategy and LDF to address and progress. The issues identified during this Scoping stage will form the basis for subsequent SAs of the Community Strategy and the Local Development Documents (LDDs) in the LDF. The goal of sustainable development is to enable people to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising future generations.

Requirements for Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.2 In accordance with the Planning Act (2004)², LDDs must be subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA). The SA process assists Local Authorities to fulfil the requirement of “*contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development*” in land use plan making.
- 1.3 In preparing LDDs, Local Authorities are also required to carry out Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with European and UK legislation.³ The UK Government has prepared draft SA Guidance⁵ on undertaking SA of LDFs. This advises that an integrated approach to SA and SEA should be pursued, so that the SA process incorporates the SEA requirements. This involves extending the breadth of (predominantly environmental) issues required to be considered under SEA to cover the full range of aspects for sustainability.

The Purpose of SA/SEA

- 1.4 SA assists in promoting sustainable development through integrating sustainability considerations into plan making. It is an iterative, ongoing process and integral to plan making. SEA considers the effects of the emerging LDDs on the environment. It must predict and evaluate the significant effects of Plan alternatives and propose measures to offset any adverse effects identified. SA/SEA also includes measures to monitor the sustainability impacts of the LDF during its implementation.

¹ One Future – different paths: the UK’s shared framework for sustainable development, Defra, 2005

² Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

³ EU directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes

⁴ Environmental assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SI No 1633)

The SA Process

- 1.5 The draft SA Guidance⁵ sets out a staged approach to the SA process:
- Stage A - Setting the Context and Objectives, Establishing the Baseline and deciding on the Scope
 - Stage B - Developing and Refining Options
 - Stage C - Appraising the Effects of the draft Plan
 - Stage D - Consulting on the draft Plan and Sustainability Appraisal Report
 - Stage E - Monitoring Implementation of the Plan

The SA Scoping Process and this SA Scoping Report

- 1.6 The Scoping process includes the following key aspects:
- Identifying other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives
 - Collecting relevant baseline information including social, economic and environmental information
 - Identifying sustainability problems, objectives and key issues for the SA, Community Strategy and LDF to address
 - Developing the SA Framework consisting of the SA objectives to be used for appraisal, indicators and targets to be used for monitoring progress
 - Consulting on the Scope of the SA
- 1.7 The Scoping process helps to ensure that the SA covers the key sustainability issues that are relevant to the development planning system in the South Hams. This Scoping Report summarises the studies carried out so far under Stage A of the Sustainability Appraisal process. It is presented as a summary report to assist the consultees by directing them to key issues for comment. It builds upon preliminary SA work which identified issues for sustainability and an Appraisal Framework used by the Council during 2004 to carry out a draft SA of the Issues & Options Reports for the Core Strategy, Core Policies, and Site Specific Allocations. (This SA Report is available on the Council's website www.southhams.gov.uk).

SA/SEA Consultation

- 1.8 The SA Regulations require that consultation on the scope of the SA should be undertaken with the four statutory SEA consultees (Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature, Environment Agency). This Scoping document is also being sent to other key stakeholders (reflecting the full range of aspects for sustainability) and being made available to the public. The aim of the consultation is to ensure that all the relevant issues are identified and discussed at this early stage of the process so that they can then be addressed during the SA and plan making. There will be further consultation during subsequent stages of the SA, Community Strategy and LDF.
- 1.9 **This Scoping Report will be available for consultation for a period of five weeks (21 April to 26 May 2005)**

⁶ ODP (September 2004) *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks* - Consultation Paper

SA Timeframes and Links with the LDF Documents and the Community Strategy

- 1.10 The Council published draft Issues and Preferred Options Reports on the Core Strategy and Policies, and for the Area Action Plans/Site Specific Allocations in October 2004. These documents were subject to initial SA using the draft SA Framework in October 2004. The SA Report was placed on the Council's website with other LDF documentation but received very little comment. Any comments received on this Scoping Report will be addressed and will be incorporated into the SA process if appropriate.
- 1.11 The SA of the Community Strategy, the Core Strategy and Core Policies Development Plan Documents (DPD) and the Sherford Area Action Plan (AAP) will be undertaken over the next few months. The SA will inform their development in an iterative way. The issues and options for the Community Strategy, Core Strategy Preferred Options Report and the Sherford Area Action Plan Preferred Options Report are anticipated to be published for consultation in June 2005, the latter two will be accompanied by the SA/SEA Report of their appraisal. Further LDDs and the draft Community Strategy will be prepared and be subject to sustainability appraisal later in 2005- 2006.

Further Information

- 1.12 Further information on the Community Strategy and the LDF process may be found on the website www.southhams.gov.uk and further information on the SA/SEA may be obtained from the Council's Forward Planning Team. General information on SA and SEA may be found from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister website www.odpm.gov.uk.

Considerations for Consultees

- 1.13 This Scoping Report presents a proposed SA Framework (Objectives, Indicators and Targets) that has been developed from a review of relevant plans and programmes, analysis of baseline information, and identification of sustainability issues for South Hams. Consultees are invited to consider the following questions:
- **Are there any additional key sustainability problems, objectives or issues relevant to land use planning for which sustainability Objectives should be developed?**
 - **Are there any other relevant decision-aiding questions that could help with the Appraisal and what the LDF can do?**
 - **Is there any further information available that could be used to measure whether sustainability Objectives are being progressed?**
 - **Which Targets and Indicators are most appropriate for future measurement of progress towards each sustainability Objective?**

2.0 REVIEW OF RELEVANT PLANS AND PROGRAMMES

Introduction

- 2.1 In order to establish a clear scope for the SA of the Community Strategy and LDF it is necessary (and a requirement of SEA) to review and develop an understanding of the wider range of policies, plans and strategies that are relevant to the Community Strategy and LDF. This includes International, EU, National, Regional and local level policies, plans and strategies. Whilst this review of plans and programmes is not formally required for the SA of the Community Strategy, the review can still be drawn upon to assist in the establishment of priorities so that they can be addressed in the preparation of the Community Strategy.

Methodology

- 2.2 A list of relevant plans and programmes (PPs) for the SA was compiled and for each PP, objectives and issues relevant to the SA, Community Strategy and LDF processes were identified. In order to avoid repetition and duplication, and to accommodate the tight timescale required by the Local Development Scheme (LDS), the review of PPs undertaken at the regional level (for the SA of the South West Regional Spatial Strategy) has been drawn upon. This is in accordance with advice from the SW Regional Assembly⁷. This regional PP review can be found on the SW Regional Assembly's Website (http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/swra/ourwork/RSS/RSS_index.shtml).
- 2.3 Thus the PP review for the South Hams SA was able to focus upon County and Local PPs. Information obtained for each PP included title, date, publishing organisation, and objectives or requirements relevant to South Hams. Consideration was given to any key constraints, opportunities, challenges or synergies to help identify potential implications for the Community Strategy and LDF and SA/SEA processes. The review of relevant PPs is set out in Appendix 1.

Key Issues and Opportunities

- 2.4 Key issues and opportunities identified for South Hams from the review of relevant plans and programmes (PP) include:
- provision of a range of affordable housing to meet local needs
 - development of year-round prosperity and raising wage levels by encouraging local businesses, employment and lifelong learning opportunities.
 - regeneration of towns, villages and hinterlands to support viable sustainable communities
 - protecting and enhancing the quality of the environment, local distinctiveness, cultural and historical heritage
 - Sherford new community in the Plymouth Sub-Region
 - promotion of good design and quality developments with most developments concentrated in and around main towns and large villages

⁷ letter from Director, Policy & Planning, SWRA to all SW Local Authorities 31 January 2005

- adhering to the waste hierarchy and maximising recycling
- developing sustainable green tourism
- promoting sustainable travel and access to services and facilities
- reducing the fear of crime
- enhancing the diversity of the District's wildlife habitats and species
- taking full account of the purposes of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Park designations
- maintaining the high-quality undeveloped coastal landscape
- protecting the natural beauty and functioning of South Ham's estuaries including the River Dart estuary, Kingsbridge estuary (also designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest) and Yealm estuary (also a candidate Special Area of Conservation)

2.5 The findings of this review of relevant plans and programmes has informed Section 4 of this report (sustainability problems, objectives and key issues) which provides a summary of how the LDF can progress the identified issues, and will be drawn upon during the assessment of effects.

3.0 BASELINE INFORMATION

Introduction

3.1 Collection of baseline information is fundamental to the SA process to provide a background to, and evidence base, for identifying both sustainability problems in South Hams and alternative ways of dealing with them, developing the SA Framework, and providing the basis for predicting and monitoring effects of the plans. In order to assess how the Community Strategy and policies of the LDF can contribute to sustainable development it is essential to understand the economic, environmental and social circumstances in South Hams today and their likely evolution in the future. This is also required under the SEA legislation. The aim is to collect only relevant and sufficient data on the present and future state of the plan area (i.e. South Hams District) to allow the potential effects of the plan to be adequately predicted.

3.2 The draft SA Guidance proposes a practical approach to data collection, recognising that information may not yet be available now, and that information gaps for future improvements should be reported as well as the need to consider uncertainties in data. Collection of baseline information should be continuous as the SA process guides plan making and as new information becomes available.

Methodology

3.3 Information was compiled from a variety of sources, including relevant PPs and National, Regional, County and Local datasets and resources. Although data had been collected during the preliminary SA work in October 2004, to assist and update the baseline review, information requests were sent to the following:

- Environment Agency
- Countryside Agency
- English Nature
- English Heritage
- South West Regional Development Agency
- South and West Devon Primary Care Trust
- South Hams Council for Voluntary Service
- Learning and Skills, Devon and Cornwall
- Job Centre Plus
- Enterprise South Devon
- Local Service Group, Devon County Council
- Tor Homes
- South Hams District Council Departments

3.4 The baseline information has been compiled into a table under each of the topics listed in the SEA Regulations (under Schedule 2 Information for Environmental Reports) in order to demonstrate legislative compliance. The table (shown in Appendix II) contains the following information:

- The type of information, i.e. the subject
- Data source - indication of source reliability

- The current local situation - to assess against comparators or targets, where available.
- Comparators or thresholds and targets - a point of reference to which local data may be compared, how far is the current situation from established thresholds and targets.
- Local trends – to assist in the prediction of the likely future state of the plan area and whether a particular situation is improving or worsening.
- Issues - identification of potential positive/negative issues for sustainability, including sensitivity/importance; reversibility/permanence; ability to offset/remedy; cumulative/synergistic effects.
- Any relevant comments about the data itself.

Summary of Information Collected and Reviewed

3.5 Key information collated in relation to social, economic and environmental issues are presented below with some examples to illustrate the characteristics of South Hams.

Social trends include:

- *Population* including distribution, age structure, ethnicity, religion: for example, the South Hams population has increased by 5.5% between 1991 and 2001, particularly to due to immigration; the average age in the District is 4 years above that of England and Wales (2001)
- *Human health*, including cancer, circulatory disease, road accidents: for example, the percentage of residents describing their health as good was above the national average; the number of deaths from cancer and circulatory disease in South Hams is lower than the national average.
- *Education and training* e.g. number of students/schoolchildren, qualifications and unauthorised absences: for example, fewer of the resident population (aged 16 to 74) in South Hams have no qualifications compared to the national average, whilst more are qualified to degree level or higher.
- *Housing*, including dwelling provision, average house price, affordable housing, homelessness, housing construction, second homes: for example, South Hams has the highest number of second homes in England apart from the Isles of Scilly, with 11% of homes in South Hams being second homes (compared with 6.7% in Devon County, in 2001); the number of homeless households in temporary accommodation in priority need has increased by over 100% since 1998. Also, the proportion of households unable to purchase in the lower quartile in South Hams is 80.5% compared to the national average of 32.5% (2004). The net shortfall for affordable housing in South Hams has been identified as 330 dwellings per year (2002).
- *Crime*, such as notable offences, types of crime and fear of crime: for example, notable offences and types of crime compared to national averages are low, as is the fear of burglary (despite PP objectives identifying the need to reduce the fear of crime).

3.6 Economic trends include:

- *Employment statistics*, benefits, average incomes and weekly earnings: for example, average earnings are lower than the national average;

house prices were approximately 10 times the average local wage in 2003.

- *Employment land provision, employment structure and sector employment and activities*: for example, South Hams is an area of European Objective 2 Status and is receiving Regional Assistance to create or safeguard jobs.

3.7 Environmental information was collected for a wide number of topics including those required by the SEA Directive and Regulations. These topics included *air quality, climate, water, biodiversity, landscape, land use, cultural/built heritage, geology, soils, waste, transport and their interrelationships* (human health and population were also considered, see Section 3.5). For example, South Hams has increased its compliance with the Bathing Water Directive since 1999. South Hams contains a number of SACs, 29 SSSIs and over 500 County and Local Wildlife Sites, as well as containing over 300 sq km of AONB and 165 sq km of Dartmoor National Park. The District contains significant numbers of Listed Buildings (3463 in 2003), as well as 52 Conservation Areas, many Scheduled Monuments, historic parks and gardens, and 46 County Geological Sites. Within South Hams recycling rates are increasing with 62% of households on Household Recycling Schemes. Forecasts of growths in the number of cars per household and car trip generation in South Hams are greater than those for Devon with this comparison being reflected in the percent of households with two or more cars or vans (2001).

3.8 Unavoidably there are gaps within the information provided due to the scale and availability of data. In some cases information was not feasibly available for the South Hams District or Devon County levels, for example, information on the impact of climate change is only available at a Regional level. Information on past or predicted future trends was often not readily available.

3.9 The SEA Directive requires identification of "*the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme*". Prediction of future trends can be highly uncertain but key trends identified from the available baseline data, and therefore potential sustainability issues, are as follows:

- A growth in cars per household and trip generation above those predicted for Devon
- An increase in people travelling to work by car
- An increase in population, with no apparent increase in birth rate
- A rise in average house prices, an increase of 116% between 1998 and 2003
- An increase in the number on the common housing register; total local authority and housing association lettings; over 100% increase (1998 to 2003) in number of homeless households in temporary accommodation in priority need
- An increase in the number of households; increasing number of second/holiday homes
- An increase in provision of new housing on brownfield sites (however discussions with the Council have established that the provision on

brownfield sites is likely to drop as new greenfield sites are progressed through the LDF, especially at Sherford)

- Attainment of GCSEs is improving
- A rise in economically active persons
- Average earnings have been reasonably stable
- An increase in tourist spending (36% increase between 1993 and 2003)

3.10 The findings of this review of baseline information has informed Section 4 of this Report (sustainability problems, objectives and key issues) which provides a summary of how the LDF can progress the identified issues, and will be drawn upon during the assessment of effects.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY PROBLEMS, OBJECTIVES AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 Identification of key sustainability problems, objectives and issues assist in identifying the relevant baseline information and developing the SA Framework. It is also a requirement of SEA.
- 4.2 Key sustainability problems, objectives and issues have been identified through:
- the previous SA work of the Council, including working groups with Members and Officers from different departments to prepare a draft SA Framework. This draft framework was tested on key chapters of the Council's Deposit Local Plan Review. The results of this trial were published alongside the Deposit Local Plan in January 2002. Much of the work remains relevant and has been brought forward and incorporated within this Scoping exercise.
 - review of other relevant PPs
 - analysis of currently available baseline information
 - preliminary consultations with key stakeholders
- 4.3 The Community Strategy will set a vision to achieve sustainable communities. The LDF is a key component in the delivery of the Community Strategy and is able to promote sustainable development through its influence on land use. The key strategic problems, objectives and issues for sustainability identified for South Hams are set out below, along with a summary of how the Community Strategy and LDF should address and/or progress them.
- **Affordable housing**
The LDF has a key role in enabling the delivery of affordable homes to address the significant shortfall identified by the Housing Needs Survey and other evidence and the Supplementary Planning Guidance on affordable housing. This will need to be progressed through appropriate allocations and policies to influence the provision, mix, type and tenure of housing. A partnership approach will be integral to the delivery of affordable homes and the Community Strategy can help to secure these partnerships.
 - **Local employment & prosperous economy**
The LDF should actively seek to provide appropriately located sites and premises for local businesses, taking into account their particular needs, as well as the objectives of year-round employment and reducing the need to travel by car. Partnership will again be key to delivering such objectives and the Community Strategy can help.
 - **Sherford new community**
The LDF is required (by the Devon Structure Plan) to accommodate Sherford New Community. There will be a key role for the LDF (especially the Sherford Area Action Plan) in ensuring effective integration of the new community within its social, environmental and economic context. The LDF will also need to ensure delivery of the

supporting community infrastructure in phase with the development. The Council will be able to draw upon existing work already undertaken including the draft SPG on Sustainable Development of Large Sites and the outputs of the Sherford Enquiry by Design process.

- **High design standards for development**
The LDF exerts an important influence upon the design of new development. The LDF will require high standards of design in new development which respects and enhances local character.
- **Protecting environmental quality**, including biodiversity, landscape, cultural and historical resources. The LDF has an integral role in ensuring the sensitive and appropriate siting of land uses in order to protect and enhance the quality of the local environment.
- **Second homes**
The issue of second homes cannot directly be tackled by the LDF but it can include policies which give priority to local people in the occupation of new affordable housing developments.
- **Car usage**
The LDF will propose development which minimises the need to travel by car, for example pursuing the provision of services within walking distance of residents.
- **Accessibility**
The LDF will consider the existing provision and accessibility of services, education, recreational facilities etc for particular local communities (including minority groups such as those with limited mobility), and enable the provision of more accessible services and facilities where required

4.4 It is important to remember that the SA is seeking to assist the LDF in identifying and progressing the most sustainable options overall. Thus in considering the LDF strategy and policies, consequences of certain courses of action (such as the energy and materials involved in constructing or converting buildings) might be justified on the basis of other sustainability benefits (such as energy savings resulting from development in a particularly accessible location).

4.5 The Community Strategy and LDF will not be able to address every sustainability problem, objective and key issue identified through the review of PPs and baseline information. The key issues for sustainability outlined above are focused within the remit of the LDF. The Decision-Aiding Questions within the proposed SA Framework in the following section are also intended to reflect what the LDF can do about sustainability issues.

5.0 PROPOSED SA FRAMEWORK

- 5.1 The SA Framework presented in Table 1 of this section includes a set of Objectives for sustainability (separate from the Community Strategy and LDF objectives, although some overlap may occur), together with decision-aiding questions. The decision-aiding questions have been designed to assist in the appraisal as they clarify the details of the sustainability issues relevant to the sustainability objectives, as well as improving appraiser objectivity. They also ensure that the appraisal is relevant to spatial planning, and make the appraisal more specific to South Hams. It is important that the SA Framework reflects local circumstances that can be influenced by the new development planning system.
- 5.2 Sustainable Development recognises that social, economic and environmental factors are interconnected, and SA aims to take an integrated approach. Accordingly, the proposed SA Framework does not categorise Objectives into Social, Economic and Environmental. It is also necessary to demonstrate compliance with the SEA requirement to assess certain environmental topics. For each SA objective we have therefore specified the relevant SEA topics.
- 5.3 The SA Framework provides a way in which sustainability effects of a plan or programme can be described, analysed and compared. The SA methodology involves considering the content (including objectives, options and policies) of the Community Strategy and LDDs against each SA objective. Comments about whether the content (especially policies and proposed actions) of the Community Strategy and LDDs are likely to progress or conflict with each SA objective will be recorded in tables. Where significant conflicts are identified, possible measures to offset adverse effects will be considered, with recommendations to amend the content accordingly.
- 5.4 A number of Indicators for each SA Objective are suggested together with Targets and presented in Table 2. For some of the indicators and targets, the limitations of the baseline information, such as data being at the wrong geographical scale or held over an insufficient time period to show a trend, may limit the extent to which indicators and targets can be used in predicting and measuring progress. The SA Reports to be published with the Preferred Option Reports will discuss this situation further, and include suggestions for actions to collect missing data. As well as being used to help predict the effects of the Community Strategy and LDDs, the indicators and targets will be used to measure and monitor the effectiveness and success of the Community Strategy and LDF in delivering these objectives.

6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This document sets out the baseline situation for the district. It also reviews plans and policies which influence the Community Strategy and the LDF, current sustainability issues facing the district and the SA Framework for assessing the Community Strategy and each of the LDF documents.
- 6.2 The comments received on this document will be taken into account in preparing the finalised SA Framework which will be used to test the emerging Community Strategy and LDF. The results of the assessments will be set out in SA Reports and published alongside the Community Strategy and each LDF Document.

TABLE 1: Proposed SA Framework Objectives and Decision-Aiding Questions

These SA Objectives and Decision-Aiding Questions have been devised through identification and consideration of sustainability and the relevant issues within South Hams. This SA Framework of Objectives and Decision-Aiding Questions is to provide the basis for appraising the contents of the Community Strategy and LDF.

	OBJECTIVE	DECISION-AIDING QUESTIONS
1	Balanced Communities <i>SEA topic: Population</i>	
	Promote community viability and balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote mixed use, mixed housing type and mixed tenure developments ▪ Encourage regeneration and enhancement of viable communities ▪ Enable independent lifestyles for the elderly and those with disabilities ▪ Provide sites for community services and facilities (education, health, recreation, social care etc) ▪ Provide sites for business and employment within communities ▪ Enable people to live near to where they work. ▪ Promote social inclusion and community ownership
2	Access <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i>	
	Enhance access to jobs, education, services, cultural and leisure facilities for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance access, particularly in rural areas ▪ Promote accessible jobs, services and facilities such as shops, schools, banks, health centres, community centres, libraries, sports and leisure facilities, especially in under-served localities and Sherford New Community ▪ Improve quality and capacity of public transport, particularly in new developments ▪ Encourage integrated public transport ▪ Provide for basic services within walking distance of residents ▪ Reduce isolation of minorities and people with limited mobility
3	Housing <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i>	
	Ensure that all have access to a range of good quality housing to meet their needs, particularly affordable housing for identified local needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Restrict second home ownership ▪ Provide dwellings to allow local residents, including young people, to remain within their communities
4	Quality of the Built Environment <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i>	
	Enhance the form and design of the built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure new development is located in line with sustainable principles ▪ Promote high density in new development wherever appropriate

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Insist upon high design quality and respect for local character, distinctiveness and surrounding environment in new development ▪ Protect and enhance the quality of green and open spaces
5	Health <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i>	
	Provide a healthy and safe environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of space for informal recreation ▪ Design out crime and fear of crime in local communities ▪ Contribute to a safe, secure built environment ▪ Encourage safe provision for walking and cycling ▪ Prevent unacceptable levels of noise, light, odour and air pollution, through application of the precautionary principle
6	Employment <i>SEA topic: Population and Material Assets</i>	
	Promote a range of quality employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote reuse of redundant agricultural buildings for employment ▪ Encourage provision of jobs accessible to residents ▪ Promote a year-round working countryside ▪ Support provision of employment to allow young people to remain within their communities ▪ Support indigenous growth of small and micro businesses
7	Economic Growth <i>SEA topic: Population and Material Assets</i>	
	Promote sustainable economic development that can capitalise on the local distinctiveness of the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taking advantage of Objective II and Regional assistance from SWRDA ▪ Encourage growth of indigenous companies ▪ Encourage diversification into key growth sectors, including the environmental sector ▪ Provide for the needs of businesses (range of premises, services, infrastructure, skilled workforce) ▪ Enhance the vitality of town, district and local centres and encourage their commercial renewal ▪ Provide for the purchase of goods and use of services locally
8	Landscape <i>SEA topic: Landscape</i>	
	Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are conserved and enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preserve and where possible enhance diverse landscape character and value ▪ Maintain a high quality of undeveloped coastal landscapes ▪ Protect and enhance the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Dartmoor National Park ▪ Maintain and enhance hedgerow cover and traditional field boundaries

9	Land and Soil Quality <i>SEA topic: Soil and Water</i>	
	Maintain and improve the quality of land and soil in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote high density development ▪ Actively promote the re-use of previously developed land ▪ Remediate contaminated land ▪ Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land
10	Biodiversity <i>SEA topic: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora</i>	
	Protect and enhance the diversity and abundance of semi-natural habitats and indigenous species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote ecologically based land management ▪ Protect and enhance valuable wildlife habitats and species, both those statutorily designated and those of local value ▪ Avoid habitat fragmentation ▪ Protect and enhance those species and habitats identified in the Devon BAP
11	Cultural Heritage <i>SEA topic: Cultural Heritage</i>	
	Protect and enhance cultural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect and enhance valued architecture, both buildings (including listed buildings) and their settings ▪ Support locally-based cultural resources and activities ▪ Protect and improve historical and archaeological environment (landscapes, site, buildings and settings), including Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) ▪ Protect the important geology of South Hams district ▪ Protect and enhance Conservation Areas
12	Minerals <i>SEA topic: Material Assets</i>	
	Encourage efficient exploitation of mineral resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contribute to the supply of minerals while protecting local communities and the environment ▪ Minimise demand for primary minerals and aggregates ▪ Recycle local stone, where possible, to reinforce local character
13	Energy <i>SEA topic: Material Assets and Climatic Factors</i>	
	Encourage energy efficiency, and promote the generation and use of energy from renewable sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Avoid exacerbating climate change by reducing energy usage (including through design of new development, and sustainable location of development to encourage accessibility by means other than the car) ▪ Support the generation and use of renewable energy, while protecting local communities and the environment ▪ Promote energy efficiency by locating development in such a way as to minimise the

		<p>number of trips made by private car</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote energy efficiency in the design of new development
14	Air Quality <i>SEA topic: Air, Climatic Factors and Human Health</i>	
	Protect and improve local and global air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain or improve local air quality ▪ Reduce the number of trips made by private car ▪ Reduce CO₂ emissions ▪ Consider the longer term effects
15	Waste <i>SEA topic: Water, Soil, Human Health and Population</i>	
	Encourage minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage provision for local community recycling and waste management facilities, including on new developments ▪ Promote minimisation, reuse and recycling of construction materials and waste
16	Water <i>SEA topic: Water and Climatic Factors</i>	
	Protect and enhance the water environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Take into account the predicted effects of climate change ▪ Protect and improve freshwater, estuarine and coastal water quality ▪ Consider the close relationship between water quality, quantity and flood risk management ▪ Increase efficient use and reuse of water resources ▪ Promote sustainable coastal and flood risk management that provides for climate change, where appropriate, in new developments ▪ Promote Sustainable Drainage Systems

TABLE 2: Potential Sustainability Indicators and Targets

The sustainability objectives, indicators and targets are to be developed with input from consultees. A number of potential SA indicators and targets have been identified in the table below, comments/suggestions regarding these and other potential targets and indicators will be taken into account in the latter stages of the SA process (see Section 1.5) in monitoring the implementation of plans.

	POTENTIAL TARGETS	DRAFT INDICATORS
1	Balanced Communities: Promote community viability and balance	
2	Access: Enhance access to jobs, education, services, cultural and leisure facilities for all	
		Car ownership Parishes with access to a daily bus service Travel to School and Work Parishes with a play area, pub, village hall Amount of goods and service needs consumed locally
3	Housing: Ensure that all have access to a range of good quality housing to meet their needs, particularly affordable housing for identified local needs	
	Achieve 30% provision of new homes on previously developed land. 33% of new homes on allocated sites should be provided by social landlords at affordable rents. Further 33% of new homes on allocated sites should be available at affordable prices. On windfall sites above the set thresholds (SPG) 50% of dwellings should be affordable Minimum of 75% of all new social housing should go to people with strong local connections (subject to need). (South Hams Local Plan Review Deposit Version, 2002). Number of housing completions	Supply of affordable housing Average house price compared with average earnings Proportion of households unable to purchase in lower quartile Number on Common Housing Register
4	Quality of Built Environment: Enhance the form and design of the built environment	
		Provision of new housing on previously developed land Development density Percentage of developments and buildings meeting BREEAM Standards Community perception of design quality

5	Health: Provide a healthy and safe environment	
	40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents (Ten Year Plan; DoT, 2000).	Death rates from circulatory disease, cancer, accidents and suicide Residents description of Health Fear of crime - physical assault/burglary Notable offences Types of crime
6	Employment: Promote a range of quality employment opportunities	
		% of resident working age population employed Population receiving benefits Unemployment rates Average weekly hours worked Employment land provision (Devon Structure Plan target of 105 ha 2001-2016)
7	Economic Growth: Promote sustainable economic development that can capitalise on the local distinctiveness of the area	
		% of employees by sectors Employment structure by employees (including male/female, part/full-time) % of activity by sectors Gross Domestic Product or Gross Value Added No./Value of national non domestic rates
8	Landscape: Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are conserved and enhanced	
	Lowland Heath, throughout Devon: Secure favourable management of all; contribute towards restoration and re-establishment of 450ha. Oak Woodland, in Devon: contribute towards 5000ha new, predominantly, oak woodland (Devon Structure Plan, 2001 - 2016).	Area of /change in landscape designations
9	Land and Soil Quality: Maintain and improve the quality of land and soil in the region	
	Achieve 30% provision of new homes on previously developed land.	% of development on previously developed land % of development on agricultural land grades
10	Biodiversity: Protect and enhance the diversity and abundance of semi-natural habitats and indigenous species	
	Flower Rich Meadows & Pastures: Contribute towards securing favourable management of all key	Loss and damage to designated sites % change in Devon BAP priority habitats and species

	sites; contribute towards restoration management across 600ha. Contribute towards attaining a population of 1000 pairs of Cirl Bunting in South Devon by 2007. (Devon Structure Plan, 2001 - 2016)	Areas of woodland
11	Cultural Heritage: Protect and enhance cultural resources	
	Reduce number of listed buildings at risk	Number of listed buildings Number of listed buildings at risk
12	Minerals: Encourage efficient exploitation of mineral resources	
		% reuse of aggregates/materials
13	Energy: Encourage energy efficiency, and promote the generation and use of energy from renewable sources	
	Contribute towards 151MW of electricity production from land-based renewable sources by 2010 in Devon (Devon Structure Plan, 2001 - 2016).	Energy generated from renewable sources
14	Air Quality: Protect and improve local and global air quality	
	10% increase in bus passenger journeys (Ten Year Plan; DoT, 2000)	Growth in cars per household Growth in car trip generation Type of travel mode to School and Work % change in public transport patronage
15	Waste: Encourage minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste	
	Provision of accessible recycling facilities to 80% of the population (South Hams Local Plan Review Deposit Version, 2002) Devon Recycling Rate Target 2005/6 is 30%	Recycling rate Municipal waste recovery % access to Household Recycling Schemes/Recycling Banks Tonnage of household waste to landfills
16	Water: Protect and enhance the water environment	
	Estuaries, throughout Devon: No net loss of intertidal areas; contribute towards 10% increase in extent of Saltmarsh through managed retreat, where appropriate (Devon Structure Plan, 2001 – 2016)	River water quality Bathing water compliance Properties at risk from flooding % of new developments with Sustainable Drainage Systems