

Local Development Framework  
**Sustainability Appraisal  
Scoping Report  
Main Report**

December 2006

*Delivering  
for Gosport*



## **Gosport Local Development Framework**

### **Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report**

#### **Contents**

<b>Section 1: Introduction</b>	3
Background	3
What is Sustainable Development?	3
The Need to Conduct a Sustainability Appraisal	3
The Requirements of the Strategic Environment Assessment	4
Role of the Scoping Report	4
<b>Section 2: Review of Relevant Policies Plans and Programmes [Task A1]</b>	5
Aims and Objectives	5
Methodology	5
Key Issues	5
<b>Section 3: Baseline Information [Task A2]</b>	6
Aims and Objectives	6
Methodology	6
<b>Section 4: Identifying Sustainability Issues and Problems [Task A3]</b>	7
<b>Section 5: Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework [Task A4]</b>	15
Aims and Objectives	15
Methodology	15
Proposed Sustainability Objectives and Sustainability Appraisal Framework	15
<b>Section 6: Consultation [Task A5] and Next Stages [Task B1-E2]</b>	23
Consultation	23
Next stages	23
<b>Appendix 1: Production Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal</b>	24
<b>Sources of Information</b>	26



## Section 1: Introduction

### Background

The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is to promote **sustainable development** through the consideration of a range of environmental, economic and social issues and ensure that these inform new or revised planning documents. In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 it is mandatory to produce an SA for Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) that form part of a Local Development Framework (LDF). A **glossary** of all the relevant terms relating to the new planning system and sustainability is to be found at the back of this document.

The Government guidance, *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* (ODPM November 2005), breaks down the preparation of Sustainability Appraisals into a number of tasks (See Appendix 1). The Scoping Report relates specifically to Tasks A1-A5 (covered by Sections 2-6 of this document) which set the context and objectives, establish the baseline and outline the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal. Section 6 includes further information about future tasks that relate directly to the production of DPDs and SPDs.

Sections 2 and 3 are accompanied by separate Annex Reports A and B respectively, which include detailed technical work that will need to be updated regularly to inform the Sustainability Appraisal Reports which are to be produced at each stage of forthcoming DPDs and SPDs.

### What is Sustainable Development?

Sustainable Development is about ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come. It aims for a more inclusive society that shares the benefits of increased prosperity, in which the environment is protected and improved, and which is less wasteful in its use of natural resources.

The Government has set out four key objectives for sustainable development:

- Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone;
- Effective protection of the environment;
- Prudent use of natural resources; and
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth.

Planning Policy Statement 1: *Delivering Sustainable Development* (2005) states that sustainable development is the core principle underpinning planning and that planning authorities should ensure it is treated in an integrated way within development plans.

The Integrated Regional Framework for the South East (SEERA 2004) sets out the overarching framework for more specific regional strategies and initiatives and contains a number of key objectives relating to sustainability which are relevant to the Gosport LDF Sustainability Appraisal. In accordance with Government guidance the Gosport Borough SA draws on information and objectives prepared for the SA of the South East Plan.

### The need to conduct a Sustainability Appraisal

The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal is to assess the social, environmental and economic effects of the strategies and policies in a DPD or SPD from the outset of the preparation process ensuring that decisions are made in accordance with the

principles of sustainable development. It is necessary for the SA to provide input at each stage when decisions are taken (PPS12, ODPM 2004). It will be necessary to test the objectives, policies and proposals of a particular DPD or SPD against a number of sustainability objectives and criteria set out in the SA Scoping Report. Sustainability Appraisals should also be used in monitoring the implementation of the plan.

### **The requirements of the Strategic Environment Assessment**

The Scoping Report and the subsequent Sustainability Appraisal Reports produced in connection with the DPDs and SPDs of the Gosport Local Development Framework will accord with the requirements of the European Directive (2001/42/EC) on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Indeed in England the Government has ensured that the requirements of the SA and SEA are integrated into the one process. The SEA Directive requires an 'assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment' in order to ensure that environmental considerations are fully integrated into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes that are likely to significantly affect the environment.

### **Role of the Scoping Report**

This Scoping Report is the first stage of the Sustainability Appraisal for the Gosport Local Development Framework (LDF) and will be used as the foundation for detailed SA reports for all Development Plan Documents (DPDs) such as the Core Strategy and the Site Allocations DPD, and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) such as development briefs for specific sites.

The role of the Scoping Report is to set the context and objectives of sustainable development for the Borough and to provide a framework to assess the policies and proposals of emerging DPDs and SPDs. It will also establish baseline data to assist in identifying issues facing the Borough as well as providing a basis for future monitoring. The results of the SA will contribute to the reasoned justification of policies produced by the Borough Council.

The key tasks to be covered in this document are to:

- Identify appropriate policies, plans and programmes contained in relevant international, national, regional and local strategies and guidance;
- Identify sustainability objectives;
- Collect baseline information and develop indicators;
- Identify sustainability issues and problems; and
- Develop the Sustainability Appraisal framework, which will be used to assess future planning policies and proposals.

The earlier consultation version of the Scoping Report was sent to the four statutory environmental consultation bodies (English Heritage, Environment Agency, English Nature, and the Countryside Agency (the latter two agencies have now merged to form Natural England)), Representations have been considered and amendments to the Scoping Report and its annexes have been made where appropriate.

The SA Framework (together with subsequent factual updates of the two Annex Reports) will be used to assess the sustainability implications for each of the Borough Council's planning documents currently programmed in the Local Development Scheme, including the Core Strategy and the Site Allocation DPD as well as other planning documents not yet timetabled.

## Section 2: Review of Relevant Policies Plans and Programmes

### Aims and objectives

It is necessary to take account of other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives when conducting a SA, as these may influence the options to be considered when preparing a DPD (or SPD) (ODPM Nov 2005).

A review of other relevant documents in relation to the SA and emerging DPDs and SPDs will:

- Identify external social, environmental and economic objectives that should be taken into account in the Sustainability Appraisal of each DPD or SPD;
- Identify other external factors, including sustainability issues that might influence the preparation of each DPD and SPD;
- Determine whether other policies, plans and programmes might give rise to cumulative effects when combined with the relevant DPD or SPD that is subject to a SA.

Consequently it will be possible to determine whether local planning objectives are in accordance with national sustainability objectives and how any inconsistencies and constraints can be addressed.

The SEA Directive requires that assessment reports (such as the Sustainability Appraisal):

- Provide information on the plans relationship with other plans and programmes; and
- Demonstrate that the relevant environmental protection objectives established at international, European or national level have been taken into account during the preparation of the planning document.

### Methodology

A review has been carried out on a wide range of policies, plans and strategies which may inform or influence the development of the Borough's forthcoming LDF documents. A full assessment is set out in Annex Report A.

In cases where international plans and programmes have been incorporated into national plans and programmes, it has been considered appropriate to review the details at the national level only. Consequently, this avoids repetition and simplifies the process.

Annex Report A will be updated where necessary each time a sustainability appraisal report is produced to accompany a DPD or SPD.

### Key issues

The key requirements arising from the review will be addressed in the relevant DPD or SPD. The review has also informed the key sustainability issues outlined in Section 4 of this Scoping Report.

## Section 3: Baseline Information

### Aims and Objectives

In order to assist in identifying key sustainability issues, it is necessary to collate baseline information which can be used as a basis for predicting and monitoring the effects of proposed planning policies. The key sustainability issues and problems arising from the analysis of the data is considered in Section 4.

The data in the Baseline Information report (Annex Report B) is being used as part of the evidence gathering stage of forthcoming DPDs and SPDs. Information will also be used as part of the Council's Annual Monitoring Report.

### Methodology

The Government has provided detailed guidance (ODPM Nov 2005) regarding the collection of appropriate data which forms the basis for the Baseline Information report. This has been organised in a similar way as the Review of Regional Baseline Conditions produced by SEERA as part of its Sustainability Appraisal for the South East Plan (SEERA January 2005). The Baseline has also been produced to provide a source of information for the emerging Gosport Community Strategy, which is being produced by the Gosport Partnership. The production of Annex B has included close collaboration between the Planning Policy section at Gosport Borough Council and the Local Strategic Partnership Coordinator who has liaised with key local stakeholders with regard to the content of the Baseline. Following consultation with various LSP sub-groups additional data has been added to the Baseline Information report which has resulted in the identification of additional issues or the refinement of issues already identified.

The Baseline consists mainly of indicators although both qualitative and quantitative information has been used. The Baseline reflects the current situation in relation to a particular issue and where information is available it also includes details relating to trends. Where appropriate national and regional targets have been included which have been set by the Government and other relevant organisations such as the Environment Agency. Local targets have been included where these have been set within existing Council plans and strategies.

An assessment of key issues arising from the Baseline will be included within relevant forthcoming DPDs and SPDs and accompanying Sustainability Appraisal Reports. Such assessments will include:

- The social, environmental and economic consequences of particular indicators;
- Whether any problems are permanent or temporary;
- Whether it would be difficult to remedy these problems; and
- Has there been, or will there be significant cumulative effects.

Annex B will be updated when a Sustainability Appraisal Report is published at each stage of producing a DPD or SPD.

## Section 4 Identifying Sustainability Issues and Problems

Analysis of the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A) and the Baseline Information (Annex B) has highlighted a number of economical, environmental and social issues that need to be considered as part of future Sustainability Appraisal Reports.

A thematic review of these issues is outlined below together with the relevant sources of evidence. A key sustainability issue has been identified where:

- A relevant indicator/measurement for the Borough of Gosport is approaching or has breached a recognised target; and/or
- The Borough performs significantly different in comparison the national average or in comparison with the Hampshire average or compares poorly with other areas; and/or
- There is a common consensus among local stakeholders that the matter is a critical sustainability issue for the Borough.

The issues have been the subject of detailed discussions with the relevant statutory environmental agencies, key stakeholders of the Gosport Partnership and various service managers within Gosport Borough Council. As a result of these discussions additional issues have been included with further evidence added either to the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes and/or the Baseline Report.

It is recognised that key sustainability issues facing the Borough may change over time and consequently these will need to be reviewed regularly.

### Key Issues affecting Gosport Borough

#### Population

- The population of the Borough is projected to rise by 0.8% by 2026, whilst the number of dwellings is forecast to increase by almost 15% by 2026, which reflects the continuing fall in average household size. The Borough is one of the most densely populated areas in the South East.
- The Borough has an ageing population in line with national trends with implications in providing for the needs of this population. There are existing concentrations of over-60s in parts of the Borough which are significantly above the national and local averages.
- There are significant concentrations of young people in certain parts of the Borough, which are significantly above the national average, with implications for the provision of local services for young people.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*  
South East Plan (SEERA 2006)

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Census 2001 (ONS), Mid-Year Estimates (ONS), Population Projections (HCC), Population Density Map (ONS Census 2001 and GBC 2006), Public Transport Accessibility and Location of Centres Maps (GBC)

#### Transport and Accessibility

- The Borough has high levels of traffic congestion caused by out-commuting on a limited road network on a peninsula location. Gosport only provides work for 51% of its residents. Road congestion is rated by local residents as the most important issue to be improved within the Borough.
- Car ownership levels are below the Hampshire average.



- The distance travelled from home to work is 11.77km, which is below the national and county averages.
- Public transport is limited within the Borough with no railway station and funding for the Local Rapid Transit system linking Fareham, Gosport and Portsmouth has been withdrawn by the Government.
- Bus usage has declined within Gosport. Bus services are affected by the road congestion problems.
- Cycling is an important form of transport within the Borough and significantly above the national average (6<sup>th</sup> highest rate in England) but the proportion of those travelling to work by bike has declined since 1991.
- Walking to work is also above the national and county average.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 (HCC), Gosport Borough Local Plan Review (GBC)

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Best Value survey relating to local perceptions (ODPM), travel to work information (ONS Census 1991 & 2001 and HCC 2004b), walking and public transport travel times to local facilities (Audit Commission 2005 and HCC 2005 cited by GBC 2005), ferry usage (Portsmouth Commercial Port).

### **Community Activity and Neighbourhoods**

- Gosport has an important voluntary and community sector.
- A high proportion of residents think that over recent years community activities have improved or stayed the same.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Local voluntary and community sector information (Gosport Partnership 2006), local perceptions (ODPM Best Value survey and Audit Commission 2005, GBC 2005).

### **Crime and Disorder**

- A low proportion of residents consider that crime levels have stayed the same or got better.
- The total rate of recorded crime is above the national average with criminal damage in particular significantly above the national average.
- Theft is the most recorded crime in Gosport followed by arson/criminal damage with the biggest recent increases recorded for public order and criminal damage offences.
- There are significant negative perceptions amongst residents regarding certain types of criminal and anti-social behaviour. Significant concerns include having their home broken into, vandalism, graffiti, damage to property, drug usage, and under-age drinking
- A large proportion of residents feel fairly or very unsafe outside after dark in Gosport.
- Certain areas of the Borough suffer in particular from concentrations of crime deprivation including four areas which are within the top 5% most deprived areas in England.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Crime and Disorder Strategy (GBC, HCC and Hampshire Constabulary)

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Indices of Deprivation (ODPM 2004) local and national crime figures (Hampshire Constabulary, Home Office cited by Gosport Crime and Disorder Audit GCSP(2005) and local perceptions (ODPM Best Value cited by Audit Commission 2005 GBC 2005), Residents Panel Surveys (GBC 2005 & 2003)).

### Poverty and Deprivation

- According to Government statistics Gosport is ranked the 165<sup>th</sup> most deprived local authority area (out of 354). The Borough contains significant pockets of multiple deprivation. Four areas within the Borough are classified as being within the 20% most deprived areas in England which accounts for 5% of Gosport's population.
- Gosport is ranked 258<sup>th</sup> most deprived in terms of income deprivation. 9.8% of Gosport's population live in the most income deprived areas in England (highest 20% Super Output Areas). An area within Grange Ward is within the highest 10% most income deprived areas of England.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Indices of Deprivation (ODPM 2004 and analysis by HCC and Audit Commission 2005) benefit claimants (ONS cited by HCC 2005 and Audit Commission 2005), fuel poverty (Centre for Sustainable Energy 2004).

### Health and Wellbeing

- Gosport is below the national average for a number of health indicators with certain areas of the Borough in particular experiencing significant health deprivation including lower than average life expectancy.
- There are higher than average mortality rates for respiratory diseases, ischaemic heart disease, strokes and cancers.
- Teenage pregnancy rates are higher than the national average.
- Infant mortality rates and the rate of low birth weights are above the national average.
- Maintaining and improving local access to medical services is important. Physical activity levels show that 60% of men and 70% of women do not meet the recommended standards.
- Dental health amongst five years olds is below the national average.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Borough Local Plan Review

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Indices of Deprivation (ODPM 2004), life expectancy (Department of Health and ONS (2005a) cited in Health Profile for Gosport 2006), mortality rates (ONS cited by Audit Commission (2005)), fertility, birth weights, infant mortality and conception rates (ONS 2003 cited by HCC 2005, Fareham and Gosport Annual Public Health Report (2004)), limiting long-term illness (ONS Census 2001), perceptions of local residents (GBC 2003), walking and public transport travel times to local facilities (Audit Commission 2005 and HCC 2005 cited by GBC 2005).

### Housing

- Housing is required to meet the Borough's growing population taking into account its changing population structure.
- House prices and rents are increasing beyond the reach of many residents. It is necessary to ensure sufficient affordable housing is provided to meet the needs of the local population.
- Ensure new housing, including as part of mixed-use developments, contributes towards regeneration within the Borough.
- Ensure that there are a range of dwelling types in the Borough to meet the needs of the local population at each stage in life.
- In accordance with national guidance higher density housing needs to be located where there is good accessibility to public transport and services.
- Ageing housing stock needs significant investment to meet modern housing standards.

- There are a number of constraints and locational issues which will affect the availability of sites for new housing and there is a need to make effective use of brownfield land.
- New dwellings should be of good design and incorporate principles of sustainable construction standards and be well served by quality open space in accordance with national guidance.
- It may be necessary to identify a site for gypsies and travellers following a countywide assessment.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*  
Planning Policy Statement 1, South East Plan, Gosport Borough Local Plan Review

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Types and ownership of dwellings (Census 2001 (ONS) Housing Tool cited by Audit Commission (2005)), Population Projections (HCC 2005), households on housing register and in unfit and decent housing (GBC Housing Department 2005), average property prices (HM Land Registry cited by Audit Commission (2005), relationship of average prices to average earnings (Joseph Rowntree Foundation 2003), housing completions (GBC 2005), affordable housing (Annual Monitoring Report (GBC 2005) and background studies to Gosport Borough Local Plan Review including Housing Needs Survey (DCA)), Housing Needs Survey of Gypsies and Travellers in Hampshire, maps relating to accessibility of public transport and centres, open space and nature conservation areas, floodzone maps (GBC Local Plan Review and related background and monitoring).

### **Education and Skills**

- Parts of the Borough are within the highest 20% most educationally deprived areas in England.
- Pupil achievement at Key Stage 2 and 3 and GCSE is below the county and national average.
- Qualification levels and literacy and numeracy skills amongst adults are lower than the county and national averages.
- There are higher than average pupil absenteeism in Gosport.
- There are a number of difficulties with post 16 education in Gosport including a lack of vocational provision at Levels 1 and 2, intense competition at level 3, a lack of collaborative arrangements and problems with the Further Education estate. This is set against a backdrop of low post-16 participation, retention and achievement rates in certain parts of the Borough.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*  
Strategic Area Review (StAR) summary report-Hampshire and the Isle of Wight 2004-05 (Learning and Skills Council 2005).

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Pupil numbers and school places (HCC School Organisation Plan), post-16 information (Hampshire and Isle of Wight LSC 2005), qualifications (HCC, Census 2001) Indices of Deprivation (ODPM) and skills (Basic Skills Agency cited by Audit Commission 2005).

### **Employment**

- There is significant out-commuting from the Borough due to a lack of appropriate local employment opportunities which leads to significant road congestion.
- The economic activity rate for Gosport is the lowest in Hampshire.
- In line with national trends Gosport has an ageing population that will have implications for local employers.
- The number of jobs within the Borough continues to fall leading to greater out-commuting and road congestion.
- In Gosport there is just 0.57 local jobs to each resident of working age. This level of job density is the lowest within the South East region and the fifth lowest in the UK.
- A high proportion of Gosport Borough based jobs are filled by local residents.

- Public sector occupations remain the main form of employment within the Borough, despite a considerable decline of jobs available in the defence sector. The Borough has one of the highest rates of high technology employment in Hampshire. Other sectors are significantly under-represented including finance, IT and other business services.
- Over recent years Gosport has consistently had a low unemployment rate, below the regional and national average. However there are a number of areas in the Borough where high pockets of unemployment exist.
- The Borough has a higher proportion of Job Seeker Allowance claimants aged between 18 and 24 compared to the national average.
- The local resident workforce has lower skills and qualifications levels than the national average.
- Gosport residents earn below the national and regional average with the lowest earning rates within Hampshire.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Borough Local Plan Review (GBC), Economic Regeneration Strategy 2004-2007 (GBC).

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Economic activity rates and type of activity (Local Area Labour Force Survey 2003, ONS Census 2001), numbers of persons employed within different sectors (Annual Business Inquiry 2004), job density and work self containment (HCC 2005 and ONS Census 2001), unemployment rates (supplied by HCC from Government statistics), age and duration of unemployed (Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics (April 2006), Job Seekers Allowance claimants as % of working age population (ONS), Indices of Deprivation (ODPM), Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2005) (cited by www.nomisweb.co.uk).

## **Economy**

- Gosport's business density is low and is significantly below the county and regional average.
- The Borough has a consistently lower proportion of vacant commercial and industrial floorspace compared with the regional and national average.
- Gosport has the lowest business start-up rate in the South East.
- Gosport has a low Gross Value Added per head.
- There is a continuing decline of older industrial estates.
- Gosport has one of the highest percentages of manufacturing workers in high technology industries in Hampshire, demonstrating local strengths in marine, aeronautical and instrument engineering.
- The marine-related tourism industry is a key locational strength for the Borough

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Borough Local Plan Review (GBC), Economic Regeneration Strategy 2004-2007 (GBC).

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

ABI Workplace data (2003), Business Density and Start-Ups (VAT Registrations and ONS Mid Year Estimates, SEEDA SEE-In website), GVA per Capita (SEEDA baseline data) Commercial and Industrial Quantity and Vacancy Rates (ODPM, HCC and GBC land-use monitoring), tourism data (Tourism South East).

### Town and Local Centres

- Gosport Town Centre has a number of strengths, including its attractive harbourside location, pedestrianisation, mix of shops and services and low vacancy rates. .
- The Borough has a number of other centres that provide a variety of other services that are important to retain. Most appear to be performing well with low vacancy rates, although a small number have high vacancy rates.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

South East Plan and background studies (including the South Hampshire Town Centres Sub Regional Study (DTZ), Gosport Borough Local Plan Review.

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Customer perceptions (Best Value Performance Indicators ODPM 2003/04), qualitative assessment of centres (HCC and GBC surveys), Land-Use and Vacancy Surveys of Principal, District, Local and Neighbourhood centres, Footfall Surveys (GBC 2004-06) local crime figures (Hampshire Constabulary by Gosport Crime and Disorder Audit GCSP(2005) Zone A Rents (Colliers CRE 2004), commercial yields (Valuation Office 2000-2005).

### Leisure and Culture

- Compared with the national average, a significantly lower proportion of Borough residents consider that their local cultural facilities have got better or stayed the same over recent years.
- Local residents are less satisfied with local authority sports and leisure facilities, activities for teenagers and young children than the national average.
- There is a higher satisfaction rate amongst local residents for museums than the national average.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Borough Local Plan Review.

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Perceptions of local residents (Best Value Indicators (ODPM 2003/04)).

### Open Space, Coast and Harbour

- Despite being one of the most densely populated areas within the South-East the Borough has significant areas of valued open space for recreational and amenity purposes. Quality and quantity deficiencies of sports pitches and play areas have been identified.
- There is a demonstrated need to protect and enhance the open space network within the Borough.
- The Borough has a number of sites, including the proposed Alver Valley park, which can provide new recreational opportunities for local residents, workers and visitors.
- The use of allotments has significantly increased in recent years and there is a need to protect and enhance the existing provision.
- There is a need for a new cemetery in the Borough.
- There is a need to protect and enhance biodiversity along the coast and within the Harbour.
- There is scope to improve public access to the coast within the Borough.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Borough Local Plan Review.

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Census 2001 (ONS), Open Space Audit (GBC's Open Space Monitoring Report), local perceptions (Best Value Indicators (ODPM 2003/04)).

### **Biodiversity and Geological Conservation**

- The Borough has significant areas of internationally, nationally and locally important nature conservation sites providing habitats for protected species, which face a number of pressures including:
  - direct and indirect habitat loss
  - air pollution
  - water quality
  - water abstraction/discharge
  - flood risk
  - climate change
  - disturbance

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan, Brent Goose Strategy: South East Hampshire, Gosport Local Plan Review.

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Condition of SSSIs (English Nature), perceptions of residents (Best Value Indicators (ODPM 2003/04)).

Other considerations- Consultation with Natural England

### **Quality of the Built Environment**

- The Borough has a rich historic built environment which contributes to the local distinctiveness of Gosport and Lee-on-the-Solent which needs to be preserved and enhanced.
- In terms of local perceptions of the built environment, litter, graffiti and dog fouling are particularly considered to be a 'fairly' or a 'very big' problem.
- Generally high satisfaction rates regarding the cleanliness of Gosport High Street, the waterfront and local centres with low satisfaction rates in relation to public toilets.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Borough Local Plan Review, Winter Survey (GBC 2005)

*From the Baseline (Annex B):* Buildings at Risk (GBC).

### **Air Quality**

- Whilst current and predicted air quality in Gosport meet national targets it is necessary to ensure that air pollution continues to be controlled and monitored.
- As a result of out-commuting by car and the resultant traffic congestion there are sections of the A32 in both Gosport and Fareham that experience air pollution.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Air Quality Strategy.

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Air quality measurements (GBC air quality progress reports).

### Use of Energy Resources

- Gosport produces lower CO2 emissions than the national average and has lower electricity and gas consumption. However in line with national targets set out in the Kyoto Agreement there is significant scope to reduce CO2 emissions and to use resources in a more sustainable way.
- Improve energy efficiency and generate local renewable energy including the use of micro-renewables in accordance with national and regional targets.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

South East Plan, Gosport Borough Local Plan Review.

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

CO2 emissions (Netcen for DEFRA), energy consumption (DTI Energy trends), renewable energy (SEE-IN).

### Use of Land Resources

- The Borough has been successful in using its brownfield land for residential and commercial development. Brownfield land will continue to be important for meeting the development needs of the Borough including further releases of Ministry of Defence land.
- There is a large deposit of sand and gravel with a workable reserve at the Daedalus Airfield, Lee-on-the-Solent. However it is not appropriate to exploit this deposit whilst aviation use continues at the site.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Gosport Borough Local Plan Review, Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton Minerals and Waste Local Plan

*From the Baseline (Annex B):* Development on previously developed land (GBC).

### Water Management

- The River Alver does not currently meet recognised biological and chemical water standards.
- The bathing sea water quality of the Borough is good.
- Existing water resources have been sufficient to meet demand, however further infrastructure is required by 2020/21. The local water supplier has identified a site outside of the Borough to meet future demand. There is further scope to improve water efficiency within the Borough.
- Large parts of the Borough are within a floodzone with implications for the location of development and appropriate mitigation measures.
- Rising sea-levels will have implications for coastal defences and will result in the loss of important coastal habitats through the process of coastal squeeze.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):* South East Plan, Gosport Borough Local Plan Review

*From the Baseline (Annex B):* River and water quality (Environment Agency and GBC), water consumption and supply (OFFWAT, Environment Agency and Portsmouth Water), flood risk (Environment Agency)

### Waste Management

- In Gosport waste generated per head is below the national average although there is scope to reduce waste generation and to encourage higher rates of recycling and composting.
- The Borough generates the lowest level of commercial and industrial waste in Hampshire.

Sources of evidence:

*From the Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes (Annex A):*

Hampshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework (and background documents).

*From the Baseline (Annex B):*

Waste collected, recycled and composted (GBC, Audit Commission, Environment Agency and HCC).

## Section 5 Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

### Aims and Objectives

The Sustainability Appraisal framework is a method in which sustainability effects of policies, options and proposals can be described, analysed and compared. It is therefore a key element for producing future Sustainability Appraisal Reports linked to the DPDs and SPDs of the Gosport Local Development Framework.

The SA framework consists of sustainability objectives which provide the basis for assessing whether the objectives, policies and proposals of a DPD (or contents of an SPD) are the most appropriate in sustainability terms.

SA objectives are devised to test the environmental effects of a DPD (or SPD) or to compare the effects of alternatives. They provide a framework in which the social, environmental and economic effects of a DPD (or SPD) can be tested. These are distinct from the objectives of a DPD or SPD though in many cases will overlap.

### Methodology

The Review of Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes in Section 2 is of particular relevance in developing SA objectives for Gosport. The UK Sustainable Development Strategy, the Regional Sustainable Development Framework and the current Community Strategy for Gosport are of particular importance. At certain times it may be necessary to review the objectives particularly in the light of the emerging version of the latest Community Strategy for Gosport, which is being developed through significant public consultation in parallel with the emerging Core strategy of the Local Development Framework. Baseline information collected (Section 3) and sustainability issues and problems (Section 4) are also useful in identifying objectives. The objectives can be revised as baseline information is collected and sustainability issues and problems are identified.

The SA Framework includes detailed decision-making criteria and related indicators. It takes into account the requirements of the SEA Directive including the identification of environmental protection objectives. The SA Objectives can be used in monitoring the implementation of the Local Development Framework. Where conflict arises between sustainability objectives, Government guidance (OPDM Nov. 2005) recommends the following principles are considered:

- The relative timing of the documents concerned;
- The level of consultation undertaken on the plan;
- The degree to which the policies, plans, programmes and objectives are consistent with current policy or legal requirements; and
- The extent to which any appraisal has already been conducted.

### Proposed Sustainability Objectives and Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Table 1 sets out the proposed sustainability objectives for the Gosport LDF which cover a full cross-section of sustainability issues including social, environmental and economic factors. These objectives have been derived from the findings of the review of relevant existing policies, plans and programmes (Annex A), the evidence obtained in the Baseline (Annex B) and the issues identified from this analysis (Section 4). Wherever possible the local Gosport objective has been linked with the objectives included in the Integrated Regional Framework (SEERA et al 2004) and the Baseline for the Sustainability Appraisal for the South East Plan.

The table also contains the proposed Sustainability Appraisal Framework in which objectives, options, proposals and policies of forthcoming DPDs and SPDs of the



Gosport Local Development Framework will be assessed against. It includes the sustainability objectives together with a relevant indicator (where appropriate), detailed decision making criteria, how the objective links with other plans and programmes and potential sources of information. This assessment forms the background to each of the forthcoming Sustainability Appraisal Reports which will inform and accompany each DPD or SPD at each stage of preparation.

Most of the indicators are currently included in the Baseline Report (Annex B) together with the relevant source of the information. There are, however, a number of indicators included in the SA Framework which will need to be developed and researched and these will be included in later versions of the Baseline Report.

It may be necessary from time to time to amend the indicators used as well as review the detailed decision making criteria.

**Table 1: Sustainability Appraisal Framework for Gosport Borough**

Sustainability Objective	Detailed decision making criteria	Detailed Indicator
<b>Transport and Accessibility</b>		
To reduce the need to travel and to reduce the effects of traffic on local communities	Will it reduce traffic volumes and congestion?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic flow on major roads</li> <li>• Commuting flows</li> <li>• Distance travelled to work</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce road traffic accidents?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Casualty rates for car, motorcycle and cycle users and pedestrians.</li> </ul>
	Will there be an increase in traffic related air pollution?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality</li> </ul>
	Will there be an increase in traffic related noise pollution?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noise measurements</li> </ul>
To facilitate modal transfer away from use of the private car to other forms of travel including public transport, cycling and walking	Will it increase the proportion of journeys using modes other than the car?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main mode of travel to work</li> <li>• Access to public transport including accessibility to bus services (4 and 8 buses per hour)</li> </ul>
To improve accessibility to a range of quality services and facilities including health, transport, education, training, employment, and leisure opportunities.	Will it improve accessibility to local services?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of population that are within 20 minutes travel time by walking of a range of three different sports facility types</li> <li>• Percentage of new residential completions within 20/30 minutes by public transport and walking to a range of services.</li> <li>• Accessibility to principal, district and local centres by public transport or walking</li> <li>• Access for disabled and or elderly people</li> </ul>
To improve accessibility for those most in need.	Will it make access more affordable?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Real changes in the cost of transport</li> <li>• Distance travelled relative to income</li> </ul>
	Will it make access easier for those without a car?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access for people without a car</li> </ul>
<b>Community Activity and Neighbourhoods</b>		
To encourage a sense of community identity and improve the quality of where people live.	Will it encourage engagement in community activities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voluntary &amp; community sector</li> <li>• Perceptions of community activities</li> </ul>
	Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of Gosport residents satisfied with the opportunities for participation in local decision-making</li> <li>• % of Gosport residents who believe that they can influence decisions affecting their local area</li> <li>• % of Gosport residents who would like to be more involved in the decisions their Council makes that affect their local area</li> <li>• Community consultation response rate</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Detailed decision making criteria	Detailed Indicator
	Will it improve ethnic relations?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perceptions of Race relations</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of childcare places available per 1,000 population of children under 5 in early education</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of residents who are satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live</li> <li>% of residents surveyed who consider their neighbourhood is getting worse</li> </ul>
<b>Crime and Disorder</b>		
To reduce crime and the fear of crime and reduce the instances of anti-social behaviour.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local and national crime statistics</li> <li>Indices of crime deprivation</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attitudes to crime and disorder within the local area</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce actual noise levels?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise levels</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of residents surveyed who are concerned with different types of noise in their area.</li> </ul>
<b>Poverty and Deprivation</b>		
To reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between Gosport and other areas in the South East region.	Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas most affected?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indices of Multiple Deprivation</li> <li>Income deprivation</li> <li>Proportion of children in families receiving child benefit</li> <li>Percentage of population of working age who are claiming benefits</li> <li>Proportion of young people (18-24) in full time education or employment</li> <li>Percentage of households in fuel poverty</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>		
To improve the health and wellbeing of the population, reduce inequalities in health and improve health facilities	Will it reduce health inequalities in those areas most affected?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life expectancy –comparison of different areas</li> <li>Health deprivation</li> <li>Low birth weight</li> <li>Teenage conception rates</li> <li>Limiting long term illness</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce death rates?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life expectancy-overall rates</li> <li>Mortality rates from cancer, heart disease, strokes and respiratory diseases</li> <li>Infant mortality rates: Deaths up infants to 1 year of age per 1,000 live births</li> </ul>
	Will it encourage healthy lifestyles?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation in sport activities</li> <li>Obesity rates</li> <li>Proportion of journeys (to work) on foot or by cycle</li> <li>Access to local greenspace</li> <li>How to school children travel to school?</li> </ul>
	Will it improve access to high quality, health facilities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perception of local health services</li> <li>Accessibility to health services</li> </ul>
<b>Housing</b>		
To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homelessness</li> <li>Households on the Housing Register</li> </ul>
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing completion figures</li> <li>Types and sizes of dwellings</li> <li>Affordable housing completion figures</li> <li>Average property prices for different types of dwellings</li> <li>Average property price compared against average earnings ratio</li> </ul>
	Will it increase the number of decent homes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decent Homes Standard</li> </ul>
	Will it deliver energy efficient homes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Houses improved for energy efficiency and affordable warmth</li> <li>Proportion of new homes built to 'Very Good' Ecohomes standard</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Detailed decision making criteria	Detailed Indicator
<b>Education and Skills</b>		
To raise educational achievement and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work.	Will it improve the qualifications and skills of young people?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupil achievement</li> <li>• Pupil absences at school</li> <li>• Indices of Education Deprivation</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the qualifications and skills of the population overall?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highest level of qualifications for Gosport residents</li> <li>• Proportion of adults with poor literacy and numeracy skills</li> </ul>
<b>Employment</b>		
To provide opportunities for local residents to work locally rather than out-commute and thereby providing greater potential for people to use public transport, cycle or walk to work.	Will it reduce commuting?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job density</li> <li>• Travel to work</li> <li>• Location of jobs in proximity to residents</li> <li>• Workplace self-containment</li> </ul>
	Will it improve accessibility to work by public transport, walking and cycling?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed development/improvements of key infrastructure/services</li> <li>• Travel to work by alternative modes (cycling, walking, work transport schemes, car share)</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce the effect of traffic congestion on the economy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic flows/congestion/journey times</li> </ul>
To develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support the long-term competitiveness of the Borough.	Will it increase the skills of the local workforce?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment by occupation</li> <li>• Highest level of qualifications for Gosport residents</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
To ensure high and stable levels of employment so everyone can benefit from the economic growth of the Borough.	Will it reduce unemployment overall?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployment figures</li> <li>• Claimant counts</li> <li>• Economic Activity Rates</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce long-term unemployment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long term unemployment</li> </ul>
	Will it provide job opportunities for those most in need of employment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment deprivation</li> <li>• Youth unemployment</li> <li>• Proportion of lone parents, long-term ill and disabled people who are economically active</li> </ul>
	Will it help to improve earnings?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average earnings –average hourly earnings of residents</li> <li>• Average earnings-by workplace</li> <li>• Income deprivation</li> </ul>
<b>Economy</b>		
To increase investment in Gosport's economy in order to facilitate the sustainable regeneration of the Borough.	Will it make use of previously developed land?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of employment uses on previously developed land</li> </ul>
	Will it improve business development and enhance competitiveness?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GVA per head</li> <li>• % change in total number of VAT registered businesses</li> <li>• Business density</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the resilience of business and the economy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survival rates for VAT-registered businesses</li> <li>• Diversity of economic sectors represented in the area</li> <li>• Relative employment growth in different economic sectors in the area</li> </ul>
	Will it promote growth in key sectors and clusters?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth in employment in key sectors</li> <li>• Growth in number employed by local businesses</li> </ul>
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed development of key sites</li> <li>• Employment land availability (amount of land/premises available, completions and vacancies)</li> <li>• Number of business applications granted consent</li> </ul>
To improve the social and environmental performance of the economy.	Will it encourage ethical trading?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social and community enterprises</li> <li>• Companies implementing ethical trading codes of conduct</li> </ul>
	Will it encourage good employee relation and management practices?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Businesses recognised as Investors in People.</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Detailed decision making criteria	Detailed Indicator
To encourage the development of a buoyant, sustainable tourism sector.	Will it positively contribute to the local tourism industry and improve the image of Gosport as a destination?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of visitors</li> <li>• Tourist expenditure</li> <li>• Employment within the tourism sector</li> </ul>
<b>Town and Local Centres</b>		
To ensure the vitality and viability of the Borough's principal, district, local and neighbourhood centres.	Will it improve the accessibility to, and quality of, shopping facilities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessibility to town and local centres</li> <li>• Amount and location of existing and new retail floorspace</li> <li>• Local perceptions of retail facilities</li> </ul>
	Will it improve accessibility to and quality of other town or local centre uses ?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount and location of existing and new floorspace for other types of town or local centre uses</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the vitality and viability of centres?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualitative assessment of Principal and District Centres</li> <li>• Vacancy rates</li> <li>• Pedestrian footfall</li> <li>• Zone A Rents</li> <li>• Yields</li> <li>• Crime statistics</li> </ul>
<b>Leisure and Culture</b>		
To improve the quality and accessibility of leisure and cultural opportunities within the Borough.	Will it improve the range of sporting facilities in the Borough?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount and location of existing and new facilities</li> <li>• Local perception of facilities including facilities for young people</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the range of cultural facilities in the Borough?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount and location of existing and new facilities</li> <li>• Local perception of facilities including facilities for young people</li> </ul>
<b>Open Space, Coast and Harbour</b>		
To ensure that the Borough protects and enhance the quality of its public areas and green spaces including the provision of good access to the coast and harbour.	Will it protect or enhance the Borough's network of greenspace?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location of different types of existing and proposed open space</li> <li>• To provide accessible natural space within 300 metres (or 5 minutes walk) of every home for exercise, relaxation and wellbeing</li> <li>• Open space requirements</li> <li>• Quality and value of open space</li> <li>• Local perceptions of open space</li> <li>• Use of allotment land</li> </ul>
	Will it protect or enhance the quality of the Borough's coast and harbour frontage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achievement of coastal and marine Biodiversity Action Plan targets</li> <li>• National headline indicators i.e. Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) Alert</li> </ul>
	Will it maintain or improve public access to the Borough's coast and harbour frontage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to the coast and harbour frontage</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity and Geology</b>		
To conserve and enhance the Borough's biodiversity and geological assets.	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent of SSSIs (including SPAs SACs and Ramsar sites)</li> <li>• Favourable condition of internationally and nationally important sites</li> <li>• Reported condition of nationally important sites (SSSIs)</li> <li>• Site integrity based on condition of designated features of interest</li> <li>• Extent of local designated sites (SINCs and LNRs)</li> </ul>
	Will it conserve and enhance local habitats and species diversity, and avoid harm to protected species?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retention of landscape and biodiversity features</li> <li>• Achievement of Biodiversity Action Plan targets and objectives</li> <li>• National Headline Indicators i.e WeBS Alert</li> <li>• Number of characteristic rare species and priority habitats</li> <li>• Area of land actively managed for nature conservation</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Detailed decision making criteria	Detailed Indicator
<b>Quality of the Built Environment</b>		
To protect and enhance the Borough's distinctive built heritage.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent and location of Listed Buildings, locally listed buildings, Conservation Areas, National and Local Historic Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other areas of archaeological interest</li> <li>• Number and % of Listed Buildings on the Buildings at Risk Register</li> <li>• Loss or damage to scheduled ancient monuments and their setting</li> <li>• Loss or damage to historic parks and gardens and their settings</li> <li>• Conservation Areas Assessments</li> </ul>
To ensure that there is a high quality townscape incorporating good design principles for buildings and surrounding spaces.	Will the design enhance the quality of the townscape?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design assessments</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the appearance of untidy areas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perceptions relating to cleanliness of streets</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perceptions relating to crime and anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>
<b>Air Quality</b>		
To reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve.	Will it improve air quality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measurements of nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and small particles</li> <li>• Population living in Air Quality Management areas</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Energy Resources</b>		
To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the Borough.	Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</li> <li>• Average annual consumption of energy (electricity and gas)</li> <li>• Energy efficiency of homes</li> </ul>
	Will it lead to an increased proportion of energy needs being met from renewable resources?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of energy supplied from renewable sources</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Land Resources</b>		
To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New homes built on previously developed land</li> <li>• Development of employment uses on previously developed land</li> </ul>
<b>Water Management</b>		
To maintain and improve the water quality of the Borough.	Will it improve the quality of river water?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River of good or fair chemical or biological water quality</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the quality of coastal water?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance with EC Bathing Water Directive</li> </ul>
	Will it improve the quality of groundwater?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indicator to be determined</li> </ul>
To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	Will it minimise the risk of flooding to people and property?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Properties at risk from flooding</li> <li>• Development in areas at risk of flooding</li> <li>• Frequency of flooding events</li> </ul>
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply.	Will it reduce water consumption?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water consumption</li> <li>• Availability of sufficient water supply</li> </ul>

Sustainability Objective	Detailed decision making criteria	Detailed Indicator
<i>Waste Management</i>		
To reduce waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste.	Will it lead to reduced consumption of materials and resources?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK materials consumption per head</li> <li>• Waste arising and management</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce household waste?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kg of household waste collected per head</li> </ul>
	Will it increase waste recovery and recycling?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Household recycling rates</li> <li>• Household composting rates</li> <li>• Household waste used to recover heat, power and other energy resources</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce hazardous waste?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous waste returns</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce waste in the construction industry?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial and demolition waste treatment</li> </ul>
	Will it reduce commercial and industrial waste?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial and industrial waste disposal</li> </ul>
<i>Consumption of other natural resources</i>		
To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of the consumption of natural resources.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecohomes 'Very Good' Standards</li> </ul>



## **Section 6 Consultation and Next Stages**

### **Consultation of the Scoping Report**

To meet the requirements of the SEA Directive, it is necessary for the Borough Council to seek the views of the four statutory environmental consultation bodies (English Heritage, Environment Agency, English Nature, and the Countryside Agency (the latter two agencies have now merged to form Natural England)) on the scope and level of detail of the environmental information to be included in the SA Report.

Comments have now been considered and changes have been made to the Scoping Report where appropriate. The Scoping Report will now be used as a basis for assessing the sustainability of the plans and proposals contained within the forthcoming Development Plan Documents as well as the guidance in future Supplementary Planning Documents.

### **Next stages**

Appendix 1 of this document outlines the next stages of producing a Sustainability Report for a DPD. Stage B relates to developing and refining options and assessing effects of policies and proposals by using the Sustainability Framework set out in Section 5 of the Scoping Report. These assessments will take into account updated versions of Annex A 'Review of Policies Plans and Programmes' and Annex B 'Baseline Information'.

Once the Sustainability Appraisal Report (Stage C) has been produced it will accompany the relevant DPD for public consultation (Stage D) in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement. The SA Report will present information on the effects of the plan. The SA Report will clearly show how the SEA Directive's requirements have been met. A non-technical summary will be produced with the full SA Report.

Representations received as part of the public consultation ('Issues and Options' and 'Preferred Options' stages) will then be considered and any resulting changes to the DPD will be appraised. Once the DPD is finalised it will be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination, accompanied by the SA Report and the consultation statement. The Sustainability Appraisal Report will enable the Inspector to consider whether the policies and proposals meet the tests of soundness. Any significant changes resulting from the Inspector's binding report will then be appraised and an amended SA Report produced to accompany the adopted DPD together with an adoption statement outlining how the adopted DPD has taken into account the findings of the full SA process.

Once adopted the significant effects of the DPD will be monitored. The proposals for monitoring (Stage E) will be included in the SA Report and reviewed. The aim of monitoring is to highlight specific performance issues and significant effects, which will lead to more informed decision-making. Monitoring can also be a useful source of baseline information for future DPDs.

Appendix 1 also shows the next stages for the SPD process which is similar to the DPD process but does not include an Examination stage and is subject to one stage of public consultation. Full details of the Sustainability Appraisal process is outlined in the Government's publication, Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (ODPM Nov 2005).



## Appendix 1: Production Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal

<b>Incorporating SA within the DPD process</b>	
<b>DPD Stage 1: Pre-production – Evidence Gathering</b>	
<b>SA stages and tasks</b>	
<b>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>A1:</b> Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives.</li> <li>● <b>A2:</b> Collecting baseline information.</li> <li>● <b>A3:</b> Identifying sustainability issues and problems.</li> <li>● <b>A4:</b> Developing the SA framework.</li> <li>● <b>A5:</b> Consulting on the scope of the SA.</li> </ul>	
<b>DPD Stage 2: Production</b>	
<b>SA stages and tasks</b>	
<b>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>B1:</b> Testing the DPD objectives against the SA framework.</li> <li>● <b>B2:</b> Developing the DPD options.</li> <li>● <b>B3:</b> Predicting the effects the DPD.</li> <li>● <b>B4:</b> Evaluating the effects of the DPD.</li> <li>● <b>B5:</b> Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.</li> <li>● <b>B6:</b> Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPDs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>C1:</b> Preparing the SA Report.</li> </ul>	
<b>Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options of the DPD and SA Report</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>D1:</b> Public participation on the preferred options of the DPD and the SA Report.</li> <li>● <b>D2(i):</b> Appraising significant changes.</li> </ul>	
<b>DPD Stage 3: Examination</b>	
<b>SA stages and tasks</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>D2(ii):</b> Appraising significant changes resulting from representations.</li> </ul>	
<b>DPD Stage 4: Adoption and monitoring</b>	
<b>SA stages and tasks</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>D3:</b> Making decisions and providing information.</li> </ul>	
<b>Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>E1:</b> Finalising aims and methods for monitoring.</li> <li>● <b>E2:</b> Responding to adverse effects.</li> </ul>	

Source: Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (ODPM 2005)

<b>Incorporating SA within the SPD process</b>	
<b>SPD Stage 1: Pre-production – Evidence gathering</b>	
<b>SA stages and tasks</b>	
<b>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>A1:</b> Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainable development objectives.</li> <li>● <b>A2:</b> Collecting baseline information.</li> <li>● <b>A3:</b> Identifying sustainability issues and problems.</li> <li>● <b>A4:</b> Developing the SA framework.</li> <li>● <b>A5:</b> Consulting on the scope of the SA.</li> </ul>	
<b>SPD Stage 2: Production – Prepare draft SPD</b>	
<b>SA stages and tasks</b>	
<b>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>B1:</b> Testing the SPD objectives against the SA framework.</li> <li>● <b>B2:</b> Developing the SPD options.</li> <li>● <b>B3:</b> Predicting the effects of the draft SPD.</li> <li>● <b>B4:</b> Evaluating the effects the draft SPD.</li> <li>● <b>B5:</b> Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.</li> <li>● <b>B6:</b> Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the SPD.</li> </ul>	
<b>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>C1:</b> Preparing SA Report.</li> </ul>	
<b>Stage D: Consulting on draft SPD and Sustainability Appraisal Report</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>D1:</b> Public participation on the SA Report and the draft SPD.</li> <li>● <b>D2:</b> Assessing significant changes.</li> </ul>	
<b>SPD Stage 3: Adoption</b>	
<b>SA stages and tasks</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>D3:</b> Making decisions and providing information.</li> </ul>	
<b>Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the SPD</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>E1:</b> Finalising aims and methods for monitoring.</li> <li>● <b>E2:</b> Responding to adverse effects.</li> </ul>	

Source: Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (ODPM Nov 2005)

## Sources of information

### Annex A and Annex B also include relevant sources of information

HM Government (March 2005)- *Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy*, TSO, London.

ODPM (2004)- *Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks*, TSO, London.

ODPM (2005)- *Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development* (2005) TSO, London.

ODPM (December 2005)- Consultation Paper on a New *Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing* TSO, London.

ODPM (Nov 2005)- *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents*, ODPM Publications, London

South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) (January 2005) Review of Regional Baseline Conditions Sustainability Appraisal for the South East Plan SEERA, Guildford.

South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) (June 2004)- *A Better Quality of Life in the South East: Core Report Part of the Integrated Regional Framework 2004*, SEERA, Guildford.

South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) (June 2004)- Review of Regional Baseline Conditions, SEERA, Guildford.