Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report - Appendices

SA SCOPING REPORT, SELBY DISTRICT CORE STRATEGY

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CONTENTS

APPENDIX A PLANNING POLICY REVIEW
APPENDIX B BASELINE DATA SOURCES

APPENDIX C DETAILED BASELINE INFORMATION FOR THE DISTRICT

Appendix A Planning Policy Review

International Policy

The following international documents were reviewed as part of this assessment:

- EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EC;
- Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change;
- The EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC;
- The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro;
- Directive 2000/60/EC Establishing a Framework for the Community Action in the Field of Water Policy (The Water Framework Directive);
- Directive 96/62/EC on Ambient Air Quality and Management;
- The Johannesburg Declaration of Sustainable Development;
- European Spatial Development Perspective;
- Waste Framework Directive (91/156/EEC);
- Environment 2010 Our Future Our Choice (EU Sixth Environment Action Programme);
- European Sustainable Development Strategy; and
- European Biodiversity Strategy.

National Planning Policy

The following national planning documents were reviewed as part of this assessment:

- Securing the Future: The Government's Sustainable Development Strategy;
- PPS 1 Creating Sustainable Communities;
- PPG 2 Green Belts;
- PPG 3 Housing;
- PPG 4 Industrial, commercial development and small firms;
- PPS 6 Town Centres and Retail Developments;
- PPS 7 Sustainable Development in Rural Areas;
- PPG8 Telecommunications;
- PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation;
- PPS 12 Local Development Frameworks;

- PPG 13 Transport;
- PPG 15 Planning and the Historic Environment;
- PPG 16 Archaeology and Planning;
- PPG 17 Planning for Open Space, Sport, and Recreation;
- PPG 21 Tourism;
- PPS 22 Renewable Energy;
- PPS 23 Planning and Pollution Control;
- PPG 24 Planning and Noise;
- PPG 25 Development and Flood Risk;
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended);
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW);
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1994) but ongoing development see http://www.ukbap.org.uk/;
- England Forestry Strategy;
- 'Working with the Grain of Nature': A Biodiversity Strategy for England;
- Our Energy Future Creating a Low Carbon Economy;
- · Climate Change: The UK Programme;
- Air Quality Strategy: Working Together for Clean Air;
- The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future; and
- A New Commitment to Neighbourhood Renewal, National Strategy Action Plan.

Regional Planning Policy

The following regional planning documents were reviewed as part of this assessment:

- Regional Planning Guidance (RPG12);
- Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber to 2016 based on Selective Review of RPG 12;
- Regional Spatial strategy for Yorkshire and Humber to 2016¹;

¹ The current RSS is under review. A revised RSS will be submitted to the Deputy Prime Minister in December 2005 and all relevant additions and revisions to policies will need to be taken into account when undertaking subsequent stages of the appraisal process. It should be noted, however, that the RSS will not be finally adopted until the summer of 2007, after public consultation and examination.

- Framework for Regional Employment and Skills Action;
- · Regional Economic Strategy;
- Regional Economic Strategy Review;
- Building the Benefits Regional Sustainable Development Framework
- Yorkshire and Humber Regional Sustainable Development Framework Update 2003 2005;
- Our Region, Our Health A Regional Strategic Framework for Public Health in Yorkshire and the Humber;
- Regional Transport Strategy;
- Regional Environmental Enhancement Strategy;
- Regional Forestry Strategy;
- Let's take it from the Tip Regional Waste Strategy;
- · Regional Housing Strategy; and
- Regional Cultural Strategy.

Sub-County Documents

The following local planning documents were reviewed as part of this assessment:

- North Yorkshire County Structure Plan;
- North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2001 2006;
- Consultation on the North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2006 2011;
- North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report;
- North Yorkshire Economic Development Strategy;
- North Yorkshire Education Service Plan 2003 2006;
- North Yorkshire Second Draft School Organisation Plan 2004 2009;
- North Yorkshire Adult Learning Plan;
- North Yorkshire Cycling Strategy;
- North Yorkshire Together Community Strategy 2005 2008;
- Let's Talk Rubbish Developing a Waste Strategy for York and North Yorkshire; and
- York and North Yorkshire Sub-Regional Investment Plan 2004.

Local Documents

The following local planning documents were reviewed as part of this assessment:

- Selby District Local Plan;
- Community Strategy 2005-2010;
- Selby District Economic Development Strategy;
- Selby District Cultural Strategy 2003-2008;
- Selby District Council Homeless Strategy 2005 2008;
- Selby District Interim Housing Strategy 2004 2005;
- Selby District Social Inclusion Strategy 2003 2006;
- Selby District Council Draft Recreation Open Space Strategy;
- Selby District Community Safety Strategy 2005 2008;
- Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment;
- Selby District Renaissance Charter; and
- Selby Biodiversity Action Plan.

INTERNATIONAL POLICIES

EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EC (European Union, 1992)

Why it is relevant

The EC Habitats Directive requires Member States to maintain or restore natural habitats of European importance at a 'favourable conservation status' so as to preserve biodiversity.

Key objectives and targets

Maintain or restore in a favourable condition designated natural habitat types and habitats of designated species listed in Annexes I and II respectively of the Directive. If a project compromising one of these habitats must proceed in spite of negative conservation impacts due to it being in the public interest, compensatory measures must be provided for.

Linear structures such as rivers/streams, hedgerows, field boundaries, ponds, etc., that enable movement and migration of species should be preserved.

Implications for the LDF and SA

SA objectives and LDF options should incorporate nature conservation objectives and take into account the importance of habitats designated under the Directive.

Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change (United Nations, 1997)

Why it is relevant

The Protocol strengthens obligations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It presents a legally binding commitment for industrialised countries to collectively reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by at least 5% (of 1990 levels) by 2008-2012.

Key objectives and targets

Achieve a reduction in anthropogenic CO₂ levels to at least 5% below 1990 levels by 2012. Consider afforestation and reforestation as carbon sinks.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should encourage reduced reliance on the private car and energy-efficient development.

The EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC (European Community, 1979)

Why it is relevant

The Directive outlines a framework for the conservation and management of European wild birds. Member States determine the legal mechanisms through which to implement this. In the UK, this is achieved through several statutory and non-statutory methods including the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, and wild bird monitoring programmes.

Key objectives and targets

Duty on Member States to sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds by sustaining areas of habitats so that populations are maintained at ecologically and scientifically sound levels.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The SA should consider the effects of local developments on European protected bird species.

The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro (United Nations, 1992)

Why it is relevant

The Convention outlines three main goals for the conservation, protection and enhancement of biological diversity; the conservation of biological diversity, its sustainable use, and the equitable sharing of benefits associated with genetic resources. National strategies and action plans must be implemented by Contracting Parties to achieve these goals.

Key objectives and targets

Article 6a requires each Contracting Party to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

Implications for the LDF and SA

SA objectives should consider the impacts on biodiversity and view ecosystems holistically, rather than focusing on 'islands' of protected species.

Directive 2000/60/EC Establishing a Framework for the Community Action in the Field of Water Policy (The Water Framework Directive) (European Union, 2000)

Why it is relevant

The Directive establishes a framework for the protection of inland surface waters (rivers and lakes), transitional waters (estuaries), coastal waters and groundwater. Its purpose is to ensure all aquatic ecosystems and terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands reach 'good status' by 2015.

Key objectives and targets

Requires all Member States to achieve 'good ecological status' of inland water bodies by 2015, and limits the quantity of groundwater abstraction to that portion of overall recharge not needed by ecology.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Surface water run off from paved surfaces and built up areas can cumulatively pollute watercourses. The SA should include an objective on water quality / quantity.

Directive 96/62/EC on Ambient Air Quality and Management (European Union, 1996)

Why it is relevant

The Directive outlines a framework for producing daughter-directives and limit values for a range of pollutants, assessing the concentrations of these to prevent exceedences and for the management of air quality.

Key objectives and targets

Establishes mandatory standards for air quality and sets limits and guides values for sulphur and nitrogen dioxide, suspended particulates, and lead, in air.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The location of new developments should take into account any emissions resulting from new transport links, new 'need' to travel, and emissions from new industry. The SA will include objectives for air quality.

The Johannesburg Declaration of Sustainable Development (World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002)

Why it is relevant

The Johannesburg plan of implementation includes a political declaration by Heads of State. It sets new targets and timetables for action. A partnership agreement between governments, the private sector and the civil society was also achieved at the Summit.

Key objectives and targets

Governance should be strengthened and improved at all levels in order to effectively implement Agenda 21.

Implications for the LDF and SA

None

European Spatial Development Perspective (European Union Ministers for Spatial Planning, 1999)

Why it is relevant

The Perspective sets out principles for sustainable spatial development in Member States.

Key objectives and targets

European cultural landscapes, cities and towns, and a variety of natural and historic monuments are all part of the European Heritage. Its fostering should be an important part of modern architecture, urban and landscape planning in all regions of the EU.

A big challenge for spatial development policy is to contribute to the objectives, announced by the EU during international conferences concerning the environment and climate, of reducing emissions into the global ecological system.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF could influence the historic environment in several ways, including through the ambience of historic structures and features

The SA should include objectives for Conservation Areas and reducing Carbon Dioxide emissions.

Waste Framework Directive 91/156/EEC (European Union, 1991)

Why it is relevant

The Framework Directive on Waste requires Member States produce a National Waste Strategy containing their policies on waste disposal and recovery. In the UK, the Directive is implemented into national law by the Environment Act 1995.

Key objectives and targets

Article 4.

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes or methods which could harm the environment, and in particular:

- Without risk to water, air, soil and plants and animals.
- Without causing a nuisance through noise or odours.
- Without adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should consider water, air, soil, noise, odour and biodiversity and landscape impacts when deciding on locations for waste disposal or processing.

This would feed into SA objectives for air, noise, landscape, and biodiversity.

Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice - EU Sixth Environment Action Programme (European Union, 2001)

Why it is relevant

The Programme outlines priority environmental issues to be addressed by Member States.

Key objectives and targets

Recognises that land use planning and management decisions in the Member States can have a major influence on the environment, leading to fragmentation of the countryside and pressures on urban areas and on the coast. Also includes objectives relating to stabilising greenhouse gases, halting biodiversity loss, and reducing pollution and resource use.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The SA should include objectives on minimising the production of greenhouse gases, halting biodiversity loss, and reducing pollution and resource use.

European Sustainable Development Strategy (European Union, 2001)

Why it is relevant

Completing and building on the Lisbon strategy, the ESDS focuses on a small number of problems which pose severe or irreversible threats to the future well-being of European society.

Key objectives and targets

Decoupling environmental degradation and resource consumption from economic and social development requires a major reorientation of public and private investment towards new, environmentally-friendly technologies.

The intention of the Strategy is to provide a catalyst for policy-makers and public opinion for the future as a driving force for institutional reform, changes in corporate and consumer behaviour. Clear, stable, long-term objectives.

Implications for the LDF and SA

LDF should reflect European and national desire to decouple environmental impacts and social issues from economic growth.

SA objectives should consider issues identified at the European level, which may be particularly relevant to Selby District.

European Biodiversity Strategy COM (98)42 (European Commission, 1998)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy addresses biodiversity loss and the role of spatial planning in conserving this resource within EU Member States.

Key objectives and targets

The Strategy is intended to facilitate the reversal of present trends in biodiversity reduction or losses and to place species and ecosystems, including agro-ecosystems, at a satisfactory conservation status, both within and beyond the territory of the European Union (EU). The Strategy aims to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biodiversity at its source, through the integration of environmental policies into key policy areas, at the regional level and through spatial planning.

Implications for the LDF and SA

LDF should emphasise the need to halt biodiversity losses and to seek biodiversity enhancement where possible.

SA should include objectives on maintaining and enhancing biodiversity through the preservation of existing designated sites (particularly when in conflict with allocated development areas) and general criteria-based policy.

NATIONAL POLICY

Securing the Future: The Government's Sustainable Development Strategy (DEFRA, 2005 - Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

This is a review of the original sustainable development strategy of 1999. It contains principles, priorities and indicators relating to sustainable development in the UK.

Key objectives and targets

The new objectives included within the strategy are:

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

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should address the first three objectives of the strategy. The objectives should form the basis for the SA objectives.

PPS 1 - Creating Sustainable Communities (ODPM, 2005 - Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

The document sets out the key policies and principles and the Government's vision for planning. It includes high-level objectives and sets out the framework for specific policies further developed in the thematic Planning Policy Statements which will substitute the current PPG documents.

Key objectives and targets

Sustainable development is the purpose of planning. Communities need to be actively involved in the planning process, which is not simply regulations and control but must become a proactive management of development.

These overarching objectives inform specific objectives such as promotion of urban and rural regeneration, of local economies, of inclusive, healthy and safe communities.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Local Authorities should consider how their plans are addressing the four pillars of sustainable development by including relevant sustainability objectives both for the plan and the SA. The four core aims of sustainable development are:

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

PPG 2 - Green Belts (DTLR, 1995 - Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPG 2 outlines Government policy on Green Belt land and will have an effect on the content of Selby District Council's development plans.

Key objectives and targets

There should be a general presumption against inappropriate development in the Green Belt. This includes the construction of new buildings unless exempted under Paragraph 3.4 of the Guidance note.

When any large scale development or redevelopment occurs within the Green Belt, it should contribute towards the objectives provided Paragraph 1.6 of the Guidance note.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should include policies to protect the Green Belt, limiting exceptions and windfall sites.

Objectives pertaining to the openness of landscape in Green Belt and the protection of biodiversity (habitat connectivity), will be included within the SA.

PPG 3 - Housing (2000 - Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPG 3 outlines Government policy on housing and will have an effect on the content of Selby District Council's development plans.

Key objectives and targets

Plan to meet the housing needs of the whole community, consider mixed-use developments and prioritise the redevelopment of brownfield sites. Place the needs of the people before ease of traffic movement.

Additional housing should be well designed and should be focused in towns and cities.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF must help to implement PPG 3 and could, for example, include a policy seeking affordable housing in appropriate developments.

SA should recognise and include objectives on tackling social exclusion.

The SA objective for townscape should emphasise the presumption towards brownfield developments.

PPG 4 - Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (1992 - Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPG 4 outlines Government policy on industrial/ commercial development and will influence the content of Selby District Council's development plans.

Key objectives and targets

Guidance on the provision for economic development married to respect for the environment, in planning.

Industrial and commercial developments are vital for the wealth of an area but need to be carefully placed so to minimise dependency of businesses and customers on road transport and integration with existing/ planned transport and housing developments and plans.

Encourage new developments in locations which minimise the length and number of trips, especially by motor vehicles.

Encourage new development in locations that can be served by more energy efficient modes of transport.

Discourage new development where it would be likely to add unacceptably to congestion.

Locate development requiring access mainly to local roads away from trunk roads, to avoid unnecessary congestion on roads designed for longer distance movement.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should seek to make beneficial use of previous industrial areas which are currently under-used or vacant.

Heritage issues should be taken into account when considering proposals to convert buildings of special architectural or historic interest.

The LDF should seek to increase accessibility and reduce social exclusion.

The LDF should seek to separate polluting activities from sensitive areas such as housing, hospitals or schools.

PPS 6 - Town Centres and Retail Developments (ODPM, 2005 - Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPS 6 outlines Government policy on development within towns and out of town locations. It will affect the content of Selby District Council's development plans.

Key objectives and targets

Adopt a town centre first sequential approach to development.

Promote and enhance existing centres by focusing development in such centres and encourage a wide range of services in a good environment.

Encouraging town centre development will promote their vitality and viability, and will enhance consumer choice with a wide provision of shopping, leisure and local services to meet the needs of the whole community;

Ensure development is accessible by a range of means of transport, and to encourage a cleaner, safer, greener town centre environment;

Promote social inclusion by encouraging investment in disadvantaged areas to provide improved services and more employment opportunities;

Promote high quality and inclusive design and make efficient use of land in town centres to deliver more sustainable development.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should promote the vitality of town and village centres in the District, whilst increasing accessibility and reducing social exclusion.

PPS 7 - Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (ODPM, 2004 - Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPS 7 outlines Government policy on sustainable development in rural locations and will therefore affect the content of Selby District Council's development documents.

Key objectives and targets

Requires that development within existing villages should be permitted where it meets local economic and community needs, maintains or enhances the environment and does not conflict with other policies.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Ensure the LDF is coordinated with rural transport service plans.

SA Objective to include 'local needs met locally'.

PPG 8 – Telecommunications (2001 – Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPG 8 outlines Government policy and will influence the content of Selby District's development plans with regard to telecommunications.

Key objectives and targets

The Government's policy is to facilitate the growth of new and existing telecommunications systems whilst keeping the environmental impact to a minimum. The Government also has responsibility for protecting public health.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF needs to include the right mix of policies to balance the competing demands of industry, health concerns and the environment.

The LDF should include policies which restrict the positioning of telecommunications masts near locations which are sensitive in terms of human health. Policies should ensure adequate screening to avoid adverse visual impacts.

PPS 9 - Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (2005 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPS 9 outlines Government policy relating to biodiversity and geological conservation and will have an effect on the content of Selby District Council's development plans.

Key objectives and targets

Plan policies and planning decisions should be based upon up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of their areas and seek to maintain, or enhance, or add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests.

Plan policies on the form and location of development should take a strategic approach to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and geology, and recognise the contributions that individual sites and areas make to conserving these resources within the wider environment.

Local planning authorities should consider whether proposed developments can be accommodated without causing harm to biodiversity and geological conservation interests. Where there may be significant harmful effects, local planning authorities will need to be satisfied that any reasonable alternative sites that would result in less or no harm have been fully considered.

Proposals maps within the LDF should make clear distinctions between the hierarchy of international, national, regional, and locally-designated sites when identifying designated sites of importance for biodiversity and geodiversity.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should include policies to protect and enhance biodiversity. Create new areas of habitats and make Local Nature Reserve designations, as appropriate.

The LDF should recognise the importance of nature conservation objectives when determining the location and type of new developments in close proximity to designated sites.

The SA should also include an objective to protect and enhance biodiversity.

PPS 12 - Local Development Frameworks (2004 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPS 12 outlines Government policy on the process of preparing Local Development Documents.

Key objectives and targets

Outlines a new style of land-use planning, streamlining programme for policy agreement and ensuring community engagement throughout the process.

No relevant objectives, targets and indicators.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should accord with national guidance in terms of process. No particular policy considerations.

PPG 13 - Transport (2001 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

This PPG outlines Government policy on the integration of transport and planning at the national, regional and strategic levels.

Key objectives and targets

Actively manage the pattern of urban growth and the location of major travel-generating development to make the fullest use of public transport, and to encourage walking and cycling and reduce the need to travel, especially by car.

Land use planning should facilitate a shift in transport of freight from road to rail and water. Attention should be paid to the value of disused transport sites and effort made to prevent their loss to different land uses.

Implications for the LDF and SA

This objective is fundamental in encouraging public transport use and establishing a viable patronage base, as well as cycling and walking. In doing so, the LDF would be contributing to the air quality, human health, climate change and social inclusion objectives of its SA. Future development patterns will also affect the amount of car travel and the length of future car journeys. The Core Strategy should aim to minimise the need for and the amount of, car travel. Full advantage should be taken of the rail services available in the District.

PPG 15 - Planning and the Historic Environment (1994 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPG 15 relates to the role of the planning system in the conservation and identification of built heritage. It complements PPG 16, on Archaeology and Planning.

Key objectives and targets

Objectives are for effective protection for all aspects of the historic environment.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should recognise that the historic environment, tourism and economic prosperity are linked.

The historic environment can be affected by land-use in a number of ways, including inappropriate development, vibration/noise impacts, and visual intrusion. The SA should include objectives for the conservation of the historic environment.

PPG 16 - Archaeology and Planning (1990 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

This PPG sets out policy on archaeology and advises on the handling of remains including on the level of consideration that should be afforded in planning decisions and planning conditions.

Key objectives and targets

Development plans should reconcile the need for development with the interests of conservation, including archaeology. Detailed development plans should include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Archaeological sites can be potentially damaged through construction of new build. Archaeological and cultural objectives should be included within the SA.

PPG 17 - Planning for Open Space, Sport, and Recreation (2002 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPG 17 sets out Government policy on the role of local authorities in the provision of open spaces and sports and recreation facilities.

Key objectives and targets

The recreational quality of open spaces can be eroded by insensitive development or incremental loss of the site. In considering planning applications - either within or adjoining open space - local authorities should weigh any benefits being offered to the community against the loss of open space that will occur.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Ensure policy proposals take account of the impact of developments on all open space.

There will be an opportunity within the LDF to address the provision and quality of recreation facilities and open space.

Recognise and protect open space and recreation areas which are highly valued by the community.

PPG 21 - Tourism (1992 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

This PPG addresses the importance of tourism for the economy. It also outlines the environmental impact of tourism and its relevance in land-use planning. PPG 21 explains how the needs of tourism should be addressed in development plans and in development control.

Key objectives and targets

Ensure land-use is distributed and managed in such a way that it supports the qualities that underpin the tourism industry.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Promoting tourism would increase prosperity and employment, however, it is important to recognise the potential conflicts between tourist developments and other environmental objectives.

PPS 22 Renewable Energy (2004 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

The policies set out in PPS 22, on renewable energy, will need to be incorporated into the Local Development Documents for the District.

Key objectives and targets

Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents should contain policies designed to promote and encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy resources. Except where these developments are likely to have an adverse effect on designated conservation sites (historic and natural), or designated landscapes.

Targets should be expressed as the minimum amount of installed capacity for renewable energy in the region, expressed in megawatts, and may also be expressed in terms of the percentage of electricity consumed or supplied. Targets will be set in the revised RSS for achievement by 2010 and by 2020.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Prioritise policies that protect designated sites in relation to renewable energy developments.

The LDF should include policies to ensure that, where appropriate, a percentage of energy to be used in new developments is sourced from on-site renewable energy sources.

PPS 23 - Planning and Pollution Control (2004 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

Local authorities are required to take the policies outlined in PPS 23 and its Annexes into consideration when preparing Local Development Documents.

Key objectives and targets

Any consideration of the quality of land, air or water and potential impacts arising from development, possibly leading to impacts on health, is capable of being a material planning consideration, in so far as it arises or may arise from or may affect any land use;

The planning system plays a key role in determining the location of development which may give rise to pollution, either directly or indirectly, and in ensuring that other uses and developments are not, as far as possible, affected by major existing or potential sources of pollution.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Policies should be developed that assist in determining the location of potentially polluting development.

Policies should be developed that require remediation of contaminated sites.

PPG 24 - Planning and Noise (1994 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

This PPG provides guidance on noise and the role of local authorities in minimising adverse impacts.

Key objectives and targets

Noise-sensitive developments should be located away from existing sources of significant noise (or programmed development such as new roads) and that potentially noisy developments are located in areas where noise will not be such an important consideration or where its impact can be minimised.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Ensure that SA includes a noise objective.

PPG 25 - Development and Flood Risk (2001 - Central Government Policy document)

Why it is relevant

PPG 25 provides guidance on the consideration of flood risk in relation to development. It sets out the importance of management and flood-risk reduction in land-use planning.

Key objectives and targets

Consider the information available on the nature of flood risk and its potential consequences and accord it appropriate weight in the preparation of development plans and in determining applications for planning permission and attaching conditions, where permission is granted.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should avoid unnecessary development in the floodplains that might decrease storage/increase runoff, and compromise human safety. The LDF should also encourage development of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (1981 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Act is the principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.

Key objectives and targets

Addresses the problem of species protection and habitat loss by setting out the protection that is afforded to wild animals and plants in Britain.

Implications for the LDF and SA

There is significant interaction between wildlife and different types of land use. The SA should consider the affects of land use on biodiversity.

Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (2000 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Act creates new public access rights to the countryside of England and Wales.

Key objectives and targets

Emphasises the public's right of access to open country and common land, and gives additional protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Implications for the LDF and SA

Certain land uses and development might hinder accessibility to open country and common land. The LDF should consider these issues, which have relevance to SA objectives on human health, population, and severance.

UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1994 - Central Government Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Action Plan is the Government's response to the Convention on Biodiversity. It is the primary framework for wildlife conservation in the UK. The Plan recognises the role of local authorities in implementing the Plan on a local level.

Key objectives and targets

The UK BAP was published in response to the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992). It highlights a number of priority habitats and species with associated action plans.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should take account of priority habitats and species in the District, and integrate their plan objectives within it, whenever possible.

England Forestry Strategy 1999 (Forestry Commission, 1999 – Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy sets out strategic priorities and programmes for forestry in England.

Key objectives and targets

Continued steady expansion of woodland area to provide more benefit for society and the environment.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should seize upon opportunities to expand existing woodland or create new woodland areas.

'Working with the Grain of Nature': A Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002 – Central Government Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy sets out a five year work programme for biodiversity. It seeks the greater integration of biodiversity issues in policy. It complements and builds on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

Key objectives and targets

Ensures biodiversity considerations are embedded in all main sectors of economic activity. (It is the principal means by which the government will comply with duties under Section 74 of the CRoW Act).

Implications for the LDF and SA

The SA aims to integrate biodiversity into LDF activity by highlighting the interaction between land-use and wildlife.

Our Energy Future - Creating a Low Carbon Economy (2003 - Central Government Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The document sets out policies for a low-carbon future and addresses energy use and climate change in the UK.

Key objectives and targets

Stimulate new, more efficient sources of power generation, and cut emissions from the transport and agricultural sector.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should encourage development of renewable energy facilities and attempt to reduce the need for long-distance car travel.

Climate Change: The UK Programme (2000 - Central Government Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The programme outlines how the UK plans to meet its Kyoto target to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5%, and achieve its domestic goal to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2010.

Key objectives and targets

Cutting UK Carbon Dioxide emissions 60% by 2050.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The SA should contain objectives for reducing Carbon Dioxide emissions.

Air Quality Strategy: Working Together for Clean Air (2000 - Central Government Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy describes the current and likely future air quality of the UK. It provides a framework for action which includes objectives to improve and protect the UK's air quality in the long-term.

Key objectives and targets

Sets objectives for eight main air pollutants, to protect health.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should consider the location of any Air Quality Management Areas, and the objectives for the eight main air pollutants.

The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future (2001 – Central Government Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The document outlines an agenda to achieve more attractive towns and cities; a prosperous and sustainable countryside; world-class tourist attractions; new jobs; and learning, vibrant and self-confident communities.

Key objectives and targets

The historic environment should be protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF could influence the historic environment in several ways, including the ambience of historic structures and features.

The SA should include objectives for Conservation Areas.

A New Commitment to Neighbourhood Renewal, National Strategy Action Plan (2001 – Central Government Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy outlines the Government's vision that no person should be seriously disadvantaged by where they live. It includes two long-term goals; lower worklessness and crime, and improved health, skills, housing and environment, in order to reduce the gap between deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the country.

Key objectives and targets

The national vision for neighbourhood renewal, the plan aims:

- To have lower worklessness; less crime; better health; better skills; and better housing and physical environment in all the poorest neighbourhoods.
- To narrow the gap on these measures between the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the country.

There are no specific targets.

Implications for the LDF and SA

These objectives are essential in reducing social exclusion and should be considered broadly within the LDF and SA.

The LDF should look to regenerate the most deprived wards in the District.

REGIONAL POLICIES

Regional Planning Guidance, RPG 12 (now replaced by the Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber)

Why it is relevant

The Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber is based on RPG12.

Key objectives and targets

4 strategic themes:

- Economic regeneration and growth;
- Promoting social inclusion;
- Urban and rural renaissance;
- Conserving and enhancing natural resources.

RPG 12 includes an extensive set of indicators and targets. These are reported in an annual monitoring report, which is published on the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly website.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

See Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber, below.

Implications for the LDF and SA

RPG indicators need to be integrated into LDF monitoring.

Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber to 2016 based on Selective Review of RPG 12 (Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber, 2004 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

Local authorities must take the RSS for Yorkshire and the Humber into account in preparing their development plans and local transport plans. Local Development Documents prepared under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 must be in general conformity with the RSS. The Regional Spatial Strategy encompasses the Regional Transport Strategy.

Key objectives and targets

The Selective Review addresses the following RPG 12 topics: rural regeneration, coastal communities, culture and tourism, climate change, renewable energy, flood risk, waste management and transport.

Other parts of RPG12 have been carried forward largely unchanged.

Opportunities and challenges fro the RSS are presented under the following headings: Economic, Housing, Integrating Transport & Land-Use, Sustainable Waste Management, A Changing Climate, and Development and Patterns of Economic and Social Activity.

Key objectives are mapped on to the four core objectives of sustainable development:

Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment:-

Regeneration of areas damaged by past industrial decline as well as capitalising on economic growth points

Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone:-

- Seeking social equity and inclusion
- Protecting rural communities and recognising their particular need
- Seeking wider housing opportunity and choice

Effective protection of the environment:-

- Making full use of urban land and minimising the loss of greenfield land
- Protecting and enhancing natural resources
- Tackling urban traffic congestion and reducing transport related emissions
- Making urban areas attractive, high quality, safe places where people choose to live
- Minimising the loss of the rural landscape, maintaining and where possible enhancing its diverse character

Prudent use of natural resources:-

- Addressing the causes of and responding to the effects of climate change
- Minimising travel needs and maximising use of energy efficient modes
- Limiting pollution to what is compatible with health and biosphere capacity
- Reducing resource consumption and encouraging use of renewable energy
- Promoting the sustainable management of waste

The following targets are set:

Economy

- GDP and GDP per head to be higher in real terms and relative to UK and EU average
- Higher percentage of employees in the high technology sector
- Lower regional unemployment relative to national average
- VAT registrations as % of stock of businesses reduction in gap between regeneration areas and the rest of the region
- Increase business start ups, and % of new businesses surviving for 3 years

Social Progress

- Homes judged unfit to live in reduction in number and %
- Numbers on local authority waiting list
- Annual provision of affordable housing 4,000 homes pa in the region (1998-2016)
- Reduction in long term levels of crime
- Indicators of success in tackling poverty and social exclusion
- Expected years of healthy life

Environment

- New homes built on previously developed land (PDL) and provided through conversions Target 60%
- % of employment allocations on PDL
- Emissions of greenhouse gases- reduce by at least 20% below 1990 levels by 2010 and by at least 255 below 1990 levels by 2015
- Rivers of good or fair quality 100km of rivers to be improved by one quality grade by 2005
- Population of wild birds maintain or increase populations

Natural Resources

- Road traffic targets to be set
- Reduce traffic congestion in the inter-urban network and in urban areas below the current levels by 2010
- Passenger travel by mode 10% increase in bus passenger usage by 2010. 50% increase in rail passenger kilometres by 2010
- Increase percentage of municipal waste recycling
- Energy generated from renewable sources at least 9.4% of regional energy consumption by 2010 and 22.5% by 2020. West Yorkshire to supply 74MW by 2020

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

There are large amounts of industrial land left from the decline of older industries, embedded in the urban fabric. This represents both an opportunity and a challenge – urban renaissance and vibrant urban economies will require that such land is brought into beneficial use.

The major challenge is to ensure that the benefits of strong economic growth in parts of the region are spread to other parts and to ensure that regeneration is supported and encouraged.

Revitalisation of the poorer existing housing, environmental improvements and issues of poverty and exclusion are critical to tackling dispersion.

The supply of adequate and affordable housing remains a key challenge in the region.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider the objectives and targets in the RSS when developing the LDF.

Utilise the targets and indicators in the SA where appropriate, to monitor performance.

Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber to 2016

Why it is relevant

The RSS will include a broad development strategy for the region, setting out regional priorities in terms of location and scale of development. Local authorities must take the RSS for Yorkshire and the Humber into account in preparing their development plans and local transport plans. Local Development Documents prepared under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 must be in general conformity with the RSS.

The current RSS is under review. A revised RSS will be submitted to the Deputy Prime Minister in December 2005 and all relevant additions and revisions to policies will need to be taken into account when undertaking subsequent stages of the appraisal process. It should be noted, however, that the RSS will not be finally adopted until the summer of 2007, after public consultation and examination.

Framework for Regional Employment and Skills Action Yorkshire and Humber (Yorkshire Forward - Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Framework provides a single action plan for matching skilled people to good quality jobs.

Key objectives and targets

The Framework includes 9 objectives:

- A) Create a culture in which education, learning and skills are highly valued by individuals and businesses (RES Objective Four Skills);
- B) Increase productivity through workforce development Activity (RES Objective One Existing businesses);
- C) Develop entrepreneurial and business skills (RES Objective Two New businesses);
- D) Capitalise on public investment in the NHS, education, housing and transport (RES Objective Three Investment);
- E) Improve educational attainment and vocational skills amongst labour market entrants (RES Objective Four Skills);
- F) Raise the skills and flexibility of the region's workforce, so it can more effectively adapt to change and respond to economic opportunities (RES Objective Four Skills);
- G) Increase the quality, flexibility and responsiveness of education, learning and skills provision (RES Objective Four Skills);
- H) Connect those at most disadvantage to labour market opportunity, through learning and skills acquisition (RES Objective Five Regeneration); and
- I) Tackle barriers to labour market mobility (RES Objective Six Infrastructure).

Priority Objectives:

Yorkshire and Humber's top priorities for action between 2003 and 2006 will cover the following three objectives:

- (a) Create a culture in which education, learning and skills are highly valued by individuals and businesses;
- (b) Develop entrepreneurial and business skills; and
- (c) Increase the quality, flexibility and responsiveness of education, learning and skills provision.

Targets which underpin the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the Framework and provide a starting point for the establishment of targets:

- By 2005, increase productivity by at least 6%;
- By 2005, ILO* Employment rate above 72.8%;
- By 2005, 10% increase in businesses working with HE institutions/Centres of Excellence;
- By 2004, 81.5% of 16-18 year olds participating in structured learning;
- By 2004, 79% of 19 year olds attaining NVQ level 2 or equivalent;
- By 2004, 43.4% of 19 year olds attaining NVQ level 3 or equivalent;
- By 2004, 78,450 of those in need to improve their literacy and numeracy skills; and
- By 2004, 52.6% of the adult working population attaining NVQ level 3 or equivalent.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

FRESA 'vision':

There will be a wide choice of redevelopment land to facilitate inward investment.

Housing quality will be sufficient to attract and retain people and encourage investment within the region and will be located near appropriate public transport links.

The region will have and will be perceived as having low crime rates.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider how the LDF can contribute to meeting the objectives.

Regional Economic Strategy 2003-2012 (Yorkshire Forward and Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, 2003 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy provides a framework of common objectives and priorities relating to businesses, public agencies, voluntary groups and communities. It sets out a rationale for spending decisions and collective action in improving the region's economic performance.

Key objectives and targets

The Strategy is based around three strategic aims that are designed to achieve sustainable development:

- Realising and enhancing the potential of all Yorkshire and Humber's people to achieve a healthy learning region and social inclusion:
- Growing existing and new businesses to achieve high and stable levels of economic growth and jobs; and
- Utilising the full potential of Yorkshire and Humber's physical and cultural assets and conserving and enhancing its environment to achieve an integrated, sustainable economy.

The six objectives that provide the focus for what the region will do to improve its economic performance in urban and rural areas are to:

- Grow the region's businesses, focusing on key clusters, to create a radical improvement in the competitiveness, productivity and value they add to the region's wealth;
- Achieve higher business birth and survival rates to create a radical improvement in the number of new, competitive businesses that last:
- Attract and retain more private and public investment by creating the right product for investors, and more effective marketing of the region;
- Radically improve the development and application of education, learning and skills, particularly high-quality vocational skills;
- Connect all of the region's communities to economic opportunity through targeted regeneration activity; and
- Enhance and utilise the region's infrastructure of physical and environmental assets.

Tier 1 targets (by 2010):

- Jobs: Create 150,000 new jobs;
- Enterprise: Double the rate of business start-ups per 10,000 population;
- Investment: Treble foreign manufacturing investment;
- Skills: 3 million people trained in IT skills;
- Inclusion: Halve the number of wards (in the most deprived 10% of the index of deprivation);
- Environment: Cut greenhouse gases by over a fifth (from 1990 to 2010);
- Growth: A year on year increase in GDP growth above EU average.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Regeneration and renaissance activity should be a core element of delivering sustainable development. Activities should integrate economic progress, quality of life issues and environmental good practice (e.g. by including high environmental, design, security and energy efficiency standards in housing, new development and business operations).

A greater range of employment opportunities are required. It is important to consider how economic growth can have the most positive long term benefit on the quality and quantity of employment in the region and on wider goals.

The region's housing market is less prone to overheating than that in the south of England, however, parts of Yorkshire and Humber do experience shortages of affordable housing.

Pockets of deprivation and low income levels exist in the region.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Develop LDF objectives and DPD policies to reflect RES objectives.

RES objectives and targets should be considered integral to the baseline assessment and in the identification of issues and SA objectives.

Draft Regional Economic Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber 2006-2015 (Yorkshire Forward and Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, 2005)

Why it is relevant

The purpose of the Review is to assess the progress made to date on achieving the objectives and targets outlined in the RES of 2003. It outlines a Strategy for growth in the region. The first round of consultation of the Review process has been completed. The second round of consultation has begun, with the final draft of the RES due to be submitted to Government at the end of October 2005.

Key objectives and targets

This strategy has six objectives that reflect the aims of Business, People and Environment:

- More businesses because higher levels of enterprise are so important;
- Competitive businesses making indigenous businesses more productive because they innovate and invest;
- Skilled People with talents that employers value and which offer due reward;
- To connect people to good jobs because levels of employment make a big difference to people and the
 economy, and we need more people in jobs in deprived areas;
- Enhanced transport, infrastructure and the environment a strong economy needs good transport connections and to make the best of the environment and infrastructure; and
- Stronger cities, towns and rural communities to ensure they are attractive places to live, work and invest.

The following Tier 1 and 2 targets have been set for 2016:

- Increase GDP faster than major competitors
- Raise the ILO Employment rate from 74.4% in 2004 to 78%-80% equating to around 155,000 200,000 net extra
 jobs;
- Raise GVA per worker by 25-30% from £28,300 in 2003 to between £35,000 -£37,000 (GVA per workforce job);
- Double R&D expenditure from 0.5% of GVA in 2002 to 1% of regional GVA (Business Enterprise R&D all industries, total workplace based);
- Increase total business stock by 25% from 32 businesses per 1,000 adults in 2004 to 40 businesses per 1,000 adults based on VAT registered firms and equating to over 30,000 extra net businesses;
- Raise % of people with NVQ level 2 or higher to 80% (from 70% in 2004) and the proportion within this total with Level 4+ from 37% in 2004 to 45%;
- Achieve real terms increase in transport investment in the region as a % of regional GVA from 0.9% in 2004/5 to over 1% of GVA;
- Raise total private sector manufacturing and services investment by 50% from £5.3 billions in 2002 to £8b;
- Notably improve quality of place in renaissance cities and towns based on improvement on a new index. Detail to be in final RES based on measures such as migration patterns, skills/incomes, neighbourhood satisfaction, and town/city centre demand;
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions (CO2 equivalent) by 20-25% over 1990 baseline, based on modelling of energy/resources consumption attributable to Y&H; and
- Cut the % of local 'super output areas' in the region in the 10% most deprived nationally from 16% (in 2004) to 13% halving the gap to national average.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

High quality, integrated projects that can hit as many of the six objectives as possible should be developed. There are strong links between the objectives. For example, business growth depends upon an effective transport system and attracting skilled people – who want good schools, housing, hospitals and quality of life as well. Better education, learning and skills will help the businesses in the region, create more entrepreneurs and attract greater investment, as well as lift people out of poverty and into jobs.

Integrated planning, high energy and environmental standards in new buildings, and encouragement of renewable energy or resource efficiency will characterise publicly supported projects.

Yorkshire and Humber has fewer skilled people than the most successful regions. The region needs to improve the skills of the people already living here, and to attract and retain more skilled people.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Develop LDF objectives and DPD policies to reflect RES objectives.

RES objectives and targets should be considered integral to the baseline assessment and in the identification of issues and SA objectives.

Building the Benefits – Yorkshire and Humber Regional Sustainable Development Framework (Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, 2000 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The RSDF seeks to ensure that sustainable development is an integral part of policy and decision-making at regional, subregional, and local levels.

Key objectives and targets

The Framework includes 15 sustainability aims that provide the basis of the region's sustainability appraisal:

- Good quality employment opportunities available to all;
- Conditions enabling business success, economic growth and investment;
- Education and training opportunities building the skills and capacities of the population;
- Safety and security for people and property;
- Conditions and services engendering good health;
- Culture, leisure and recreation opportunities available to all;
- Vibrant communities participating in decision making;
- Local needs met locally;
- A transport network maximising access whilst minimising detrimental impacts;
- A quality built environment and efficient land use patterns making good use of derelict sites, minimising travel and promoting balanced development;
- Quality housing available to everyone;
- A bio-diverse and attractive natural environment;
- Minimal pollution levels;
- Minimal greenhouse gas emissions and a managed response to the effects of climate change; and
- Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources with minimal production of waste.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

See RSDF Update, below.

Implications for the LDF and SA

See RSDF Update, below.

Building the Benefits – Yorkshire and Humber Regional Sustainable Development Framework Update 2003-2005 (Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, 2003 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

This document is an interim update of the Regional Sustainable Development Framework that was first produced in 2000. The framework will be fully reviewed in 2005. This version is intended to re-focus efforts to take forward sustainability. It concentrates on two priorities - integrating sustainability into policy and decision making and developing a regional approach to tackling climate change.

Key objectives and targets

The Update document retains the 15 sustainability aims from the RSDF (see above).

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Existing priority habitats and species should be protected and enhanced. Provision should be made for the appropriate long term management of wildlife habitats.

The quality and quantity of woodland cover in appropriate locations should be enhanced using native species.

Maximum use should be made of previously developed land and existing buildings for development.

A varied range of employment opportunities should be available across a range of sectors and across all parts the region, including in areas that in the past suffered severe economic decline.

New homes, should be designed and built in a sustainable way to encourage diverse and mixed-income communities and to cater for the changing demographics of the region.

The development of communities with accessible services, employment, shops and leisure facilities should be promoted.

New developments should provide essential services accessible without use of a car and should be accessible by public transport.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The sustainability aims should be integrated into the LDF. The SA should incorporate the sustainability indicators included in Appendix 4 of the document.

Our Region, Our Health – A Regional Strategic Framework for Public Health in Yorkshire and the Humber (Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber, 2004 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Framework offers a vision for better public health across the region and outlines the unique actions that can be taken at a regional level to influence better health and reduce health inequalities. It seeks to maximise the opportunities for coordinated regional action through the implementation of the White Paper on Public Health.

Key objectives and targets

Eight key strategic priorities for regional-level work to promote the health of the region:

Influencing public policy by:

- 1. Improving health and reducing health inequalities through regional policies, strategies and plans;
- 2. Supporting the implementation of national public health programmes and policies;
- 3. Influencing national and European health policy development;

Developing effective public health systems by:

- 4. Continuing to form and develop key strategic partnerships;
- 5. Working to support the development of organisations, networks and communities;

Building our public health resources by:

- 6. Developing strong, reliable and accessible public health intelligence systems;
- 7. Establishing an intrinsic culture of learning from evidence and best public health practice;
- 8. Creating a sustainable long term strategy for public health capacity development.

Regional strategies support and deliver Public Service Agreement targets.

Public Service Agreement targets:

Objective 1: Improve the health of the population. By 2010 increase life expectancy at birth in England to 78.6 years for men and to 82.5 years for women:

- 1) Substantially reduce mortality rates by 2010:
 - from heart disease and stroke and related diseases by at least 40% in people under 75, with a 40% reduction in the inequalities gap between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole;
 - from cancer by at least 20% in people under 75, with a reduction in the inequalities gap of at least 6% between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole; and
 - from suicide and undetermined injury by at least 20%.
- 2) Reduce health inequalities by 10% by 2010 as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth.
- 3) Tackle the underlying determinants of health and health inequalities by:
 - reducing adult smoking rates to 21% or less by 2010, with a reduction in prevalence among routine and manual groups to 26% or less;
 - halting the year-on-year rise in obesity among children under 11 by 2010 in the context of a broader strategy to tackle obesity in the population as a whole. Joint target with the Department for Education and Skills and the Department of Culture, Media and Sport; and
 - reducing the under-18 conception rate by 50% by 2010, as part of a broader strategy to improve sexual health.
 Joint target with the Department for Education and Skills.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Local Authorities have an important role in promoting health and well being for their local population.

Health is a key component in the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) of local government from 2005:

- setting targets to improve health as part of Local public service agreements and Local Area Agreements
- learning from the national work on 'Shared Priorities'
- scrutiny of health.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Ensure that these objectives are addressed by the DPDs and SPDs.

Regional Environmental Enhancement Strategy (The Yorkshire and Humber Regional Environment Forum, 2003 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy presents regional objectives for environmental enhancement over the next 5-10 years; and practical actions to achieve those objectives. It provides the context for promoting and raising understanding of environmental issues; creates a channel to improve decision-making and community participation; and tries to influence how funds for environmental enhancement are deployed. It sets the environmental agenda for shaping policy and decision-making processes in other regional strategies, particularly Regional Planning Guidance (RPG) and the Regional Economic Strategy (RES).

Key objectives and targets

Objectives:

- Building knowledge and understanding;
- Conserving environmental resources;
- Managing environmental change;
- Making community connections.

There are no specific targets, however, the Strategy includes a range of indicators:

- River Quality;
- Household Waste Arising;
- % of housing developed on previously used land;
- Total Motor Vehicle Km travelled;
- % of journeys to work by walk/ cycle/ public transport;
- Average time taken travelling to work (mins); and
- Mean traffic speed (kph).

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Radical improvements in resource efficiency, to reduce the region's consumption and prevent further climate change, should be made.

Opportunities to enhance environmental wealth, by repairing damage and giving people and nature the chance to strive, should be seized.

Within the region, decisions should be based on a real understanding of the environment and a desire to enhance it.

Everyone should be able to enjoy the environment and have the opportunity to participate in shaping and enhancing it.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider how LDF can contribute to the environmental enhancement strategy.

The Value of Trees in Our Changing Region - The Strategic Framework for Trees, Woods and Forests in Yorkshire and The Humber Region and Action Plan (Forestry Commission, 2005 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

'The Value of Trees in Our Changing Region' provides a Strategic Framework for the future management of trees and woodlands in Yorkshire and The Humber region. It marries national priorities with local aspirations and identifies where a regional approach can add value.

Key objectives and targets

Strategic aims/ objectives:

- To ensure the benefits provided by the region's trees and woodlands are understood, recognised and valued;
- A sustainably managed regional tree and woodland resource supporting the retention and development of a viable and vibrant forestry sector, and contributing to the overall sustainable development of the region;
- To utilise the many environmental strengths of trees and woodlands to underpin the economic and social renaissance of the region;
- To achieve maximum biodiversity gain for the region through appropriate tree and woodland planting and management that takes account of the needs of all species and habitats;
- To help the region address issues of ill-health by maximising the contribution of trees and woodlands, particularly
 in areas of greatest health inequalities;
- To help the region combat climate change through maximising the contribution of trees and woodlands; and
- To achieve effective and efficient implementation of the aims and objectives of the strategy.

There are no specific targets.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

The restoration of woodland Sites of Special Scientific Interest to a favourable condition, and the development of a better understanding of the current status of all priority woodland habitats and species in the region, should be prioritised. Only then will it be possible to meet international biodiversity obligations for woodland habitat restoration and expansion.

A high priority is given to the management and protection of the region's existing trees and woodlands to increase progressively the overall tree and woodland cover in the region, but to prioritise new planting in areas where the maximum public benefit can be achieved.

The restoration of Ancient Woodlands, particularly those planted with non-native species, offers a significant opportunity to deliver biodiversity gain.

Fragmentation should be minimised, and connectivity maximised, both between individual woodlands and between woodlands and other semi-natural habitats, so as to create more functional habitat networks in the wider landscape.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The Framework should inform the DPDs and SPDs.

Let's Take it from the Tip - Yorkshire and Humber Waste Strategy (Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, 2003 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy aims to develop sustainable waste management systems for Yorkshire and Humber.

Key objectives and targets

A set of four objectives has been drawn up to take forward the principles of sustainable waste management and to take into account the barriers to better waste management that exist within the region:

- Objective 1 Gain community support and involvement in the delivery of the strategy;
- Objective 2 Reduce waste production and increase re-use, recycling and composting;
- Objective 3 Manage residual waste in the most sustainable way; and
- Objective 4 Provide technical support and advice.

Within the objectives, the following targets have been set:

- Priority should be given to reduce waste; the target is to cut the average annual increase in waste from 3% to 2% by 2008/9;
- The recycling and composting targets for household waste for the local authorities in the region are summarised as follows:

- 0 2005/6 21%
- 0 2010/11 30%
- o 2015/16 33.3%
- (The recycling target rate for Selby for 2005/6 is 18% of the total municipal waste collected).
- Achieve statutory targets for recycling and composting household waste and diverting BMW from landfill.
- Municipal waste management strategies and new waste disposal contracts should be evaluated using Best Practicable Environmental Option, sustainability appraisal and health impact assessment.
- Establish networks of contacts from local authorities, waste companies, environmental groups, community organisations and individuals:
 - disseminate good practice on waste management
 - o provide updates and interpretation on new legislation
 - o facilitate discussions to inform consultation responses to UK and EU Governments

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

In line with the waste hierarchy the priorities, after reduction, should be to re-use, recycle and compost waste.

Reducing the amount of waste produced in the region must be the priority. Less waste means fewer resources are used and less waste treatment is needed. The target for this objective is to bring down the 3% year on year waste growth by reducing the annual increase per household to 2% by 2008/9.

To achieve these targets there will need to be more kerbside collection schemes to serve communities across all parts of the region. It is recommended that local authorities implement much more widespread kerbside schemes.

The region is one of the worst performing in England, with an average regional recycling rate of around 6%. This will need to be improved to 21% by 2005/6 to attain the first government target deadline.

For local authorities, introducing more sustainable waste management systems will require new investment.

The market for recycled waste materials is under-developed in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider how the LDF could contribute to the objectives and achieving the targets for waste reduction and recycling. SA objectives should consider the promotion of recycling and methods for dealing with waste, other than landfill.

Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Housing Strategy 2003 - 2005 (Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, 2003 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

This first strategy was valuable in setting initial regional priorities to steer the use of the first single housing pot. The strategy is now historical due to the preparation of the 2005-2021 Regional Housing Strategy.

Key objectives and targets

4 main programme objectives:

- Objective One regeneration and renewal.
- Objective Two provision of sufficient new homes, creating mixed-income communities.
- Objective Three improving homes to meet decent standards and aspirations.
- Objective Four fair access to quality housing for all groups.

In addition, there has been a fifth 'objective' included – on delivering the Strategy.

A number of indicators are included in the Strategy.

Specific targets included in the Strategy are as follows:

- Objective One:
 - o On increasing the rate of clearance Number of properties cleared needs to increase toward guideline

range of 4,500-6,000 pa.

- On vacancy rate To reduce vacants from 4.3% (2002) to 3.5% by 2016.
- On private house sales at very low prices Number of properties sold at less than £20K to be reduced to NIL by 2016.
- On new housing on brownfield sites To increase new housing developed on previously-developed land to 60% by 2016 (49% in 1998).
- Objective Two:
 - On housing completions Number of homes completed by size, category and type (new-build and conversions) each year. RPG guideline is 14,675 pa up to 2016.
- Objective Three:
 - Regional target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2010.
 - To reduce the number of households in fuel poverty to NIL by 2010 (29.1% in 1996)

There are no numeric targets for Objective Four or for delivering the Strategy 'objective' Five).

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

See Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Housing Strategy 2005 – 2021 below.

Implications for the LDF and SA

See Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Housing Strategy 2005 – 2021 below.

Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Housing Strategy 2005 - 2021 (Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, 2005 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Regional Housing Strategy complements and supports other key regional strategies. The strategy also sets out how close alignment with the RES and RSS will deliver sustainable communities. The Strategy is currently in its Final Draft form.

Key objectives and targets

The strategy is focused around three themes:

- Creating better places responding to the diversity of markets and improving neighbourhood infrastructure and facilities:
- Delivering better homes, choice and opportunity delivering choice and opportunity for all people to meet their housing aspirations, and to improve housing condition and services for all; and
- Fair Access making sure the requirements and preferences of all parts of communities are met by sensitive and appropriate housing solutions, and that obstacles faced by specific groups to accessing their housing choices are removed.

Targets are as follows:

- Creating Better Places:
 - Close by a third the gap between the level of vacancies and house values in Pathfinder areas and West Yorkshire low demand areas compared to the regional average.
 - o Achieve population stability in the main urban areas.
 - Achieve an overall regional vacancy rate of between 2.5 and 3.5% by 2010, and sustain it within this threshold thereafter.
 - Deliver 360 affordable homes in rural areas 50% of which to be in settlements with a population of less than 3,000.

- Delivering Better Homes:
 - Ensure all social housing tenants live in decent homes by 2010, as a minimum, and continue to do so thereafter.
 - Increase the proportion of vulnerable private sector households living in decent homes to at least 70% by 2010.
 - End fuel poverty for vulnerable households by 2010, and for all households by 2016; including increasing
 average home energy rating across all homes to SAP 65 by 2016 including reducing the percentage of
 homes with a SAP rating of less than 30 to below 1% in social housing and 2% (or less) in private sector
 housing.
- Fair Access to Quality Housing:
 - The number of homelessness acceptances across the region to be reduced by at least 30% by 2010 from the Quarter 3, 2004 level.
 - Continue to ensure that no families with children are placed in Bed & Breakfast accommodation for longer than 6 weeks throughout the region.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Work with planning authorities to deliver Local Development Frameworks with robust and defensible affordable housing targets.

All local authorities and their partners should develop integrated investment plans for investing in homes that meet modern living requirements and are in neighbourhoods where people want to live and continue to live.

Local authorities, Pathfinders and other partners to develop modern partnering arrangements with the construction sector that deliver value for money and benefits to local economies – especially in deprived areas - through local supply chains, and employment and apprenticeship opportunities.

All local authorities to carry out an effective needs analysis of Gypsy and Traveller sites to determine the number of additional static and transit sites that are required.

Local authorities and their partners should develop strategies that provide a range of flexible options and care services to meet the needs and aspirations of older people and people with physical disabilities.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider how the LDF can contribute to the provision of affordable housing and improving the quality of housing.

The SA should include objectives relating to social inclusion. The objective for townscape should emphasise the presumption towards brownfield developments and (rural) affordable housing.

Deep Roots, Real Achievements, Lofty Ambitions - Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Cultural Strategy (Yorkshire Cultural Consortium, 2001 - non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The purpose of the cultural strategy is to link the work of all the individual people, organisations and agencies who have a bearing on quality of life in the region.

Key objectives and targets

The Strategy is based on two principles:

- 1) Culture is not an extra, an add-on; it is a fundamental element of the lives of us all, as important to a fulfilled life as prosperity, health and education.
- 2) Culture belongs to everyone; rather than seeing some aspects of culture as intrinsically more valuable than others, the Consortium believes that everyone, resident and visitor alike, deserves the best.

There are no specific targets.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

There are ten challenges to the vision: access (including barriers of class and race, poor public transport and a lack of information); ambition (to compete as a world class region, a world class culture is needed); education (the national curriculum was slow to recognise the benefits of cultural expression); equity (the region does not get its fair share of resources); innovation (a higher business birth rate in cultural industries needs to be encouraged); integration (the Consortium itself and the cultural community are not yet fully integrated); priorities (the majority of the regions local authorities have a low level of spending on culture); recognition (a stronger cultural profile for the region is needed); regeneration (culture can make a big contribution to the regeneration of the region's economy, but its case has to be made successfully to investors, decision-makers and planners); skills (the regions skills-base needs continuous upgrading).

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider how the LDF can contribute to achieving these objectives.

SUB-COUNTY DOCUMENTS

North Yorkshire County Structure Plan 1991 - 2006 (North Yorkshire County Council, 1996 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Structure Plan provides the strategic policy base on which North Yorkshire District Councils and the two National Park Authorities, as well as the City of York, prepare their detailed Local Plans. It also provides a context for the County Council's Local Transport Plan. The plan was adopted in 1995 and covers the period 1991-2006.

Key objectives and targets

Policy H1:

- For the period 1991 -2006, provision will be made mainly in and around main urban areas, main towns and small towns for about 34,400 additions to the housing stock (new build plus net conversions) in the county of North Yorkshire on the boundaries effective from 1 april 1996 and for about 10,200 additions to the housing stock (new build plus net conversions) in the new county and city of York.
- Within the county of North Yorkshire the 34,400 dwellings will be broadly distributed as follows:

Craven 2,600 Hambleton 4,500 Harrogate 7,000 Richmondshire 2,500 Ryedale 2,700 Scarborough 5,800 Selby 9,300

Policy I5:

- For the period 1991 -2006 provision will be made mainly in and around main urban areas, main towns and small towns for about 430ha of additional land for industrial/business development in the county of North Yorkshire on the boundaries effective from 1 April 1996 and for about 145 ha in the new county and City of York.
- Within the county of North Yorkshire, the 430ha of land will be broadly distributed as follows:

Craven 25 ha Hambleton 70 ha Harrogate 65 ha Richmondshire 35 ha Ryedale 20 ha Scarborough 90 ha Selby 125ha

Policy R1:

 Provision will be made for the development of recreational, leisure and cultural facilities in locations accessible to both public and private transport where this is not detrimental to local interests.

Policy E1:

Priority will be given to the conservation of the landscapes and general amenity of the following areas:

The North York Moors national park;

The Yorkshire Dales national park:

The Forest of Bowland area of outstanding natural beauty;

The Nidderdale Moors:

The Howardian Hills:

The North Yorkshire and Cleveland Heritage Coast; and

The Flamborough Head Heritage Coast.

- Within these areas:
 - (i) There will be a presumption against new development or major extensions to existing development except where it can be shown to be necessary in that location.
 - (ii) when development is permitted, high standards of design will be required, using appropriate materials and paying due regard to its setting.
 - (iii) measures will be taken to protect and enhance the landscape, important buildings and other heritage features.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

The Local Authorities will take steps to ensure that the housing provisions in this policy will be phased to maintain a supply of land throughout the plan period. In settlements outside the main urban centres, market towns and service villages, new housing development will be limited to conversions, infilling and small-scale development.

Outside the major urban areas and the market towns, provision will be made within the District totals for the majority of new housing development in the rural areas to be located in service villages

Provision will be made for the development of tourist accommodation and facilities.

Conventional public transport services, both bus and train, will be sustained throughout the county as far as possible. Particular emphasis will be given to services for journeys to work and shopping purposes.

Single shopping developments over 15,000 sq.ft. gross floor area will normally be permitted only in or as an extension to an existing shopping centre.

Development which would involve the loss of agricultural land but which could reasonably be expected to take place on non-agricultural land or on agricultural land of a lower quality will be resisted. Preference will be given to the use of derelict, under-used or degraded land.

Buildings and areas of special townscape, architectural or historic interest will be afforded the strictest protection.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider how to meet broad objectives within the DPDs and SPDs, as appropriate.

North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2001- 2006 (North Yorkshire County Council, 2000 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan seeks to develop a better more integrated transport system for North Yorkshire based on less congestion, less pollution, more transport choice and less dependency on the car.

Objectives:

- To promote social equality by providing genuine choices of travel mode which meet the travel needs of the socially and physically disadvantaged;
- To limit traffic growth by reducing the need to travel and developing alternative non-car travel modes;
- To provide a safe, efficient and well maintained highway network as part of an integrated transport strategy;
- To minimise the adverse impact of traffic on the environment, particularly with regard to noise and air pollution;
- To provide a quality public transport system for as many residents as possible which recognises the importance and impact of tourism in the County;
- To reduce the number and severity of casualties arising from road accidents in the County; and
- To facilitate opportunities for economic regeneration and growth and the sustainable movement of goods.

Targets:

- To increase the total annual distance in km covered by local buses within the area of the Authority by 10% by 2005/06;
- To introduce 10 calming/gateway schemes per annum;
- To ensure that 75% of users are satisfied with local bus services by the end of the Plan period;
- To ensure that 75% of users are satisfied with local provision of public transport information by the end of the Plan period;
- To achieve a 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured by 2010 compared with the average for 1994 1998:
- To achieve a 50% reduction in children under 16 years of age killed and seriously injured by 2010 compared with the average for 1994 – 1998;
- To achieve a 10% reduction in slight casualty rate (expressed as the number of people slightly injured per 100 million vehicle km) compared with the average for 1994 1998;

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

A sustainable transport system is required, which will not only meet the social and economic needs of local communities but also safeguard the environment.

The predominant means of travel for the majority of journeys in North Yorkshire is by private car. The challenge the County Council faces is to reduce and ultimately reverse the growth in the number and lengths of motorised transport journeys while developing sustainable alternative modes of transport. Limiting traffic growth is particularly pressing in urban areas and tourist "hotspots".

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should contain policies that reduce the use of the private car, and supports alternative modes of transport. The Transport Plan objectives and targets should be considered integral in the identification of SA objectives.

North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2006- 2011 (North Yorkshire County Council, 2005 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2006- 2011 sets out the aims and objectives for transport in North Yorkshire for the next ten to fifteen years and the strategies and policies to deliver them over the five year period 2006-2011. This plan will replace the existing local transport plan (as detailed above), which expires in March 2006.

- To ensure good access to key services (Education, Health, Food, Employment and Recreation and tourism) for everyone;
- To improve safety for all highway users;
- To enhance the natural and built environment through the appropriate provision of services and transport and where necessary protect it from the impacts of these provisions;
- To ensure that traffic congestion, and its adverse environmental and social effects, is minimised in both rural and urban areas;
- To ensure that transport provision contributes towards the promotion of healthy and sustainable communities;
- To provide and maintain an efficient transport network contributing towards increased economic prosperity for everyone; and
- To ensure that the management and maintenance of the transport infrastructure contributes towards the efficient use of resources.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

The Vision of the plan reflects the philosophy that transport is primarily a means of people accessing the services that they require and that most of those services can be provided in local communities.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should contain policies that reduce the use of the private car, and which provides services in local communities. The Transport Plan objectives should be considered integral in the identification of SA objectives.

North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report (North Yorkshire County Council, 2005 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

This report assesses the potential environmental impacts of the Local Transport Plan against a set of environmental objectives.

Key objectives and targets

Provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of the local transport plan with a view to promoting sustainable development.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

North Yorkshire is typified by scarcely populated, low density settlements set in extensive areas of open countryside. There is a need to travel to gain access to services and for many people in North Yorkshire the private car remains the only realistic means of transport. The high quality of the North Yorkshire environment attracts significant numbers of visitors. There is a need to balance the beneficial economic impact of tourism whilst minimising the adverse environmental impacts.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The SA Framework should include environmental objectives when considering any transport related policies.

North Yorkshire Second Draft School Organisation Plan 2004 – 2009 (North Yorkshire County Council, 2004 – Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

This Draft School Organisation Plan provides information about the numbers of pupils expected to be in North Yorkshire's schools in the five years from 2004 to 2009, and about the numbers of school places there are available in the County. It is intended to give the background against which the Local Education Authority's (LEA) proposals for school planning may be viewed

Key objectives and targets

To raise standards of education through life, and to do so inclusively.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

For many years, North Yorkshire pupil numbers have been growing, at a rate comparable to areas of the South East. In keeping with most other areas, the picture is now changing to a reduction in pupil numbers as the decline in the birth rate starts to take effect at school level. This will be balanced out to some extent by housing planned in the County, but nevertheless the underlying downward trend is already showing in primary pupil numbers and will start to take effect in secondary schools in approximately three years' time.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF will need to consider the location of any new housing development, in line with the available school provision.

North Yorkshire Adult Learning Plan 2003 – 2006 (North Yorkshire County Council, 2003 – Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Plan provides a framework for the Council's objectives and priorities for Adult Learning in the area.

Key objectives and targets

- Make learning truly demand-led so that it better meets the needs of employers and adults;
- Improve the skill for life of those living and working in North Yorkshire;
- Sector skills shortages; and
- Improving the skills of the public sector workforce.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

E-learning and ICT provision across the county is a priority area, and it may be necessary to divert resources from non-priority areas of work.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The SA Framework should include objectives related to improvement in educational skills.

North Yorkshire Cycling Strategy (North Yorkshire County Council, 1999 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

This strategy is concerned primarily with encouraging cycle use, which in turn helps to promote more sustainable transport.

- To maximise the role of cycling as a transport mode, in order to reduce the use of private cars both for utility and recreational purposes:
- To develop a safe, convenient, efficient and attractive transport infrastructure which encourages and facilitates the use
 of walking, cycling and public transport and which minimises reliance on and discourages unnecessary use of,
 private cars: and
- To ensure that policies to increase cycling and meet the needs of cyclists are fully integrated into the Structure Plan, the Local Transport Plan, the Road Safety Plan and all other relevant strategies. To encourage the appropriate authorities to do likewise for the District Local Plans.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Safety of cycling is the main reason given by potential cyclists for not cycling. Measures should be provided, wherever possible, which improve cyclists' safety and give cyclists greater priority (in terms of access and journey time) over other traffic, on all roads with significant cycle flows or significant potential cycle flows.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF needs to include policies that will increase cycling and meet the needs of cyclists.

North Yorkshire Community Strategy 2005 - 2008 (North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership, 2005 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The purpose of the North Yorkshire Community Strategy is to set out ways of making a real difference to the social, economic and environmental well-being of the people and places of North Yorkshire.

Key objectives and targets

- Secure a thriving economy;
- Provide everyone with the opportunity to develop to their full potential;
- Help people in need;
- Promote socially inclusive, safe and sustainable communities;
- Take care of our heritage, landscape and environment;
- Ensure that people's needs for access to jobs and services of all kinds are met as effectively as possible; and
- Plan for emergencies and cope with their aftermath.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

The Community Strategy has identified a number of issues that will need to be addressed. These are as follows:

- Weakness in the local economy, especially in relation to low wage and seasonal employment;
- Under-developed skills in the adult workforce improving their skills will improve their opportunities, make businesses
 more competitive and add to the attraction of the County to employers;
- Inequalities in access to housing where people with incomes based on the local economy cannot compete with second home owners or commuters;
- The extent and quality of our heritage and cultural assets, the quality of our environment and their importance to our quality of life and the local economy;
- The effects of inaccessibility on access to opportunities of all kinds, especially for those without private transport;
- A need to improve waste management and reduce reliance on landfill as a means of disposal; and
- An under-investment in broadband telecommunications infrastructure.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF will need to include policies that consider the above challenges, and the objectives in the SA Framework will need to consider these issues.

Let's Talk Rubbish – Developing a Waste Strategy for York and North Yorkshire (North Yorkshire Waste Management Partnership, 2002 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The waste strategy sets out how waste can be managed in an environmentally friendly way to meet Government targets. It is based upon the Government's vision for sustainable waste management as outlined in its Waste Strategy 2000 and its Guidance on Municipal Waste Management Strategies.

Key objectives and targets

To meet the targets set out in the EU Landfill Directive and the UK Government's Waste Strategy 2000, including:

- Thirty three per cent of household waste is recycled or composted by 2015.
- Value is recovered from 67 per cent of municipal waste by 2015.
- The amount of biodegradable municipal waste being buried in landfill sites is reduced to 35 per cent of the amount that was being buried in 1995, by 2020.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

In line with the waste hierarchy the priorities, after reduction, should be to re-use, recycle and compost waste.

Reducing the amount of waste produced in the County must be the priority. Less waste means fewer resources are used and less waste treatment is needed.

To achieve these targets there will need to be more kerbside collection schemes to serve communities across all parts of the region. It is recommended that local authorities implement much more widespread kerbside schemes.

Consultation has identified that residents accept they as well as the councils, have responsibilities for dealing with waste. People have begun to recycle and there is a willingness to do more if convenient systems and facilities are provided.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider how the LDF could contribute to the objectives and achieving the targets for waste reduction and recycling. SA objectives should consider the promotion of recycling and methods for dealing with waste, other than landfill.

Investment Plan for York and North Yorkshire 2004 – 2009 - Initial Plan (York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit, 2004 – Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The overriding strategic consideration of this plan is that the Investment Plan operates within the context of the Regional Sustainable Development Framework, which has informed the SA Framework.

- To grow the regions businesses, focusing on key clusters, to create a radical improvement in the competitiveness, productivity and value they add to the regions wealth:
- To achieve a higher business birth and survival rates to create a radical improvement in the number of new, competitive businesses that last;
- To attract and retain more private and public investment in the region by providing the right product for investors and more effective marketing of the region;
- To achieve a radical improvement in the development and application of education, learning and skills, particularly high-quality vocational skills;
- Connect all the regions communities to economic opportunity through targeted regeneration activity; and
- Enhance and utilise the regions infrastructure of physical and environmental assets.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

One of the challenges set out in this plan is to develop the renaissance of Selby, through transforming its economic base. Selby is under-going significant structural change with the closure of the coalfield complex and the power industry. Although Selby performs well in terms of productivity this is currently due to these two industries and as these decline output and employment will be lost. Any economic development must be considered in light of the sustainable development framework, which has informed this Plan.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF must include policies that encourage new businesses, and helps their survival, whilst taking into account the social and environmental needs of the District.

LOCAL DOCUMENTS

Selby District Local Plan Adoption Draft (Selby District Council, 2005 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Plan sets out policies for the control of development in the District, makes proposals for development and the use of land to allocate land for specific purposes and highlights local planning issues.

The primary aims and objectives of the Plan are concerned with:

- 1) the promotion of sustainable development;
- 2) the protection and enhancement of environmental quality; and
- 3) planning for contemporary patterns of development.

Under each of these headings are a number of key objectives:

- To balance competing demands on a finite quantity of land and make the best use of resources.
- To ensure an adequate supply of suitable land for employment, housing and other purposes whilst safeguarding environmental and natural resources from inappropriate development.
- To facilitate economic recovery and diversification in a way which enhances environmental quality.
- To ensure full and effective use of land and property within existing settlements and to maintain the quality of the countryside.
- To assist in meeting the national goal of reducing harmful CO₂ emissions.
- To encourage energy efficient forms of development and renewable forms of energy.
- To protect and enhance the special character and wildlife habitats of the Selby District.
- To protect the countryside for its open character and its landscape, wildlife, recreational and natural resource value.
- To protect built heritage including important buildings, conservation areas, open spaces and historical sites.
- To ensure control over the pollution of water, air, soil and other environmental assets.
- To promote excellence in the quality of design of new development.
- To safeguard the amenity of existing and proposed sensitive developments such as homes and schools.
- To concentrate new development within or close to market towns and selected villages that are capable of accommodating additional growth.
- To sustain rural communities and the growth of the rural economy in a way which respects the character and appearance of the countryside.
- To strengthen town and local centres by encouraging community, shopping and employment opportunities.
- To maintain and improve choice for people to cycle, walk or use public transport rather than drive between home, jobs and facilities they use regularly.
- To maximise the use of existing facilities and investment in infrastructure including public transport.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Significant provision should be made for affordable housing in both urban and rural areas.

The scale of previous population growth has not been matched by the provision of adequate social and recreational facilities and services. This is exacerbated by the decline of rural facilities and local shops.

It is important to promote and strengthen the economic base of the District.

High priority should be given to protecting the Plan area's special designations, and avoiding, minimising or compensating for the impact of development on other natural and man-made features, which contribute to the character and identity of the Plan area and to the quality of life of residents.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Develop LDF objectives and policies to reflect the main strategic objectives.

Community Strategy 2005 - 2010 Selby District (Selby Strategy Forum, 2005 - Non-Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Plan seeks to provide a positive force for change to improve the quality of life for all who live, work and enjoy leisure time in the District.

Key objectives and targets

The main aim of the community strategy is to improve the quality of life for those who live and work in the District.

There are five themes for the community strategy, under which are various objectives. These are:

- 1. Targeting and co-ordinating our efforts in the areas of greatest need;
- 2. Working with our community;

- 3. Developing sustainable communities;
- 4. Developing our three market towns and surrounding rural areas; and
- 5. Improving the image of the area.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

The voluntary and community sector needs to be strengthened so it can play an increased role in supporting the community and delivering local services.

Education should meet the needs of the local business community, not only academically, but in terms of attitude and ambition and the ability to solve problems, communicate effectively and work as a team.

A balance is required between providing more affordable housing, and increased income and salaries through the development of the local economy, to make sure more people can afford to rent or buy houses.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF objectives should be significantly informed by the objectives of this strategy which reflect local concerns and issues.

Targets and data sources should be considered as suitable indicators for SA objectives.

Economic Development Strategy and Improvement Plan 2003 – 2008 (Selby District Council, 2003 – Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy aims to facilitate and encourage quality sustainable enterprise and employment.

Key objectives and targets

- Promote and support projects which will contribute to the economic growth of the District;
- Encourage support services that will enhance skills, raise confidence and improve the ability of local people to access local job opportunities or community schemes;
- Making the connection between work, learning, healthcare etc;
- Help to present a positive image of the District; and
- To meet concerns and priorities of local communities.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Economic and commercial activities will be refocused on the three townships of the District. Economic development will encourage the re-use of brownfield sites. Rail transport is not being used to its full advantage and beer usage will nee to be developed.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF will need to consider appropriate locations for employment allocation, and objectives will need to be included in the SA Framework to ensure that the most sustainable locations are selected.

A Cultural Strategy for Selby District (Selby District Council, 2003 – Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy promotes the cultural well-being of the District. The purpose of the document is to ensure that a strategic approach is adopted to culture.

The Cultural Strategy's vision is as follows:-

'By 2010 the District of Selby will be an area of high quality, accessible cultural activity. Everyone will be aware of their cultural opportunities and the diverse cultural provision available to the District and will be inspired to participate at all levels, leading to individual and community enrichment'.

This is a vision that focuses on retaining and creating opportunities for people to experience and partake in cultural activities regardless of geography, education, background, physical abilities or income, and that reflects the diversity of the Selby District. It also focuses on maximising resources to ensure greater cultural provision within the area, but recognises that much needs to be done to support the agencies working towards this vision. This vision is supported by a series of broad aims:

- Increasing awareness of cultural provision and activity and promoting the notion that cultural activity and participation is enjoyable;
- Removing the barriers to increased participation in cultural activity;
- Providing cultural services activities and venues of the highest quality and opportunities for those at all levels of ability;
- Strengthening the contribution of the cultural sector in Selby District to sustainable economic growth and the wider regional agenda;
- Maximising internal and external investment into the cultural sector and providing a more effective and equitable distribution of resources;
- Promoting a District that recognises its cultural diversity and excels in the harmony between preserving traditional culture and developing new and exciting opportunities for cultural growth;
- Identification and agreement of common goals. Increased co-operation and sharing of information and resources between partners to avoid conflict; and
- Developing and promoting the District, both within the UK and internationally, as a diverse and quality tourist and business destination.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

The geographical size and sparsity of population in Selby leads to rural isolation. This issue influences a number of barriers to increased enjoyment of cultural activity in the District, including physical access, increased cost, poor awareness and quality of facilities.

Accessibility constraints are primarily concerned with the limited transport infrastructure, large distance to travel, financial cost of getting to facilities and limited awareness of cultural activities and resources.

Selby has a strong and distinct cultural identity that should be celebrated but equally there is a need to promote cultural growth and greater diversity whilst preserving local distinctiveness.

Facilities, largely due to the rural nature of the District, tend to be of a lower quality or standard than in larger urban areas. There is a clear need to raise both the quantity and the quality of cultural provision in the District.

There are a number of groups who are not actively engaged in cultural activity and it is important that greater opportunities are created to involve them in cultural activity.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider objectives within the LDF where possible and appropriate.

Homelessness Strategy 2005 - 2008 (Selby District Council, 2005 - Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

This document sets out how Selby District Council plans to address homelessness in the District.

- To Prevent and Reduce Homelessness
- Resettle Homeless Households
- Ensure Provision of Permanent Accommodation

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

There is an estimated shortfall of affordable housing in the District of around 294 units per annum. The shortfall is most acute for smaller properties (one and two bedroom), and fall across most parts of the District.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LFD and SA Framework should consider the provision of suitable housing for all.

Interim Housing Strategy 2004 - 2005 (Selby District Council, 2004 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy sets out the vision for housing in the District until 2006.

Key objectives and targets

The three main objectives of the strategy are to:-

- profile the District's housing stock and monitor current and future housing needs;
- ensure that decent and affordable housing is available to everyone; and
- promote social inclusion and sustainable communities.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Selby North has the highest level of poor private housing in the District and is in the country's most deprived 25%. Most other wards are the country's least deprived 50%. Of the 28,387 private dwellings only 5% are flats. This figure sits uncomfortably against the general District desire for small accommodation units. This shortfall needs to be tackled through planning, private housing and Public Finance initiatives.

There is not a significant overcrowding issue in the District – over 90% of all other England and Wales Authorities have a greater problem. The number of households without their own bath/shower and toilet is even lower – only 40 – placing Selby in the lowest 5% in England & Wales and the very lowest in Yorkshire and The Humber.

The demand for affordable social rented homes continues to grow and homelessness presentations have increased over the past few years. Council housing stock is dimishing through right to buy sales and some rural villages have no remaining stock. The supply of new housing in the District continues to be low. All of these issues contribute to the lack of affordable housing in the District.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider Strategy objectives in formulating LDF objectives.

Social Inclusion Strategy 2003 - 2006 (Selby District Council, 2003 - Non-Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy sets out the District Councils approach to reducing the effects of Social Exclusion and developing more inclusive communities.

- To improve all residents' access to services and opportunities;
- To make it as easy as reasonably possible for all residents' to get access to services and facilities.
- To improve aspects of the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the District, which may affect people's health.
- To ensure that decent and affordable housing is available to everyone.

- To promote social inclusion and sustainable communities.
- To support the development and retention of skills within the District to maximise business growth and the employability
 of members of the community.
- Improve the skills and qualifications of a greater proportion of Selby adults.
- Increase learning participation amongst the unemployed
- Develop a greater number of ICT access points in the District
- Develop a long-term strategy for stemming the migration of skilled individuals and students from the District
- Continue to enable those people who are disadvantaged or disaffected to take up training and employment opportunities through a varied programme of accredited and non-accredited courses.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

The largely rural nature of the District presents particular problems for many people in gaining access to appropriate health and social care resources, and services. This is particularly so for older people, those with disabilities, carers and those with young children and these are just the groups who rely the most on these services.

The lack of affordable housing for both sale and rent particularly for first time buyers is widely acknowledged as an area of concern.

The District has an ageing population that places demands on services, between 1991 - 2011 the number of 80 year olds is predicted to increase by 82.9%, therefore planning housing services for this group is essential.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Consider objectives within the LDF where possible and appropriate.

Draft Recreational Open Space Strategy (Selby District Council, 2005 - Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Selby Recreational Open Space Strategy provides a comprehensive framework for the auditing, assessment and future provision of recreational open space, including children's play areas, outdoor sports and other community outdoor recreational facilities across the District.

Key objectives and targets

- To enhance the access and quality of recreation and open space;
- To gain community involvement in the development and maintenance of their recreation spaces.
- To ensure that recreation open space provision keeps pace with new housing development and seek in partnership with other organisations and bodies to rectify any identified shortages.
- To make provision for the sport and recreation needs of the community, including the disabled.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Recreational open space should be protected through local planning policies and no losses should be approved unless an audit of provision and an assessment of needs have been undertaken.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should consider the need for increased recreational open space wherever possible, and should ensure that recreational open space is accessible to all.

Community Safety Strategy 2005 – 2008 (Selby District Community Safety Partnership, 2005 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Strategy aims to deal with the community safety issues that affect the quality of life of people who live and work in the District.

The five priority areas to tackle are:

- Acquisitive crime
- Violent crime
- Anti-social behaviour
- Accident prevention
- Fear of crime
- Reduce domestic burglary by 30%
- Reduce non-domestic burglary by 20%
- Reduce vehicle crime by 25%
- Reduce shoplifting by 10%
- Reduce common assault by 10%
- Reduce woundings
- · Reduce other crimes of violence
- Reduce vehicle interference by 25%
- Reduce criminal damage by 15%
- Anti-social behaviour perception: decrease the percentage of residents who consider that anti-social behaviour is a major concern in the community
- Stop the increase in hospital admissions caused by accidents
- . Increase the percentage of residents who feel safe or very safe during the day and after dark in the District
- Increase the percentage of residents who are involved in decision-making
- · Increase the percentage of residents who feel they can influence decisions in their area
- Increase the percentage of residents doing voluntary work in the community
- Reduce the percentage of residents who consider drugs use to be a major problem in the community

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

Selby District has higher levels of acquisitive crimes than other similar Community Safety Partnerships. This is therefore an important area to tackle.

In Selby District the key accident types to tackle are road collisions, fire-related accidents, accidents in the home and water-related accidents.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The LDF should include policies to reduce crime, and the SA Framework should include objectives to help meet these targets.

Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment for Selby District Council (NETCEN, 2003 - Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The updating and screening assessment details the quality of the District's air, in comparison to the national air quality objectives.

Key objectives and targets

To identify whether the air quality situation has changed since the first round of review and assessment, and if so, what impact this may have on predicted exceedences of the air quality objectives.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

No exceedences of the air quality objectives are predicted, except for sulphur dioxide levels at 2 industrial locations within the District.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The objectives of the SA Framework should consider the need to maintain the good standard of air quality across the District and prevent any activities that would be likely to cause future exceedences of the air quality objectives.

Selby District Renaissance Charter (Urban and Economic Development Group (URBED), 2005 – Non-statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The Urban Renaissance programme will take a long-term view on revitalising the towns of the District, looking ahead over a 25-30 year period.

Key objectives and targets

The Charter sets out a 25 year vision for the Selby District and in particular for the three towns. The vision is based on 6 themes:

- Growing smart the creative use of housing development to reinforce the towns;
- · Revitalising town centres;
- Uncovering the District's hidden heritage;
- · Diversifying the economy;
- Embracing new futures for the energy industry; and
- Managing water so that it becomes an asset rather than a threat

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

There are two strands to urban renaissance - the 'stick' of planning policy to restrict out-of-town development and the 'carrot' of urban policy to make towns and cities more attractive so that they become places where people live and work out of choice rather than necessity.

Implications for the LDF and SA

The policies of the LDF must support the concept of urban renaissance by restricting out of town development and making the Districts town more attractive places to live.

The Selby Biodiversity Action Plan (North Yorkshire County Council, Selby District Council and the Selby BAP Partnership, 2004 – Statutory document)

Why it is relevant

The document identifies methods by which to conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity in Selby and contributes to the targets set out in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

Key objectives and targets

The Selby Biodiversity Action Plan seeks to achieve the following:

Ensure national targets for species and habitats (in the UK BAP) are translated into effective action at the local level. Identify targets for species and habitats of local value.

Develop effective, long-term local partnerships.

Raise awareness of the need for biodiversity conservation.

Consider opportunities for conservation of the whole biodiversity resource.

Set up a monitoring programme for local priorities.

Set up a reporting programme

To conserve and restore all ancient semi-natural woodland and to increase the number of woods under unfavourable management. To increase the amount of new woodland from the current 1.7% of the Selby land area to the Yorkshire average of 6.7%.

Ensure positive conservation management of all key lowland wood pasture and parkland sites. In the long term, double the

area of wood pasture by reinstating the habitat on sites where it occurred historically. Retain veteran trees wherever they occur.

To retain and manage all Ancient and species-rich hedgerows, and to double the amount of species-rich hedgerow, using plants of local provenance.

Increase the biodiversity potential of all arable farmland by appropriate cropping practices and conservation management, thereby helping to restore recent losses of farmland wildlife.

Maintain the extent and quality of remaining remnants of Floodplain grazing marsh. Double the existing resource, which will benefit birds in particular.

To conserve and enhance all remaining areas of species-rich, unimproved grassland. Doubling of the resource through restoration and re-creation.

Double the Lowland heathland resource, through re-creation, restoration and management, and manage it for priority Selby species.

To increase understanding of the extent, quality, ownership and current management of Fen habitat in the District, and to conserve and enhance all fen communities. To investigate techniques for fen creation and increase the resource by one site.

To establish the number of reedbeds in the District and to double the resource.

Carefully target the creation of hundreds of water bodies for wildlife and bring all exiting water bodies into favourable conservation management.

To improve the biodiversity of the canal and navigable river corridors.

To ensure and integrated and sustainable approach to river management with the key aims being environmental improvements and increased biodiversity.

To maximise the wildlife value of Selby District's greenspace, through education and encouraging management practices sympathetic to wildlife.

A stable, resident, breeding otter populations to be present at carrying capacity throughout all rivers and tributaries in Selby District by 2014.

To identify remaining water vole populations in Selby District and to increase the number of water voles through habitat expansion, creation and management, to the 1997 level.

Expand the great crested newt population by working with planners, developers and land managers to protect existing and create new breeding ponds and foraging habitat.

To maintain all existing populations of tansy beetle in the Selby District and to increase its distribution, along both banks of the River Ouse.

To establish the butterfly's distribution and increase its distribution.

To maintain a population of pillwort on at least one site in Selby District.

Greatly increase the number of suitable pools for colonisation by aquatic beetle, and maintain one or more populations of this species in the District.

To increase the population and geographical ranges of all eight species of bats.

Opportunities, synergies, constraints and challenges

There are 13 habitats, and 12 species that require priority action in the District.

Implications for the LDF and SA

Protect and enhance Selby's Biodiversity through Core Strategy policies					

Appendix B BASELINE DATA SOURCES

Census 2001, Office of National Statistics www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001

http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk

http://www.magic.gov.uk

Indicative floodplain map http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk

www.airquality.co.uk

www.countryside-agency.gov.uk

www.english-heritage.gov.uk

www.naei.org.uk

Appendix C DETAILED BASELINE INFORMATION FOR THE DISTRICT

Subject	Baseline Information		
	ECONOMIC		
Economic	Selby District Local Plan 2005/ Selby Urban Renaissance Charter 2005		
Performance	Traditionally the economy of the District has been based on industrialised forms of employment, including coal mining and power generation. Agriculture has also traditionally been important to the local economy.		
	The Selby Mining Complex closed down in 2004 with the loss of 2200 jobs.		
Employment	Selby District Local Plan 2005/ National Statistics/ 2001 Census:		
	There is acute unemployment in the District, owing to difficulties associated with the recession and structural weakness in the economy.		
	In 2005, over 33,000 jobs were supported by the District. Employment is primarily concentrated in Selby and adjacent Parishes, Tadcaster, Eggborough/ Whitley Bridge and Sherburn in Elmet, with additional pockets at more rural locations.		
	Whilst employment in agriculture is declining, agriculture remains an important use of land and source of opportunities for rural diversification. Other employment in the District is concentrated in service villages in the form of shops and other local services.		
	In September 2004, just under 11.5% of people claiming work-related benefits in the District had been doing so for more than 12 months. This has fallen considerably since September 1999, when the figure stood at almost 25%.		
	Between September 1999 and September 2004, the number of young people aged between 18 and 24 years, who were claiming work-related benefits, had declined by over 30% in the District. This was equal to the percentage reduction in Great Britain overall.		
	In Summer (June – August) 2004, the employment rate for those of working age (16-64 for men/ 16-59 for women) residing in the District was 80.3%. The average for Great Britain was 75% for the same period. In Summer 1999, 81% of the District's working age population were in employment. The rate for Great Britain was 74.7%.		
	In 2001, 43.5% of the District population was in full-time employment, compared to 39% in Yorkshire and the Humber and 40.5% in England and Wales. Approximately 25% of Selby's residents were employed on a part-time basis, compared to 22% in Yorkshire and the Humber and just over 20% in England and Wales. Of the District population, over 2.5% were unemployed, compared to under 4% in Yorkshire and the Humber and under 3.5 % in England and Wales.		
	According to the 2001 Census, of those people unemployed, 20.38% were 50 years of age and over, 3.84% had never been employed and 27.99% unemployed in the long-term.		
	Considerable out-commuting to Leeds, York and other employment centres, takes place from the District. In 2004 49% of commuting journeys originating within the District terminated outside the District. 16% of commuting journeys terminated in Leeds, 12% in York and 8% in Wakefield. This level of out-commuting is the highest in the Region. Almost no commuting journeys are made into the District.		
	SOCIAL		
Demographics	Selby District Local Plan 2005/ Mid-2003 Census estimates/ 2001 Census/ National Statistics:		
	The three market towns of Selby, Tadcaster and Sherburn in Elmet, and a number of service villages, are the main population centres within the District.		

Subject	Baseline Information
	The Selby District resident population, according to mid-2003 population estimates, stood at 76,800; of which 48.8% were male and 51.2% were female.
	The population of the District has risen by 0.5% since 2001, when Census data for this year revealed the population of Selby to be 76,468 (with a 49% male and 51% female population split), and 7% since 1991, when the population was 71,801.
	In mid-2003, children under five accounted for approximately 5% of Selby's resident population, compared to approximately 7% for Yorkshire and the Humber and just under 6% for England and Wales. In mid-2003, 17% of the District's population were of retirement age (65 and over for males/ 60 and over for females), compared with just under 19% for Yorkshire and the Humber and 18.5% in England and Wales.
	In 2001, approximately 5.5% of the population of Selby was under 5 years of age, compared to approximately 6% for both Yorkshire and the Humber, and England and Wales. In the same year, 15% of Selby's population were of retirement age, compared to 16% in Yorkshire and the Humber and in England and Wales.
	With regard to ethnicity, in 2001, 99% of the population of the District was white; 0.28% was of mixed ethnicity; 0.13% was Asian/ Asian British; 0.06% was Black/ Black British; and 0.21% was Chinese/ other ethnic group.
	Percentage of people in retirement data (1991 Census and mid-2003 Census estimates based on adjusted 2001 Census)
Housing	2001 Census/ National Statistics/ Selby Social Inclusion Strategy/ Selby Homeless Strategy.
	Selby is a fairly affluent area with average house prices ranging from £65,539 in Selby to £112,750 in Tadcaster, with an overall average of £84970 across the three main settlements within the District.
	Between 2002 and 2003, average dwelling prices in Yorkshire and the Humber increased by 22.4%. This was higher than the average for England (where the average was 12.2% rise).
	In 2001, there were 30,836 houses in the District. 99% of Selby District's residents lived in households. The remaining residents lived in communal establishments (supervised hostels, hotels, large hospitals and prisons).
	40.25% of the District's residents lived in detached houses in 2001. In the same year, 36.51% were living in semi-detached houses, and 16.93% were in terraced houses (including end-terrace properties).
	The average household size in the District in 2001 was 2.4 people. This was equal to the average household size for England and Wales.
	Between 1997 and 1998, there was a 2.7% rise in dwelling prices in Yorkshire and the Humber. In England, there was an 8% rise, over the same period.
	79% of households are currently owner-occupiers with around 13% living in the social rented sector.
Education and	Selby District Local Plan 2005/ National Statistics/ 2001 Census:
skills	There are a number of educational establishments situated throughout the District. Nursery, primary and secondary education falls under the responsibility of North Yorkshire County Council, the Local Education Authority. 6 nursery classes, 43 primary schools, and 6 secondary schools in the Selby District are provided by the County Council. There are also 2 private schools; Queen Margaret's School (for girls), situated at Escrick and the Read School (for boys) which is situated at Drax. Further and higher education is provided at Selby College.
	60.7% of pupils in North Yorkshire achieved 5 or more GCSEs graded A* to C, in the academic year 2003/04. The average in England for the same period was 53.7%. In the academic year 1998/99, the figures were 56.8% for North Yorkshire and 47.9%
	Standard Assessment Test (SATs) results for North Yorkshire show that over the last five years, the number of students achieving at least level 4 at Key Stage 2 (the level expected

Subject	Baseline Information			
	of pupils aged 11 years and in their final year of primary school) rose by 3% (from 76% to 79%) for Mathematics and by 4% (from 77% to 81%) for English between 1998/99 and 2003/04 academic years.			
	In 2001, 5% of the resident population of the District was in full-time education. This figure comprised school pupils and residents aged 16-74 years. In England and Wales, the figure stood at 5.1% during the same period.			
	17.5% of residents aged 16-74 years in Selby District had qualifications at degree level higher, in 2001. 28.2% had no qualifications.			
Deprivation	2004 English Indices of Multiple Deprivation/ mid-2003 Census estimates:			
	The District is ranked 239 th least-deprived out of 354 local authorities, according to the 2004 English Indices of Multiple Deprivation. Selby District is ranked 291 st on the income measure and 257 th on the employment measure.			
	According to the mid-2003 Census estimates, 5.6% of houses in the District were without central heating. 0.1% had no bath/shower and toilet. In the same year, 3% of the District's houses were overcrowded.			
	Selby South has the highest level of deprivation in Selby District. It stands in the country's most deprived 11%. Selby North, Selby Central, Fairburn and Eggborough are in the country's most deprived 25%. Tadcaster West, Escrick and Monk Fryston are the least deprived wards in Selby District. Tadcaster West is in the country's least deprived 6%.			
	22 per cent of households have incomes below £10000 which is well below the national average and 47 per cent have incomes over £20000 which is above the national average.			
Crime	Crime Audit 2004:			
	The number of violent crimes is increasing in the District. There was a 47% rise in the number of violent crimes committed between April 2001/2002 (when there were 668 incidences) and April 2003/04 (when there were 989 incidences). Within Selby District, violent crime is worse in Selby town and Sherburn and Tadcaster. The number of violent crimes is increasing at a faster rate in the District than in North Yorkshire.			
	The number of detections of violent crimes has also, on the whole, increased: there were 592 detections in April 2001/02; 586 in April 2002/03; and 770 in April 2003/04. The number of detections in the District is significantly higher than in North Yorkshire.			
	The number of burglaries to dwellings in the District rose by 35% between April 2001 and April 2004. There were 386 incidents in 2001/02; 437 in 2002/03; and 521 in 2003/04. This type of crime is increasing at a faster rate in the District than in North Yorkshire.			
	The number of burglaries to non-dwellings in the District rose by 14% between April 2001/02 and April 2002/03. In the period April 2001/02, there were 846 incidents. In April 2002/03 the number had risen to 968. The number of burglaries to non-dwellings fell by 18% in April 2003/04. There were 793 incidences in April 2003/04. There were 6% less burglaries to non-dwellings in April 2003/04 than in April 2001/02. Burglaries to non-dwellings have fallen more in the District than in North Yorkshire.			
	In Selby District, vehicle crime has increased since April 2001/02, when there were 217 stolen vehicles. In April 2002/03 the number had risen to 285 vehicles. In 2003/04, there were 317 incidents of vehicle theft. This equates to a 46% increase in stolen vehicles between April 2001 and April 2004 in the District. Vehicle crime is rising at a substantially higher rate in the District than in North Yorkshire.			
	Theft from a motor vehicle has also increased since April 2001/02, when there were 424 reported incidents in the District. By April 2002/03 the number of incidents had risen to 694. The figure had fallen slightly, to 660 in April 2003/04. This equates to a 56% rise in thefts from a motor vehicle since April 2001. These crimes are falling at a faster rate in the District than in North Yorkshire.			
	Within the District, Selby town, Sherburn, the southern end of the District (Whitley and Eggborough, and towns along the A1 including Fairburn, Brotherton and Byram) are the areas where vehicle crime occurs most frequently.			

Subject	Baseline Information				
Health	Selby District local Plan/ 2001 Census/ Selby Social Deprivation Strategy				
	Health services in the Plan area are mainly provided by the Primary Care Trust. Principal facilities include the Selby War Memorial Hospital that provides inpatient, outpatient and minor injuries facilities, a community unit for the elderly and mentally ill, clinics in Selby and Tadcaster, and an ambulance station in Selby.				
	There are currently a total of thirteen doctors' surgeries, nine dentists' surgeries, six ophthalmic surgeries and eight pharmacies serving the Plan area, mainly concentrated in and around Selby and Tadcaster.				
	In 2001 8% of the Districts population considered their health to be 'not good'. This is in comparison to 9.2% in England and Wales. 16.1% of the Districts population has a limiting long-term illness, which is below the national average of 18.2%.				
	Residents in the District enjoy good health when compared with the rest of the country. Even so, there are parts of the country and of Yorkshire which have better health than the Selby District. The largely rural nature of the District presents particular problems for many people in gaining access to appropriate health and social care resources and services. This is particularly so for older people, those with disabilities, carers and those with young children and these are just the groups who rely the most on these services.				
	In 2003, 2,320 people in Selby received Disability Living Allowance. This represents 3.6% all people under the age of 65 living in the area, compared with 5.1 % of the population in England and Wales.				
	In 2003, 1,340 people all those people aged and Wales.				
		ENVIRONME	NTAL		
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The District has a rich and diverse rural habitat. Selby contains notable 'Natural Areas', namely the Humberhead Levels, the Southern Magnesian Limestone Area and the Vale of York and Mowbray Natural Area. These contain a particular geology, wildlife, land use or cultural heritage distinguishing them from other natural areas in the UK. The District contains 14 SSSIs including the River Derwent SSSI which falls within both Selby and a number of adjoining Districts. An area of approximately 800 hectares of SSSIs are in a favourable or unfavourable condition. This represents approximately 79.8% which falls below the Government's target for 90% of SSSIs to be in a favourable or recovering				
	position by 2010.				
		Favourable	Unfavourable	Unfavourable	
	Breighton Meadows	20.07	Recovering	No change	
	Brockadale	38.07 27.9	15.54 4.92	4.5	
	Burrs Close	1.28	0	0	
	Church Ings	7.06	0	0	
	Derwent Ings	315.58	8.42	21.84	
	Forlorn Hope Meadow	1.7	0	0	
	Naburn Marsh	13.22	0	0	
	Sherburn Willows	3.76	0	0.96	
	Skipworth Common	0	295.4	0	
	River Derwent	9.47	0	174.96	
	Stutton Ings Acaster South Ings	1.94	3.46 38.89	0	

Subject	Baseline Information				
	Tadcaster Mere	8.71	0	0	
	Fairburn and Newton	93.8	?	?	
	Ings Kirkby Wharfe	04.7	?		
	Total	21.7 529.45	366.63	? 202.26	
		In addition, there are 144 Sites of Importance for nature conservation (SINCs).			
	There are 3 Regional Character Areas which affect the District: The Vale of York; Southern Magnesian Limestone and The Humberhead Levels. Selby is also defined by 10 Local Landscape Character Areas.				
	Recent surveys carried wildlife habitats and onl habitats. The percentar 1.7%; Scrub 0.7; Neutra 0.2%; Marsh 0.3%; Swaln April 1997 there were	y 3.7% of the ge land area al grassland (amp 0.2%; al	e Plan area is now co of semi-natural hab 0.8%; Calcareous gr and Heathland 0.05%	overed by natural or tat types comprises: assland 0.05%; Acid	semi-natural : Woodland dic grassland
Transport	The District benefits from well-developed transportation links. It is crossed by a number of railway lines and major roads, including the M62, A1, A19, A63 and A64. There are six railway stations which, whilst primarily catering for commuter traffic, also provide access to other main line stations.				
	The A1 in North Yorkshire forms part of the principal route from London to Edinburgh, east the Pennines. The road has considerable strategic importance and a number of sections presently carry traffic far in excess of capacity. The A63 east of Selby and the A19 north of Selby form part of an increasingly busy designated route between York and the M62 motorway junctions near Goole. The A64 forms an important route between Leeds, York and Scarborough. Public transport connections to Leeds and York are good but public transport between the three towns and connections to surrounding villages could be improved. As the area is relatively flat cycling is a convenient form of transport and there are a number of cycleway including the Selby-York Spur of the Trans-Pennine Trail, and the cycleway alongside the Drax/Airmyn Link Road.				er of sections he A19 north of the M62
					the area is er of cycleways,
	Despite the provision of problem in the town cer transport to travel to we a high proportion of peo Diving or passenger in bus/minibus/coach – 4. from home – 10.8%, other transports of the provision of people in the provision of people in the provision of the p	ntre. Many re ork, school, slople travel to Car/Van - 69 1%; undergro	sidents, particularly hops and other facili work by car. .2%; Bicycle – 3.8%	those in rural areas, ties. The 2001 Cens 5; on foot – 8.3%; tra	rely on public sus indicates that ain – 2.0%;
Built/ Cultural Heritage	Within the District, there are 52 Scheduled Monuments, 631 Listed Buildings and 23 Conservation Areas (which cover a total of approximately 449 hectares -0.75% of the plan area).				
	In 1991, 3% of the Liste repair, with a further 7%				d of urgent
	There are 10 Historic F and local levels): Byran Hall; Moreby Hall; Newl and Scarthingwell Par Heritage's national regi	n Hall; Carlto ton Kyme Ha k. Moreby	n Towers; Grimston II; Nun Appleton Hal	Hall; Hazleton Cast I; Queen Margaret's	le; Monk Fryston School, Escrick;
	The District is also rich archaeological importar and ruins such as Kyme	nce which inc			
Land and Soil	The District is character generally high quality fawhich is a fertile and propractice is mainly devote	rised by oper armland. A la edominantly	arge proportion of the flat area centred upo	e District lies within ton the Ouse Valley,	the Vale of York where farming

Subject	Baseline Information	
	classed by DEFRA as Grade 1, 2 and 3a quality.	
	In addition, the A1 corridor within Selby District has Green Belt status.	
Ground Contamination	1143 potential sites have been identified within Selby with contaminated land. In 2001 it was estimated that around 200-250 potential sites would be identified. This represents a 360% increase in sites (Contaminated Land Strategy Review, Selby District Council, 2004).	
Water Resources	The District contains several major watercourses including the rivers Ouse, Wharfe, Aire and Derwent. The Aire and Calder Navigation and the Selby Canal also pass through the District.	
Flooding	The flood plain that covers most of the District is crossed by the Ouse, the Wharfe, the Aire and the Derwent. The land is generally only 20 feet above sea and therefore prone to flooding. This is caused by both rain flowing down river and by tidal surges from the sea. Almost a quarter of the District falls within the 100yr flood level.	
	The urban area of Selby situated in the flood plain benefits from existing flood defences. Areas to the north-west and south-east outside the existing urban area of Selby are susceptible to flooding and are without flood defences. Management options are currently being explored by the Environment Agency.	
Waste	Municipal Waste Surveys by Defra in 98/99 and 02/03 identify the total household waste per person per year (Kg) within the York and North Yorkshire sub-region. The 1998/99 survey shows that the District of Scarborough (582) and the City of York (539) produced the highest amounts of waste in 2003/03. Hambleton (368) and Harrogate (371) produced the lowest. Selby falls between these values with 465 kg of household waste/person/yr. In 1998/9 the figure stood at 402 kg. The amount of household waste produced in Selby has therefore risen by 16%.	
	In 2002/03 the City of York recycled the highest amount of waste at 64kg per person, the lowest amount of waste recycled per person was by Richmondshire who recycled 33kg. The biggest increase in household waste recycled was by Selby which saw a 358% rise in the amount of waste recycled per person.	