

# Improving High Peak



**High Peak Borough Council**

**Supplementary Planning Document  
Negotiation of Planning Obligations**

**Sustainability Appraisal Report**

**Incorporating an Environmental Report under the  
Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes  
Regulations 2004**

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**High Peak Borough Council**

*working for our community*



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## Compliance with SEA Directive

### Components making up the Environmental Report

This Sustainability Appraisal Report incorporates the requirements for an Environmental Report under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. These Regulations transpose the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (European Directive 2001/42/EC) into English law.

The places in the Sustainability Appraisal Report where the components which are required in relation to the Environmental Report are signposted in the table below.

<b>Information to be included in an Environmental Report under the SEA Regulations</b>	<b>Relevant sections in the SA Report</b>
An outline of the Contents, main objectives of the plan and its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	Sections 3.7-3.12 & 4.1-4.3 Appendix 2
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan.	Section 4.4-4.12 Appendix 3
The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	Section 4.8-4.12 Appendix 3
Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan, including in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.	Section 4.8-4.11 Appendix 3
The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	Section 4.1-4.3 Appendix 2
The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.	Section 6 Table 5
The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan.	Section 6 Table 5
An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties.	Sections 2,4 & 5
A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring.	Section 7
A non-technical summary of the information provided above.	Section 1

# **Supplementary Planning Document: Negotiation of Planning Obligations**

## **Sustainability Appraisal Report**

### **1. SUMMARY AND OUTCOMES**

1.1 This section provides a non-technical summary of the Sustainability Appraisal report, setting out the process and the difference that this process has made. Contact details are also provided, with information about how to comment on the Report during the consultation period.

#### **Non-technical summary**

##### **Background**

1.2 The Supplementary Planning Document (SPD): Negotiation of Planning Obligations will advise developers of the Council's possible requirements for planning applications where a planning obligation is appropriate.

1.3 The purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is to promote sustainable development through the integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of the SPD. The SA considers the SPD's implications, from a social, economic and environmental perspective, by assessing options and the draft SPD against available baseline data and sustainability objectives.

1.4 SA is mandatory for SPDs under the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). SAs of SPDs should also fully incorporate the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC, known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. This Directive is transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 – the SEA Regulations.

##### **The appraisal methodology**

1.5 The approach adopted to undertake the SA was based on the process set out in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) Consultation Paper "Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks" September 2004. An ODPM Interim Advice Note on frequently asked questions updated this guidance in April 2005.

1.6 The level of detail and the scope that the SA covered was agreed by key stakeholders involved in the SA process as part of consultation on an SA Scoping Report. This report was produced to set out the initial context and findings of the SA and the proposed approach to the appraisal process.

## **Relationship to other plans, programmes and objectives**

1.7 The purpose of reviewing other plans and programmes and sustainability objectives is to ensure that the relationship between these Documents and the draft SPD has been fully explored. This will in turn ensure that High Peak Borough Council is able to act on any identified inconsistencies between international, national, regional and local objectives.

1.8 A range of national, regional and local strategies were reviewed as part of the SA process and no major inconsistencies were found between policies. The key links identified were with Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 1: Delivering Sustainable Development; PPS7: Delivering sustainable development in rural areas; East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS8) (March 2005); High Peak Community Strategy and High Peak Borough Council Housing Strategy 2002 – 2006.

## **Baseline characteristics**

1.9 The collection and assessment of information and data about the current and likely future state of the High Peak was used within the SA to help identify sustainability problems and predict the SPD's effects. Where available, comparators, key trends and targets were identified.

1.10 Sources for the baseline data included the Borough Council's Housing Needs and Housing Market Survey 2001; Housing Services Department's records; The State of the Countryside in the East Midlands 2004 (Countryside Agency); High Peak Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report 2003; East Midlands Regional Environment Strategy (2002); English Heritage in the East Midlands (2003 – 2005) and Environment Agency: State of the Environment Report for the East Midlands.

1.11 Where historic data was available, trends identified included that housing need is getting more acute and the issue of affordability is affecting increasing numbers of the population. Also increasing numbers of Conservation Areas are being covered by a Character Appraisal and the Environment Agency has embarked on a programme of flood risk assessment and alleviation measures in the Glossop Brook, Etherow and Blackbrook Valleys.

## **The sustainability appraisal framework**

1.12 The establishment of SA objectives and criteria is central to the SA process and provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, assessed and compared. The sustainability objectives used for the SA of the SPD were drawn from the sustainability issues identified through analysis of the baseline data and review of other plans and strategies, notably the Regional Spatial Strategy which sets the regional sustainable development framework.

1.13 There were ten objectives used in total, organised under the three dimensions of sustainability: social; environmental and economic. The objectives covered a broad range of issues, including: to provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home; to improve accessibility to essential services and facilities; to maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes; to reduce vulnerability to climate change and to promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.

### **Key sustainability issues and problems**

1.14 Most of the sustainability issues and problems facing the residents of High Peak have previously been identified within existing documents and strategies. Further issues have emerged through the SA process. The process has also sought to identify the evidence to support the selection of key issues from the baseline data.

1.15 Some of the key sustainability issues include: a shortage of affordable housing; some wards experiencing high numbers of anti-social behaviour incidents; poor access to facilities and services in highly rural areas of the Borough; certain wards with a particular shortfall of open space; the earnings of those relying on local employment being well below regional and national averages whilst the earnings of those commuting to nearby cities tending to be at or above those averages; over a thousand buildings in High Peak are currently on a floodplain and town centres are in need of further regeneration.

### **Appraisal of strategic options**

1.16 A key requirement of the SA is to consider reasonable alternatives as part of the assessment process. The options that were assessed were formulated from the Local Plan process and the Council's intention to provide a transparent and accountable procedure by which planning obligations should be negotiated and secured for development within the Borough. The options assessed were thus:

- Provide a procedure by which planning obligations are negotiated.
- Do nothing / business as usual.

1.17 The key changes and the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of each option were identified. This concluded that the preferred option was to provide a procedure by which planning obligations are negotiated, the option delivered by the draft SPD.

### **Appraisal of plan's effects**

1.18 The SA provides a record of the prediction and assessment of the potential effects of the draft SPD. The plan objectives were scored on a five point scale (major positive, minor positive, neutral, minor negative and major negative and an uncertain category) against each of the sustainability objectives. Details of proposed mitigation and enhancement measures were included.



1.19 Generally the draft SPD performed very well against the sustainability objectives and the majority of effects identified were very positive. There were some potential negative effects identified, principally under the plan objective to secure more affordable housing against the SA objectives to maintain and enhance biodiversity and to conserve and enhance the historic environment.

1.20 Measures have generally been identified to mitigate potential negative effects or at least require more detailed consideration of the issue at the planning application stage.

### **Implementation and monitoring**

1.21 A key part of the SA process is establishing how any significant sustainability effects of implementing the SPD will be monitored. Some potential indicators with targets where they exist have been proposed as a starting point for developing the SPD and sustainability monitoring programme. The indicators proposed are based on data already collected by the Council. It is envisaged that the monitoring will be on an annual basis, although updates of some indicators may not be available with this frequency.

1.22 Details are provided in the SA Report of the process that will follow the period of public consultation alongside the draft SPD.

### **Difference the process has made**

1.23 The SA process and the preparation of the SPD have been initiated to build upon the Council's stated ambitions in the Local Plan. Therefore the SA has found that implementing the draft SPD will have overall positive benefits on sustainability.

1.24 However some opportunities for further enhancement have been identified through the SA process and these recommendations have been incorporated in the consultation draft of the SPD.

### **How to comment on this report**

1.25 Details of how to comment on the SA report are provided below.

1.26 Public consultation on the draft SPD: Negotiation of Planning Obligations and its Sustainability Appraisal Report runs from 21<sup>st</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2005.

1.27 All comments must be received by 5pm Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2005.

Comments can be submitted by:

Post to: Forward Planning  
High Peak Borough Council  
Municipal Buildings  
Glossop  
Derbyshire SK13 8AF

E-mail to: localplan@highpeak.gov.uk

Via the web through [www.highpeak.gov.uk](http://www.highpeak.gov.uk)

1.28 Where possible we would be grateful if the enclosed standard form could be used for recording comments made.

## **2. APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY**

### **Approach adopted**

2.1 The approach adopted to undertake the SA was based on the process set out in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) Consultation Paper "Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks" September 2004. An ODPM Interim Advice Note on frequently asked questions updated this guidance in April 2005.

2.2 Table One on the next page sets out the SA stages and tasks, based on those listed in the draft Government guidance. This SA Report represents the completion of up to Stage C of the SA process.

### **Timetable and responsibility**

2.3 The SA of the draft SPD was undertaken between February and July 2005, in advance of the formal consultation on the draft SPD taking place in July and August 2005.

2.4 The timing of key SA outputs and tasks is set out below.

- Preparation of the SA scoping report: February – May 2005.
- Circulation of SA Scoping Report to Consultation bodies and key stakeholders for comment: June 2005.
- Appraisal of strategic options: June 2005.
- Preparation of responses to comments from consultees: July 2005.
- Preparation of SA Report: July 2005.

2.5 The SA has been undertaken by the Environmental Planning Officer at High Peak Borough Council.

**Table 1: Sustainability Appraisal stages and tasks**

<b>Pre-Production</b>
<b>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.</b>
<b>Tasks</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and review other relevant plans, programmes and sustainable development objectives that will affect or influence the SPD.</li> <li>• Collect relevant social, environmental and economic baseline information.</li> <li>• Identify key sustainability issues for the SA to address.</li> <li>• Develop the SA framework, consisting of the sustainability objectives, indicators and targets.</li> <li>• Test the SPD objectives against the sustainability objectives and whether the SPD objectives are consistent with one another.</li> <li>• Produce Scoping Report and consult Consultation Bodies and other key stakeholders on the scope of the appraisal and the key issues and possible options for solutions.</li> </ul>
<b>Production</b>
<b>Stage B: Developing and refining options.</b>
<b>Tasks</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out appraisal of the SPD options and make recommendations for improvement.</li> </ul>
<b>Stage C: Appraising the effects of the draft SPD.</b>
<b>Tasks</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Predict the effects and carry out detailed assessment of the effects of the draft SPD.</li> <li>• Propose measures to maximise beneficial effects and mitigate adverse effects.</li> <li>• Develop proposals for monitoring.</li> <li>• Prepare the final SA Report of the draft SPD.</li> </ul>
<b>Stage D: Consultation on the SA Report and draft SPD.</b>
<b>Tasks</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult on the final SA Report along with the draft SPD.</li> <li>• Carry out, where necessary, appraisal of any significant changes made as a result of representations.</li> </ul>
<b>Adoption and Monitoring</b>
<b>Tasks</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform consultees that SPD has been adopted.</li> <li>• Issue statement summarising information on how the SA results and consultees' opinions were taken into account, reasons for choice of options and proposals for monitoring, including in relation to any recommended changes.</li> <li>• Make SPD and SA Report available for public viewing.</li> </ul>
<b>Stage E: Monitoring implementation of the SPD.</b>
<b>Tasks</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor significant effects of the SPD to identify at an early stage any unforeseen adverse effects.</li> <li>• Undertake appropriate remedial action where necessary.</li> </ul>

## **Consultation arrangements**

2.6 In May 2005 an SA Scoping Report was produced to set out the initial context and findings of the SA and the proposed approach to the rest of the appraisal. The aim was to ensure that the SA was comprehensive and addresses all relevant issues and objectives, by enabling input from key stakeholders and consultation bodies at an early stage in the process.

2.7 The Scoping Report set out an initial assessment of:

- The relationship between the SPD and other relevant plans and programmes.
- Relevant sustainability objectives established at the national, regional and local level.
- The current environmental, social and economic baseline and any trends.
- The likely key sustainability issues.

2.8 The Report also set out the proposed methodology for the SA, giving details of its proposed level of detail and scope.

2.9 Comments on the Scoping Report were invited from the four consultation bodies required by the SEA Regulations together with other key consultees representing social, economic and environmental interests in High Peak. These organisations were identified using the High Peak Borough Council Statement of Community Involvement.

2.10 A list of those consulted is included at Appendix One.

## **3. BACKGROUND**

### **Purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and the SA Report**

3.1 The purpose of SA is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. The objective of this SA is to inform the development of the Supplementary Planning Document: Negotiation of Planning Obligations. The SA considers the SPD's implications from a social, economic and environmental perspective, by assessing options and the draft SPD against available baseline data and sustainability objectives.

3.2 SA is mandatory for Local Development Documents (LDD) under the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. These Documents include Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD).

3.3 This SA Report is the key output of the SA process, documenting the work carried out during the appraisal of the SPD.

## **Background to SPD: Negotiation of Planning Obligations**

3.4 In March 2004 Consultants Taylor Young were commissioned to prepare Supplementary Planning Guidance on negotiation of Planning Obligations on behalf of High Peak Borough Council. The Consultants' final report was received in August 2004. In October 2004, the Borough Council decided to translate the Guidance into a Supplementary Planning Document. The Document thus became subject to Sustainability Appraisal.

3.5 The proposed Supplementary Planning Document (SPD): Negotiation of Planning Obligations aims to advise developers of the Council's possible requirements for planning applications where a planning obligation is appropriate.

3.6 The SPD covers all of High Peak Borough outside the Peak District National Park and relates to saved policy GD1 (Sustainability and Development) as well as carrying links to other saved policies in the High Peak Local Plan 2005.

## **Plan objectives and content**

3.7 New development, both commercial and residential may place increased demands on existing services in the Borough, in terms of e.g. social, educational, community, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and public transport provision. The Council wishes to ensure that private developers, where appropriate, make a contribution to meeting these community requirements.

3.8 The draft SPD "Negotiation of Planning Obligations" provides a transparent and accountable procedure by which planning obligations should be negotiated and secured for development within the Borough.

3.9 The document aims to:

- Provide as much certainty as possible to landowners, prospective developers and other interested parties.
- Ensure that the process is fair and transparent.
- Provide a clear framework to decide priorities when there are conflicting requirements.

3.10 Particular types of contributions might be sought from individual developments. The topic areas for which obligations will be sought are given below:

- **Affordable housing** (securing adequate provision in response to the findings of the Council's Housing Needs Survey).
- **Open space** (securing the delivery of open space and standards of children's outdoor sports facilities based on 2.4 hectares of outdoor playing space per 1,000 population).

- **Education** (where new residential development necessitates a significant upgrading of existing educational facilities, the Council will negotiate developer contributions for their improvement).
- **Heritage** (the Council will seek to negotiate an obligation in relation to development within or affecting conservation areas, listed buildings, archaeological and other heritage features or historic parks and gardens).
- **Enabling development** (aimed at regenerating town centres).
- **Transportation** (delivering the Government's integrated transport strategy, e.g. reducing the need to travel, traffic management and integration of transport and land use).
- **Sustainable transport provision** (for a development with significant transport implications, an obligation may be necessary to secure improved accessibility to sites by all travel modes).
- **Drainage works** (where a flood risk assessment has been undertaken which identifies the mitigation measures necessary for a development to proceed, developers will be expected to enter into an obligation to deliver them).
- **Land management (Woodland and nature conservation sites)** – where developments have an impact on habitat and wildlife, measures will be required to address this impact. Obligations will also be sought to restore, maintain and enhance landscape character and specific landscape features.

3.11 Community benefits secured through Planning Obligations could include:

- Infrastructure provision
- Green infrastructure provision (for example amenity space, green corridors, allotments).
- Open space provision, improvement, or maintenance, ensuring linkages provided to other green space wherever feasible.
- Improvements to playgrounds and sports facilities.
- Affordable housing.
- Tree planting / landscape improvements.
- Environmental conservation measures.
- Restoration and improvements to listed buildings.
- Preservation and enhancement of conservation areas.
- Preservation or enhancement of historic features.
- Transport assessments carried out for new developments.
- Requirements for production of travel plans.
- Highway improvements.
- Pedestrian / cycle routes.
- Park and ride facility.
- Financial contributions to public transport projects and facilities.
- Provision of public car parking.
- Upgrading educational facilities.
- Community facilities.
- Flood prevention schemes.

## **Summary of plan objectives**

3.12 Where appropriate, the SPD aims to secure:

1. Affordable housing.
2. Open space, linked to wider green networks wherever feasible.
3. Education facilities.
4. Protection of heritage and landscape character.
5. Regeneration of town centres.
6. Contribution to national integrated transport strategy.
7. Sustainable transport provision.
8. Flood prevention.
9. Protection and enhancement of bio-diversity.

## **Compliance with the SEA Directive / Regulations**

3.13 In accordance with the Government's draft guidance on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), SAs of SPDs should also fully incorporate the requirements of the European Directive 2001/42/EC, known as the SEA Directive. This Directive is transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 – the SEA Regulations. While SEA and SA are distinct processes, the intention of this SA is to adopt an approach to appraisal which also meets the requirements of the SEA Directive and Regulation.

## **4. SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES, BASELINE AND CONTEXT**

### **Links to other strategies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives**

4.1 The purpose of reviewing other plans and programmes and sustainability objectives is to ensure that the relationship between these Documents and the draft SPD has been fully explored. This will in turn ensure that High Peak Borough Council is able to act on any identified inconsistencies between international, national, regional and local objectives.

4.2 Table Two below shows a list of the plans and strategies that were reviewed as part of the SA. Appendix Two contains a review of these and the implications for the SPD.

**Table Two: List of plans and strategies reviewed**

<b>International and national</b>
National Air Quality Strategy 2000
Securing the Future - UK Government sustainable development strategy 2005
PPS1 Delivering sustainable development
PPS7 Delivering sustainable development in rural areas
PPG9 Nature Conservation
<b>Regional / Sub-regional</b>
East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy 2000
East Midlands Regional Environment Strategy 2002
East Midlands Regional Economic Strategy (Destination 2010) 2003
East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS8) March 2005
The Landscape Character of Derbyshire
Derbyshire Community Strategy 2003 - 2006
Derbyshire Cultural Strategy 2002 - 2007
Regional Forestry Framework for the East Midlands Space4trees 2005
Second Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2006 – 2011
<b>Local</b>
High Peak Community Strategy
High Peak Community Safety Strategy 2002 - 2005
Peak District Bio-Diversity Action Plan 2001
High Peak Borough Council Housing Strategy 2002 – 2006
Improving High Peak Priorities for Action 2005 – 2010. A five year plan for the Council.
Peak District Sustainable Tourism Strategy 2000
High Peak and Dales Primary Care Trust local delivery plan 2005 - 2008

4.3 No inconsistencies between policies were identified. The key links identified were with Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 1: Delivering Sustainable Development; PPS7: Delivering sustainable development in rural areas; East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS8) (March 2005); High Peak Community Strategy and High Peak Borough Council Housing Strategy 2002 – 2006.

### **Baseline Characteristics**

4.4 The High Peak is made up of stunning landscapes with historic villages and market towns. The Landscape Character Assessment of Derbyshire has defined the principal landscape type as Settled Valley Pastures. The High Peak has a population of 91,600 and lies in the north-west of Derbyshire and the western tip of the East Midlands region. 1.26% of the population are from minority ethnic groups.

4.5 The area lies between Manchester and Sheffield and adjoins Derbyshire Dales. Its position places it within 60 miles of one third of the population of England. The Peak District National Park covers approximately two thirds of the land area of the High Peak, with 6,200 residents (16% of the Park's overall population). However, 93% of the High Peak's population live



outside the National Park, mainly in the towns of Glossop, New Mills, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Whaley Bridge and Buxton situated to the west of the Borough.

4.6 Unemployment in the High Peak is consistently lower than regional and national averages. Almost half of the working population commutes to work outside the High Peak and Derbyshire, mainly into Greater Manchester. Commuting flows into the High Peak are much lower. The earnings of those who rely on local employment are well below regional and national averages; however, earnings of those commuting to nearby cities are more likely to be at or above regional and national averages. School achievement levels are generally higher in High Peak than the Derbyshire and national average.

4.7 The High Peak does not lie on the national motorway or main line rail networks, although it is quite well served by local rail services and other public transport links to Manchester and Sheffield. However, public transport links within the High Peak are limiting. There are two major cross-Pennine routes through the High Peak, the A57 and A628 linking the M67 and M1.

### **Baseline data**

4.8 The collection of baseline data for the SPD has helped to identify the key social, economic and environmental issues that need to be addressed.

4.9 A summary of the data collected and issues identified from this are set out in Appendix Three.

4.10 Sources for the baseline data included the Borough Council's Housing Needs and Housing Market Survey 2001; Housing Services Department's records; The State of the Countryside in the East Midlands 2004 (Countryside Agency); High Peak Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report 2003; East Midlands Regional Environment Strategy (2002); English Heritage in the East Midlands (2003 – 2005) and Environment Agency: State of the Environment Report for the East Midlands.

4.11 Where historic data was available, trends identified included that housing need is getting more acute and the issue of affordability is affecting increasing numbers of the population. Also increasing numbers of Conservation Areas are being covered by a Character Appraisal and the Environment Agency has embarked on a programme of flood risk assessment and alleviation measures in the Glossop Brook, Etherow and Blackbrook Valleys.

### **Future baseline**

4.12 The Borough Council is working with partners to implement its Community Strategy which over the long term will improve people's quality of life in High Peak. Similarly, implementation of the Borough's Housing Strategy will help to remedy the problems of a shortfall in affordable properties. The SPD will ensure that all opportunities to maximise the

benefits in this area will be realised through improved negotiation of planning obligations.

### **Data Collection limitations**

4.13 Collection of baseline data is on-going. New information or issues may emerge with relevance to the Appraisal.

### **The Sustainability Appraisal framework**

4.14 The establishment of SA objectives and criteria is central to the SA process. The SA framework, based on these objectives provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, assessed and compared. Sustainability objectives are distinct from those of the SPD, but in some cases will overlap.

4.15 The sustainability objectives used for the SA of the SPD were drawn from the sustainability issues identified through analysis of the baseline data and review of other plans and strategies, notably the Regional Spatial Strategy which sets the regional sustainable development framework.

4.16 There were ten objectives used in total, organised under the three dimensions of sustainability: social; environmental and economic. The objectives covered a broad range of issues, including: to provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home; to improve accessibility to essential services and facilities; to maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes; to reduce vulnerability to climate change and to promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.

4.17 The SA Framework objectives targets and indicators are shown in Table Three on the following page.

**Table Three: SA Framework objectives targets and indicators**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Indicator</b>
<b>Social objectives</b>		
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	30% affordable housing on all new developments of more than 15 dwellings. In settlements of less than 3,000 population, require affordable housing contributions on all new developments of more than 5 dwellings or 0.17 Ha.	Affordable housing completion figures.
To reduce anti-social activity.	Fear of crime reduced by 5% from 2001 levels (target 2006/07 56%) and 65% of people satisfied with standards of street cleanliness by 2010.	SP 21 Percentage of residents worried about crime in their local area. BV 89 Satisfaction with standards of street cleanliness. (Citizens Panel Survey)
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Include any targets or relevant assessments arising from LTP2.	Percentage of residents defined as within a distance of 500m of key local services.
To improve the quality of where people live.	60% of people surveyed who feel that, by working together with people in their neighbourhood, they can influence decisions affecting their local area in 2006/07.	SP24 – The % of people surveyed who feel that, by working together with people in their neighbourhood, they can influence decisions affecting their local area.
<b>Environmental objectives</b>		
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Increase in the percentage area of all land designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation which has been assessed and found to be in “favourable”, or “unfavourable recovering” condition, categorised by Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan broad habitat type.	The percentage area of all land designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation which has been assessed and found to be in “favourable”, or “unfavourable recovering” condition, categorised by Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan broad habitat type.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Indicator</b>
To maintain and enhance the quality of townscapes.	Preservation of listed buildings, ancient monuments, historic parks and their settings.	Loss or damage to listed buildings, ancient monuments or historic parks and their settings.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes.	Undertake Landscape Character Assessment of High Peak and translate this into further Supplementary Planning guidance.	Planning guidance issued on basis of Landscape Character Assessment.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Increase the number of Conservation areas with a Character Appraisal.	Number of Conservation areas with a Character Appraisal.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Developments directed away from areas of flood risk.	Percentage of major developments incorporating sustainable drainage techniques.
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	80% of residents satisfied with the Council's parks and open spaces in 2006/07.	BV 119e Percentage of residents satisfied with the Council's parks and open spaces.
<b>Economic objectives</b>		
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	50% satisfaction with the overall attractiveness of town centres in 2006/07.	JP10 – The level of satisfaction with the overall attractiveness of town centres.

## **Key Sustainability issues and problems**

4.18 Most of the sustainability issues and problems facing the residents of High Peak have previously been identified within existing documents and strategies. Further issues have emerged through the SA process. The process has also sought to identify the evidence to support the selection of key issues from the baseline data.

4.19 Some of the key sustainability issues include: a shortage of affordable housing; some wards experiencing high numbers of anti-social behaviour incidents; poor access to facilities and services in highly rural areas of the Borough; certain wards with a particular shortfall of open space; the earnings of those relying on local employment being well below regional and national averages whilst the earnings of those commuting to nearby cities tending to be at or above those averages; over a thousand buildings in High Peak are currently on a floodplain and town centres are in need of further regeneration.

4.20 Table Four on the next page summarises the key sustainability issues and the evidence to support it.

**Table Four: Sustainability issues identified**

<b>Regional SD Framework</b>	<b>SEA Directive topic</b>	<b>Other plans/strategies</b>	<b>Sustainability issues identified</b>
To address social exclusion, through the regeneration of disadvantaged areas and reducing regional inequalities in the distribution of employment, housing, health and other community facilities.	Population and human health. Social inclusiveness.	PPG3 Housing. High Peak Housing Strategy 2002 – 2006.	Annual shortfall of 337 affordable dwellings over period 2002 – 2006.
To protect and where possible enhance the quality of the environment in urban and rural areas so as to make them safe and attractive places to live and work.	Population and human health.	PPS1 Delivering sustainable development, PPS7 Delivering sustainable development in rural areas. High Peak Community Safety Strategy 2002 – 2005.	Central Glossop, Tintwistle/Hadfield, Gamesley, Fairfield and New Mills (Ollerset) would be of the greatest priority to introduce resources to develop and improve local environmental quality.
To improve accessibility to jobs, homes and services across the region by developing integrated transport, ensuring the improvement of opportunities for walking, cycling and the use of high quality public transport.	Air. Social inclusiveness.	Second Derbyshire Local Transport Plan 2006 – 2011. PPG13 Transport.	Poor access in highly rural areas of the Borough.

<b>Regional SD Framework</b>	<b>SEA Directive topic</b>	<b>Other plans/strategies</b>	<b>Sustainability issues identified</b>
To achieve effective protection of the environment by avoiding significant harm and securing adequate mitigation where appropriate, and to promote the conservation, enhancement, sensitive use and management of the region's natural and cultural assets.	Biodiversity, fauna and flora.	PPG9 Nature Conservation. Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan.	Important wildlife sites and habitats should be conserved and species numbers and diversity should be promoted.
To bring about a step change increase in the level of the region's biodiversity, by managing and developing habitats to secure gains wherever possible, and ensuring no net loss of priority habitats and species.	Biodiversity, fauna and flora.	PPG9 Nature Conservation. Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan.	Every development should aim to create "net gain" for biodiversity while ensuring that the irreplaceable is not lost.
Use appropriate Strategic Flood Risk Assessments in order to evaluate actual flood risk and include policies which prevent inappropriate development either in, or where there would be an adverse impact on, the coastal and fluvial floodplain areas.	Water and soil. Climatic factors.	PPG25 Development and Flood Risk. East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS8) East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy 2000.	Planning obligations may be sought to ensure that appropriate flood prevention measures are provided and a proper maintenance regime agreed.

<b>Regional SD Framework</b>	<b>SEA Directive topic</b>	<b>Other plan/strategies</b>	<b>Sustainability issues identified</b>
Understand, conserve and enhance the historic environment of the East Midlands, in recognition of its own intrinsic value and its contribution to the region's quality of life.	Cultural heritage and landscape.	PPG 15 Planning and the Historic environment. Derbyshire Cultural Strategy 2002 – 2007.	Agreements to be used to contribute towards issues identified in Character Appraisals where relevant.
Ensure the protection, appropriate management and enhancement of the region's natural and cultural assets (and their settings).	Cultural heritage and landscape.	PPG 15 Planning and the Historic environment. Derbyshire Cultural Strategy 2002 – 2007. The Landscape Character of Derbyshire.	Agreements to be used to protect, maintain and enhance the character of the landscape using the planting and management guidelines set out in The Landscape Character of Derbyshire. Agreements to be used to contribute towards improvement and maintenance of Cultural heritage where relevant.
To promote good design in development so as to achieve high environmental standards and optimum social benefits.	Population and human health.	PPS1 Delivering sustainable development, PPS7 Delivering sustainable development in rural areas.	A good quality of physical environment and the benefits that this brings in terms of health and wellbeing, amenity and enjoyment are fundamental to the quality of life of individuals and communities.
Providing for employment development to strengthen the vitality and viability of market towns.	Economic development.	PPS6 Planning for town centres.	Promote regeneration of town centres.



## **5. APPRAISAL OF STRATEGIC OPTIONS**

5.1 One of the key requirements of SA is to consider reasonable alternatives as part of the assessment process. During the development of the draft SPD, a range of options were considered, assessed and debated.

5.2 The aim of options appraisal is to assess the preferred option alongside others previously considered, against the sustainability framework. This process enables comparison between options, highlighting any potential implications on sustainability. The appraisal of options also enables recommendations for mitigation of negative impacts and suggestions for modifications to the preferred option as presented in the draft SPD.

5.3 The preferred approach presented in the draft SPD is to provide a transparent and accountable procedure by which planning obligations are negotiated and secured for development within the Borough. Clearly within this option, there are a number of sub-options around its detailed implementation, for example the particular types of contributions that might be sought from individual developments. However, for the purposes of the SA, it is considered appropriate to undertake the appraisal at a more strategic level. Thus the only other viable alternative available was the “do nothing” approach of failing to provide guidance.

### **Characteristics of the options**

**Option A: Provide a procedure by which planning obligations are negotiated.**

5.4 Option A would involve the preparation of a document to provide a transparent and accountable procedure by which planning obligations are negotiated and secured for development within the Borough.

5.5 Summary of key changes:

- Provide improved certainty to landowners, prospective developers and other interested parties.
- Ensure that the process is fair and transparent.
- Provide a clear framework to decide priorities when there are conflicting requirements.
- Ensure proposals for planning obligations are discussed at a pre-application stage.

**Option B: Do nothing / business as usual.**

5.6 Option B would involve no change to the procedures by which planning obligations are negotiated and secured. This entails continuing to rely on the experience of individual Officers to secure appropriate benefits.

5.7 Summary of key changes: No change.

## **Summary of the appraisal of strategic options**

5.8 The matrix at Appendix Four confirms that the option to prepare supplementary planning guidance on the negotiation of planning obligations performs well in terms of sustainability in comparison with the option to do nothing.

5.9 The preferred option is thus to provide a procedure by which planning obligations are negotiated, the option delivered by the draft SPD.

## **6. APPRAISAL OF PLAN'S EFFECTS**

6.1 This section provides a record of the prediction and assessment of the potential effects of the draft SPD.

6.2 Prediction of effects: identification of the changes to the sustainability baseline predicted to arise from the SPD. Changes described in terms of magnitude, time-frame, permanence, likelihood, significance and whether or not there are cumulative or synergistic effects.

### **Plan objectives**

- Affordable housing.
- Open space linked to wider green networks wherever feasible.
- Education facilities.
- Protection of heritage and landscape character.
- Regeneration of town centres.
- Contribution to national integrated transport strategy.
- Sustainable transport provision.
- Flood prevention.
- Protection and enhancement of bio-diversity.

**Table Five: Summary of the effects of the draft SPD**

**Plan objective: Affordable housing**

SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	?+	<b>Effects:</b> Requirement for affordable housing will make a significantly positive contribution. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	++	
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	?+	
To reduce anti-social activity.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Providing a better mix of homes is likely to increase neighbourhood identity and pride in the long term. Opportunities for crime are likely to be reduced through design in the medium to long term. In short to medium term, construction and related traffic are likely to cause noise pollution. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> Guidance to encourage Developers to liaise with Derbyshire Police Architectural Liaison Officer and Crime Prevention Officers re designing out crime.
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	+	
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	?-	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Will it improve accessibility to key local services?	0	<b>Effects:</b> Significance of effect will depend on location of new developments. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> This and other Guidance to note the need to meet predicted additional demand and include requirement for new or replacement facilities. These facilities should be available in time for any increase in the number of residents.
	Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	0	
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	0	
	Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	0	
To improve the quality of where people live.	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Pride and sense of community likely to be increased by better mix of housing provision in the medium to long term. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	?	<b>Effects:</b> New developments have potential negative impacts on species/habitats, but also provide opportunities for incorporating bio-diversity enhancements. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> Any effects of detailed proposals to be considered at planning application stage. This and other Guidance to ensure notes on negating/enhancing impacts of development on bio-diversity.
	Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	?	
	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	?	
	Will it encourage protection of and further planting of trees?	?	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	?+	<p><b>Effects:</b> Other Guidance relates to design standards, aiming to ensure that in the long term all new developments will enhance townscape quality. Potential for negative effects during construction.</p> <p><b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> This and other guidance to make cross reference to the landscape character assessment work, including reference to the planting and management guidelines for each of the High Peak landscape character types.</p>
	Will it improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside?	?	
	Will it decrease litter in towns and the countryside?	?	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	?	<p><b>Effects:</b> Potential negative impact on Conservation areas and or historical features from new developments.</p> <p><b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> Any effects of detailed proposals to be considered at planning application stage. This and other Guidance to ensure that Conservation Areas and built heritage are protected/enhanced.</p>
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	?	<p><b>Effects:</b> Potential negative effect only if building allowed in floodplain.</p> <p><b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> Any effects of detailed proposals to be considered at planning application stage.</p>
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	?	<p><b>Effects:</b> Potential negative impact on open space from new developments.</p> <p><b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> Any effects of detailed proposals to be considered at planning application stage. This and other Guidance to ensure that green space is protected/enhanced.</p>
	Will it minimise the loss of open space to development?	?	

SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	Will it encourage local business?	?+	<b>Effects:</b> Mixed tenures likely to encourage broad range of residents in terms of age / skill / demographics. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it encourage inward investment?	?	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	0	

**Plan objective: open space linked to wider green networks wherever feasible**

SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	0	
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	0	

SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
To reduce anti-social activity.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	++	<p><b>Effects:</b> Linked and well-used open spaces can increase passive surveillance – reducing crime. Well used spaces with a good flow of people, lighting etc can also reduce the fear of crime and enhance feelings of safety and community. Possible impact on noise due to increased use and play in open areas – but not likely to be polluting.</p> <p><b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> Positioning of play areas with noise in mind can mitigate against possible negative impacts.</p>
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	++	
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	?0	
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Will it improve accessibility to key local services?	0	<p><b>Effects:</b> N/a</p> <p><b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a</p>
	Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	0	
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	0	
	Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	0	
To improve the quality of where people live.	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	++	<p><b>Effects:</b> Very positive in short to medium term, improved quality and provision of open spaces, more linked open space.</p> <p><b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a</p>

SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Provision of additional space incorporating habitat creation and appropriate management of both new and existing open space will have a positive effect on bio-diversity. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> This and other Guidance to be used to demonstrate how native species can be incorporated to benefit wildlife. Biodiversity Action Plan to be referenced as a source of information on local bio-diversity objectives.
	Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	?+	
	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	?+	
	Will it encourage protection of and further planting of trees?	?+	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Improved quality of open spaces will improve landscape and townscape. Increased movement and use of areas could also generate litter. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> This and other guidance used to promote neighbourhood groups to care for open spaces.
	Will it improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside?	++	
	Will it decrease litter in towns and the countryside?	?	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a



<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	?	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Main aim of this objective. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it minimise the loss of open space to development?	++	
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	Will it encourage local business?	?+	<b>Effects:</b> In the long term, as part of the overall regeneration of the area, public open space have an important role in improving quality of life and the image of an area. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it encourage inward investment?	?	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	0	

**Plan objective: education facilities**

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	0	
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	0	
To reduce anti-social activity.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a.
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	0	
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	0	
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Will it improve accessibility to key local services?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Provision of additional educational facilities when required by new development will improve accessibility. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	0	
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	0	
	Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	+	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To improve the quality of where people live.	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Provision of additional local education facilities where needed will meet people's needs. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	0	
	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	0	
	Will it encourage protection of and further planting of trees?	0	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside?	0	
	Will it decrease litter in towns and the countryside?	0	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it minimise the loss of open space to development?	0	
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	Will it encourage local business?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it encourage inward investment?	0	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	0	

**Plan objective: protection of heritage and landscape character**

SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	0	
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	0	
To reduce anti-social activity.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	?+	<b>Effects:</b> Protecting and improving the condition of built heritage as part of any area regeneration is likely to improve the image of an area and reduce crime in the long term. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a.
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	?	
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	?	
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Will it improve accessibility to key local services?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	0	
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	0	
	Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	0	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To improve the quality of where people live.	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Protecting and improving the condition of built heritage as part of any area regeneration is likely to add to residential amenity. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	0	
	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	0	
	Will it encourage protection of and further planting of trees?	0	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	0	<b>Effects:</b> Strongly positive effect on townscape and landscape by improving state and quality of historic built environment and surrounding landscape. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside?	++	
	Will it decrease litter in towns and the countryside?	0	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Main aim of objective. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	0	<b>Effects:</b> Protection/resistance of loss to open space in Conservation areas. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it minimise the loss of open space to development?	+	
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	Will it encourage local business?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it encourage inward investment?	0	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	0	

**Plan objective: Regeneration of town centres**

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	0	<b>Effects:</b> Increased employment and earning opportunities should reduce current earnings / house price ratio disparity. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	?+	
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	0	
To reduce anti-social activity.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	?+	<b>Effects:</b> Crime impact dependent on broad range of factors, however providing local people with legitimate opportunities and improving image of area likely to reduce crime in the long term. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a.
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	?	
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	0	
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Will it improve accessibility to key local services?	0	<b>Effects:</b> Regenerating town centres aims to ensure a range of retail / commercial and employment opportunities / facilities are accessible locally in the medium to long term. Some uncertainty as this will depend on the range of services / employment provided at new developments being those needed by residents. But increased local provision should mean that facilities are more easily accessible. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	0	
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	0	
	Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	0	



SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
To improve the quality of where people live.	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Long-term aim of town centre regeneration is to improve an area – by providing economic / employment opportunities and a well served retail environment. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	0	
	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	0	
	Will it encourage protection of and further planting of trees?	0	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Improved and extended town centre uses likely to have a positive effect on townscape, especially where this leads to regeneration of run-down/unused premises. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside?	0	
	Will it decrease litter in towns and the countryside?	0	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	0	Effects: <b>N/a</b> Mitigation / Enhancement: N/a
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	0	Effects: <b>N/a</b> Mitigation / Enhancement: N/a
	Will it minimise the loss of open space to development?	0	
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	Will it encourage local business?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Main aim of objective <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it encourage inward investment?	++	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	+	

**Plan objectives to contribute to national integrated transport strategy and provide sustainable transport**

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	0	
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	0	
To reduce anti-social activity.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Increased movement, more people on the streets and increased pedestrian and cycle transport gives rise to increased passive surveillance and feeling of safety. Minimising traffic flows and displacing cars with walking / bikes will improve noise pollution. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a.
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	+	
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	0	
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Will it improve accessibility to key local services?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Transport and movement are key elements in access and affordability. Improvements to these will make access easier and more affordable. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	++	
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	0	
	Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	++	

SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
To improve the quality of where people live.	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Reducing the impact of cars, improving infrastructure, facilities, and attractiveness of routes for pedestrians and cyclists will contribute to area vibrancy and sense of place. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	0	
	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	0	
	Will it encourage protection of and further planting of trees?	0	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Reducing the impact of cars and softening infrastructure will add to ecological and physical quality of townscape and open spaces. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside?	0	
	Will it decrease litter in towns and the countryside?	0	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Reductions in car traffic will reduce energy use and emissions of greenhouse gases. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	0	<b>Effects:</b> In the long term, decreasing demand for road space may enable expansion of open spaces. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> Opportunity to link improved pedestrian and cycle routes with the network of green spaces.
	Will it minimise the loss of open space to development?	0	
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	Will it encourage local business?	+	<b>Effects:</b> A well connected, safe and accessible area is likely to be more attractive to businesses. Restrictive parking standards may dissuade some investment, but likely to attract more locally suitable business which is not reliant on road transport. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> This and other guidance to promote use of Travel Plans
	Will it encourage inward investment?	+	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	0	

**Plan objective: Flood prevention**

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	0	
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	0	
To reduce anti-social activity.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a.
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	0	
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	0	
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Will it improve accessibility to key local services?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	0	
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	0	
	Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	0	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To improve the quality of where people live.	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	0	
	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	0	
	Will it encourage protection of and further planting of trees?	0	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside?	0	
	Will it decrease litter in towns and the countryside?	0	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Main aim of objective. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it minimise the loss of open space to development?	0	
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	Will it encourage local business?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it encourage inward investment?	0	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	0	



**Plan objective: Protection and enhancement of bio-diversity**

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Will it reduce homelessness?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	0	
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	0	
To reduce anti-social activity.	Will it reduce actual levels of crime?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a.
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	0	
	Will it reduce noise concerns?	0	
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	Will it improve accessibility to key local services?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve accessibility to shopping facilities?	0	
	Will it improve the level of investment in key community services?	0	
	Will it make access easier for those without access to a car?	0	

SA Objective	Criteria for appraisal	Score	Comments: Effects and any Mitigation
To improve the quality of where people live.	Will it improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Enhancing people's access to natural areas and wildlife is likely to increase people's satisfaction with their neighbourhoods. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	Will it conserve and enhance natural/semi-natural habitats?	++	<b>Effects:</b> Main aim of objective. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it conserve and enhance species diversity and in particular avoid harm to protected species?	++	
	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their nature conservation interest?	++	
	Will it encourage protection of and further planting of trees?	++	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	Will it reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?	0	<b>Effects:</b> Protecting and enhancing bio-diversity will have a strongly positive impact on the ecological quality and character of the countryside. Increased management and maintenance of sites may reduce build up of litter. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it improve the landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside?	++	
	Will it decrease litter in towns and the countryside?	0	

<b>SA Objective</b>	<b>Criteria for appraisal</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments: Effects and any Mitigation</b>
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value in both urban and rural areas?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Will it minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	Will it minimise development on greenfield sites?	+	<b>Effects:</b> Protection and enhancement of biodiversity will have a strongly positive impact on green public space. <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it minimise the loss of open space to development?	++	
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	Will it encourage local business?	0	<b>Effects:</b> N/a <b>Mitigation / Enhancement:</b> N/a
	Will it encourage inward investment?	0	
	Will it make land and property available for business development?	0	

## **Potential overall effects of the draft SPD**

6.3 The above matrix shows that the majority of the sustainability objectives are affected either positively or very positively by the implementation of the SPD.

6.4 There is some potential for negative effects. New developments have potential negative impacts on species/habitats, but also provide opportunities for incorporating bio-diversity enhancements. There is also a potential for negative impact on Conservation areas and or historical features from new developments.

6.5 Measures have generally been identified to mitigate potential negative effects or at least require more detailed consideration of the issue at the planning application stage.

## **Cumulative effects**

6.6 Cumulative effects were considered during the assessment. No potential negative cumulative effects were identified.

## **7. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING**

7.1 The significant sustainability effects of implementing the draft SPD will be monitored to help identify unforeseen adverse effects and to enable remedial action to be taken.

7.2 The Council is required to prepare Annual Monitoring Reports to assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in the Local Development Documents are being achieved. The SPD will be included in this process which requires a first annual monitoring report to be submitted by 31 December 2006.

7.3 Table Six on the following page shows the indicators that were included in the SA Framework, see Table Three on page 19.

**Table Six: Potential indicators**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affordable housing completion figures.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SP 21 Percentage of residents worried about crime in their local area.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BV 89 Satisfaction with standards of street cleanliness. (Citizens Panel Survey)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of residents defined as within a distance of 500m of key local services.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SP24 – The % of people surveyed who feel that, by working together with people in their neighbourhood, they can influence decisions affecting their local area.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The percentage area of all land designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation which has been assessed and found to be in “favourable”, or “unfavourable recovering” condition, categorised by Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan broad habitat type.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss or damage to listed buildings, ancient monuments or historic parks and their settings.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of Conservation areas with a Character Appraisal.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning guidance issued on basis of Landscape Character Assessment.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of major developments incorporating sustainable drainage techniques.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BV 119e Percentage of residents satisfied with the Council’s parks and open spaces.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JP10 – The level of satisfaction with the overall attractiveness of town centres.</li> </ul>

7.4 These indicators will take account of SA objectives, the likely significant effects identified during the effects assessment and mitigation measures proposed.

7.5 SA Monitoring will be incorporated into existing performance monitoring undertaken. Responsibility for assembling and co-ordinating the data collection will lie with the Forward Planning Department.

**Next steps**

7.6 The key next steps of the SA once the formal consultation on the SA Report along with the draft SPD is complete will involve:

- Appraisal of any significant changes proposed to the draft SPD not already considered.
- Publishing a statement following adoption of the SPD setting out the changes to the SPD in response to the SA process, the ways in which responses to consultation have been taken into account and confirmation of monitoring arrangements.
- Monitoring the significant effects.

## Appendix One

### Consultees on the Scoping Report

#### SEA Consultation bodies

Countryside Agency  
English Heritage  
English Nature  
Environment Agency

#### Representatives of other interests

##### **Economic**

East Midlands Development Agency  
Derbyshire Chamber and Business Link  
Government Office East Midlands  
Learning and Skills Council – Derbyshire  
Trent Buses

##### **Social**

Access Hope Valley  
High Peak Access Group  
Peak District Rural Deprivation Forum  
Derbyshire Rural Community Council  
Derbyshire Coalition for Inclusive Living  
Age Concern Glossop and District  
Buxton Old People's Welfare Committee  
High Peak and Dales PCT  
High Peak Health Forum  
High Peak Citizens Advice Bureau  
Community Safety Officer

##### **Environmental**

Campaign to Protect Rural England  
Council for British Archaeology  
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust  
The Woodland Trust  
The National Trust  
Friends of the Earth

## Appendix Two

### Links to other plans and strategies

Objectives from other plans and strategies	Related objectives in the plan	Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency
<b>Planning Policy Statement 7 Sustainable development in rural areas</b>		
Promote thriving, inclusive and sustainable rural communities, improving the quality and sustainability of local environments and neighbourhoods.	Secure provision of affordable housing and delivery of open space. Protect historic buildings and conservation areas and promote bio-diversity. Secure provision of sustainable transport.	Plan policies fully support this objective.
Promote sustainable economic growth and diversification.	Promote regeneration of town centres. Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy.	
Promote good quality, sustainable development that respects and enhances local distinctiveness and intrinsic qualities of the countryside.		Other SPDs relate: landscape character appraisal and residential design guide.
Protect open countryside for the benefit of all, with the highest levels of protection for most valued landscapes and environmental resources.	Protect woodland and nature conservation sites and promote bio-diversity.	Other SPDs relate, in particular landscape character appraisal.
Focus most development in, or next to, existing towns and villages.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	Links to Local Plan aims.
Prevent urban sprawl.		Housing restraint SPD relates. Also OC2 in Local Plan.

<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
Discourage development of "Greenfield" land, where such land must be used, ensuring it is not used wastefully.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	Links to Local Plan aims.
Provide appropriate leisure opportunities to enable urban and rural dwellers to enjoy wider countryside.		Other projects relate: e.g. Trans Pennine trail and Pennine Bridleway.
<b>East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS)</b>		
To ensure that the housing stock meets the housing needs of all parts of the community.	Secure affordable housing.	
To ensure that the delivery of a wide range of life-long learning opportunities is provided for all parts of the community.	Upgrade existing educational facilities.	
To promote, support and sustain healthy communities and lifestyles.	Deliver open space and sustainable transport.	
To maximise the contribution of arts, culture, media and sport to the quality of life in the East Midlands.	Protect historic buildings.	
To ensure commitment and co-ordinated action to secure community safety and reduce crime.		Links to Community Safety Strategy for High Peak 2002 – 2005. Also Policy GD7 in Local Plan.
To support the development and growth of social capital across the communities of the region.		Links to High Peak Community Strategy.
To protect, improve and manage the rich diversity of the natural, cultural and built environmental and archaeological assets of the region.	Protect historic buildings, woodland and conservation areas and promote bio-diversity.	



<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
To manage change by enhancing and conserving the environmental quality of the region including high standards of design and to maximise the re-use of previously used land and buildings.		Other SPDs relate: residential design guide, also Policy OC7 in Local Plan.
To involve people, through changes to lifestyles and activities in minimising adverse local, regional and global environmental impacts.		Links to High Peak Community Strategy.
To bring about excellence in our approach to learning and skills, giving the region a competitive edge in how we acquire and exploit knowledge, by creating a “learning region” – with individuals and employers who value learning and a learning industry that is proactive and creative – leading, in time, to a workforce that is among the most adaptable, motivated and highly skilled in Europe.	Achieve upgrade of existing educational facilities.	
To develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation, putting the region at the leading edge in Europe in our exploitation of research, recognised for our spirit of innovation and creating a climate within which entrepreneurs and world-class businesses can prosper.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	
To empower communities to create solutions that meet their needs; ensuring that everyone in the region has the opportunity to benefit from, and contribute to, the region’s enhanced economic competitiveness, thereby supporting a socially inclusive region.		Links to High Peak Community Strategy.

Objectives from other plans and strategies	Related objectives in the plan	Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency
To ensure that decisions about the distribution and location of activity are consistent with sustainable development principles.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy. Secure provision of sustainable transport.	
To enhance the region's infrastructure, including maximising transport choice and exploiting opportunities offered by information technology.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy. Secure provision of sustainable transport.	
To recognise and respect the distinctive characteristics of different parts of the region and the need for regional policies to take account of these.		Other SPDs relate: landscape character appraisal and residential design guide.
<b>REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY (RES) Part two: Actions for the East Midlands Environment</b>		
To manage the historic environment so that the resource is conserved for the benefit of present and future generations.	Protect historic buildings.	
To ensure that all important elements that underpin the concept of local distinctiveness are conserved and managed.		Other SPDs relate: landscape character appraisal and residential design guide.
To equip people with the skills and knowledge so that they value the environment and can contribute to its enhancement.		Links to Community Strategy.

<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
To ensure that all East Midlands people have sustainable access to a diverse, well managed environment of which they can be proud.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy. Secure sustainable transport. Protect woodland and nature conservation sites and promote bio-diversity.	Other projects relate: e.g. Trans Pennine trail and Pennine Bridleway. Also Policy TR13 in Local Plan.
To encourage the use of environmentally friendly methods of travel.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy. Secure sustainable transport.	
To minimise greenhouse gas emissions and protect the environment when adapting to the challenges and taking up the opportunities which climate change will bring.	Reduce risk of flooding.	Links to High Peak Borough Council's Carbon Management Strategy.
To reduce the region's contribution to the emissions of air pollutants.		Links to High Peak Borough Council's Carbon Management Strategy. Also Policy GD11 in Local Plan.
To encourage the reduction of the environmental impact of energy use in the region.		Links to Policy CF9 in Local Plan.
To conserve, enhance and manage our natural heritage of geology, landforms and natural processes so that the best is safeguarded and available as a scientific and educational resource for the region.	Protect woodland and nature conservation sites and promote bio-diversity.	Links to Policy OC8 in Local Plan.

Objectives from other plans and strategies	Related objectives in the plan	Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency
To value the soil as a resource and protect the most important and vulnerable types.		Other SPDs relate: landscape character appraisal.
To achieve an agricultural system which is economically viable whilst protecting and enhancing the environment.		Links to Policy OC6 in Local Plan.
To protect and appropriately manage all ancient and semi-natural woodland and increase the extent of multi-purpose forests and woods that deliver environmental, as well as social and economic benefits.	Protect woodland sites.	Links to Policy OC10 in Local Plan.
To optimise the environmental benefits of built development.		Other SPDs relate: residential design guide. Also Policy GD1 in Local Plan.
To optimise the use of brownfield sites of all kinds, whilst recognising and suitably protecting them as environmental assets.		Links to Policy GD1 in Local Plan. Also OC7.
To promote and support sustainable waste management practices and minimise the impact of waste on the environment.		Links to Derbyshire Western Sub Area Waste Management Strategy.
To continue to protect and improve the quality of the region's natural water resources for all uses.		
To continue to protect and improve surface, bathing and groundwater quality.		Links to GD11 in Local Plan.

<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
To protect rivers and their floodplains as a natural resource and to increase floodplain capacity wherever possible.	Reduce risk of flooding.	Links to Policy GD10 in Local Plan.
To conserve and dramatically enhance biodiversity according to regional priorities.	Promote bio-diversity.	
To enhance the character and quality of the region's landscape by protecting the best and enhancing the rest.	Protect historic buildings, conservation areas and sites.	
<b>High Peak Local Plan</b>		
Protect and enhance the High Peak's fine landscape, built environment, and sites of archaeological, geological and nature conservation interest by promoting quality design at all levels and ensuring new development respects the principles of sustainability.	Secure open space. Protect historic buildings and conservation sites and areas. Promote bio-diversity.	
Promote the development of local communities by encouraging the provision of services, facilities and a better balance between housing and employment in local areas in order to help reduce the need to travel and to support the creation of more self-sustaining communities.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy; secure provision of sustainable transport. Promote regeneration of town centres. Secure affordable housing.	

<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
<p>Promote the growth of employment through the development of industry, commerce, tourism and leisure where this capitalises on and complements the individual assets and characteristics of the Borough and maintains and improves the quality of the environment.</p>	<p>Promote regeneration of town centres.</p>	
<p>Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas by seeking the creation of clean, secure and attractive environments with a diversity of use and activity and good accessibility whilst ensuring the most efficient use of land and buildings.</p>	<p>Promote regeneration of town centres. Secure provision of sustainable transport.</p>	
<p>Support the development of a viable tourism industry that plays a key role in the economic regeneration of the area, respects the natural environment on which it depends, is supported by local residents and provides a high-quality visitor experience.</p>	<p>Secure protection of historic buildings, conservation sites and areas. Secure delivery of open space.</p>	

<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
Promote a more integrated transport system which gives a better choice of modes for movement, including public transport, cycling and walking and which offers a convenient and safe alternative to the private car. To seek the maintenance and improvement of public transport services catering for residents and visitors and so reduce reliance on the car.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy; secure provision of sustainable transport.	
<b>High Peak Community Strategy</b>		
Services for young people.	Provision of affordable housing.	
Health improvement planning.	Provision of sustainable transport.	
Supporting new and existing businesses.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	
Support education, skills and lifelong learning.	Upgrade existing educational facilities.	
Sustainable transport development.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy and secure sustainable transport.	
<b>Peak District Sustainable Tourism Strategy</b>		
To increase visitor spend and maximise the local benefits of their spend.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	
To reduce dependency on the car when visiting the area.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy and secure provision of sustainable transport.	
To deliver for local people and not just visitors.	Secure provision of affordable housing and open space.	
To conserve the landscape, including the towns and villages, and their special qualities.	Protect historic buildings, woodland, conservation areas and sites; promote bio-diversity.	

Objectives from other plans and strategies	Related objectives in the plan	Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency
<b>Derbyshire Cultural Strategy</b>		
Recognise the significance of culture in the county's economy.	Secure protection of historic buildings and conservation areas.	
Ensure that the county's environmental heritage is enjoyed and used in a sustainable way.	Secure sustainable transport.	
<b>Regional Economic Strategy</b>		
To create high-quality employment opportunities and to bring about excellence in learning and skills, giving the region a competitive edge in how we acquire and exploit knowledge.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	
To provide the physical conditions for a modern economic structure, including infrastructure to support the use of new technologies.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy.	
<b>High Peak and Dales Primary Care Trust Local Delivery Plan 2005 - 2008</b>		
Improve health, reduce health inequalities by targeting deprived communities.	Secure delivery of open space.	
Tackle obesity.	Secure delivery of open space.	
<b>Regional Forestry Framework for the East Midlands</b>		
More opportunities for people to enjoy the benefits of woodland access close to where they live.	Protect woodland.	
Priority species and habitats brought into good ecological condition.	Promote bio-diversity.	
Ancient woodlands, ancient woodland features and woodlands on ancient woodland sites protected, enhanced and well managed.	Protect woodland.	



Objectives from other plans and strategies	Related objectives in the plan	Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency
<b>High Peak Housing strategy 2002 – 2006</b>		
Maximise use of planning powers to secure additional affordable housing.	Secure provision of affordable housing.	
Maximise investment in the development of additional affordable homes to meet identified housing need.	Secure provision of affordable housing.	
<b>Regional Spatial Strategy For The East Midlands (RSS8) March 2005</b>		
To address social exclusion, through the regeneration of disadvantaged areas and reducing regional inequalities in the distribution of employment, housing, health and other community facilities.	Provision of affordable housing, promote regeneration of town centres, provide community facilities.	
To protect and where possible enhance the quality of the environment in urban and rural areas so as to make them safe and attractive places to live and work.	Secure open space.	
To promote and improve economic prosperity, employment opportunities and regional competitiveness.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	
To improve accessibility to jobs, homes and services across the region by developing integrated transport, ensuring the improvement of opportunities for walking, cycling and the use of high quality public transport.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy and secure provision of sustainable transport.	

<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
To achieve effective protection of the environment by avoiding significant harm and securing adequate mitigation where appropriate, and to promote the conservation, enhancement, sensitive use and management of the region's natural and cultural assets.	Protect historic buildings and conservation sites and areas. Promote bio-diversity.	
To bring about a step change increase in the level of the region's biodiversity, by managing and developing habitats to secure gains wherever possible, and ensuring no net loss of priority habitats and species.	Secure open space. Promote bio-diversity.	
To promote the prudent use of resources, in particular through patterns of development and transport that make efficient and effective use of existing infrastructure, optimise waste minimisation, reduce overall energy use and maximise the role of renewable energy generation.	Secure provision of sustainable transport.	
To promote good design in development so as to achieve high environmental standards and optimum social benefits.		SPD on negotiating planning obligations is designed to ensure optimum social benefits.
Encouraging the provision of public transport and opportunities for the use of other non-car modes of travel.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy and secure provision of sustainable transport.	

<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
Providing for employment development to strengthen the vitality and viability of market towns.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	
Identifying other settlements, or groups of settlements, which are accessible to the rural population, as the preferred location outside of market towns, for local needs housing including affordable housing and the provision and retention of most other services.	Secure affordable housing.	
Securing improvements in transport and communications infrastructure where it can be demonstrated that poor linkages have led to disadvantage compared to the rest of the region.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy.	
Aim to meet needs whilst reducing past levels of in-migration, discouraging additional commuting to, and supporting the regeneration of, the nearby conurbations.	Promote regeneration of town centres.	
Improvements to accessibility by public transport and other non-car modes.	Secure provision of sustainable transport.	
Ensure the protection, appropriate management and enhancement of the region's natural and cultural assets (and their settings).	Protect historic buildings and conservation sites and areas.	
Promote a major step change increase in the level of the region's biodiversity.	Promote bio-diversity.	

<b>Objectives from other plans and strategies</b>	<b>Related objectives in the plan</b>	<b>Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency</b>
Understand, conserve and enhance the historic environment of the East Midlands, in recognition of its own intrinsic value and its contribution to the region's quality of life.	Protect historic buildings and conservation sites and areas.	
Ensure adequate provision of sports and recreational facilities consistent with the priorities for urban and rural areas outlined in Policies 5 and 6.	Secure open space.	
Take water related issues into account at an early stage in the process of identifying land for development.	Reduce risk of flooding.	
Be informed by the use of appropriate Strategic Flood Risk Assessments in order to evaluate actual flood risk and include policies which prevent inappropriate development either in, or where there would be an adverse impact on, the coastal and fluvial floodplain areas.	Reduce risk of flooding.	
Implement key proposals of the South Pennines Integrated Transport Strategy (SPITS).	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy.	
Develop opportunities for modal shift away from road based transport including for the quarrying and aggregates sector.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy.	
Overcome the problems of rural isolation for those without access to a private car.	Secure provision of sustainable transport.	
Improve transport linkages to the North West Region and the rest of the east Midlands.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy.	

Objectives from other plans and strategies	Related objectives in the plan	Implication for SPD: synergy / inconsistency
Significantly improve the quality and quantity of public transport.	Secure provision of sustainable transport.	
Encourage cycling and walking for short journeys.	Secure provision of sustainable transport.	
Develop and implement measures for behavioural change to encourage a reduction in the need to travel and to change public attitudes toward car usage and public transport, walking and cycling.	Contribute towards national integrated transport strategy.	

**Appendix Three: Baseline data**

Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Action/issues for SA
<b>Social issues</b>					
<p>Sectors of communities least able to afford a home and where this is most pronounced.</p>	<p>58.7% of households living in unsuitable housing (and needing to move within the Borough) cannot afford market housing.                      7% of all Housing Association households are assessed to be in housing need.                      4.6% of all lone parent households are more likely to be in need than other households.                      7.4% of all special needs households are assessed to be in housing need.                      Wormhill and Tintwistle sub-areas demonstrated the highest levels of housing need.</p>	<p>Apply affordable housing policies to all eligible developments to achieve maximum contributions. To secure an additional 10 units in 2002/03 and 20 on average each year thereafter to 2011. Require affordable housing contributions on all new developments of more than 5 dwellings (or 0.17ha) in settlements of less than 3000 population.</p> <p>Local Plan target of 30% affordable housing on all new developments of more than 15 dwellings.</p>	<p>Housing need is getting more acute and the issue of affordability is affecting increasing numbers of the population.</p>	<p>Annual shortfall of 337 affordable dwellings over the period 2002 – 2006. The greatest shortage is of two bedroom accommodation.</p>	<p>Include appropriate objective in SA framework. Consider means to maximise use of planning powers to secure additional affordable housing.</p>

Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Issues for SA
<p>Neighbourhoods particularly associated with poor environmental quality and neglected surroundings.</p>	<p>Gamesley Ward (Glossopdale) is within the top 10% and Stone Bench (Fairfield, Buxton) is within the top 25% of the most deprived wards in the country. Wards experiencing the greatest number of anti-social behaviour incidents per 1,000 population are April 2004 – March 2005: Gamesley: 146; Howard Town: 145 and Buxton Central: 137. Housing Services Department records show that Gamesley, Hadfield and Fairfield receive the most complaints and that the biggest types of complaint are neighbour nuisance and untidy gardens. The most heavily littered wards in the Glossop area are: Whitfield, Howard Town, Simmondley and Padfield.</p>	<p>Countryside Agency Report: The State of the Countryside in the East Midlands 2004 sets out 2003 data collected by the Home Office for six of the most frequently reported crimes. This can be compared with other regions and also to the previous year. The evidence confirms that crime levels in the English countryside are generally falling or stable – especially for the most serious crimes.</p> <p>A High Peak Corporate Plan priority is to enhance and maintain a safe, clean and green public space. This priority will have been met by 2010 if Fear of crime has been reduced by 5% and 65% of people are satisfied with standards of street cleanliness.</p>	<p>ASB evidence is from base-line data compiled by the High Peak Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, so no trend yet available.</p>	<p>Central Glossop, Tintwistle/Hadfield, Gamesley, Fairfield and New Mills (Ollerset) would be of the greatest priority to introduce resources to develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.</p>	<p>Include appropriate objective in SA framework.</p>

Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Action/issues for SA
Neighbourhoods without easy local access to services and facilities without having to use a car.	<p>Parts of the High Peak are deeply rural (notably within the Hope Valley) and suffer from isolation and poor access to services.</p> <p>Derbyshire County Council will submit its second Local Transport Plan (LTP2) in March 2006. The Plan will include Accessibility Planning: a systematic assessment of whether people can get to places of work, healthcare facilities, education, food shops and other destinations that are important to local residents.</p>	<p>Countryside Agency Report: The State of the Countryside in the East Midlands 2004 sets out that the rural population in the East Midlands has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• better than average access to supermarkets (3.2% points), job centres (1% point) and libraries (1.3% points);</li> <li>• worse than average access to banks (2.2% points) and secondary schools (2.2% points);</li> <li>• access to cash-points, primary schools, post offices, petrol stations GP's surgery and libraries all very close to the England average.</li> </ul>	Unknown.	<p>Poor access in highly rural areas of the Borough.</p> <p>Promote regeneration of town centres.</p>	<p>Include any targets or relevant assessments arising from LTP2.</p>



Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Action/issues for SA
Neighbourhoods without access to open space.	<p>High Peak Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report 2003 provides data on open space standards (based on old ward boundaries). Borough total open space is 179.219 Hectares. The total National Playing Fields Association standard for the area is 212.28 Ha, giving a local shortfall of 33.06 Hectares.</p> <p>Wards (based on old boundaries) where there is a particular shortfall of open space are: in Glossopdale: All Saints –5.92Ha; Simmondley –3.7; St Charles –3.69. In Buxton; Corbar –5.68Ha; Cote Heath: -3.8; Central – 3.66; Barms –6.25. In Central South: Chapel West –6.04Ha; Blackbrook –4.57. In Whaley Bridge –6.37Ha.</p>	<p>The Regional Environment Strategy highlights the need for the built environment of our towns and cities, market towns and villages should to be of a high quality. This depends upon the harmony achieved between buildings, open spaces, settlements and the surrounding landscape, as well as consideration of the historic evolution of settlement patterns and the promotion of environmental improvements.</p> <p>EMDA has a key action to increase the quality of sustainable design of urban and rural space, master planning and architecture through the use of CABE / EMDA design review.</p>	None identified.	A good quality of physical environment and the benefits that this brings in terms of health and wellbeing, amenity and enjoyment are fundamental to the quality of life of individuals and communities.	Ensure that existing open spaces are preserved and enhanced and opportunities taken to increase open space provision.



Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Action/issues for SA
<b>Environmental issues</b>					
Locally important habitats for wildlife.	<p>There are 9 sites of special scientific interest in the local plan area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pooles Cavern and Grinlow Wood.</li> <li>• Goyt Valley.</li> <li>• Toddbrook Reservoir.</li> <li>• Combs Reservoir.</li> <li>• Duchy Quarry.</li> <li>• Dark Peak.</li> <li>• Waterswallows Quarry.</li> <li>• Wye Valley/Wye Dale.</li> <li>• Cunning Dale.</li> </ul> <p>There are two statutory nature reserves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watford Lodge, New Mills.</li> <li>• Brookfield Pond, Whaley Bridge.</li> </ul> <p>Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has identified an additional 106 Wildlife sites, these are detailed in Appendix 7 of the Local Plan.</p>	<p>East Midlands Biodiversity Forum considers that the region has the poorest biodiversity in the country. Wildlife habitats have been lost and those that remain are often small and fragmented.</p> <p>Peak District Biodiversity Action Plan contains specific objectives and targets to conserve existing wildlife resources and where possible to restore previous habitats. 15 habitat action plans have been drawn up for those habitats which are a particular priority.</p> <p>East Midlands Regional Environment Strategy targets: at least 1 Hectare of Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 head of population by 2005, as measured by LA area.</p> <p>95% of SSSIs in favourable condition by 2010 and increase the area of land that qualifies as SSSI to 7% (the national average) of the regional land area by 2010.</p>	No trend available.	Important wildlife sites and habitats should be conserved and species numbers and diversity should be promoted.	Include appropriate objective in SA framework.





Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Action/issues for SA
<p>Locations in the Borough that should be conserved, restored or enhanced including Conservation areas and the preparation of Character appraisals and Landscapes and the preparation of a Landscape Character assessment.</p>	<p>As at February 2004, there are 32 designated Conservation areas.</p> <p>Eleven of the areas have no character appraisal, 2 have a brief statement, eleven areas have an appraisal planned and 6 areas have a full appraisal document.</p> <p>The Landscape Character of Derbyshire has assessed the principal landscape type in the plan area as Settled Valley Pastures.</p>	<p>English Heritage in the East Midlands (2003 – 2005) reports that there are nearly 1,000 conservation areas. An average of seven conservation area appraisals have been adopted per local authority, compared with the national average of eight. 41% of local authorities have a budget for conservation area enhancement compared with the national average of 35%. However, only 10% of local authorities have conservation area committees, compared with the national average of 25%.</p>	<p>Increasing numbers of conservation areas are being covered by a Character Appraisal. The Countryside Agency in partnership with High Peak BC and Derbyshire County Council is translating the landscape character type into criteria based policies.</p>	<p>Agreements to be used to contribute towards issues identified in Character Appraisals where relevant. Agreements to be used to protect, maintain and enhance the character of the landscape using the planting and management guidelines set out in The Landscape Character of Derbyshire.</p>	<p>Include appropriate objective in SA framework.</p>

Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Action/issues for SA
<p>Location and number of properties at risk of flooding.</p>	<p>The High Peak includes numerous rivers, such as the Etherow, Sett, Goyt and Wye, and their tributaries, falling from the Pennine watershed. At times of high rainfall and water run-off these watercourses rise and can flood adjacent land. Due to local topography and the historical patterns of development, some development already lies within the river flood plains of the High Peak. An estimated 1,113 buildings are currently on a floodplain. The Environment Agency has objected to six development proposals in High Peak, in 2 cases the application was approved but contained planning conditions that fully mitigated Agency concerns, the objection was resolved in 3 cases and one application was refused using Agency advice.</p>	<p>The Environment Agency states that approximately 17% of the land area in the East Midlands is at risk of flooding.</p> <p>Over 350,000 people in the East Midlands live in areas at risk of flooding.</p> <p>There are around 143,000 properties at risk of flooding; nearly 136,000 of these are in flood warning areas.</p> <p>East Midlands Regional Environment Strategy targets: Flood warning service coverage improved to 77% of properties in flood risk areas by 2007. Condition of East Midlands flood defences 50% good or better by 2005 (70% by 2008) and less than 5% poor or worse by 2005 (3% by 2008).</p>	<p>The Environment Agency (EA) has embarked on a programme of flood risk assessment and alleviation measures in the Glossop Brook, Etherow and Blackbrook Valleys.</p>	<p>Where appropriate, the Council to seek the advice of the EA to determine whether a proposed development is acceptable and to identify mitigation measures, including appropriate design and construction.</p>	<p>Include appropriate objective in SA framework.</p> <p>Planning obligations may be sought to ensure that appropriate flood prevention measures are provided and a proper maintenance regime agreed.</p>

Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Action/issues for SA
Areas subject to air quality management plans.	There are no areas in the High Peak subject to Air Quality Management Plans.	<p>The Environment Agency in its state of the Environment Report for the East Midlands states that pollution was moderate or higher on 24 days in Nottingham centre, 59 days in Leicester centre and 53 days at Ladybower in 2003.</p> <p>Traffic on East Midlands roads increased by 20% from 1993 to 2002. 78% of the 39 billion kilometres travelled in 2002 was by cars and taxis. 17 local authorities in the East Midlands have designated Air Quality Management Areas.</p> <p>Nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) from traffic is the main reason for failure of standards in this region.</p> <p>Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) and Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) are also a problem in some areas.</p>	Air quality in the UK has improved greatly over the past 50 years; but there are still some problems. Air pollution still exceeds recommended air quality standards on a number of days every year in both urban and rural areas.	None.	Ensure appropriate objective on traffic control is included.



Factor	Quantified data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issue identified?	Action/issues for SA
Water quality in rivers and other water bodies.	<p>The Environment Agency records show that in High Peak in 2003: 50.74% of rivers were good phosphate quality; 79.49% were good nitrate quality, 78.79% were good chemical quality and 35.75% were good biological quality. 35.43% of rivers were fair phosphate quality; 20.51% were fair nitrate quality, 20.76% were fair chemical quality and 59.63% were fair biological quality. 0% of rivers were bad quality for any report type.</p>	<p>According to the Environment Agency State of the Environment Report for the East Midlands, the Agency monitored the quality of over 3500 km of watercourses in the East Midlands in 2003. 95% of these were good or fair chemical quality. 97% were good or fair biological quality. But 59% were poor nitrate quality and 64% were poor phosphate quality. 74% of our watercourses reached their River Quality Objectives (RQO). 9% had significant failures of their RQO.</p> <p>Water quality targets from East Midlands Regional Environment Strategy are:  91% compliance with RQOs for 2005.  75% of rivers designated under the Freshwater Fisheries Directive (measured through routine monitoring of water quality, fish populations and invertebrates) by 2010.</p>	<p>There have been big improvements in waste water discharges over recent years but pollution from diffuse sources is becoming an increasing threat. The percentage of rivers with good biological quality has remained around 35% since 2000, down from 50% in 1995. The percentage of rivers with good chemical quality has remained around 70 to 80% between 1993 and 2003, with highs of around 95% in 2001 and 2002.</p>	None.	Ensure water quality protected.



## Appendix Four

### Appraisal of strategic options

Sustainability Objectives	Score Option A	Score Option B	Comments and time-frame of effects
<b>Social objectives</b>			
To provide everybody with the opportunity to live in a decent home.	++	0	Obligations on provision of affordable housing will have a strongly positive effect.
To reduce anti-social activity.	+	0	Obligations to improve local environmental quality will help to reduce anti-social activity in the medium to long term.
To improve accessibility to essential services and facilities.	+	0	Obligations contributing to the regeneration of town centres and improving transport facilities will make a difference in the medium to long term.
To improve the quality of where people live.	++	0	A range of obligation types will have a strongly positive effect on the quality of where people live in the short term.
<b>Environmental objectives</b>			
To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna.	+	0	Environmental conservation measures will have a positive effect on bio-diversity in the medium to long term.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes.	++	0	Obligations may be used directly to conserve and improve landscapes and townscapes, having a strongly positive effect in the short term.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment.	++	0	Obligations to conserve and enhance the historic environment will have a strongly positive effect.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change.	++	0	Obligations to overcome environmental risk will have a strongly positive effect.
To develop and protect safe, clean and green public space.	++	0	Benefits secured could include open space provision, improvement, or maintenance as well as improvements to playgrounds and sports facilities.

Sustainability Objectives	Score Option A	Score Option B	Comments and time-frame of effects
<b>Economic objectives</b>			
Promote the improvement and regeneration of town centres and urban areas.	+	0	Secondary effects of benefits secured will be a contribution to the regeneration of town centres in the medium to long term.