

South Staffordshire Council

SA/SEA of South Staffordshire LDF

Interim Sustainability Appraisal of Core
Strategy DPD Issues and Options Paper
(July 2006)

September 2006

Entec UK Limited

Report for

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1. Background and approach

1.1 Introduction

This report summarises the key sustainability matters arising from the Issues and Options Paper (July 2006) produced for the South Staffordshire Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy. The analysis forms part of the sustainability appraisal (SA) of the LDF as a whole.

There is no formal requirement to prepare a sustainability appraisal report at this stage. However, in order to aid the development of the Issues and Options, it was felt helpful to appraise the document, an analysis which in turn will be used in the preparation of the Preferred Options. The appraisal complements the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report which informed the preparation of the Issues and Options Paper.

Part of the role of the SA at this stage is to play a part in addressing the issues which are most significant for the Plan area, requiring critical decisions early on in the plan-making process, and recognising that matters of detail can be dealt with following the appraisal of the strategic approach. This early debate on options and approaches is part of the good practice associated with the 'front-loading' of the plan process, and in turn contributes to the soundness of the plan which will be explored at Independent Examination. The matters raised in this Report should therefore be considered as part of a wider process by which the sustainability 'performance' of the LDF is judged and progressively improved, including through further public participation.

1.2 The SA Scoping Report and method of appraisal

The analysis uses the SA Scoping Report as a reference point for the appraisal of the emerging issues and options, through the SA objectives and a suite of appraisal criteria related to those objectives (**Appendix A**). The broad intention is to provide a steer on the extent to which the objectives, issues and options presented meet the spirit of the promotion of sustainability in spatial planning. The resultant analysis should therefore be treated as indicative and giving an impression of the overall performance of the Core Strategy.

The analysis uses the following notation in the appraisal of both the Core Strategy Objectives and the issues and options presented. The notation is reasonably crude but is intended, at this stage, to provide a broad steer on the way in which the options and approaches presented match up against the sustainability objectives set.

Alignment	Description	Symbol
Major Positive Impact	The proposed policy or approach contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective.	++
Minor Positive Impact	The proposed policy or approach contributes to the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral	The proposed policy or approach does not have any effect on the achievement of the objective	0

Minor Negative Impact	The proposed policy or approach detracts from the achievement of the objective but not significantly.	-
Major Negative Impact	The proposed policy or approach detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective.	--
No Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the proposed policy or approach and the achievement of the objective or the relationship is negligible.	~
Uncertain	The proposed policy or approach has an uncertain relationship to the objective or the relationship is dependant on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.	?

In terms of scoring the various options and approaches, there has been a professional assessment of the 'performance' of the proposals. Typically the judgement involves weighing a range of potential factors (as reflected in the questions set out in **Appendix A**), the true importance or effect of which won't be fully appreciated until development proposals come forward. Thus at this stage an impression of the relative merits of the options and approaches is offered, which can subsequently be added to from different perspectives than sustainability. The analysis in this Report is therefore a contribution to the wider debate on the Issues and Options Paper.

2. Appraisal

2.1 The spatial vision and objectives

The approach taken is compatible with the Government's intention that a LDF should be prepared in accordance with the Community Strategy. This is made clear in the Issues and Options Paper, which sets out the aspiration that:

"We will strive to make South Staffordshire a safe and healthy place to live, with prosperous villages and thriving communities, where everyone can develop their abilities to the full, and pass on to future generations a better environment".

The wider spatial vision encapsulates the 18 Objectives set for the Core Strategy. These Objectives are considered to be wide-ranging and comprehensive in their coverage of key issues. Their wording is positive and establishes a reference point for the development of strategies and policies. In order to consider the match between these objectives and those set for the SA, a compatibility matrix is set out in **Appendix B**. Overall, a positive/neutral relationship between the sets of Objectives is noted, with potential conflicts of interest arising in only one or two instances. These relate, primarily to the following two Objectives of the Core Strategy:

6. To meet the overall development requirements for the District, consistent with the Regional Spatial Strategy.

10. To promote South Staffordshire as a tourist destination and the improvement and provision of tourist facilities.

In the absence of precise details associated with these Objectives, it is impossible to identify their impact on the sustainability aspirations of South Staffordshire, but the inference must be one of caution. Development is not incompatible with the pursuit of sustainability and indeed can enhance sustainability (for example in respect of strengthening the viability of some communities), but the precise balance struck between the intentions of growth and the wish to protect natural resources and quality of life (as currently perceived) is a matter of detail which will have to be dealt with judiciously. The overall tone of the Objectives set for the Core Strategy can be judged to be conservative and clearly seeking to use planning in the most positive fashion. A positive/neutral relationship with SA Objectives is a not unexpected, but nevertheless welcome, outcome.

2.2 Key issues and options

The Issues and Options Report sets out matters relating to 11 key areas of interest to spatial planning. Each contains Options and/or Approaches, and these have been appraised in respect of the SA Objectives (as represented by four topic areas into which they are grouped) and the Appraisal Criteria set out in **Appendix A**. Based on the analysis presented in **Appendix C**, the following commentary explores in more detail how aspirations for sustainability are being addressed in these options and approaches.

2.2.1 Green Belt and Open Countryside

The extent and integrity of the Green Belt is a central issue for South Staffordshire given the very high proportion of the District designated and attendant growth pressures from the Birmingham conurbation. The appraisal of the three issues presented – local context, white land and major developed sites in the Green Belt – reveals a mixed picture in terms of the likely sustainability implications of the options set out. Maintenance of the status quo presents a generally positive picture, whilst the sustainability impacts of more restrictive approaches are less positive. This is because overly restrictive approaches can stifle efforts to develop more sustainable approaches to settlement planning, for example.

The release of ‘white land’ for development could have the most damaging effects, in principle, although the precise nature of any development proposals would determine the sustainability impact. The proposed approaches to the treatment of major developed sites in the Green Belt gives a generally more positive picture, whereby appropriate development can serve to enhance existing resources and patterns of use in way which promotes sustainability. Proposals to apply restrictive development control policies to countryside beyond the Green Belt reflects the high quality of its character, and in combination with protection and enhancement of the natural environment, forms a strong policy foundation for the interests of designated sites.

Green Belt is one of the more powerful planning policy tools and the implications for sustainability of its use are not well understood. However, adjustments to the current approach potentially generate significant sustainability effects because of the degree of development pressure associated with settlements whose growth is shaped by Green Belts. Effects may be positive (for example sustainable urban extensions), or negative (development which is policy-compliant, but which is not sufficiently inappropriate to refuse, for example).

2.2.2 Sustainable Communities

The proposed policy approaches to delivering sustainable communities score well against the sustainability criteria. This reflects the fact that the measures suggested are positive and would result in the enhancement of the quality of life of residents through strengthening of service provision and the like, such that there is a reduction in the need to travel and an enhancement of community cohesion. The precise implications for climate change and energy efficiency are not fully clear because of a lack of knowledge of the nature of the proposals, although they are likely to be ‘climate-proofed’ and thus have a positive impact.

2.2.3 Locations for Growth

Defining locations for growth is inevitably one of the principal challenges to realising progress towards sustainable development. At its best, growth can enhance the viability of communities, through additional jobs and services, make the most of the capacity of existing infrastructure and be used to improve the quality of their receiving environment. Equally, ill-considered locations and development proposals can do much irretrievable damage.

The options presented are considered to be broadly neutral in their likely effects, reflecting the need for a more detail on the precise nature of the proposals. However, focusing development on existing villages (Option 1) is likely to be more sustainable than more disparate growth through economies of scale such as more efficient use of infrastructure (given sufficient existing capacity).

2.2.4 Housing

The promotion of affordable housing and meeting housing needs more generally (such as through higher densities) presents a broadly positive picture in terms of sustainability, although as with many of the other topics, it is only through the more specific detail of what is proposed (for example, the proportionate increase in housing densities in village centres, or the quantum of development which South Staffordshire will be expected to accommodate) that the true implications might be appraised. In principle, however, the objectives of providing more affordable housing, raising housing densities and meeting housing needs, all accord with the spirit of more sustainable approaches to planning.

2.2.5 Local Economy

Addressing local economic vitality is a core part of the role of local planning and one of the three 'arms' or 'legs' of sustainability. As such, there are perhaps inevitably difficult and conflict-laden decisions to be taken in respect of how far the interests of the local economy should be promoted even where this might be at the expense of environmental quality, along with the attendant pressures from housing and infrastructure development. Of course, the key question is how economic prosperity is promoted, and once again, the range of options put forward for various aspects of local economic development offer a generally neutral/positive picture. The exception is the promotion of tourism opportunities which present the potential to be damaging in sustainability terms, particularly where the development of new tourist attractions is concerned. This reflects the typical need for greenfield land-take and the car-based nature of access to attractions.

2.2.6 Village Centres and Shopping

South Staffordshire's settlement pattern is characterised by a network of villages which presents particular challenges for sustainability in terms of the type and level of service provision. As patterns of service provision rapidly evolve, both as part of re-structuring and responding to personal mobility, there needs to be an appropriate response in ensuring that the vibrancy of village life is maintained and promoted. The physical, social and economic 'health' of these settlements might serve as a barometer for their sustainability.

Focusing attention on the vitality and viability of the District's villages is strongly reflected in the suite of options presented, many of which score strongly in sustainability terms, where a relationship to the sustainability indicators can be established. Options relating to the promotion of large retail sites outside existing centres unsurprisingly score poorly given their inherently unsustainable nature across a range of indicators (mode of transport, land-take, effect on local retail patterns etc), particularly in the context of the highly localised and thus fragile retailing structure of the District.

2.2.7 Natural Environment

The protection and enhancement of one of the District's core assets is fundamental to the intentions of the Core Strategy. This is reflected in the approach set out in the Issues and Options Paper, with a strongly protectionist stance taken which contributes to a broadly positive sustainability outcome across the measures used. However, environmental protection on its own is insufficient. There has to be active management of the resource in order to make the most of opportunities for synergy between topics within the theme (such as landscape character and biodiversity) and those which are more tangential (such as climate change and flood risk)

though nonetheless of considerable potential significance. Interlinking topic areas in the pursuit of multifunctionality adds to the strength of the sustainability performance of the policy aspirations.

2.2.8 Historic Environment

As with the approach to the natural environment, the likely sustainability performance is strong, with the protection and enhancement of assets being the keynote. Again, the robustness of the approach is only truly tested where there are specific proposals which could compromise the integrity of the resource, or the protection of the resource frustrate needs/demands for social and economic advancement, but in principle, the aspiration to protect and enhance wherever possible is a robust one.

2.2.9 Transport and Accessibility

As with the locations for growth, transport and accessibility present particular and often challenging issues in respect of sustainability, notably in respect of the significant increases in the need and desire to travel, average distance travelled, increasing reliance on the private car and an increasingly close relationship between development patterns and personal mobility. Tempering the trend towards unsustainable transport activities and habits is sought in the Issues and Options paper through the adoption of a positive approach toward providing opportunities for the 'transport poor', reducing the need to travel in the first place and promoting alternative forms of transport, all of which score well in sustainability terms at this high level. Ensuring that these approaches make a tangible difference on the ground is rather more of a challenge.

2.2.10 Leisure, Recreation and Culture

Appraisal of aspirations for leisure, recreation and culture in South Staffordshire provides a potentially positive picture, particularly where they are focused on the improvement of the quality of life through the protection and provision of more greenspace. Less clear is the sustainability impact of more formal leisure and recreation facilities, their performance being dependent upon factors such as location, design and degree of accessibility to their target community. As with broader development proposals, particular care will have to be taken in respect of assessing potential effects of policies and proposals on nature conservation sites.

2.2.11 Community Safety and Good Design

There is much to be gained in terms of the setting of expectations for good design, particularly for advancing the interests of community cohesion and quality of life in South Staffordshire. As with the promotion of leisure, recreation and cultural opportunities, the precise sustainability impacts/benefits are difficult to predict when stated in general terms, but in principle should not generate conflict.

2.3 Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment

A letter circulated to chief planning officers¹ identifies the need to carry out an Appropriate Assessment of LDDs. The letter states that *“the purpose of an AA is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of a European Site and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of that site. Where significant negative effects are identified, alternative options should to be examined to avoid any potential damaging effects”*. Thus, *“for LDDs best practice will be to scope out whether an Appropriate Assessment is required at the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Stage and to undertake the Appropriate Assessment alongside the development of options prior to the formal consultation”*. Draft guidance² issued by DCLG states that *“the comprehensiveness of the assessment work undertaken should be proportionate to the geographical scope of the option and the nature and extent of any effects identified”* (para 2.3).

South Staffordshire has one Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (i.e. a Natura 2000 site) within its jurisdiction – Motte Meadows National Nature Reserve – which should be subject to determination whether a full Appropriate Assessment is required. This means an appraisal of whether the plan is likely to have significant effects on the site. Guidance from the European Commission³ (para 2.2) states that:

“the emphasis for assessment should be on objectively demonstrating, with supporting evidence, that:

- **there will be no significant effects** on a Natura 2000 site (Stage One: Screening); or
- **there will be no adverse effects** on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site (Stage Two: Appropriate assessment); or
- **there is an absence of alternatives** to the project or plan that is likely to have adverse effects on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site (Stage Three: Assessment of alternative solutions); or
- **there are compensation measures** which maintain or enhance the overall coherence of Natura 2000 (Stage Four: Assessment of compensatory measures)”.

Motte Meadows NNR covers 44ha and comprises a series of alluvial flood meadows which have been managed as hay meadows for many centuries. The site supports a number of invertebrate species, including the rare horsetail weevil, and is home to breeding birds such as snipe, curlew and lapwing. The reserve's grassland supports over 240 species of flowering plants, including the rare snake's-head fritillary.

¹ ODPM (February 2006) **The Application of Appropriate Assessment under Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC to Development Plans in the Transitional period between now and when the Amending Regulations come into force**

² DCLG (August 2006) **Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment – Guidance for Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents**

³ European Commission (November 2001) **Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites** Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC

South Staffordshire shares a border with Cannock Chase SAC (under the jurisdiction of Cannock Chase District Council). Due regard thus needs to be had to potential impacts of policies developed in South Staffordshire on this site. Cannock Chase DC will be a consultee on documents associated with the production of the South Staffordshire LDF.

The Scoping Report concluded (on advice from English Nature) that Appropriate Assessment could be screened out that stage, given that the document's intention was to establish the general principles of sustainability relevant to the development of policy in the LDF (amongst which is the protection and enhancement of biodiversity resources). The high level appraisal for this document has identified that the integrity of nature conservation resources is intended to be protected over the interests of development, and that more generally there is a presumption against development in areas of open countryside.

There is a need to explore these issues in detail with the competent authority (i.e. Natural England [from 1st October 2006]) in order to help determine how the Preferred Options Document show draw on the conclusions within this appraisal and subsequently develop policy proposals. It may be that a full Appropriate Assessment will be required as a contribution to the development of the Preferred Options.

2.4 Overview/Conclusions

The overall 'performance' of the issues and options presented in the Issues and Options Paper can be judged to be generally positive, promoting the interests of sustainability across the range of topics with which spatial planning concerns itself. This is most clearly demonstrated in the approaches put forward for particular topics, but also applies to the majority of options put forward. Where there are reservations, these relate to options which are clearly relatively radical for the District and immediately raise fundamental concerns over some of the basics of sustainability such as environmental protection and community cohesion. That said, and as with the majority of the issues presented, true performance can only be judged when the detail of proposals is known. In principle, the intention and tone of the issues and options presented are commendable, notwithstanding those presented to deliberately offer a contrasting policy perspective.

As noted above, this Report represents only a starting point for identifying spatial alternatives which need to be given in greater detail in the Preferred Options Document. In response to this document there will be a much fuller consideration of the relative sustainability merits and implications of the proposals.

This appraisal is a partner to the Scoping Report which is also presented for consultation. It seeks to apply the objectives and means of appraisal set out there to the first stage spatial planning document – the Issues and Options Paper – and in doing so providing a complementary perspective to evaluation against other, more focused, reference points such as local economic health, or the promotion of specific community interests.

2.5 Consultation

Consultation is an integral part of the sustainability appraisal process and helps to ensure that the appraisal is sufficiently robust to support the DPDs during full public consultation. We

would welcome your views on this Appraisal Report. The consultation period will run for 6 weeks from Monday 30th October 2006 to Monday 11th December 2006.

Please provide comments by 5 p.m. on **Monday 11th December 2006**. Comments should be sent to:

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Appendix A

Sustainability objectives for South Staffordshire and appraisal criteria

3 Pages

SA Theme	SA Objective	Appraisal Criteria. Will the policy or proposal help to ...
A. SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION		
Sustainable Design	Objective 1: Promote high quality design of new developments, the efficient use of resources and opportunities to design out crime	Improve design, in terms of quality and sustainability, of new developments using standards such as Ecohomes and BREEAM?
		Create opportunities to design out crime?
Waste Generation and Management	Objective 2: To reduce the amount of waste generated and encourage sustainable waste management	Reduce the volume of domestic and commercial waste produced?
		Reduce the volume of waste disposed of in landfill?
		Increase the number and accessibility of waste recycling facilities?
B. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY		
Enhancing Energy Efficiency and Promoting Renewable Energy	Objective 3: To reduce energy use by improving energy efficiency and encourage the production and use of renewable energy	Increase the proportion of energy both purchased and generated from renewable and sustainable resources?
		Reduce the demand and need for energy?
		Promote and improve energy efficiency?
C. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT		
Environmental Protection and Enhancement	Objective 4: To protect and enhance biodiversity	Conserve, enhance and provide for the long term management of natural habitats and species on designated sites and more generally?
		Achieve Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets?
		Improve access to, and contact with, the natural world?
	Objective 5: To protect and enhance historic buildings, conservation areas and other features of historic, archaeological or landscape importance	Raise awareness and respect for biodiversity resources and promote their prudent management?
		Protect and enhance landscapes, sites and features of historical, archaeological and cultural value and/or potential?
	Objective 6: To reduce all pollution, including noise, light, air, water and soil	Reduce pollution from all sources?
		Promote the more efficient use of resources to help avoid pollution and waste?
	Objective 7: To maintain and improve air and water quality and the efficient use of water resources	Improve air and water quality?
Objective 8: To promote local	Encourage the more efficient use of water resources?	
	Promote greater local concern for, and involvement in,	

SA Theme	SA Objective	Appraisal Criteria. Will the policy or proposal help to ...
	stewardship of natural resources	community management of local environments? Encourage farming practices that are sensitive to the character of the countryside?
Land Use Planning	Objective 9: To promote sustainable forms of development and the efficient use of land	Promote sustainable forms of development such as avoiding areas of floodrisk, and mitigating the effects of flooding? Reduce the number of vacant and derelict buildings? Promote the use of land that has been previously developed? Encourage the more efficient use of resources such as the re-use of buildings?
D. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES		
Crime Reduction	Objective 10: To reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and make South Staffordshire safer	Reduce levels of crime and antisocial behaviour? Reduce fear of crime?
Health Improvement	Objective 11: To improve the health and well-being of the people of South Staffordshire	Reduce health inequalities? Improve access to high quality health facilities? Protect and enhance open spaces of amenity and recreational value?
Access to Housing	Objective 12: To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent and affordable home	Reduce homelessness? Reduce the number of unfit homes and overcrowding? Increase the range and affordability of housing (taking into account different requirements and preferences of size, location, type and tenure)? Improve the quality of housing? Provide housing that encourages a sense of community and enhances the amenity value of the community?
Equality of Access	Objective 13: To improve access for all to services and facilities including education and lifelong learning, health, employment and leisure opportunities	Promote more equal access to key local services and facilities? Provide additional services and facilities were needed?
Prudent Transport Use	Objective 14: To reduce the need to travel, encourage walking and cycling and the use of public transport	Encourage a modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel? Reduce the need for people to travel by improving their access to services, jobs, leisure and amenities in the places in which they live?
Economic Growth and Employment Creation	Objective 15: To create a more vibrant and sustainable local economy, encourage rural diversification and support rural communities	Improve business development and its resilience? Encourage business start-ups, support their growth and prevent the loss of indigenous businesses? Encourage inward investment, innovation and help to diversify the economy?

SA Theme	SA Objective	Appraisal Criteria. Will the policy or proposal help to ...
	Objective 16: To sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of village centres	Encourage more shops and better services in accessible locations? Encourage a feeling of greater community spirit?
	Objective 17: To encourage the provision of employment opportunities to meet the skills and needs of the local population, encourage the development of skills and support local enterprise	Assist with matching skills and aptitudes with appropriate employment opportunities? Contribute to enhancing skills and meeting skill shortages?
Participation in Culture and Recreation	Objective 18: To encourage increased participation in cultural and recreational activities for all sectors of the community and ensure access to local greenspace	Promote social cohesion and encourage engagement in community activities? Promote community spirit and encourage community networks? Increase the quantity and quality of public open space?
Participation in Decision Making	Objective 19: To provide opportunities for all sections of the community to participate in decision making	Increase the ability of people to influence decisions? Support civic engagement and encourage the involvement and participation of a diverse range of stakeholders?
Poverty Reduction	Objective 20: To reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most and least disadvantaged communities	Reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas and communities most affected?

Appendix B

SA and LDF Objectives compatibility matrix

6 Pages

SA Objectives 1 - 9

✓ compatible ● partly compatible ✗ incompatible ~ no relationship ? uncertain relationship

LDF Objectives	Sustainable Production & Consumption		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	Resource Management				
	SA Objectives							
1. To protect South Staffordshire's Green Belt from inappropriate development and enhance its attractiveness and amenity value.	Objective 1: Promote high quality design of new developments, the efficient use of resources and opportunities to design out crime	✓	~	~	✓	✓	~	~
	Objective 2: To reduce the amount of waste generated and encourage sustainable waste management	~	~	~	✓	✓	~	~
2. To protect the character and quality of the countryside and the villages it contains from inappropriate development.	Objective 3: To reduce energy use by improving energy efficiency and encourage the production and use of renewable energy	~	~	~	✓	✓	~	~
	Objective 4: To protect and enhance biodiversity	✓	~	~	✓	✓	~	~
	Objective 5: To protect and enhance historic buildings, conservation areas and other features of historic, archaeological or landscape importance	✓	~	~	✓	✓	~	~
	Objective 6: To reduce all pollution, including noise, light, air, water and soil	✓	~	~	✓	✓	~	~
	Objective 7: To maintain and improve air and water quality and the efficient use of water resources	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
	Objective 8: To promote local stewardship of natural resources	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
	Objective 9: To promote sustainable forms of development and the efficient use of land	✓	~	~	~	~	~	~

	Sustainable Production & Consumption		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	Resource Management					
SA Objectives	Objective 1: Promote high quality design of new developments, the efficient use of resources and opportunities to design out crime	Objective 2: To reduce the amount of waste generated and encourage sustainable waste management	Objective 3: To reduce energy use by improving energy efficiency and encourage the production and use of renewable energy	Objective 4: To protect and enhance biodiversity	Objective 5: To protect and enhance historic buildings, conservation areas and other features of historic, archaeological or landscape importance	Objective 6: To reduce all pollution, including noise, light, air, water and soil	Objective 7: To maintain and improve air and water quality and the efficient use of water resources	Objective 8: To promote local stewardship of natural resources	Objective 9: To promote sustainable forms of development and the efficient use of land
LDF Objectives									
3. To improve the quality of life of the District by maintaining and promoting thriving, balanced, inclusive and sustainable communities with access to community delivered facilities and services.	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. To ensure that villages contain an adequate, or where necessary, improved range of facilities and services to meet the needs of local communities, particularly in rural areas, and that access to local services is available to all.	✓	?	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
5. To ensure that new housing proposals make adequate provision for transport, education, healthcare, open space and social and community facilities.	✓	~	~	✓	~	~	~	~	~

	Sustainable Production & Consumption		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	Resource Management					
SA Objectives	Objective 1: Promote high quality design of new developments, the efficient use of resources and opportunities to design out crime	Objective 2: To reduce the amount of waste generated and encourage sustainable waste management	Objective 3: To reduce energy use by improving energy efficiency and encourage the production and use of renewable energy	Objective 4: To protect and enhance biodiversity	Objective 5: To protect and enhance historic buildings, conservation areas and other features of historic, archaeological or landscape importance	Objective 6: To reduce all pollution, including noise, light, air, water and soil	Objective 7: To maintain and improve air and water quality and the efficient use of water resources	Objective 8: To promote local stewardship of natural resources	Objective 9: To promote sustainable forms of development and the efficient use of land
LDF Objectives									
6. To meet the overall development requirements for the District, consistent with the Regional Spatial Strategy.	●	~	?	●	●	●	?	~	●
7. To ensure the delivery of decent homes for all members of the community including the provision of affordable housing to meet local needs and the creation of well-designed and safe residential environments.	✓	✓	✓	~	~	~	~	~	✓
8. To protect the character and quality of existing residential environments and ensure that new development is well designed and respects local distinctiveness.	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9. To create a vibrant and sustainable local economy through the provision and maintenance of a portfolio of employment sites, encouraging	✓	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	✓

	Sustainable Production & Consumption		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	Resource Management					
SA Objectives	Objective 1: Promote high quality design of new developments, the efficient use of resources and opportunities to design out crime	Objective 2: To reduce the amount of waste generated and encourage sustainable waste management	Objective 3: To reduce energy use by improving energy efficiency and encourage the production and use of renewable energy	Objective 4: To protect and enhance biodiversity	Objective 5: To protect and enhance historic buildings, conservation areas and other features of historic, archaeological or landscape importance	Objective 6: To reduce all pollution, including noise, light, air, water and soil	Objective 7: To maintain and improve air and water quality and the efficient use of water resources	Objective 8: To promote local stewardship of natural resources	Objective 9: To promote sustainable forms of development and the efficient use of land
LDF Objectives									
new employment opportunities, retaining and supporting local businesses, and positive support for sustainable rural diversification.									
10. To promote South Staffordshire as a tourist destination and the improvement and provision of tourist facilities.	✓	~	~	?	✓ / ?	?	?	?	?
11. To sustain, improve and enhance the vitality and viability of village centres and encourage the provision of retail opportunities.	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	✓
12. To protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment of the District and the character and quality of the landscape, safeguarding designated sites and sites supporting protected species and improve and enhance	✓ / ~	~	~	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓

	Sustainable Production & Consumption		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	Resource Management					
SA Objectives	Objective 1: Promote high quality design of new developments, the efficient use of resources and opportunities to design out crime	Objective 2: To reduce the amount of waste generated and encourage sustainable waste management	Objective 3: To reduce energy use by improving energy efficiency and encourage the production and use of renewable energy	Objective 4: To protect and enhance biodiversity	Objective 5: To protect and enhance historic buildings, conservation areas and other features of historic, archaeological or landscape importance	Objective 6: To reduce all pollution, including noise, light, air, water and soil	Objective 7: To maintain and improve air and water quality and the efficient use of water resources	Objective 8: To promote local stewardship of natural resources	Objective 9: To promote sustainable forms of development and the efficient use of land
LDF Objectives									
biodiversity through habitat management and the creation of new wildlife habitats.									
13. To avoid or reduce the effects of climate change through the location and design of new development, reducing the need to travel, avoiding areas at risk of flooding and protect natural resources.	✓	✓	✓	~	~	✓	~	~	✓
14. To promote the efficient use of resources and encourage the development and use of renewable energy resources.	✓	✓	✓	~	~	✓	~	~	✓
15. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment of the District, historic buildings, conservation areas and areas of historic, archaeological and landscape importance.	✓	~	~	~	✓	~	~	~	~

	Sustainable Production & Consumption		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	Resource Management					
SA Objectives	Objective 1: Promote high quality design of new developments, the efficient use of resources and opportunities to design out crime	Objective 2: To reduce the amount of waste generated and encourage sustainable waste management	Objective 3: To reduce energy use by improving energy efficiency and encourage the production and use of renewable energy	Objective 4: To protect and enhance biodiversity	Objective 5: To protect and enhance historic buildings, conservation areas and other features of historic, archaeological or landscape importance	Objective 6: To reduce all pollution, including noise, light, air, water and soil	Objective 7: To maintain and improve air and water quality and the efficient use of water resources	Objective 8: To promote local stewardship of natural resources	Objective 9: To promote sustainable forms of development and the efficient use of land
LDF Objectives									
16. To reduce the need to travel, encourage sustainable forms of transport, and secure improvements to public transport infrastructure and services to meet the needs of local communities and the provision of facilities for walking and cycling.	~	~	~	~	~	✓	✓	~	✓
17. To improve the District's leisure, recreation and cultural facilities and ensure that each community has access to areas of good quality green space.	~	~	~	●	~	~		✓	~
18. To ensure a high quality, sustainable built environment through good design and construction leading to a more prudent use of environmental resources and taking into account the need for improved community safety.	✓	✓	✓	●	~	✓	✓	~	✓

SA Objectives 10 – 20

✓ compatible ● partly compatible ✕ incompatible ~ no relationship ? uncertain relationship

		Sustainable Communities									
SA Objectives											
LDF Objectives	1. To protect South Staffordshire's Green Belt from inappropriate development and enhance its attractiveness and amenity value.	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
	2. To protect the character and quality of the countryside and the villages it contains from inappropriate development.	~	✓	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
	3. To improve the quality of life of the District by maintaining and promoting thriving, balanced, inclusive and sustainable communities with access to community delivered facilities and services.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4. To ensure that villages contain an adequate, or where necessary, improved range of facilities and services to meet the needs of local	~	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Objective 10: To reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and make South Staffordshire safer										
	Objective 11: To improve the health and well-being of the people of South Staffordshire										
	Objective 12: To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent and affordable home										
	Objective 13: To improve access for all to services and facilities including education and lifelong learning, health, employment and leisure opportunities										
	Objective 14: To reduce the need to travel, encourage walking and cycling and the use of public transport										
	Objective 15: To create a more vibrant and sustainable local economy, encourage rural diversification and support rural communities										
	Objective 16: To sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of village centres										
	Objective 17: To encourage the provision of employment opportunities to meet the skills and needs of the local population, encourage the development of skills and support local enterprise										
	Objective 18: To encourage increased participation in cultural and recreational activities for all sectors of the community and ensure access to local greenspace										
	Objective 19: To provide opportunities for all sections of the community to participate in decision making										
	Objective 20: To reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most and least disadvantaged communities										

		Sustainable Communities										
SA Objectives												
LDF Objectives	communities, particularly in rural areas, and that access to local services is available to all.											
	5. To ensure that new housing proposals make adequate provision for transport, education, healthcare, open space and social and community facilities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	6. To meet the overall development requirements for the District, consistent with the Regional Spatial Strategy.	✓	✓	✓	✓/1?	✓/1?	✓/1?	✓/1?	✓/1?	✓	?	
	7. To ensure the delivery of decent homes for all members of the community including the provision of affordable housing to meet local needs and the creation of well-designed and safe residential environments.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	8. To protect the character and quality of existing residential environments and ensure that new development is well designed and	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Objective 10: To reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and make South Staffordshire safer											
	Objective 11: To improve the health and well-being of the people of South Staffordshire											
	Objective 12: To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent and affordable home											
	Objective 13: To improve access for all to services and facilities including education and lifelong learning, health, employment and leisure opportunities											
	Objective 14: To reduce the need to travel, encourage walking and cycling and the use of public transport											
Objective 15: To create a more vibrant and sustainable local economy, encourage rural diversification and support rural communities												
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Objective 17: To encourage the provision of employment opportunities to meet the skills and needs of the local population, encourage the development of skills and support local enterprise												
Objective 18: To encourage increased participation in cultural and recreational activities for all sectors of the community and ensure access to local greenspace												
Objective 19: To provide opportunities for all sections of the community to participate in decision making												
Objective 20: To reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most and least disadvantaged communities												

		Sustainable Communities									
SA Objectives											
LDF Objectives											
respects local distinctiveness.											
9. To create a vibrant and sustainable local economy through the provision and maintenance of a portfolio of employment sites, encouraging new employment opportunities, retaining and supporting local businesses, and positive support for sustainable rural diversification.		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
10. To promote South Staffordshire as a tourist destination and the improvement and provision of tourist facilities.		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
11. To sustain, improve and enhance the vitality and viability of village centres and encourage the provision of retail opportunities.		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
12. To protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment of the District and the character and safeguarding designated sites and		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
	Objective 10: To reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and make South Staffordshire safer										
	Objective 11: To improve the health and well-being of the people of South Staffordshire										
	Objective 12: To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent and affordable home										
	Objective 13: To improve access for all to services and facilities including education and lifelong learning, health, employment and leisure opportunities										
	Objective 14: To reduce the need to travel, encourage walking and cycling and the use of public transport										
	Objective 15: To create a more vibrant and sustainable local economy, encourage rural diversification and support rural communities										
	Objective 16: To sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of village centres										
	Objective 17: To encourage the provision of employment opportunities to meet the skills and needs of the local population, encourage the development of skills and support local enterprise										
	Objective 18: To encourage increased participation in cultural and recreational activities for all sectors of the community and ensure access to local greenspace										
	Objective 19: To provide opportunities for all sections of the community to participate in decision making										
	Objective 20: To reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most and least disadvantaged communities										

		Sustainable Communities									
SA Objectives											
LDF Objectives											
sites supporting protected species and improve and enhance biodiversity through habitat management and the creation of new wildlife habitats.											
13. To avoid or reduce the effects of climate change through the location and design of new development, reducing the need to travel, avoiding areas at risk of flooding and protect natural resources.											
14. To promote the efficient use of resources and encourage the development and use of renewable energy resources.											
15. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment of the District, historic buildings, conservation or areas and areas of historic, archaeological and landscape importance.											
	Objective 10: To reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and make South Staffordshire safer										
	Objective 11: To improve the health and well-being of the people of South Staffordshire										
	Objective 12: To ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent and affordable home										
	Objective 13: To improve access for all to services and facilities including education and lifelong learning, health, employment and leisure opportunities										
	Objective 14: To reduce the need to travel, encourage walking and cycling and the use of public transport										
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	Objective 17: To encourage the provision of employment opportunities to meet the skills and needs of the local population, encourage the development of skills and support local enterprise										
	Objective 18: To encourage increased participation in cultural and recreational activities for all sectors of the community and ensure access to local greenspace										
	Objective 19: To provide opportunities for all sections of the community to participate in decision making										
	Objective 20: To reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most and least disadvantaged communities										



Appendix C

Appraisal by key issue

11 Pages

Appraisal key

-- Major Negative Impact	- Minor Negative Impact	0 Neutral	+ Minor Positive Impact	++ Major Positive Impact	~ No Relationship	? Uncertain
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Key Issue: Green Belt and Open Countryside

a. Local Context

SA Objective	Option 1: Resist new development regardless of circumstances	Option 2: Maintain strict policies in accordance with national and regional policy	Option 3: Consider boundary changes only in exceptional circumstances
Sustainable Consumption and Production	0	+	0
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	0	+	0
Resource Management	~	~	~
Sustainable Communities	-	+	+

b. White Land

SA Objective	Option 1: Put existing areas of White Land back into Green Belt	Option 2: Release existing areas of White Land for development	Option 3: Identify other areas of White Land for longer-term development needs
Sustainable Consumption and Production	~	-	-
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	~	-	-
Resource Management	~	-	-
Sustainable Communities	-	0	0

c. Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt

SA Objective	Option 1: Allow the site to be redeveloped for an appropriate Green Belt use	Option 2: Allow the site to be redeveloped for housing or employment to meet local needs	Option 3: Encourage reclamation of the site for open space or forestry
Sustainable Consumption and Production	?	+	~
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	0	0	+
Resource Management	?	+	++
Sustainable Communities	?	+	++

Key Issue: Sustainable Communities

Topic	Proposed Approach	Assessment	
Community Facilities	<p>We want to ensure that our villages contain a range of essential community facilities and services that are accessible for everyone. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining existing facilities and services in villages • Supporting proposals to improve the viability, accessibility or community value of existing facilities and services • Requiring community facilities to be provided as part of new development 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	+
		Resource Management	~
		Sustainable Communities	++
Health Facilities	<p>We want to ensure that public health services and facilities are provided to meet local needs. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining and enhancing existing health service facilities • Ensuring that sites for future health service provision are in accessible locations • Ensuring that health service facilities are provided to meet the needs of the growing population 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	+
		Resource Management	~
		Sustainable Communities	++
Education Provision	<p>We want to contribute towards education and lifelong learning in the District. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the extension of existing education facilities • Supporting the use of schools to provide other community uses 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	+

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that education facilities are provided as part of new development 	Resource Management	~
		Sustainable Communities	++

Key Issue: Locations for Growth

SA Objective	Option 1: Focus development on the main villages	Option 2: Focus development on the main villages with limited growth in smaller villages	Option 3: share development between villages across the District
Sustainable Consumption and Production	0	0	0
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	+	0	-
Resource Management	+	0	~
Sustainable Communities	+	+	~

Key Issue: Housing

a. Affordable Housing

SA Objective	Option 1: Increase the percentage of affordable housing on sites	Option 2: Allocate land for affordable housing	Option 3: Allow small-scale affordable housing schemes on rural exception sites
Sustainable Consumption and Production	+	+	-
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	~	~	~
Resource Management	0	0	0
Sustainable Communities	+	+	+

b. Housing Density

SA Objective	Option 1: Allow higher densities in appropriate locations e.g. village centres	Option 2: Adopt higher densities in appropriate locations e.g. village centres	Option 3: Define areas of minimum change within villages to protect the character of existing residential areas
Sustainable Consumption and Production	+	+	+
Climate Change and	+	+	+

SA Objective	Option 1: Allow higher densities in appropriate locations e.g. village centres	Option 2: Adopt higher densities in appropriate locations e.g. village centres	Option 3: Define areas of minimum change within villages to protect the character of existing residential areas
Energy Efficiency			
Resource Management	0	0	+
Sustainable Communities	+	+	0

c. Meeting Housing Needs

Proposed Approach	Assessment	
	<p>We want to ensure that the right type of housing is provided in the District to meet local needs. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging a mix of house types and densities Providing more specialist housing for our elderly population and vulnerable groups Allowing housing in more rural locations 	Sustainable Consumption and Production
	Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	0
	Resource Management	0
	Sustainable Communities	+

Key Issue: Local Economy

a. Employment Opportunities

SA Objective	Option 1: Allow the expansion of existing employment sites	Option 2: Identify new employment sites to meet local needs including small sites to support starter businesses and local firms	Option 3: Provide a mix of employment uses within employment sites
Sustainable Consumption and Production	~	~	~
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	+	~	~
Resource Management	-	0	~
Sustainable Communities	+	+	+

b. Existing Employment Sites

SA Objective	Option 1: Protect all existing employment sites from competing uses	Option 2: Protect good quality employment sites	Option 3: Allow poor quality sites to be developed for alternative uses such as housing, leisure and retail development
Sustainable Consumption and Production	~	~	~
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	~	~	~
Resource Management	~	~	0
Sustainable Communities	0	+	+

c. Rural Diversification

SA Objective	Option 1: Support existing businesses in the rural areas and allow limited expansion	Option 2: Support existing businesses and allow the development of new small-scale businesses	Option 3: Allow a wide range of rural diversification schemes
Sustainable Consumption and Production	~	~	?
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	~	~	?
Resource Management	~	~	?
Sustainable Communities	++	++	++

d. Developing Tourism

SA Objective	Option 1: Allowing existing tourist attractions and facilities to expand	Option 2: Support the expansion of existing tourist attractions and facilities and allow the development of new tourist attractions	Option 3: Allow the development of new tourist attractions only where suitable public transport exists
Sustainable Consumption and Production	~	~	~
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	-	-	+
Resource Management	-	-	~
Sustainable Communities	+	0	~

e. Supporting the Local Economy

Proposed Approach	Assessment	
<p>We want to support the local economy in the District. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowing existing businesses to expand • Protecting existing employment sites • Supporting the refurbishment of existing buildings, the regeneration of underused sites and improvements to the environment of existing employment areas 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
	Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	+
	Resource Management	+
	Sustainable Communities	++

Key Issue: Village Centres and Shopping

a. Village Centres

SA Objective	Option 1: Resist the change of change of existing shops to non-retail uses	Option 2: Retain the existing mix of land use in villages centres and improve the quality o the existing shopping environment	Option 3: Limit the amount of new retail development
Sustainable Consumption and Production	~	~	~
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	~	~	~
Resource Management	~	~	~
Sustainable Communities	++	++	+

b. Local Shops and Sole Facilities

SA Objective	Option 1: Resist the change of use or redevelopment of existing sole facilities in villages	Option 2: Promote and encourage the use of existing facilities	Option 3: Encourage the joint use of existing facilities for community uses
Sustainable Consumption and Production	~	~	~
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	+	++	++
Resource Management	~	~	~

SA Objective	Option 1: Resist the change of use or redevelopment of existing sole facilities in villages	Option 2: Promote and encourage the use of existing facilities	Option 3: Encourage the joint use of existing facilities for community uses
Sustainable Communities	++	++	++

c. New Retail Development

SA Objective	Option 1: Within existing village centres	Option 2: Within neighbourhood centres	Option 3: On large retail sites outside existing centres
Sustainable Consumption and Production	~	~	--
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	++	+	--
Resource Management	++	+	--
Sustainable Communities	+	+	--

Key Issue: Natural Environment

Topic	Proposed Approach	Assessment	
Biodiversity and Geodiversity	<p>We want to protect and enhance sites of nature conservation and geological importance. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting designated sites including those of local importance Encouraging the management and enhancement of wildlife habitats and the creation of new habitats Minimising the impact of new development 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	~
		Resource Management	++
		Sustainable Communities	+
Landscape Character	<p>We want to protect and enhance the character and quality of the landscape. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying landscapes that warrant special protection Identifying areas where landscape restoration is a priority 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	~
		Resource Management	++
		Sustainable	+

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimising the impact of new development 	Communities	
Climate Change and Renewable Energy	<p>We want to help limit the effects and contribution to climate change. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing the need for people to travel and ensuring that there are alternatives to the car Encouraging higher standards of energy efficiency in developments Encouraging the development of renewable energy schemes including community based projects 	<p>Sustainable Consumption and Production</p> <p>Climate Change and Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Resource Management</p> <p>Sustainable Communities</p>	<p>++</p> <p>++</p> <p>++</p> <p>++</p>
Flood Risk	<p>We want to help limit flood risk. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restricting development in flood risk areas Requiring all new development to have sustainable drainage systems Protecting existing watercourses 	<p>Sustainable Consumption and Production</p> <p>Climate Change and Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Resource Management</p> <p>Sustainable Communities</p>	<p>+</p> <p>+</p> <p>+</p> <p>+</p>

Key Issue: Historic Environment

Topic	Proposed Approach	Assessment	
Historic Environment	<p>We want to ensure that the historic environment is protected and enhanced. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing a comprehensive record of the Historic Environment Encouraging the restoration and positive use of historic buildings and other heritage assets Promoting the conservation and enhancement of historic landscapes, parklands and gardens 	<p>Sustainable Consumption and Production</p> <p>Climate Change and Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Resource Management</p> <p>Sustainable Communities</p>	<p>~</p> <p>~</p> <p>++</p> <p>++</p>
Local Historic Environment	<p>We want to ensure that the local historic environment is protected and enhanced. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting locally important buildings and structures Encouraging the restoration and reuse of locally 	<p>Sustainable Consumption and Production</p> <p>Climate Change and Energy Efficiency</p>	<p>~</p> <p>~</p>

	important buildings	Resource Management	++
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging the enhancement of the local historic environment 	Sustainable Communities	++

Key Issue: Transport and Accessibility

Topic	Proposed Approach	Assessment	
Rural Transport	<p>We want to improve rural transport in South Staffordshire. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that existing rural public transport services are retained and improved Encouraging the provision of new public transport services and alternative transport options Support initiatives to improve sustainable transport links between villages and other parts of the District 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	++
		Resource Management	~
		Sustainable Communities	++
Reducing the Need to Travel	<p>We want to ensure that development is directed to the most accessible and sustainable locations to reduce the need for people to travel. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locating jobs and houses together where possible Ensuring villages have a good range of facilities and services Ensuring that sustainable transport measures are incorporated in new development 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	++
		Resource Management	~
		Sustainable Communities	++
Walking and Cycling	<p>We want to help make walking and cycling a more sustainable alternative to the private car. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving existing pedestrian and cycling routes and providing new ones Encouraging the provision of safe and direct pedestrian and cycle links as part of new development Encouraging the provision of cycle parking facilities 	Sustainable Consumption and Production	~
		Climate Change and Energy Efficiency	++
		Resource Management	~
		Sustainable Communities	++

Key Issue: Leisure, Recreation and Culture

Topic	Proposed Approach	Assessment	
Open Space and Green Areas	<p>We want to ensure that we meet the open space needs of our local communities. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocating land for open space in areas where there is an identified need Providing areas of open space that are safe and more easily accessible to where people live Ensuring that areas of open space are provided in new development 	Sustainable Consumption and Production Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Resource Management Sustainable Communities	~ ++ ++ ++
Existing Open Space	<p>We want to protect and enhance existing areas of open space. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defining policies to protect existing open spaces and green areas Ensuring that existing open spaces and green areas are managed and improved Improving the biodiversity value of existing open spaces 	Sustainable Consumption and Production Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Resource Management Sustainable Communities	~ ? ++ ++
Leisure, Recreation and Cultural Facilities	<p>We want to improve leisure, recreational and cultural facilities in the District. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing new leisure and recreation facilities Providing a range of facilities attractive to everyone Ensuring that new leisure and recreation facilities are provided as part of new development 	Sustainable Consumption and Production Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Resource Management Sustainable Communities	~ ? ? +

Key Issue: Community Safety and Good Design

Topic	Proposed Approach	Assessment	
Safer Communities	<p>We want to improve community safety. We can do this, working with our key partners where appropriate, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting designing out crime initiatives Improving the environment in urban and rural areas Encouraging the provision of community and social 	Sustainable Consumption and Production Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Resource Management	~ ~ ++

	facilities	Sustainable Communities	++
Good Design	<p>We want to promote good design in new development and improve the quality of the local environment. We can do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing design codes and design briefs for new developments and encouraging the production of village design statements • Requiring new development to meet key design standards and principles and the principles of sustainable construction • Implementing environmental improvement schemes 	<p>Sustainable Consumption and Production</p> <p>Climate Change and Energy Efficiency</p> <p>Resource Management</p> <p>Sustainable Communities</p>	<p>~</p> <p>~</p> <p>++</p> <p>++</p>

