



**Sustainability Appraisal of the Regional Spatial Strategy for
the North East: – Assessment of Adopted North East RSS**

Prepared for the Government Office for the North East

APPENDIX A: POLICY REVIEW

*ENVIRON UK Limited
Swallow Court, Devonshire Gate,
Tiverton, Devon , EX16 7EJ
Tel: 01884 842 010*

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<i>Author (signature):</i> 	E Jones
<i>Reviewer (signature):</i> 	J Curran
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SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>1.1 Ensure the provision of sufficient employment land in, or accessible to, those wards in the region that are currently in the bottom 20% in terms of IMD?</p> <p>1.2 Ensure the provision of sufficient employment land in, or accessible (particularly on foot or by cycling or public transport) to, rural areas and market towns, particularly through buildings conversions?</p> <p>1.3 Ensure the provision of employment land on previously developed land (provided they are not of biodiversity, landscape or public access importance), as opposed to greenfield sites (in line with the sequential approach)?</p> <p>1.4 Ensure that the future impacts of globalisation on employment in the region are addressed?</p> <p>1.5 Ensure that rural employment opportunities related to changes in agricultural policy and to the need for land management are recognised?</p> <p>1.6 Capitalise on opportunities for employment provided by the</p>	<p><u>ONE Corporate Plan 2006-2009 and Business Plan 2006- 2007</u> The target is to create an additional 43,800 jobs over the period of the Corporate Plan through ONE's programme activity.</p> <p><u>RPG1: Regional Planning Guidance for the North East (2002)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide job opportunities and support communities in the former coalfield areas • Secure rural regeneration • ensure that those who require a job have the opportunity of meaningful employment • Tackle social exclusion and ensure that everyone should benefit from improvements to the economy, and everyone should • Have the same opportunities to learn and to succeed <p><u>North East Rural Action Plan (2003/04 update)</u> The land use planning system has a key role to play in encouraging more sustainable patterns of rural development that improve the provision of jobs and services in towns and smaller settlements and reduce the need for travel.'</p> <p><u>Skills North East – The Regional Skills Partnership: Skill Action Plan 2006-2007</u> Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase employer demand for, and investment in, skills • Raise individual aspirations and demand for learning and provide individuals with opportunities throughout life to achieve their aspirations and embrace change • Enable those excluded from the labour market to access learning and sustainable employment. • Ensure all individuals have the foundations for employability – the attainment of Skills for Life and a first level 2 qualification • Increase the achievement of intermediate and higher level skills to support growth, innovation and productivity • Enable providers of learning to be more responsive to employers' and learners' needs • Influence national policy and funding to ensure regional skills and employment needs are addressed. 	<p><u>Lisbon Strategy for Jobs and Growth (2005)</u> The EC re-launched the Lisbon agenda in 2005 to focus it more sharply on the key priorities of jobs and growth.</p> <p><u>European Spatial Development Perspective (1999)</u> Establishes the aim of spatial development policies to achieve balanced and sustainable development of the EU. Structured around 3 fundamental goals: economic and social cohesion; conservation and management of natural resources and of cultural heritage; and more balanced competitiveness.</p> <p><u>UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)</u> <u>Achieving sustainable development means addressing the following five objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living within environmental limits; • Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; • Achieving a sustainable economy; • Promoting good governance; and • Using sound science responsibly. <p>The economy and sustainable consumption and production is an important aspect of the strategy. In order to achieve this the economy needs to produce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better products and services, which reduce the environmental impacts from the use of energy, resources, or hazardous substances • Cleaner, more efficient production processes, which strengthen competitiveness, and • Shifts in consumption towards goods and services with lower impacts. <p><u>PPS 1: Creating sustainable communities (2005)</u> The Government outlines its commitment to 'promoting a strong, stable and productive economy that aims to bring jobs and prosperity for all'. It seeks that authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise that economic development can deliver environmental and social benefits • Recognise the wider sub-regional or national benefits of economic development and consider these alongside any adverse local impacts • Ensure that suitable locations are available for industrial, commercial, retail,

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environment, heritage and creative industries?	<p><u>Voices of the North East Creative Cluster (no date on document)</u> The cluster of creative industries in this region is the UK's second biggest outside London and the South East. They are a major contributor to the regional economy.</p> <p>Recognition is given of the 'considerable significance' which the culture and creative industries sector has in terms of the UK's and the region's economic growth. The creative industries are recognised as having the potential to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uplift GVA/GDP • Grow regional jobs • Cross-fertilise with more traditional business increasing creative thought and innovation • Build a vibrant place and community, which will encourage a significant uplift in both visitors to the region and the region's ability to retain a quality workforce. • Bring an uplift in the image and perception of the region <p><u>Regional Forestry Framework: Trees, Woodlands, Forests and People (2005)</u> The Framework outlines five key outcomes for stimulating economic regeneration and growth which the Framework can contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerated economy • Improved infrastructure • Expanded processing sector and increased jobs • Secure and productive forestry businesses • Increased tourism <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The North East Regional Economic Strategy (RES) has been prepared by One NorthEast (ONE), the Regional Development Agency for the North East on behalf of the region. It sets out how ONE is going to deliver greater and sustainable prosperity to all of the people of the North East over the period to 2016. It seeks to provide the underpinning economic conditions necessary for the achievement of the region's vision. Targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce deprivation by 10% in those wards in the region that are currently in the bottom 20% of IMD, to narrow the gap between these wards and the mean of all wards. • Reduce the gap between the least well performing quartile of rural areas and the English median by 2006; and • Regenerate vulnerable market towns as healthy and attractive centres serving their own population and that of their rural hinterlands. <p><u>North East England Tourism Strategy 2005-2010</u></p>	<p>public sector, tourism and leisure developments, so that the economy can prosper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for improved productivity, choice and competition, particularly when technological and other requirements of modern business are changing rapidly • Actively promote and facilitate good quality development, which is sustainable and consistent with their plans • Ensure the provision of sufficient, good quality, new homes in suitable locations • Ensure that infrastructure and services are provided to support new and existing economic development and housing • Ensure that development plans take account of the regional economic strategies of RDAs. • Identify opportunities for future investment to deliver economic objectives. <p><u>PPG4. Industrial and Commercial development and small firms (1992)</u> Development plans should aim to ensure that there is sufficient land available which is readily capable of development and well served by infrastructure. They should also ensure that there is a variety of sites available to meet differing needs.</p> <p>In rural areas, applications for development necessary to sustain the rural economy should be weighed with the need to protect the countryside.</p> <p><u>PPS 6: Planning for town centres (2005)</u> Local planning authorities should adopt policies that support development which enhances the vitality and viability of market towns and other rural service centres.</p> <p><u>PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> Strengthen rural communities by encouraging employment, facilitating supply of affordable and market housing, and underpinning services and community facilities.</p> <p>Larger scale developments should be located in or near to towns or other service centres that are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>To ensure policies are relevant and effective, LPAs should be aware of the circumstances, needs and priorities of the rural communities and businesses in their area. Where there is a lack of up-to-date, robust information, local authorities should commission surveys and assessments of rural economic and social conditions and needs, including local housing needs.</p> <p>LPAs should adopt positive planning policies, and support development proposals, that will enable farmers to: become more competitive, sustainable and environmentally-friendly; adapt to new and changing markets; comply with changing legislation and associated guidance; diversity into new agricultural opportunities; or</p>

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	<p>The objectives of the strategy include to increase employment in tourism, and tourism related businesses</p> <p><u>Regional Forestry Framework: Trees, Woodlands, Forests and People (2005)</u> The Framework outlines five key outcomes for stimulating economic regeneration and growth which the Framework can contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerated economy • Improved infrastructure • Expanded processing sector and increased jobs • Secure and productive forestry businesses • Increased tourism <p><u>North East England in Europe: A Framework for Action (2005)</u> Objectives include to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise participation in the opportunities presented by a growing economy • Develop an inclusive society, setting an example of good practice within the European Union • Achieve a real reduction in persistent unemployment and disadvantage especially amongst hard to reach groups <p><u>North East Rural Delivery Framework (2006)</u> Strategic objectives include developing individual skills and organisational capabilities for enterprising businesses and communities, which will help to support increased and stable levels of employment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the local and regional market for rural businesses • Supply of skills to meet the demand of enterprise and business growth in key sectors • Business growth in sectors which exploit special qualities of the rural North East • Effective infrastructure to support enterprise and business growth <p><u>Tyne and Wear City Region Development Plan (2006)</u> The vision for the Tyne and Wear City Region is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An acceptance of “polynuclearity” – a City Region with a number of different employment hubs rather than the dominance of one; • Sustainable yet accelerated growth; • Working across boundaries and understanding markets; • Long term vision and commitment; • Understanding our economy; • Social and economic polarities. These disparities within the City Region 	<p>broaden their operations to ‘add value’ to their primary produce.</p> <p><u>PPS11: Regional Spatial Strategies (2004)</u> Sites for employment should provide access to employment for areas of high unemployment.</p> <p><u>Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside - the future - a fair deal for rural England (2000)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A living countryside, with thriving rural communities and access to high quality public services • A working countryside, with a diverse economy giving high and stable levels of employment • A protected countryside in which the environment is sustained and enhanced, and which all can enjoy • A vibrant countryside which can shape its own future and with its voice heard by Government at all levels. <p>The aim is to sustain and enhance the distinctive environment, economy and social fabric of the English countryside for the benefit of all.</p> <p>The paper sets out 10 key actions which are intended to meet the vision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support vital village services 2. Modernise rural services 3. Provide affordable homes 4. Deliver local transport solutions 5. Rejuvenate market towns and a thriving rural economy 6. Set a new direction for farming 7. Preserve what makes rural England special 8. Ensure everyone can enjoy an accessible countryside 9. Give local power to country towns and villages 10. Think rural <p>Objective 1 To facilitate the development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside, tackling poverty in rural areas. Objective 2 To maintain and stimulate communities, and secure access to services which is equitable in all the circumstances, for those who live or work in the countryside. Objective 5 To promote government responsiveness to rural communities through better working together between central departments, local government, and government agencies and better co-operation with non-government bodies.</p>

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	<p>must be addressed to achieve sustainable economic development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connected in all senses • A knowledge economy based on specialised but diverse markets linked to research strengths, expanded urban centres as key drivers of creative business environments, innovation in design driving quality products, services and places, private and social enterprise flowing from public sector strengths, and attracting and retaining local and international talent through a culture of openness and tolerance. <p><u>Tees Valley City Region Business Case and City Region Development Programme Update (2006)</u></p> <p>The priorities in the Tees Valley are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bringing more people into work; • Strengthening our knowledge base to support innovation; • Building a more entrepreneurial culture; • Capturing a larger share of global trade; • Meeting the skills needs of our employers; • Developing our airports and ports; • Better integrated public transport within and between regions; • Creating truly sustainable communities and market the north to the world. 	<p>The conclusion sets out the following intentions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A step change in improving access to, and the quality of, the essential services which rural people need • An economy in rural areas which can respond to the challenges of remoteness and lack of scale and which builds on the strengths and needs of small country towns and the land based sector, including farming; skills and employment levels as good in deprived rural areas as in the region as a whole • Flourishing local communities taking an active part in influencing and managing the services they need, and in shaping their future. <p><u>Strong and prosperous communities - The Local Government White Paper (2006)</u></p> <p>An important principle of the white paper is <i>Strong cities and strategic regions</i>. The regional dimension is also crucial. It is not a question of having to choose between strong cities and strong regions. Strong cities make stronger regions and strong cities need strong regions. City-regions such as those surrounding NewcastleGateshead and the other core cities have identified a need to co-ordinate activity across local authority boundaries in order to compete more effectively in the global economy</p> <p><u>Farming and Food Strategy, Facing the Future (2002)</u></p> <p>Our overarching aim is to promote a competitive and efficient farming and food sector which protects and enhances our countryside and wider environment, and contributes to the health and prosperity of all our communities</p> <p>Key principles for sustainable farming and food now and in the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce safe, healthy products in response to market demands, and ensure that all consumers have access to nutritious food, and to accurate information about food products. • Support the viability and diversity of rural and urban economies and communities. • Enable viable livelihoods to be made from sustainable land management, both through the market and through payments for public benefits. • Respect and operate within the biological limits of natural resources (especially soil, water and biodiversity). • Achieve consistently high standards of environmental performance by reducing energy consumption, by minimising resource inputs, and use renewable energy wherever possible. • Ensure a safe and hygienic working environment and high social welfare and training for all employees involved in the food chain. • Achieve consistently high standards of animal health and welfare. • Sustain the resource available for growing food and supplying other public

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		<p>benefits over time, except where alternative land uses are essential to meet other needs of society.</p> <p>The food chain also has a significant impact across the rural community. While agriculture is no longer the major economic player in most rural areas, it does have important links to other industries, such as tourism. So, working to strengthen the industry is vital, but so too is diversification, because it can help to create jobs and income.</p> <p><u>PSA: Dept for Work and Pensions 2005- 2008</u> Objective of full employment in every region by 2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate progress on increasing employment rate • Increase employment rate of disadvantaged groups • Significantly reduce the difference between the employment rates of disadvantaged groups and the overall rate • Improve health and safety outcome in workplace by 2008 • Improve working age people’s awareness of retirement provision • Increase the rate of disabled people in employment <p><u>PSA: DCMS 2005-2008</u> By 2008, increase the productivity of the tourism, creative and leisure industries</p> <p><u>Shaping a Fairer Future, Women and Work Commission (2006)</u> The right to request flexible working should be extended over time to cover a wider group of employees. All organisations promoting entrepreneurship to women should promote, as a key benefit, the work-life balance and flexible working possibilities of running your own business.</p> <p>Measures should support awareness-raising and capacity building to enable organisations to adopt solutions most relevant to them, which will have the most impact on women’s pay and opportunity, including promotion of best practice and support for the development and marketing of equality checks.</p> <p>Public authorities should ensure that their contractors promote gender equality and equal pay. Private sector companies who engage in substantial procurement should also use procurement to spread best practice.</p> <p><u>Securing the Region’s Futures (2006)</u> The North East Assembly has been confirmed as a leading body in ensuring that the region’s plans for the future will achieve a better quality of life for its people, now and in the future. The role identified for regional assemblies in the report Securing the</p>

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		Region's Futures means that the Assembly's ability to proof plans that affect the whole region is strengthened and it will be able to ensure that sustainable development is delivered on the ground and that a balance will be struck between the environment, economic and social needs of the region's communities.

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<p>2.1 Ensure all economic growth is respectful of its context, especially where it is of landscape, biodiversity, cultural or heritage value.</p> <p>2.2 Promote economic development that delivers wider economic, social and environmental objectives?</p> <p>2.3 Promote economic development that builds the potential for future/long-term prosperity and quality of life in both rural and urban areas?</p> <p>2.4 Promote monitoring and data analysis to inform and support actions aimed at delivering economic growth in the region?</p>	<p><u>Regional Forestry Framework: Trees, Woodlands, Forests and People (2005)</u> The Framework outlines five key outcomes for stimulating economic regeneration and growth which the Framework can contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerated economy • Improved infrastructure • Expanded processing sector and increased jobs • Secure and productive forestry businesses • Increased tourism <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The new strategic approach set out in the RES is based on the overarching objective of increasing the rate of GVA growth to achieve GVA per head at 90% of the UK average, thereby contributing to the National Regional Economic Productivity PSA target.</p> <p>In order to achieve this, the region needs to tackle productivity as well as participation. Business productivity is driven by numerous factors including skills, investment, innovation, enterprise and competition. Specifically, the aim is to increase the stock of businesses in the region by between 18,500 and 22,200.</p> <p>ONE also recognises that it must provide significant and sustained regional leadership but must also work with others to build the confidence, aspiration and networks to</p>	<p><u>UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)</u> <u>Achieving sustainable development means addressing the following five objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living within environmental limits; • Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; • Achieving a sustainable economy; • Promoting good governance; and • Using sound science responsibly. <p>The economy and sustainable consumption and production is an important aspect of the strategy. In order to achieve this the economy needs to produce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better products and services, which reduce the environmental impacts from the use of energy, resources, or hazardous substances • Cleaner, more efficient production processes, which strengthen competitiveness, and • Shifts in consumption towards goods and services with lower impacts. <p><u>PPS 1: Creating sustainable communities (2005)</u> The planning system has an important role in promoting a strong, stable and competitive economy that ensures prosperity for all.</p> <p><u>PPG 4: Industrial and Commercial development and small firms (1992)</u></p>

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<p>2.5 Capitalise on the economic potential of the region's high quality environmental assets, and on the economic potential associated with environmental management and enhancement?</p> <p>2.6 Promote heritage-led regeneration, make the best use of existing buildings and physical infrastructure, increase the social and/or economic benefit derived from the historic environment, promote heritage based sustainable tourism and ensure that restoration, repair and maintenance is sympathetic towards the local environment?</p> <p>2.7 Decouple economic growth from emissions?</p>	<p>enable leadership to flourish within the Region, across both public and private sectors.</p> <p><u>ONE Corporate Plan 2006-2009 and Business Plan 2006-2007</u> The target is to create 9650 new businesses and provide support to 25,200 businesses over the period of the Corporate Plan through ONE's programme activity.</p> <p><u>North East England Tourism Strategy 2005-2010</u> The objectives of the strategy include to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attract more domestic and overseas tourists to the region 2. Increase visitors' average spend and increase day visitor spend 3. Increase visits throughout the year, not solely in the main holiday season 4. Increase employment in tourism, and tourism related businesses 5. Improve the productivity of the regional tourism economy 6. Accelerate the rate of investment in the tourism product 7. Improve the quality of the tourism product 8. Improve the skills of the tourism workforce 9. Improve levels of visitor satisfaction in the North East 10. Enhance and conserve the region's natural, heritage and cultural assets <p><u>North East England in Europe: A Framework for Action (2005)</u> Objectives include to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the prosperity of communities throughout the region bringing the GDP per capita much closer to the EU average • Secure a vibrant and thriving rural economy • Tackle concentrations of deprivation and worklessness through shared prosperity generated by the increasingly inclusive nature of the growing knowledge economy • Radically increase entrepreneurial activity • Develop a vibrant business base and drive up productivity levels through increased competition and differentiation of products, services and markets and more targeted and better quality support • Utilise external expertise to enable business to access new markets, develop skills and capacity, lever in investment finance and capitalise on ICT opportunities • Become recognised as a centre for innovative product and service design, driven by the science, technology, design and innovative activities within the Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley conurbations • Increase the number of SMEs engaged in international trade, and increasing the depth and diversity of their international activity, particularly in new technology sectors • Maximise the potential of inward investment to encourage further technological 	<p>Locational demands of business must be taken into account alongside the need to control greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>In rural areas, applications for development necessary to sustain the rural economy should be weighed with the need to protect the countryside.</p> <p>Planning applications for speculative development should be considered on their land use planning merits, with a view to facilitating the establishment of small firms.</p> <p><u>PPG 5: Simplified planning zones (1992)</u> PPG seeks to simplify planning application procedure in designated zones to encourage investment. SPZs will normally be most appropriate in older areas where there is particular need to promote regeneration and economic activity.</p> <p><u>PPS 6: Planning for town centres (2005)</u> The Government's key objective for town centres is to promote vital and viable city, town and other centres by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for the growth of existing centres; and • Promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres and encouraging a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all. <p>Other Government objectives which need to be taken full account of in this context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance consumer choice by making provision for a range of shopping, leisure and local services, which allow genuine choice to meet the needs of the entire community, and particularly socially-excluded groups; • To support an efficient, competitive and innovative retail and leisure sector, with improving productivity; • To improve accessibility, ensuring that existing or new development is, or will be, highly accessible and well served by a choice of means of transport. <p>Local planning authorities should actively plan for growth in retail, leisure, office and other town centre uses over the period of the plan by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selecting appropriate, existing centres to accommodate the identified need; • Identifying sites within and adjoining existing centres for development or redevelopment; and • Providing for the growth of the town centre. <p>Local planning authorities should adopt policies that support development which enhances the vitality and viability of market towns and other rural service centres.</p>

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	<p>advances and innovation in both existing and emerging sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and develop new technologies, prioritising investment and support <p><u>Turning Ambition into Reality: The North East Regional Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004-2008, Sport England North East, (2004)</u> One of the 11 priorities of the plan is to make sure the sport and physical activity sector makes an increasing contribution to the region's economy in terms of skills, image, economic and social development.</p> <p><u>North East Rural Delivery Framework (2006)</u> Strategic objectives include developing individual skills and organisational capabilities for enterprising businesses and communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the local and regional market for rural businesses Business growth in sectors which exploit special qualities of the rural North East Effective infrastructure to support enterprise and business growth. <p><u>Regional European Action Plan (no date on document)</u> Key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influencing the European policy agenda Raising the profile of the North East in Europe and Europe in the North East Developing strategic alliances with other European regions Developing a European perspective on tackling key issues such as social inclusion and equality of opportunity 	<p><u>Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> Good quality, carefully-sited development within existing towns and villages should be allowed where it meets local economic and community needs (including affordable housing for identified local needs), maintains or enhances the local environment, and does not conflict with other planning policies.</p> <p>Larger scale developments should be located in or near to towns or other service centres that are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>New development away from existing settlements, or outside areas allocated for development in development plans, should be strictly controlled; in particular, isolated new houses in the countryside require special justification.</p> <p>Priority should be given to the re-use of previously developed (brownfield) sites in preference to the development of greenfield sites, except in cases where brownfield sites perform so poorly in terms of sustainability considerations (e.g. remoteness from settlements and services) in comparison with greenfield sites.</p> <p>All development in rural areas should be well designed, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and local distinctiveness.</p> <p>To ensure policies are relevant and effective, LPAs should be aware of the circumstances, needs and priorities of the rural communities and businesses in their area. Where there is a lack of up-to-date, robust information, local authorities should commission surveys and assessments of rural economic and social conditions and needs, including local housing needs.</p> <p>Outside urban areas, planning authorities should focus most new development in or near to local service centres, where employment, housing (including affordable housing), services and other facilities can be provided close together.</p> <p>This should help to ensure these facilities are served by public transport and provide some potential for access by walking and cycling.</p> <p>These centres (which might be a country town, a single large village or a group of villages) should be identified in the development plan as the preferred location for such development.</p> <p>Away from these centres, planning authorities should allow some limited development to meet local business, community and identified local housing needs, particularly in</p>

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		<p>order to maintain the viability and vitality of smaller towns and villages.</p> <p>LPAs should identify in their development plans the circumstances in which new development will be allowed within and adjacent to settlements that are not identified service centres and, exceptionally, on any other rural sites.</p> <p>LPAs should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify suitable sites for future employment use in development plans; • Make provision for new buildings, as well as the re-use of existing buildings, for industrial and business development; • Clarify the scale of allowable business development in different locations and the criteria against which planning applications will be considered; • Set out policies on the future expansion of business premises in rural areas. <p>LPAs should adopt positive planning policies, and support development proposals, that will enable farmers to: become more competitive, sustainable and environmentally-friendly; adapt to new and changing markets; comply with changing legislation and associated guidance; diversity into new agricultural opportunities; or broaden their operations to 'add value' to their primary produce.</p> <p>LPAs should set out in their development plans the criteria to be applied to planning applications for farm diversification projects and be supportive of well conceived farm diversification schemes.</p> <p>LPAs should set out in development plans their policies for supporting equine enterprises, whilst maintaining environmental quality and countryside character.</p> <p>To achieve high and sustainable levels of economic growth LPAs should support, through plan policies and development control decisions, sustainable rural tourism and leisure proposals that benefit rural businesses, communities and visitors and which utilise and enrich, but do not harm, the character of the countryside, its towns, villages, buildings and other features.</p> <p>To achieve high and sustainable levels of economic growth LPAs should plan for and support the provision of general tourist and visitor facilities in appropriate locations where identified needs are not met by existing facilities in rural service centres.</p> <p>To achieve high and sustainable levels of economic growth</p> <p>The Government expects most tourist accommodation requiring new buildings to be located in or adjacent to, existing towns and villages.</p>

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		<p><u>PPG 8: Telecommunications (2001)</u> To facilitate the growth of new and existing telecommunications systems whilst keeping the environmental impact to a minimum.</p> <p>Should not seek to prevent competition between different operators and should not question the need for telecommunications system which the proposed development is to support.</p> <p>Encourage telecommunications operators and LPAs to carry out annual discussions about rollout plans for each authority's area.</p> <p><u>PPG 20: Coastal Planning (1992)</u> The key policy issues for coastal planning are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation of the natural environment; • Development, particularly that which requires a coastal location; • Risks, including flooding, erosion and land instability; and • Improving the environment, particularly of urbanised or despoiled coastlines. <p><u>PPS 23: Planning and Pollution Control (2000)</u> Central to achievement of the Government's objective of ensuring sustainable development is urban and rural regeneration and the redevelopment of previously developed sites. A balanced approach is required which addresses the risk of pollution, whilst recognising the benefits of recycling previously developed land and the damage to community and business confidence caused by failing to remediate contaminated land.</p> <p><u>PPG 24 – Planning and Noise (1994)</u> Development necessary for creation of jobs, construction and improvement of essential infrastructure, will generate noise and therefore the planning system should not place unjustifiable obstacles in the way of it, however they must ensure that development does not cause an unacceptable degree of disturbance.</p> <p><u>Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside - the future - a fair deal for rural England (2000)</u> The aim is to sustain and enhance the distinctive environment, economy and social fabric of the English countryside for the benefit of all.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A living countryside, with thriving rural communities and access to high quality public services • A working countryside, with a diverse economy giving high and stable levels of employment

IRF Objective 2: To achieve high and sustainable levels of economic growth		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A protected countryside in which the environment is sustained and enhanced, and which all can enjoy • A vibrant countryside which can shape its own future and with its voice heard by Government at all levels. <p>The paper sets out 10 key actions which are intended to meet the vision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support vital village services 2. Modernise rural services 3. Provide affordable homes 4. Deliver local transport solutions 5. Rejuvenate market towns and a thriving rural economy 6. Set a new direction for farming 7. Preserve what makes rural England special 8. Ensure everyone can enjoy an accessible countryside 9. Give local power to country towns and villages 10. Think rural <p>Objective 1 To facilitate the development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside, tackling poverty in rural areas.</p> <p>Objective 2 To maintain and stimulate communities, and secure access to services which is equitable in all the circumstances, for those who live or work in the countryside.</p> <p>Objective 3 To conserve and enhance rural landscapes and the diversity and abundance of wildlife (including the habitats on which it depends).</p> <p>Objective 4 To increase opportunities for people to get enjoyment from the countryside. To open up public access to mountain, moor, heath and down and registered common land by the end of 2005.</p> <p>Objective 5 To promote government responsiveness to rural communities through better working together between central departments, local government, and government agencies and better co-operation with non-government bodies.</p> <p>The conclusion sets out the following intentions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A step change in improving access to, and the quality of, the essential services which rural people need • An economy in rural areas which can respond to the challenges of remoteness and lack of scale and which builds on the strengths and needs of small country towns and the land based sector, including farming; skills and employment levels as good in deprived rural areas as in the region as a whole • A protected countryside, rich in biodiversity and accessible to all, with less development pressure on greenfield sites • Flourishing local communities taking an active part in influencing and managing

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		<p>the services they need, and in shaping their future</p> <p><u>Farming and Food Strategy, Facing the Future (2002)</u> Our overarching aim is to promote a competitive and efficient farming and food sector which protects and enhances our countryside and wider environment, and contributes to the health and prosperity of all our communities.</p> <p>Key principles for sustainable farming and food now and in the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce safe, healthy products in response to market demands, and ensure that all consumers have access to nutritious food, and to accurate information about food products. • Support the viability and diversity of rural and urban economies and communities. • Enable viable livelihoods to be made from sustainable land management, both through the market and through payments for public benefits. • Respect and operate within the biological limits of natural resources (especially soil, water and biodiversity). • Achieve consistently high standards of environmental performance by reducing energy consumption, by minimising resource inputs, and use renewable energy wherever possible. • Ensure a safe and hygienic working environment and high social welfare and training for all employees involved in the food chain. • Achieve consistently high standards of animal health and welfare. • Sustain the resource available for growing food and supplying other public benefits over time, except where alternative land uses are essential to meet other needs of society. <p>The food chain also has a significant impact across the rural community. While agriculture is no longer the major economic player in most rural areas, it does have important links to other industries, such as tourism. So, working to strengthen the industry is vital, but so too is diversification, because it can help to create jobs and income.</p> <p><u>Sustainable Communities: Building for the future (2005)</u> Accommodate the economic success of London and the wider South East and ensure that the international competitiveness of the region is sustained, for the benefit of the region and the whole country.</p> <p><u>Rural Strategy (2004)</u> Outlines the government's commitment to economic and social regeneration:</p>

IRF Objective 2: To achieve high and sustainable levels of economic growth		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on the economic success of the majority of rural areas; • Tackling the structural economic weaknesses and accompanying poor social conditions that exist in a minority of rural areas • Addressing the skills gap • Providing business support • Broadband implementation

IRF Objective 3: To raise educational achievement across the region		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>3.1 Promote use of the planning process as a means of building community capacity?</p> <p>3.2 Promote access to education and training for all?</p> <p>3.3. Promote education and training as a key component of regional economic development as identified by the RES?</p> <p>3.4. Promote ongoing education/skills learning for all?</p> <p>3.5. Maximise the potential of research and the knowledge economy?</p> <p>3.6. Ensure supply of skills, including higher-level skills, to meet needs of the economy?</p>	<p><u>Skills North East – The Regional Skills Partnership: Skill Action Plan 2006-2007</u></p> <p>Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase employer demand for, and investment in, skills • Raise individual aspirations and demand for learning and provide individuals with opportunities throughout life to achieve their aspirations and embrace change • Enable those excluded from the labour market to access learning and sustainable employment. • Ensure all individuals have the foundations for employability – the attainment of Skills for Life and a first level 2 qualification • Increase the achievement of intermediate and higher level skills to support growth, innovation and productivity • Enable providers of learning to be more responsive to employers’ and learners’ needs • Influence national policy and funding to ensure regional skills and employment needs are addressed. <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u></p> <p>The RES recognises the need to continue to support the restructuring of the NE economy so that the region is better able to compete globally in a high value added knowledge-based environment. One of the key routes for achieving this is through investing in skills and provision of skills support.</p> <p>The Regional Skills Partnership will work to ensure that the workforce has the necessary high level and generic skills to enable the region to compete globally on a high value-added basis. Skills – and enhanced progression routes to higher skill levels – are also seen as essential to increase the engagement of deprived areas.</p> <p>The RES also aims to maximise the potential of the knowledge economy both in</p>	<p><u>DfES Action Plan (2002)</u></p> <p>Aim: To help build a competitive economy and inclusive society by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating opportunities for everyone to develop their learning. • Releasing potential in people to make the most of themselves. • Achieving excellence in standards of education and levels of skills. <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give children an excellent start in education so that they have a better foundation for future learning. • Enable all young people to develop and to equip themselves with the skills, knowledge and personal qualities needed for life and work. • Encourage and enable adults to learn, improve their skills and enrich their lives. <p>The strategy contains a wide range of targets relating to education and skills, including a target of two technology institutes in each region to meet the rising demand for high-level technical skills.</p> <p><u>PSA: DfES 2005-2008</u></p> <p>Includes the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve children’s communication and development and reduce inequalities in children’s development in the 20% most disadvantaged areas • Narrow the gap in educational achievement between looked after children and that of their peers and improve their educational support and stability • Raise standards in English and maths – by 2005, 85% of 11 yr olds achieve level 4 or above and by 2008, the proportion of schools with fewer than 65% of pupils achieving level 4 or above is reduced by 40% • Raise standards in English, maths and IT in secondary education; by 2007, 85% of 14 yr olds achieve level 5 or above in English, maths and ICT;

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	<p>education and skills. This will be achieved through better links between the higher education sector and businesses.</p> <p><u>ONE Corporate Plan 2006-2009 and Business Plan 2006- 2007</u> The target is to provide 188,350 units of skills support over the period of the Corporate Plan through ONE's programme activity, and to enable 930 adults to gain basic skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by 2008, all schools should have at least 50% of pupils achieving level 5 or above in English, maths and science • Improve school attendance to reduce absence rates by 8% by 2008, compared to 2003 • Enhance the take-up of sport by 5-16 yr olds (2hr per week sports) by 85% by 2008 • All young people to be ready for employment or higher education by age 19: by 2008, 60% of 16yr olds to achieve 5 GCSE Grade A-C; increase proportion of 19 yr olds achieving at least level 2 by 2% between 2006-2008 • Tackle adult skills gap by improving basic skills levels of 2/25m between 2001-2010; reduce by 40% adults in workforce who lack NVQ 2 by 2010 • Raise and widen participation in higher education by 50% for 18-30 yr olds <p>PSA: DTI 2005-2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further progress by 2008 on raising UK productivity growth rate • Improve relative international performance of UK research base and innovation performance, continued progress till 2008 • Promote fair competitive markets by ensuring UK framework for competition and consumer empowerment and support is at the level of the best by 2008 • Reduce GHG emissions • Maintain reliability of energy supplies • Eliminate fuel poverty • Ensure the UK remains in top 3 competitive energy markets in EU and G7 • Ensure more competitive Europe and improved opportunities for developing countries/reduced trade barriers • Build an enterprise society in which small firms thrive with increase in people going into business, productivity of small forms; more enterprise in disadvantage communities • Reduce long-term the persistent gap in growth rates between the regions • Measurable improvement in business performance with emphasis on new export firms • Improve gender equality • Promote ethnic diversity, cooperative employment relations, flexible labour market • innovative and dynamic market for nuclear clean-up with 2% efficiency gains from 2006-2007 <p><u>Shaping a Fairer Future, Women and Work Commission (2006)</u> The Sector Skills Councils should work with employers on providing and promoting apprenticeships for women in industries where there are skills shortages.</p>

IRF Objective 3: To raise educational achievement across the region		
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		<p>All young people should have access to careers information, advice and guidance which challenges gender stereotypes and gives young people a real understanding of occupations, particularly those not traditionally taken up by their gender.</p> <p>RDAs should provide grant funding for outreach services aimed at women seeking local jobs or training which match their skills and potential, such as the Women Like Us model. These could address the particular needs of women from local black and minority ethnic communities, home workers or other groups, for example disabled women.</p> <p>Employers should ensure that their managers, at all levels, are regularly and continually trained on diversity and flexibility issues.</p> <p>Measures should be designed to enable women to change direction, and progress in their jobs and careers, through raising their skill levels.</p> <p>Women should have access to a high-quality careers information, advice and guidance service which tackles gender stereotypes.</p>

IRF Objective 4: To ensure everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent and affordable home		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>4.1 Ensure the provision of a range of housing in, or accessible (particularly on foot or by cycling or public transport) to, those wards in the region that are currently in the bottom 20% in terms of IMD?</p> <p>4.2 Ensure the provision of a range of housing in, or accessible (particularly on foot or by cycling or public transport) to, rural areas and market towns?</p> <p>4.3 Ensure the provision of a mixture and range of housing to meet increasingly varied housing</p>	<p><u>Regional Housing Strategy (2006)</u></p> <p>Notes four key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rejuvenating housing • Increasing the type and mix of new Houses to provide more choice • Improvement and maintenance of existing housing • Meeting specific community and social needs <p>The Strategy notes overarching strategic priorities which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda of modernising housing, clearance of obsolete housing and high quality development in locations which will complement economic growth • Development and implementation of renewal programmes in the long term, which requires organisational co-operation and collective funding • Acknowledging the variability within sub-regions and the potentially different priorities within them in relation to housing • Commitment to allocating at least 50% of housing capital resources under the North East Housing Board's control, to rejuvenating housing stock 	<p><u>PPS 1: Creating sustainable communities (2005)</u></p> <p>Provide good quality homes in suitable locations, so that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home and to avoid constraining economic growth and the delivery of quality public services</p> <p><u>PPS3: Housing (2006)</u></p> <p>The Government's key housing policy goal is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent home, which they can afford, in a community where they want to live. To achieve this, the Government is seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes, both affordable and market housing, to address the requirements of the community. • To widen opportunities for home ownership and ensure high quality housing for those who cannot afford market housing, in particular those who are vulnerable or in need. • To improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing the supply of housing.

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<p>requirements, including affordable housing?</p> <p>4.4 Ensure the attainment of the 'decent homes' (i.e. in terms of design and building construction, water and energy consumption etc) standard for all social housing by 2010?</p> <p>4.5 Ensure the provision of new housing on previously-developed land and through conversion of existing buildings, aiming for 65% by 2016?</p> <p>4.6 Promote the development of sustainable communities and sustainable resource efficient housing and improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live?</p> <p>4.7 Develop policies that deal with changes in demographic structures in the region?</p> <p>4.8 Recognise the housing and social infrastructure needs of excluded and disadvantaged groups?</p> <p>4.9 Help to enable new homes/refurbishments to be resource efficient (materials, energy, water, transport, procurement etc) in construction and operation?</p>	<p>The Strategy notes the RSS objective of clearing 3700 dwellings annually and the Northern Way objective of exceeding the RSS objective in respect of dwelling clearance</p> <p>Vacancy rate: - 3% by 2010 (current level 4.1% 2002) - 2% in social housing over 10/15 years</p> <p>The Board have supported the priority for rejuvenating the housing stock by allocating the largest proportion of the housing capital resources under its control to this objective.</p> <p>This proportion is likely to increase over time, but it will depend on the preparation of good quality regeneration projects. Indicative annual levels of demolitions are: · 2004-11: 3,320 · 2011-16: 2,235 · 2016-21: 1,860 · 2004-21: 2,570</p> <p>Indicative annual levels of construction are: · 2004-11: 8,860 · 2011-16: 8,215 · 2016-21: 7,595 · 2004-21: 8,290</p> <p><u>North East Rural Action Plan (2003/04 update)</u> An 'enabling planning system', which provides good quality affordable rural housing. 'The land use planning system ... needs to help secure balanced rural communities by ensuring affordable housing to meet the needs of people on low and modest incomes.'</p> <p><u>Biodiversity Indicators and Targets for the North East of England (2004)</u> Within the regional biodiversity targets, under Indicator 15, there exists a specific target stating: 'By 2010 ensure that all urban dwellers have an area of accessible natural greenspace within 300m of their home'.</p> <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> A key priority of the RES is housing renewal and the provision of high quality and diverse housing choice close to centres of economic growth, and affordable homes in rural areas. The aim is to provide a mix of housing that meets the needs of people within the region and to attract people currently outside the region to live there. Access to a range of high quality housing is seen as essential to retaining and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural. <p><u>PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> Good quality, carefully-sited development within existing towns and villages should be allowed where it meets local economic and community needs (including affordable housing for identified local needs), maintains or enhances the local environment, and does not conflict with other planning policies.</p> <p>Larger scale developments should be located in or near to towns or other service centres that are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>New development away from existing settlements, or outside areas allocated for development in development plans, should be strictly controlled; in particular, isolated new houses in the countryside require special justification.</p> <p>Priority should be given to the re-use of previously developed (brownfield) sites in preference to the development of greenfield sites, except in cases where brownfield sites perform so poorly in terms of sustainability considerations (e.g. remoteness from settlements and services) in comparison with greenfield sites.</p> <p>All development in rural areas should be well designed, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and local distinctiveness.</p> <p>To ensure policies are relevant and effective, LPAs should be aware of the circumstances, needs and priorities of the rural communities and businesses in their area. Where there is a lack of up-to-date, robust information, local authorities should commission surveys and assessments of rural economic and social conditions and needs, including local housing needs.</p> <p>It is essential that LPAs plan to meet housing requirements in rural areas, based in an up-to-date assessment of local need LPAs should make sufficient land available, either within or adjoining existing villages to meet the needs of local people LPAs should strictly control new house building (including single dwellings) in the countryside, away from established settlements or from areas allocated for housing in development plans.</p> <p><u>Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside - the future - a fair deal for rural England (2000)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A living countryside, with thriving rural communities and access to high quality public services

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	<p>attracting talented individuals and increasing levels of economic participation. An overarching objective of Investing in Place is overcoming some of the physical aspects linked to deprivation, such as poor housing.</p> <p>One of the priorities for rural areas is to develop innovative approaches to the design and implementation of rural services, in particular the provision of affordable housing.</p> <p><u>North East Rural Delivery Framework (2006)</u> Strategic objectives include ensuring viable rural settlements with an improved quality of life including housing.</p> <p><u>Counting Consumption: O₂ emissions, material flows and ecological footprint of the North East (2006)</u> The housing scenario shows that improved housing development standards will not place an adequate check on CO₂ emissions, but that making better use of energy in existing homes will provide a far greater contribution. The housing scenario shows that further CO₂ savings can be made if regional initiatives target existing homes in particular. The North East should use all the policy levers available by combining a regional policy that encompasses substantial retrofitting of houses, extremely high standards for new build, a centralised renewable energy strategy and decentralized energy production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A working countryside, with a diverse economy giving high and stable levels of employment • A protected countryside in which the environment is sustained and enhanced, and which all can enjoy • A vibrant countryside which can shape its own future and with its voice heard by Government at all levels. <p>The aim is to sustain and enhance the distinctive environment, economy and social fabric of the English countryside for the benefit of all.</p> <p>The paper sets out 10 key actions which are intended to meet the vision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support vital village services 2. Modernise rural services 3. Provide affordable homes 4. Deliver local transport solutions 5. Rejuvenate market towns and a thriving rural economy 6. Set a new direction for farming 7. Preserve what makes rural England special 8. Ensure everyone can enjoy an accessible countryside 9. Give local power to country towns and villages 10. Think rural <p>Objective 1 To facilitate the development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside, tackling poverty in rural areas.</p> <p>Objective 2 To maintain and stimulate communities, and secure access to services which is equitable in all the circumstances, for those who live or work in the countryside.</p> <p>Objective 3 To conserve and enhance rural landscapes and the diversity and abundance of wildlife (including the habitats on which it depends).</p> <p>Objective 4 To increase opportunities for people to get enjoyment from the countryside. To open up public access to mountain, moor, heath and down and registered common land by the end of 2005.</p> <p>Objective 5 To promote government responsiveness to rural communities through better working together between central departments, local government, and government agencies and better co-operation with non-government bodies.</p> <p>The conclusion sets out the following intentions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A step change in improving access to, and the quality of, the essential services which rural people need • An economy in rural areas which can respond to the challenges of remoteness and lack of scale and which builds on the strengths and needs of small country

IRF Objective 4: To ensure everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent and affordable home		
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		<p>towns and the land based sector, including farming; skills and employment levels as good in deprived rural areas as in the region as a whole</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A protected countryside, rich in biodiversity and accessible to all, with less development pressure on greenfield sites • Flourishing local communities taking an active part in influencing and managing the services they need, and in shaping their future. <p><u>Sustainable Communities: Building for the future (2005)</u> Long-term programme for action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other parts of the country, and the quality of our public spaces.</p> <p>To ensure that all tenants have a decent home by 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve conditions for vulnerable people in private accommodation. • To ensure all tenants, social and private, get an excellent service from their landlord. • To ensure all communities have a clean, safe and attractive environment in which people can take pride. • Bring back life to those cities where there is low demand for housing, and where homes have been abandoned • Recreate sustainable communities • Ensure the repetition of serious problems is prevented in the longer term. • Support the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal by tackling deprivation prevalent in low demand areas. • To work towards a better balance in the housing market in the longer term and to do this in a way that ensures communities are sustainable, enhances the overall environment and protects the countryside. • To tackle the housing shortage, especially in London and the wider South East, by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - creating conditions in which private house builders will build more homes of the right type in the right places; - addressing immediate and urgent needs for more affordable housing, both for key workers and those who would otherwise be homeless; - making the best use of the existing housing stock. <p>Address housing needs of rural communities who are often the guardians of the countryside.</p> <p><u>The Northern Way Business Plan (2005)</u> The Northern Way establishes a vision for the North of England in which social and</p>

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		<p>economic regeneration will create/enhance a place where people will seek to live, where the economy will flourish and where people will enjoy a high quality of life. Integral to delivery of this vision will be the creation and enhancement of the housing environment of the regions of the North.</p> <p>The provision of quality, affordable housing of a type and in a location that suits people's requirements, is critical to the housing environment being pursued.</p> <p>Addressing such housing needs will be particularly important within the city regions outlined in The Northern Way; Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley being the two key city regions in the North East.</p> <p><u>Rural Strategy (2004)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlines the government's commitment to social justice for all: • Ensure fair access to public services and affordable housing • Tackle social exclusion wherever it occurs <p><u>PSA: ODPM 2005-2008</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle social exclusion and deliver neighbourhood renewal, with measurable improvement by 2001 • Make Sustainable improvements to reduce the persistent gap of growth rates between the regions, demonstrating progress by 2006 • By 2010 reduce accidental fire-related deaths in the home by 20% and deliberate fires by 10% • By 2008 improve local government in delivering services to all communities • Better balance/affordability between housing availability and the demand for housing • Achievement of best value standards for planning by 2008 • By 2010 have a decent condition of social housing • Cleaner, safer and greener public places with measurable improvements by 2008

IRF Objective 5: To ensure good local air quality for all		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
5.1 Reduce congestion on the inter-urban trunk road network in large urban areas below 2000 levels by 2010	<u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> Transport demand management, other energy demand management and integrated pollution control are seen as key to ensuring sustainable economic growth, where possible reducing pollution and improving air quality.	<u>Directive 1996/62/EC on ambient air quality and management (1996)</u> Objectives: Avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole. Maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases.

IRF Objective 5: To ensure good local air quality for all		
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<p>5.2 Reduce traffic levels and promote more sustainable transport patterns across the region, particularly focusing on areas with low air quality (e.g. Air Quality Management Areas)?</p> <p>5.3 Promote development that takes into account the causes of poor air quality such as traffic congestion and promote integrated development in terms of access to public transport?</p> <p>5.4 Promote the reduction of energy consumption and reduction of emissions from industry?</p> <p>5.5 Promote good air quality?</p>		<p>Objectives which may relate to planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain adequate information on ambient air quality and ensure that it is made available to the public, inter alia by means of alert thresholds; • Maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases. <p>Emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide must be reduced by nearly 10% throughout the European Union in addition to the reductions already expected by 2010. For particulate matter it is estimated that emissions in cities will need to be reduced by some 50% over present levels.</p> <p><u>PPS3: Housing (2006)</u> The Government's key housing policy goal is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent home, which they can afford, in a community where they want to live. To achieve this, the Government is seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes, both affordable and market housing, to address the requirements of the community. • To widen opportunities for home ownership and ensure high quality housing for those who cannot afford market housing, in particular those who are vulnerable or in need. • To improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing the supply of housing. • To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural. <p><u>PPG 4: Industrial and Commercial development and small firms (1992)</u> Optimum use should be made of potential sites and existing premises in inner cities and other urban areas, taking into account such factors as accessibility by public transport, particularly in the case of labour intensive uses.</p> <p><u>PPS 6: Planning for town centres (2005)</u> In selecting appropriate sites for allocation, local authorities should have full regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for accessibility by a choice of means of transport, including public transport, walking, cycling, and car; and • The impact on car use, traffic and congestion. <p><u>PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> Outside urban areas, planning authorities should focus most new development in or near to local service centres, where employment, housing (including affordable housing), services and other facilities can be provided close together.</p>

IRF Objective 5: To ensure good local air quality for all		
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		<p>This should help to ensure these facilities are served by public transport and provide some potential for access by walking and cycling. These centres (which might be a country town, a single large village or a group of villages) should be identified in the development plan as the preferred location for such development.</p> <p><u>PPG 13 – Transport (2001)</u> A key planning objective is to ensure that jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services are accessible by public transport, walking, and cycling.</p> <p>Accommodate housing principally within existing urban areas, planning for increased intensity of development which is highly accessible by public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>Use parking policies, alongside other planning and transport measures, to promote sustainable transport choices and reduce reliance on the car for work and other journeys.</p> <p>Give priority to people over ease of traffic movement and plan to provide more road space to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport in town centres, local neighbourhoods and other areas with a mixture of land uses</p> <p>Congestion charging and workplace parking levies, where introduced, need to complement the achievement of transport objectives – not simply push transport problems to non-charge areas.</p> <p><u>Government/DfT 10 Year Transport Plan (2000)</u> Sustainability issues raised by the ten year vision are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved public transport choice so more people will use public transport • Integrated light rail systems and bus services • Park and ride schemes so people do not drive into town centres • Access to jobs and services through improved transport links especially in regeneration areas • The role of integrated public transport information, booking and ticketing systems, with a single ticket or card covering the whole journey • Ensure transport system makes less environmental impact. <p>The challenge (chapter 3) is to “ensure that...increased mobility does not undermine our quality of life, so that travel and its benefits can be enjoyed by all...”</p> <p>Targets or improvements relative to regional spatial planning include:</p>

IRF Objective 5: To ensure good local air quality for all		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
		<p>Locally across England:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double light rail use • 10% increase in bus passenger journeys • Extensive bus priority schemes, and improvements also benefiting coaches • Urban Bus Challenge Fund to improve links to deprived urban areas • More cities and towns with park and ride schemes • Extension of Rural Bus Subsidy Grant to cover more journeys serving market towns • Support for flexible transport in rural communities • Modern and integrated transport information, booking and ticketing services • Safer cycling and walking routes, more 20mph areas and Home Zones for safer roads, particularly around schools. <p>Rail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% increase in use, measured by passenger kilometres • 80% increase in rail freight • Improved commuter services in London and other cities • Upgrading of freight routes to major ports • Better integration with cars, buses, taxis, bicycles and better links to airports. <p>Roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerated take-up of cleaner vehicles to reduce air pollution and CO₂ emissions. <p>In urban areas the biggest concerns are traffic congestion and the cost, convenience and reliability of public transport. Air pollution, safety and traffic nuisance also worry many. Traffic jams and polluted streets make towns and cities less attractive places in which to live and do business.</p> <p>Better integration between land use and transport planning at national, regional and local levels will help to promote patterns of development that can be served more effectively by public transport.</p> <p><u>National Air Quality Strategy for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland (2000)</u></p> <p>The Strategy aims to map out, as far as is possible, the future of ambient air quality policy in the UK in the medium term. It describes the current and likely future levels of air pollution in the UK.</p> <p>Sets objectives and standards for 8 main air pollutants in order to protect health, and</p>

IRF Objective 5: To ensure good local air quality for all		
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		<p>provide structure to monitor and take action to manage the levels of these pollutants – Annexes provide detailed technical information on each pollutant, sources and targets.</p> <p>The Strategy also stresses that land use planning and transport plans and strategies will have a direct effect on improving air quality – particularly given the contribution traffic related pollution makes to current UK air pollution.</p> <p>Local authorities have a crucial role to play achieving the air quality objectives. They are responsible for land-use planning and traffic management, and, in England and Wales, for controlling industrial pollution sources.</p> <p>Specific pollutants covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • benzene • 1,3-butadiene • carbon monoxide (CO) • lead • nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) • ozone • particles (PM₁₀), and • sulphur dioxide (SO₂) <p><u>PSA : Dept of Transport 2005-2008</u> Improve air quality by meeting the Air Quality Strategy targets for CO, lead, NO, particles, SO₂, benzene and 1,3 butadiene .</p>

IRF Objective 6: To protect and enhance the quality of the region's ground, river and sea waters		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>6.1 Promote integrated catchment management?</p> <p>6.2 Promote efficient use of water in construction and operation of new housing and employment infrastructure?</p> <p>6.3 Achieve good (class A or B) biological water quality on 91% of watercourses by 2010?</p>	<p><u>Biodiversity Indicators and Targets for the North East of England (2004)</u> Achieve good (class A or B) Biological Water Quality on 91% of watercourses by 2010.</p> <p><u>And The Weather Today is...(2002)</u> The Report outlines three key objectives for 'Water Resources, Flooding and Sea Levels', these being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage water saving at home and in the workplace, possibly through as advisory body • Adopt an integrated approach to land development through greater partnership working between democratic bodies, regulators and water companies 	<p><u>Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy ('The Water Framework Directive') (2000)</u> The purpose of the Directive is to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters (rivers and lakes), transitional waters (estuaries), coastal waters and groundwater. It will ensure all aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to their water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands meet 'good status' by 2015. The Directive requires Member States to establish river basin districts and for each of these a river basin management plan. The Directive envisages a cyclical process where river basin management plans are prepared, implemented and reviewed every six years. There are four distinct elements to the river basin planning cycle: characterization and assessment of impacts on river basin districts; environmental monitoring; the setting</p>

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<p>6.4 Protect the quality of groundwater resources?</p> <p>6.5 Protect the quality of sea water?</p> <p>6.6 Encourage industry to adopt good practice in managing water (ecological and water quality and quantity) effectively?</p> <p>6.7 Recognise the importance of water quality, terrestrial and marine, as a key feature of many of the region's natural and manmade tourism assets?</p> <p>6.8 Recognise the importance of ecological and water quality as a key component of the region's image and quality of life?</p> <p>6.9 Protect and enhance ecological and water quality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create research partnership to coordinate and share research relevant to flood defence investment <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The RES acknowledges that it is vital to maintain and improve the natural assets of the region, including water quality, through effective demand management and integrated pollution control measures.</p>	<p>of environmental objectives; and the design and implementation of the programme of measures needed to achieve them.</p> <p><i>Water quality objectives are linked to delivery of PSA 1: 'Promote sustainable development across Government and the country as a whole as measured by achieving positive trends in the government's headline indicators of sustainable development' (Water quality is a headline indicator)</i></p> <p><u>PPG 20: Coastal Planning (1992)</u> Local planning authorities should recognise that on-shore development can often have an impact offshore. They should take this into account when making planning Decisions. Likewise, when considering the environmental impacts of developments outside the coastal zone, local planning authorities will still need to consider the effects on that zone.</p> <p>Decisions on development proposals below mean low water mark are generally outside the scope of the planning system...</p> <p>There is a series of international obligations which affect planning for the coastal zone. Of particular relevance are sites designated under international conventions, such as "Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitats" under the Ramsar - Convention.</p> <p>Heritage Coasts are defined by local authorities in consultation with the Countryside Agency or Countryside Council for Wales. They have several objectives including, to conserve, protect and enhance the natural beauty of the coasts and their terrestrial, littoral and marine flora and fauna. Heritage Coasts are not a statutory designation but the designation helps focus attention and resources on the planning and management of the coast.</p> <p><u>PPS 23 - Planning and pollution control (2004)</u> The policies in this statement and the advice in the accompanying Annexes (Annex 1: Pollution Control, Air and Water Quality and Annex 2: Development on Land Affected by Contamination) should be taken into account by Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs) and Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in preparing Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs) and Local Development Documents (LDDs) - referred to in this Statement as "development plans".</p> <p><u>PPS 25 Development and Flood Risk (2006)</u> Positive planning should avoid, reduce and manage flood risk by taking full account in decisions on plans and applications of present and future flood risk and the wider</p>

IRF Objective 6: To protect and enhance the quality of the region's ground, river and sea waters		
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		<p>implications for flood risk of development located outside flood risk areas. A risk-based approach should be adopted at all levels of planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid adding to the causes of flood risk, by such means as avoiding inappropriate development in flood risk areas and minimising run-off from new development • Managing flood “pathways” to reduce the likelihood of flooding including by maximising the use of sustainable drainage systems; • Reducing the consequences of flooding by avoiding inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. <p>Flood risk assessment should be carried out to assess the risks of flooding to and from development and inform the application of the sequential approach to determining the suitability of land for development in flood risk areas. Departures from the sequential approach will only be justified in exceptional circumstances where it is necessary to meet the wider aims of sustainable development. Those proposing development are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrating that it is consistent with policies on flood risk; • Providing an assessment of whether any proposed development is likely to be affected by flooding, whether it will increase flood risk elsewhere, and the measures proposed to deal with these effects and risks; • Demonstrating that risks will be successfully managed; • Incorporating sustainable drainage systems and, where necessary, flood resilience measures; • Identifying opportunities to reduce flood risk, enhance biodiversity and amenity and seek collective solutions to managing flood risk. <p><u>Farming and Food Strategy, Facing the Future (2002)</u> Environmentally: While agriculture generates significant environmental benefits, it also has significant negative impacts. Damage includes the effects of emissions, water pollution and impacts on biodiversity.</p> <p>A key principle for sustainable farming and food now and in the future includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect and operate within the biological limits of natural resources (especially soil, water and biodiversity). <p><u>State of Nature – Lowlands – future landscapes for wildlife (2002)</u> The ten most critical actions required to deliver environmentally sustainable management in the English lowlands: 3. Improve water management</p>

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		<p>4. Restore wetland habitats</p> <p><u>Directing the Flow –Priorities for Future Water Policy 2002/ Making Space for Water 2004</u></p> <p>Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River water quality - Achieve 91% compliance with River Quality Objectives by 2005, and make progress towards Government target on AMP4 for 2010. • Flood Risk commitments in Environment Agency corporate plan • Water availability - Reduce the likelihood of water supply shortages, whilst avoiding the growth in environmental damage. • Drinking water quality <p><u>Water Act (2003)</u></p> <p>Prescribes the sustainable use of water resources and the promotion of water conservation. It also places a duty on the Secretary of State to take appropriate steps to encourage water conservation and places a duty on public authorities to take into account the desirability of conserving water supplies to premises.</p>

IRF Objective 7: To reduce the causes and the impacts of climate change		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>7.1 Promote a 20% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2010 and 60% by 2050 and ensure developments constitute a 23.5% improvement in energy efficiency standards compared with the pre-April 2006 standards?</p> <p>7.2 Aim to meet the target of 13-16% of electricity from onshore renewable sources by 2010 (and 16-21% by 2020) by promoting the development and deployment of a wide range and scale of renewable energy technologies (e.g. by identifying broad areas within the region for renewables, by incorporating renewables within developments and by focusing on the hierarchy of likely technology identified in the Regional Renewable Energy Strategy)?</p> <p>7.3 Promote high standards of energy efficiency in construction and operation of new housing and employment infrastructure?</p> <p>7.4 Ensure that developments are not exposed to current or future flood risk and that developments are climate proofed?</p> <p>7.5 Ensure that floodplains are used for their natural purpose, function effectively and are protected from inappropriate</p>	<p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The strategy recognises the threats and opportunities presented by climate change and the growing importance of renewable energy sources. Reducing carbon emissions and maximising resource efficiency are seen as particularly important, alongside the development of effective renewable energy systems and carbon offsetting of major developments. The Energy and Environment sector is identified as a key growth sector.</p> <p><u>Regional Forestry Framework: Trees, Woodlands, Forests and People (2005)</u> The Framework notes that the potential impacts of climate change on the region will be significant, altering key factors such as the frequency and severity of flood events; agricultural production, water resources and wildlife species and habitats. It notes that 'Woodlands can also have an important role in mitigating the adverse effects of climate change such as by lowering peak flows and so reducing the flooding'. Peat also serves as an important carbon sink for the region and is therefore an important asset in the regional strategy of abating climate change. Key components of the Framework include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland management • Renewable energy • Woodland area • Waste reduction • Timber use <p><u>North East Rural Action Plan (2003/04 update)</u> An enabling planning system which promotes the development of renewable energy in appropriate locations, e.g. wind, solar or wood heating projects.</p> <p><u>And The Weather Today is ... (2002)</u> The Report outlines the scenario of climate change impacts in the event of no action being undertaken and if action is undertaken. A wide range of objectives are outlined, addressing the following key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Natural Environment • Agriculture and Forestry • Water resources, flooding and Sea Levels • Lifestyles and the Built Environment • Commerce and Industry • Energy Resources • Health and Safety • Perceptions and Education 	<p><u>Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)</u> The Convention's objective is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve stabilisation of atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at levels that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic (human-induced) interference with the climate system. <p>Dangerous levels are not defined. It does state that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystems should be allowed to adapt naturally, • Food supply should not be threatened, and • Economic development should be able to proceed in a sustainable manner. <p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU member states target = 8% reduction in emissions below 1990 levels by 2012. • UK legally binding target = 12.5%. <p><u>Directive to Promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EC) (2001)</u> The Directive obliges Member States to establish a programme to increase the gross consumption of renewable energy based electricity ("green electricity") by 2010 and to publish national indicative targets for future consumption of electricity produced from renewable energy sources for the next 10 years. UK target is for renewables to account for 10% of UK consumption by 2010.</p> <p><u>Energy Performance in Buildings Directive (2002/91/EC) (2002)</u> The objective of the Directive is to "promote the improvement of energy performance of buildings within the European Community, taking into account outdoor climatic and local conditions, as well as indoor climate requirements and cost-effectiveness." Key targets are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set energy performance standards for different types of buildings and review every 5 years. • Review the feasibility of CHP, district heating, heat pumps and decentralised renewable energy systems for buildings with a floor area >1000sqm. • Buildings with a floor area > 1000 sqm undergoing renovation should be upgraded to meet minimum energy efficiency standards. • An energy performance certificate should be made available to the occupier (which is valid for 10 years). • Regular inspections of boilers using non-renewable fuel. <p><u>PPS 1: Planning and Climate Change (Supplement to PPS1)</u> The PPS sets out how planning, in providing for the new homes, jobs and infrastructure needed by communities, should help shape places with lower carbon</p>

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<p>development?</p> <p>7.6 Decouple economic growth from transport and other emissions?</p> <p>7.7 Plan for the successful adaptation to the effects of climate change and the maximisation of potential economic, environmental and social opportunities?</p> <p>7.8 Protect carbon sinks?</p> <p>7.9 Promote sustainable drainage?</p> <p>7.10 Promote good design principles e.g. Ecohomes, (BREEAM, for developments other than housing), sustainable urban planning, adaptable to climate change</p>	<p><u>North East Regional Renewable Energy Strategy (2005)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy reduction and efficiency measures must be used to restrain growth in demand. • Biomass and non-onshore wind renewables can play a significant part in supplying the Region with electricity, and there are sufficient locations in the Region (identified in the Wind GIS and taking account of landscape sensitivity) for medium scale wind farm developments of up to 25 turbines, and for small developments of up to five turbines, to cater for the development of up to 240MW onshore wind capacity. This would enable the Region to achieve a 10% renewable electricity supply by 2010. A significant proportion of these new turbines could be located on brownfield sites on Teesside. • Offshore and onshore wind developments and a major electricity generating biomass plant could make Teesside, and Redcar and Cleveland in particular, the most significant location for renewable energy in the Region up to 2010. • Kielder Forest has the potential to become a ‘Strategic Renewables Resource Area’ because of its scale, low landscape sensitivity to wind development and relative lack of other constraints. However the Ministry of Defence (MoD), ruled out wind development in the recent past and proximity to the National Park is also an issue. • Beyond 2010 it would be very difficult to achieve a 20% renewable electricity target given landscape sensitivity and other constraints that limit onshore wind projects, unless Kielder Forest becomes available for large scale wind development. Offshore wind may become more significant during this time but this is still far from certain. • Renewables providing heat rather than electricity are at an early stage in their deployment but will become increasingly important as a fuel substitute in areas not served by mains gas. <p><u>RSS Examination in Public Panel Report (2006)</u> All strategies, plans and programmes shall help mitigate climate change, and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate by:</p> <p>a) Helping the Region meet its targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by including policies and proposals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the need to travel by car by building within existing developed areas along existing public transport routes; • Reduce traffic growth and promote competitive alternatives to the car; • Promote walking, cycling and the use of public transport; • Improve the energy efficiency of buildings; • Maximise sustainable use of resources; 	<p>emissions and resilient to the climate change now accepted as inevitable. The PPS states that RSS should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider how the region’s activities contribute to climate change; • Consider how the spatial strategy will support any regional targets on climate change developed through the RES and sustainable development framework; • Consider the region’s vulnerability to climate change using, for example, the most recent climate change scenarios available, and specifically the implications for built development, infrastructure and services and biodiversity; • Work with neighbouring regions and countries to address joint concerns; and • Encourage working across local authority boundaries so as to secure effective local approaches. <p><u>PPS 22: Renewable Energy (2004)</u> This guidance covers technologies such as onshore wind generation, hydro, photovoltaics, passive solar, biomass and energy crops, energy from waste (but not energy from mass incineration of domestic waste), and landfill and sewage gas. As the land use planning system does not extend offshore, this guidance does not cover issues relating to offshore renewables.</p> <p>The Government has set a target to generate 10% of UK electricity from renewable energy sources by 2020. Increased development of renewable energy resources is vital to facilitate the delivery of the Governments commitments on both climate change and renewable energy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable energy should be located where technology is viable and environmental and other impacts can be addressed satisfactorily. • Foster community involvement. Developers of renewable energy projects should engage in active consultation and discussion with local communities at an early stage in the planning process • Demonstrate environmental, social and economic benefits and impacts. Some proposals will be subject to an EIA. <p><u>PPS 25 Development and Flood Risk (2006)</u> Positive planning should avoid, reduce and manage flood risk by taking full account in decisions on plans and applications of present and future flood risk and the wider implications for flood risk of development located outside flood risk areas. A risk-based approach should be adopted at all levels of planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid adding to the causes of flood risk, by such means as avoiding inappropriate development in flood risk areas and minimising run-off from new development

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase renewable energy capacity. <p>b) Plan for the successful adaptation to the impacts of climate change in the Region by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimising threats from and impact of damage to the natural environment, agriculture, water resources, flooding, sea level rise, built environment and energy supply; • Maximising opportunities from, for example, increased thermal growing season, increase in viability of arable farming and greater tourism potential. <p><u>Counting Consumption: O₂ emissions, material flows and ecological footprint of the North East (2006)</u> The baseline results show that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO₂ emissions from consumption are 32 per cent lower than emissions from production in the North East (this is the largest difference for any region in the UK); • The North East's Ecological Footprint is 5.31 gha/cap1. This is the third lowest in the UK – but even so, humanity would still need three planets to support itself if every region in the world had the same Footprint as the North East; • The North East has the highest food Footprint of any region in the UK; and the lowest per capita household consumption in the UK. <p>Energy Energy security and climate change necessitate a move away from a continued reliance on fossil fuels towards diversity of supply. Renewable energy technologies will be an essential part of the future energy mix. However, technological improvements alone will not bring about a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. The North East needs to be active in promoting initiatives and setting guidelines that reduce electricity demand.</p> <p>Housing and Sustainable Communities The housing scenario shows that improved housing development standards will not place an adequate check on CO₂ emissions, but that making better use of energy in existing homes will provide a far greater contribution. The housing scenario shows that further CO₂ savings can be made if regional initiatives target existing homes in particular. The North East should use all the policy levers available by combining a regional policy that encompasses substantial retrofitting of houses, extremely high standards for new build, a centralised renewable energy strategy and decentralized energy production.</p> <p>Transport Low-cost initiatives that can bring about behaviour change will be especially</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing flood “pathways” to reduce the likelihood of flooding including by maximising the use of sustainable drainage systems; • Reducing the consequences of flooding by avoiding inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. <p>Flood risk assessment should be carried out to assess the risks of flooding to and from development and inform the application of the sequential approach to determining the suitability of land for development in flood risk areas. Departures from the sequential approach will only be justified in exceptional circumstances where it is necessary to meet the wider aims of sustainable development. Those proposing development are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrating that it is consistent with policies on flood risk; • Providing an assessment of whether any proposed development is likely to be affected by flooding, whether it will increase flood risk elsewhere, and the measures proposed to deal with these effects and risks; • Demonstrating that risks will be successfully managed; • Incorporating sustainable drainage systems and, where necessary, flood resilience measures; • Identifying opportunities to reduce flood risk, enhance biodiversity and amenity and seek collective solutions to managing flood risk. <p><u>Government/DfT 10 Year Transport Plan (2000)</u> The overarching strategy for transport is to tackle congestion and pollution by improving all types of transport - rail and road, public and private - in ways that increase choice. The ten-year plan sees the following as key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated transport: looking at transport as a whole, matching solutions to specific problems by assessing all the options. • Public and private partnership: government and the private sector working more closely together to boost investment. • New projects: modernising our transport network in ways that make it bigger, better, safer, cleaner and quicker. <p>Role of technology both in reducing environmental impact of transport and facilitating more efficient use – smart ticketing, communications facilitating home-working etc</p> <p><u>Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food (2002)</u> A sustainable supply of biomass for energy and crops for industrial uses within the region.</p> <p><u>Local Government White Paper (2006)</u></p>

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	<p>important given current funding constraints, but these should not be seen as short-term measures only. By introducing a range of complementary policies, it is possible to move away from large-scale infrastructure schemes and bring about real reductions in congestion and carbon emissions. Regional co-ordination will be needed to ensure this happens. This could involve the setting of infrastructure efficiency targets for public transport and cars, and prioritization of infrastructure efficiency initiatives in local transport plans.</p>	<p>The White Paper gives local government new opportunities to drive local action on climate change mitigation and adaptation through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong and visible leadership; • Leading by example through its own practices and the services it delivers; • Responding to calls for action and the priority local people place on tackling these issues; and • Coordinating innovative partnerships which can deliver real changes. <p><u>Part L of the Building Regulations (2006)</u> The new building regulations were approved on 15th March 2006 and come into effect on the 6th April 2006. Those of relevance include; Approved Document L1A: Conservation of fuel and power (New dwellings) (2006 edition) and Approved Document L2A: Conservation of fuel and power (New buildings other than dwellings) (2006 edition). The regulations state that reasonable provision shall be made for the conservation of fuel and power in buildings by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limiting heat losses through the fabric of the building, excessive solar gains and heat gains and losses from pipes, ducts and vessels used for space heating, space cooling and hot water storage. • Providing energy efficient and properly commissioned fixed building services with effective controls. <p>Providing to the owner sufficient information about the building and its building services so that the building can be operated and maintained in such a manner as to use no more fuel and power than is reasonable in the circumstances. In effect these standards will require a 23.5% improvement in energy efficiency standards compared with the pre-April 2006 standards.</p> <p><u>The Planning Response to Climate Change – Advice on Better Practice (2004)</u> Climate change is a material consideration in planning terms. The guidance sets out the context of climate change, the scientific evidence and gives advice to regional and local planning authorities on a number of topics including the built environment, infrastructure, location, rural environment and land, water etc. There is a real urgency to put in place regional and local planning policies on adaptation to climate change, and to strengthen policies that will mitigate and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Regions are an important level at which responses to climate change can be coordinated. Considerations for regional planning bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting a framework for local authority maps of flood areas and areas of unstable land. • Collaborating with the public utilities and providers of transport infrastructure to consider likely future weather conditions, appropriate standards for infrastructure

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		<p>provision (for example it might be necessary to revisit the standards of construction for roads or sewage plants) and appropriate rules for siting of infrastructure developments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring climate change impacts on infrastructure are addressed in the preparation of RPG, RSSs and Regional Sustainable Development Frameworks (RSDFs). <p><u>Climate Change – UK Programme (2006 update)</u> As the key UK document on Climate Change contains a very broad range of issues covering the UK’s strategy for climate change, actions to reduce emissions and adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>Action by local authorities will make a big difference to the delivery of the climate change programme as they, along with local business, people and transport operators, are best placed to work out solutions to local problems. Given the importance of road transport to climate change, local action will also be the key to the success of the integrated transport policy as 45% of all journeys are less than two miles.</p> <p>The UK’s legally binding target under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels by 2008-2012 and its domestic goal is a 15-18% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2010.</p> <p>National policies also have relevance and can be influenced at the regional level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve business’ use of energy, stimulate investment and cut costs Stimulate new, efficient methods of power generation Cut emissions from the transport sector Promote energy efficiency in the domestic sector Continue / promote emission reductions in agriculture <p>New regional strategies and guidance are being planned and prepared and it is important for these to make sure that they reflect the objectives of this programme</p> <p>Emissions reductions are focussed in the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy supply Business Transport Domestic Agriculture, forestry and land use Public sector

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		<p>“Regional Planning Guidance will define broad locations for renewable energy development and set criteria to help local planning authority’s select suitable sites in their plans. This in turn will guide the preparation of development plans at the local level. This will present significant opportunities for constructive dialogue between the renewables industry, planners and the local community on how an area’s potential to accommodate renewable energy projects can be optimised.”</p> <p>Relevant to regional planning: “The Government is encouraging the voluntary take up of travel plan in England by businesses, schools, hospitals, local authorities and other major employers, as a large number of people making small changes in their work-related travel habits will make a substantial difference to traffic congestion.”</p> <p>Relevant to regional planning: Local Transport Plans have a vital role to play “Land use planning will be vital in changing the way people travel, both now and in the future. In line with national guidance, locating development where it can be easily accessible by walking, cycling and public transport will allow people to make sustainable transport choices.</p> <p>Relevant to regional planning “Community heating, brought up to modern standards, can provide residents with heating at lower cost than individual central heating. It can make significant savings in hospitals, schools and universities. There is also scope for installing CHP in many more schemes, which optimises energy efficiency and means that residents and other users can get cheaper electricity as well. Nearby hospitals, schools, universities, leisure and community facilities, and businesses can share the benefits of cheaper heat and electricity.”</p> <p>Relevant to regional planning The most effective way for the agriculture and forestry sectors to contribute to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions is through the production of energy crops and wood fuel, which can help to offset emissions from burning fossil fuels.</p> <p>Priorities for adaptation relevant to planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved water resource management • Coastal and river flood defence programmes • Enhanced resilience of buildings and infrastructure • Management of wildlife, forestry and agriculture • Co-ordinated approaches to planning

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		<p><u>State of Nature – Lowlands – future landscapes for wildlife (2002)</u> The most critical actions required to deliver environmentally sustainable management in the English lowlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in better environmental management and wildlife recovery on farms • Restore wetland habitats • Reduce the cumulative impacts of development – • Reduce the adverse effects of transport • Reduce atmospheric pollution • Adapt to the impacts of climate change <p><u>Energy White Paper (2003)</u> The future energy system will require greater involvement from English regions and from local communities, complemented by a planning system that is more helpful to investment in infrastructure and new electricity generation, particularly renewables.</p> <p>Government will continue to emphasise the benefits of CHP and community heating whenever Planning Policy Guidance, Regional Planning Guidance or Sustainable Development Guidance is introduced or reviewed.</p> <p>Regional bodies are encouraged to examine strategically the resources and opportunities for renewable projects within their areas and what they can do to develop them in their region.</p> <p>Targets include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of some 60% from current levels by about 2050. • Renewables to supply 10% of UK electricity in 2010, subject to the costs being acceptable to the consumer. • Doubling renewables' share of electricity generation in the decade after that. <p><u>UK Climate Change Programme/Review (2000/2004)</u> The UK has stated its objective of reducing CO₂ emissions to 20 % below 1990 levels by 2010 and by 60 % by 2050.</p> <p><u>UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)</u> 1. Emission targets and progress to date 2. International framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK Government will continue to work with other countries to establish both a consensus on the need for change and firm commitments to reduce carbon emissions, using the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

IRF Objective 7: To reduce the causes and the impacts of climate change		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do we have targets for greenhouse gas and carbon dioxide emissions? • UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol • G8 and EU Presidencies • Financial assistance and technology transfer • International energy and energy efficiency <p>3. The UK policy framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Round Table • Social costs of carbon emissions and policymaking • The Energy White Paper • The Government is aiming to launch the revised UK Climate Change Programme in summer 2005 <p>4. Address six key sectors: energy, business, transport, land use, agriculture and forestry, public sector</p> <p>5. Pilot carbon offsetting scheme</p> <p>6. Adaptation measures</p> <p>7. Measures progress</p> <p><u>PSA Dept of Transport 2005-2008</u> Reduce GHG emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels and move towards a 20% in CO2 emissions below 1990 levels by 2010</p>

IRF Objective 8: To protect and enhance the region's biodiversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>8.1 Recognise the importance of biodiversity and geodiversity and natural processes (including regional biodiversity targets)?</p> <p>8.2 Promote investment in Green Infrastructure incorporating best practice design/implementation?</p> <p>8.3 Have regard to the conservation of biodiversity according to the duty under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006?</p>	<p><u>Regional Forestry Framework: Trees, Woodlands, Forests and People (2005)</u> Notes within its 'Environment and Natural Resources' target area, the following objectives/outcomes:</p> <p>1. Improved state of the environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated landscapes • Urban air quality • Priority species • Forest certification • SSSIs • Biodiversity • Ancient woodlands <p><u>Biodiversity Indicators and Targets for the North East of England (2004)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that 95% of the area of SSSIs is maintained in, or recovering towards, favourable condition by 2010. (Key regional target, the subject of 'Natural 	<p><u>The EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC 1979 (1979)</u> Sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds. Applies to birds, their eggs, nests and habitats. The main provisions of the Directive include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species across their distributional range (Article 2) with the encouragement of various activities to that end (Article 3). • The identification and classification of Special Protection Areas for rare or vulnerable species listed in Annex I (PDF 106KB) of the Directive, as well as for all regularly occurring migratory species, paying particular attention to the protection of wetlands of international importance (Article 4). (Together with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive, SPAs form a network of pan-European protected areas known as Natura 2000.) • The establishment of a general scheme of protection for all wild birds (Article 5). <p><u>EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora</u></p>

IRF Objective 8: To protect and enhance the region's biodiversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
8.4 Recognise the importance of maintaining or restoring natural ecological processes in the terrestrial and marine environment?	<p>Commitment').</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure favourable management on 40% of local Wildlife Sites identified in development plans by 2010, and of 100% sites by 2015. Annually, ensure that there is no net loss of local Wildlife Sites to development without appropriate compensation/mitigation. Ensure that 100% of all community strategies meet Government guidance by incorporating biodiversity by the end of 2005. 75% of all local authorities to offer tangible support to their local Biodiversity Partnerships by 2004, 100% by 2006. 200ha of BAP habitats created, restored or enhanced through building or regeneration projects by 2005, with an additional 200ha by 2010. 	<p><u>92/43/EEC 1992 (1992)</u> Member states should Take legislative and administrative measures to maintain and restore natural habitats and wild species at a favourable conservation status in the Community.</p>
8.5 Enhance biodiversity and geodiversity?		<p><u>The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro (1992)</u> The Convention establishes three main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation of biological diversity; The sustainable use of its components, and; The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources. <p>Article 6a requires each Contracting Party to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.</p> <p>Objective: To achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth.</p>
8.6 Promote the delivery of Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plans?		
8.7 Recognise the cross-border implications for biodiversity/geodiversity and landscape conservation?	<p>(NB There is a wide range of biodiversity targets relating to specific habitats and species in report).</p> <p><u>And The Weather Today is...(2002)</u> The Report notes that the region's Biodiversity Audit has identified priority habitats that are threatened by climate change, these including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowland dry acid grassland Blanket bog Lowland raised bog Purple moor-grass and rush pasture Reedbeds Coastal saltmarsh Coastal sand dunes Mudflats Sea grass beds 	
8.8 Does the RSS promote good design to secure biodiversity benefits?	<p>The Report notes that damage may occur to important habitats, coastal habitats, new species and impact upon fauna. It calls for three key actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor biodiversity to assess and mitigate the impacts that climate change may have on vulnerable species and habitats Make provision in all plans to increase wildlife, habitat and landscape diversity Proactively link with neighbouring regions when planning, to encourage widespread diversity of habitats and landscape throughout the region <p><u>The North East Biodiversity Audit (2001)</u></p>	<p><u>The Conservation (Habitats, & c.) Regulations, 1994 ('Habitats Regulations') (1994)</u> These regulations provide legal protection for habitats and species of European Importance. The Habitats Directive requires member states to identify and conserve sites which contain these species/habitats¹. Under Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive - 'Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon (including Regional Spatial Strategies), either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives'.</p> <p><u>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)</u> The Act is the enabling act for the creation of Natural England and the Commission for Rural Communities. Appropriate sections of the Act include: Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. Conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.</p> <p><u>PPS 1: Creating sustainable communities (2005)</u> Planning can not only protect the environment but also, through positive policies on issues such as design, conservation and the provision of public space, maintain and</p>

¹ Collectively they are known as Natura 2000 sites; in the UK they include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

IRF Objective 8: To protect and enhance the region's biodiversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
	<p>The audit provides information on those species and habitats which occur within the North East Region that are regionally, nationally or internationally important and aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the contribution the North East makes to the nation's threatened biodiversity; • Form an intermediate step between national and local biodiversity plans, identifying those UK priorities relevant to the Region; • Identify species and habitats that are not national priorities but which are considered to be important at the regional level; • Help organisations acting at the regional level, such as the statutory agencies like the Government Office for the North East and the Regional Assembly, to take account of biodiversity in their own planning and, where appropriate, to plan biodiversity work and its support/funding effectively; • Raise awareness of biodiversity and promote its incorporation into regional planning; • Promote co-operation between groups taking action to assist biodiversity by placing local Biodiversity Action Plans in a regional context whereby they can be used to complement each other; • Inform the Regional Planning Guidance on biodiversity issues; and • Provide background information for the production of regional biodiversity targets. <p><u>Integrated Regional Framework for the North East (2004)</u> The vision will be delivered through the following sustainability objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure high and stable levels of employment so everyone can share and contribute to greater prosperity. • To achieve high and sustainable levels of economic growth • To raise educational achievement across the region • To ensure everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent and affordable home • To ensure good local air quality for all • To protect and enhance the quality of the region's ground, river and sea waters • To reduce the causes and the impacts of climate change • To protect and enhance the region's biodiversity • To reduce the amount of waste produced and increase the amount recycled • To make better use of our resources • To protect and enhance the quality and diversity of the region's rural and urban land and landscapes. • To protect and enhance the region's cultural heritage and diversity • To reduce crime and the fear of crime 	<p>improve the local environment and help to mitigate the effects of declining environmental quality.</p> <p><u>PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> New development away from existing settlements, or outside areas allocated for development in development plans, should be strictly controlled; in particular, isolated new houses in the countryside require special justification.</p> <p>Priority should be given to the re-use of previously developed (brownfield) sites in preference to the development of greenfield sites, except in cases where brownfield sites perform so poorly in terms of sustainability considerations (e.g. remoteness from settlements and services) in comparison with greenfield sites.</p> <p>LPAs should adopt positive planning policies, and support development proposals, that will enable farmers to: become more competitive, sustainable and environmentally-friendly; adapt to new and changing markets; comply with changing legislation and associated guidance; diversity into new agricultural opportunities; or broaden their operations to 'add value' to their primary produce.</p> <p><u>PPG 8: Telecommunications (2001)</u> LPAs and operators should work together to find optimum environmental and network solution on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>High priority to be given to the need to safeguard areas of particular environmental importance.</p> <p><u>PPS 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (2005)</u> PPS9 was published in August 2005 and replaces the existing PPG9, which had been in circulation since 1994. PPS9 is essentially made up of three documents. The first part is the PPS itself, which sets out the Government's position on the role and importance of biodiversity and geological issues in the planning process. Secondly, the document is supplemented by a Circular prepared jointly between the ODPM and DEFRA (06/2005 and 01/2005 respectively) which provides detailed advice on the range of legislative provisions at the international and national levels that will have impacts on planning decisions in so far as they relate to biodiversity and geological conservation. The third part of the document will be a Good Practice Guide that provides advice on planning for biodiversity and geological conservation. This guide is expected to be published in early 2006.</p> <p><u>PPG 20: Coastal Planning (1992)</u> Local planning authorities should recognise that on-shore development can often have</p>

IRF Objective 8: To protect and enhance the region's biodiversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve health and well-being while reducing inequalities in health To ensure good accessibility for all to jobs, facilities, goods and services in the region To increase public involvement in decision making and civic activity To reduce adverse impacts on global communities. <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> Natural assets, including biodiversity, are recognised as underpinning significant numbers of businesses and jobs.</p> <p><u>North East England Tourism Strategy 2005-2010, One NorthEast</u> The objectives of the strategy include to enhance and conserve the region's natural, heritage and cultural assets.</p> <p><u>North East Rural Delivery Framework, April 2006</u> Strategic objectives include managing and developing environmental and cultural assets for economic and social benefit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguard and enhance the natural special qualities Better/sustainable land management practices 	<p>an impact offshore. They should take this into account when making planning Decisions. Likewise, when considering the environmental impacts of developments outside the coastal zone, local planning authorities will still need to consider the effects on that zone.</p> <p>There is a series of international obligations which affect planning for the coastal zone. Of particular relevance are sites designated under international conventions, such as "Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitats" under the Ramsar - Convention.</p> <p>Heritage Coasts are defined by local authorities in consultation with the Countryside Agency or Countryside Council for Wales. They have several objectives including, to conserve, protect and enhance the natural beauty of the coasts and their terrestrial, littoral and marine flora and fauna. Heritage Coasts are not a statutory designation but the designation helps focus attention and resources on the planning and management of the coast.</p> <p>The key policy issues for coastal planning are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation of the natural environment; Development, particularly that which requires a coastal location; Risks, including flooding, erosion and land instability; and Improving the environment, particularly of urbanised or despoiled coastlines. <p><u>Planning Policy Statement 22: Renewable Energy (2004)</u> In sites of international importance for nature conservation (Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and RAMSAR Sites) planning permission should only be granted for renewable energy developments once an assessment has shown that the integrity of the site will not be adversely affected. Many renewable energy developments are likely to have some adverse effects on the integrity of such sites. In these circumstances, planning permission should only be granted where there is no alternative solution and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature.</p> <p>In sites with national designations (such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and Heritage Coasts) planning permission for renewable energy projects should only be granted where it can be demonstrated that the objectives of designation of the area will not be compromised by the development, and any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area has been designated are clearly outweighed by the environmental, social and economic benefits.</p>

IRF Objective 8: To protect and enhance the region's biodiversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
		<p><u>PPG 24 – Planning and Noise (1994)</u> Special consideration should be taken where noisy development is proposed in or near sites of landscape or nature conservation importance.</p> <p><u>Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside - the future - a fair deal for rural England (2000)</u> Objective 3 To conserve and enhance rural landscapes and the diversity and abundance of wildlife (including the habitats on which it depends).</p> <p><u>Farming and Food Strategy, Facing the Future (2002)</u> Our overarching aim is to promote a competitive and efficient farming and food sector which protects and enhances our countryside and wider environment, and contributes to the health and prosperity of all our communities</p> <p>Environmentally: While agriculture generates significant environmental benefits, it also has significant negative impacts. Damage includes the effects of emissions, water pollution and impacts on biodiversity.</p> <p>Key principles for sustainable farming and food now and in the future, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect and operate within the biological limits of natural resources (especially soil, water and biodiversity). • Achieve consistently high standards of animal health and welfare. <p><u>Working with the grain of Nature: a biodiversity strategy for England (2002)</u> The Strategy seeks to ensure biodiversity considerations become embedded in all main sectors of public policy and sets out a programme for the next five years to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance and work with the grain of nature and ecosystems rather than against them.</p> <p><u>Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended)</u> The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 implements the Wild Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), it is one of the major pieces of legislation under which UK wildlife is protected. The Act gives broad protection to all wild birds (with some exceptions) and also gives varying degrees of protection to other species of animals and plants.</p> <p><u>State of Nature – Lowlands – future landscapes for wildlife (2002)</u> This report describes the state of nature in lowland England, and examines how a variety of pressures impact upon habitats and species. It identifies conservation successes achieved through positive action, and stresses the importance of working in</p>

IRF Objective 8: To protect and enhance the region's biodiversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
		<p>partnership. It demonstrates that a landscape-scale approach to nature conservation is essential, but can only be delivered by involving people more actively, through integrating policies more effectively, and through successful partnership at regional and local levels.</p> <p>The ten most critical actions required to deliver environmentally sustainable management in the English lowlands include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in better environmental management and wildlife recovery on farms • Stimulate appropriate management of farmland and woodland • Improve water management • Restore wetland habitats • Reduce the threats and impacts from non-native invasive species • Reduce the cumulative impacts of development – • Reduce the adverse effects of transport • Reduce atmospheric pollution • Adapt to the impacts of climate change • Improve management of the impacts of access and recreation

IRF Objective 9: To reduce the amount of waste produced and increase the amount recycled		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>9.1 Promote sustainable waste management practices in all sectors and at all levels in line with the waste management targets included in the Regional Waste Management Strategy?</p> <p>9.2 Promote the use of recycled materials in construction?</p> <p>9.3 Minimise the amount of waste produced, particularly in areas of high waste arisings or low waste management capacity?</p> <p>9.4 Ensure new development supports sustainable waste management?</p>	<p><u>Towards A Waste Management Strategy for the North East (2003)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household waste recycling, 10% in 2003, 18% in 2005, 30% in 2010, 33% in 2015 • Biodegradable municipal waste diversion from landfill (based on 1995 arisings), 75% in 2010, 50% in 2013, 35% in 2020 • Recovery of municipal solid waste 40% in 2005, 45% in 2010, 67% in 2015 <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The RES states that businesses will be encouraged to exercise best practice in managing waste.</p> <p><u>Counting Consumption: O₂ emissions, material flows and ecological footprint of the North East (2006)</u> The housing scenario shows that improved housing development standards will not place an adequate check on CO₂ emissions, but that making better use of energy in existing homes will provide a far greater contribution. The housing scenario shows that further CO₂ savings can be made if regional initiatives target existing homes in particular. The North East should use all the policy levers available by combining a</p>	<p><u>The Waste Framework Directive (75/442/EEC) (1975)</u> Waste is to be disposed of without causing danger to humans, the environment, the countryside or places of interest. It also calls for noise and odour to be minimised. Prevent or reduce waste and its harmfulness by encouraging development of clean technologies, technical product improvements and disposal techniques.</p> <p><u>European Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) (1999)</u> The Directive's overall aim is "to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment, in particular the pollution of surface water, groundwater, soil and air, and on the global environment, including the greenhouse effect, as well as any resulting risk to human health, from the landfilling of waste, during the whole life-cycle of the landfill".</p> <p>The Directive sets targets to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal landfilled. These targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2010 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 75% of that produced in 1995. • By 2013 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 50% of that

IRF Objective 9: To reduce the amount of waste produced and increase the amount recycled		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
	<p>regional policy that encompasses substantial retrofitting of houses, extremely high standards for new build, a centralised renewable energy strategy and decentralized energy production.</p>	<p>produced in 1995.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2020 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 35% of that produced in 1995. <p><u>PPS 10 – Planning and Waste Management (2005)</u> This Planning Policy Statement replaces PPG 10 (Planning and Waste Management) published in 1999 and forms part of the national waste management plan for the UK. The policies in this PPS should be taken into account by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste planning authorities in discharging their responsibilities • Regional planning bodies in the preparation of regional spatial strategies • The Mayor of London in relation to the Spatial Development Strategy in London, and • Local planning authorities in the preparation of local development documents. <p>They may also be material to decisions on individual planning applications. These policies complement other national planning policies and should be read in conjunction with Government policies for sustainable waste management, in particular those set out in the National Waste Strategy 3. A companion guide provides practice guidance on the implementation of the policies set out in this PPS.</p> <p>Principles and objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving waste management up the waste hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource • Communities taking more responsibility for their own waste • Reflecting the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business • Ensuring the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management <p><u>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)</u> Calls for ‘the prudent use of resources, means enabling more sustainable consumption and production and using non-renewable resources in ways that do not endanger the resource or cause serious damage or pollution’</p> <p><u>Waste and Emissions Trading Act (2003)</u> Places a requirement on the Secretary of State to adopt a strategy to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill, including measures to achieve the targets by recycling, composting, biogas production, materials recovery or energy recovery.</p> <p><u>Waste Strategy 2000 plus amendments (2006)</u></p>

IRF Objective 9: To reduce the amount of waste produced and increase the amount recycled		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
		<p>Objectives include to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of waste produced • Increase re-use • Increase supply of materials for recycling and composting • Increase demand for secondary materials and waste derived compost • Increase the use of waste as a fuel • Effective protection of human health and the environment • Reduce the quantity and hazardousness of hazardous waste, and improve the management of that which is produced <p>Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To recover value from 45% of municipal waste and to recycle or compost 30% of household waste by 2010. • To reduce landfill for industrial and commercial waste to 85% of the 1998 level by 2005.

IRF Objective 10: To make better use of our resources		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>10.1 Promote an increase in the area of organically-farmed land?</p> <p>10.2 Promote resource efficiency as a key component of business competitiveness?</p> <p>10.3 Promote the growth of businesses in the environment sector?</p> <p>10.4 Minimise consumption of resources in new development?</p> <p>10.5 Make best use of the environmental capital within existing buildings?</p> <p>10.6 Promotion of industrial symbiosis?</p>	<p><u>Regional Forestry Framework: Trees, Woodlands, Forests and People (2005)</u> The Framework outlines five key outcomes for stimulating economic regeneration and growth which the Framework can contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A regenerated economy • Improved infrastructure • Increased number of people using woodlands for day visits, increased area of woodlands available for public access • Expanded processing sector and increased jobs • Secure and productive forestry businesses • Increased tourism <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> Maximising resource efficiency is seen as important for the region and energy demand management as key to ensuring sustainable economic growth. Improved business resource efficiency will make a significant contribution in decoupling economic growth and environmental degradation.</p> <p>Businesses will be encouraged to exercise best practice in sustainable consumption and production and effective and efficient management of material and energy resources. The RES also recognises that the public sector has a key civic leadership</p>	<p><u>PPS 1: Creating sustainable communities (2005)</u> Calls for the prudent use of resources by enabling more sustainable consumption and production and using non-renewable resources in ways that do not endanger the resource or cause serious damage or pollution’</p> <p>‘Development plan policies should seek to minimise the need to consume new resources...by making more efficient use or reuse if existing resources and use and reuse of existing buildingspromote resource and energy efficient buildings; community heating schemes; the use of CHP; small scale renewable and low carbon energy schemes in developments; the sustainable use of water resources..’</p> <p><u>PPS3: Housing (2006)</u> The Government’s key housing policy goal is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent home, which they can afford, in a community where they want to live. To achieve this, the Government is seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes, both affordable and market housing, to address the requirements of the community. • To widen opportunities for home ownership and ensure high quality housing for those who cannot afford market housing, in particular those who are vulnerable or in need.

IRF Objective 10: To make better use of our resources		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
	<p>role, for example in resource efficiency and sustainable production and consumption.</p> <p><u>North East Strategy for the Environment Consultation Draft (2006)</u> The strategy has four broad themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Communities – how the environment and cultural assets contribute towards better places to live and work. • Resource Management – making best use of our resources. • Environmental Infrastructure – Securing key natural, physical and cultural assets and realising their potential. • Integration – Action to meet the region’s environmental objectives whilst also delivering social and economic benefits. <p>The objectives of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop sustainable transport solutions through reducing the need to travel and adopting more sustainable practices and technologies. • Regenerate the regional housing stock to nurture the human, cultural and environmental assets of the region whilst accelerating the renaissance of communities in urban and rural areas. • Protect and enhance the region’s historic environments and heritage assets and to ensure that their worth is recognised and invested in, enhancing their wide benefit to society. • Act to counter the threat of climate change by ensuring that it is taken into account when developing all new policies and to ensure that adaptation and mitigation measures are put in place • Manage the region’s waste in an efficient and sustainable manner, maximizing any opportunities to use waste as a resource through re-use, recycling and energy recovery • Ensure that energy reliability, affordable energy for the poorest, competitive markets, and the environment, underpin the development of regional and sub regional energy policy and strategies • Ensure that all the principles of sustainable consumption are understood and implemented throughout the region by both business and individuals. • Conserve, enhance, increase and manage our natural heritage of geology, wildlife, landforms and natural processes to make the North East a better place to live, work, visit and do business in. • Protect and improve ground, river and sea water quality in the region, ensuring that water quality and quantity are considered in all regional developments and managed in a holistic manner. • Conserve and enhance the region’s marine and coastal environments by adopting an ecosystem-based approach to their sustainable use and recovery to deliver 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing the supply of housing. • To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural. <p><u>PPG 4: Industrial and Commercial development and small firms (1992)</u> Optimum use should be made of potential sites and existing premises in inner cities and other urban areas, taking into account such factors as accessibility by public transport, particularly in the case of labour-intensive uses.</p> <p><u>PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> Priority should be given to the re-use of previously developed (brownfield) sites in preference to the development of greenfield sites, except in cases where brownfield sites perform so poorly in terms of sustainability considerations (e.g. remoteness from settlements and services) in comparison with greenfield sites.</p> <p>LPAs should be particularly supportive of the re-use of existing buildings within or adjacent to country towns and villages, for business or community uses and housing (in accordance with PPS3).</p> <p>Where significant development of agricultural land is unavoidable, LPAs should seeks to use areas of poorer quality land (grades 3b, 4 and 5) in preference to that of higher quality (1, 2 and 3a), except where this would be inconsistent with other sustainability considerations.</p> <p><u>PPS11: Regional Spatial Strategies (2004)</u> Notes the importance of careful management of resources, particularly greenfield land and areas/sites of particular biodiversity</p> <p><u>MPS1: Planning and Minerals (2006)</u> National objectives for minerals planning are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure, so far as practicable, the prudent, efficient and sustainable use of minerals and recycling of suitable materials, thereby minimising the requirement for new primary extraction; • To conserve mineral resources through appropriate domestic provision and timing of supply; • To safeguard mineral resources as far as possible; • To prevent or minimise production of mineral waste; • To secure working practices which prevent or reduce as far as possible, impacts on the environment and human health arising from the extraction, processing,

IRF Objective 10: To make better use of our resources		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
	<p>benefits for people, industry and wildlife.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the region's atmosphere maintains its current high standards with no further degradation in terms of light pollution and tranquillity. • Protect and improve the quality of regional land resources, and the food chains dependent upon them and ensure that land is used in a sustainable and innovative manner. • The region's trees and woodlands to play an increasingly important role in the sustainable development of the North East and in making it a better place to live, work, visit and do business. • Protect and enhance the region's landscapes, ensuring they are recognised for the vital contribution they make in attracting and retaining investment and tourism. <p><u>Counting Consumption: O₂ emissions, material flows and ecological footprint of the North East (2006)</u> The baseline results show that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO₂ emissions from consumption are 32 per cent lower than emissions from production in the North East (this is the largest difference for any region in the UK); • The North East's Ecological Footprint is 5.31 gha/cap1. This is the third lowest in the UK – but even so, humanity would still need three planets to support itself if every region in the world had the same Footprint as the North East; • The North East has the highest food Footprint of any region in the UK; and the lowest per capita household consumption in the UK. <p>Energy Energy security and climate change necessitate a move away from a continued reliance on fossil fuels towards diversity of supply. Renewable energy technologies will be an essential part of the future energy mix. However, technological improvements alone will not bring about a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. The North East needs to be active in promoting initiatives and setting guidelines that reduce electricity demand.</p> <p>Housing and Sustainable Communities The housing scenario shows that improved housing development standards will not place an adequate check on CO₂ emissions, but that making better use of energy in existing homes will provide a far greater contribution. The housing scenario shows that further CO₂ savings can be made if regional initiatives target existing homes in particular. The North East should use all the policy levers available by combining a regional policy that encompasses substantial retrofitting of houses, extremely high standards for new build, a centralised renewable energy strategy and decentralized</p>	<p>management or transportation of minerals;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect internationally and nationally designated areas of landscape value and nature conservation importance from minerals development, other than in the exceptional circumstances detailed in paragraph 14 of this statement; • To secure adequate and steady supplies of minerals needed by society and the economy within the limits set by the environment, assessed through sustainability appraisal, without irreversible damage; • To maximise the benefits and minimise the impacts of minerals operations over their full life cycle; • To promote the sustainable transport of minerals by rail, sea or inland waterways; • To protect and seek to enhance the overall quality of the environment once extraction has ceased, through high standards of restoration, and to safeguard the long-term potential of land for a wide range of after-uses; • To secure closer integration of minerals planning policy with national policy on sustainable construction and waste management and other applicable environmental protection legislation; and • To encourage the use of high quality materials for the purposes for which they are most suitable. <p><u>UK Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)</u> Highlights the importance of addressing 'Our Natural Resources' within which it outlines the following key objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish approach 2. Developing the evidence base <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ecosystems approach • Water Framework Directive • Developing our vision for natural resources • Environmental limits 3. Government will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a new countryside survey in 2006 and 2007 to assess the status of natural resources in the UK countryside • Publish a state of the seas report in March 2005 • Support work on the Global Biodiversity Outlook taking place under the Convention on Biological Diversity 4. Integrating policy; a range of actions are identified to deliver this. 5. Tackling degraded resources and environmental inequalities 6. Measures progress

IRF Objective 10: To make better use of our resources		
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	<p>energy production.</p> <p>Transport Low-cost initiatives that can bring about behaviour change will be especially important given current funding constraints, but these should not be seen as short-term measures only. By introducing a range of complementary policies, it is possible to move away from large-scale infrastructure schemes and bring about real reductions in congestion and carbon emissions. Regional co-ordination will be needed to ensure this happens. This could involve the setting of infrastructure efficiency targets for public transport and cars, and prioritization of infrastructure efficiency initiatives in local transport plans.</p>	

IRF Objective 11: To protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the region's rural and urban land and landscapes		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>11.1 Promote good design to create attractive, high quality environments where people will choose to live?</p> <p>11.2 Conserve, protect and enhance the region's natural environmental assets (e.g. the green belt, parks and green spaces, common land, woodland and forests, National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coasts, ESAs etc)?</p> <p>11.3 Promote the reclamation and use of previously developed land and re-use of buildings within the context of Government Policy in PPS 9.</p> <p>11.4 Protect 'tranquil' areas (e.g. areas free from visual intrusion, noise, light pollution etc)</p>	<p><u>ONE Corporate Plan 2006-2009 and Business Plan 2006- 2007</u> The target is to remediate 174 ha of brownfield land over the period.</p> <p><u>Regional Forestry Framework: Trees, Woodlands, Forests and People (2005)</u> The Framework outlines five key outcomes for stimulating economic regeneration and growth which the Framework can contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regenerated economy • Improved infrastructure • Expanded processing sector and increased jobs • Secure and productive forestry businesses • Increased tourism <p><u>North East Rural Action Plan (2003/04 update)</u> Develop tourism and culture within rural areas, particularly green tourism, based on the sensitive management of natural assets.</p> <p><u>Biodiversity Indicators and Targets for the North East of England (2002)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2010 ensure that all urban dwellers have an area of accessible natural greenspace within 300m of their home. • In each local authority area, designate 1ha of Local Nature Reserve per 1000 population by 2010. <p><u>And The Weather Today is...(2002)</u> The report notes the impacts that climate change may have on the region and calls for</p>	<p><u>PPG2: Green Belts (2001)</u> The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the most important attribute of Green Belts is their openness. The objectives of the policy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide opportunities for access to the open countryside for the urban population; • To provide opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation near urban areas; • To retain attractive landscapes, and enhance landscapes, near to where people live; • To improve damaged and derelict land around towns; • To secure nature conservation interest; • To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and • To retain land in agricultural, forestry and related uses. <p><u>PPG 4: Industrial and Commercial development and small firms (1992)</u> In rural areas, applications for development necessary to sustain the rural economy should be weighed with the need to protect the countryside.</p> <p><u>PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> New development away from existing settlements, or outside areas allocated for development in development plans, should be strictly controlled; in particular, isolated new houses in the countryside require special justification. Priority should be given to the re-use of previously developed (brownfield) sites in preference to the development</p>

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<p>11.5 Promote land management skills?</p> <p>11.6 Promote good design principles e.g. BREEAM/Ecohomes, Biodiversity by Design?</p> <p>11.7 Improve the quality of the built environment and promote high quality urban design?</p> <p>11.8 Promote access to natural assets?</p> <p>11.9 Promote the reclamation and use of previously-developed land and reuse of buildings while conserving and enhancing biodiversity and heritage value?</p> <p>11.10 Protect and enhance landscapes, distinctive historic landscapes, locally important buildings and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p>	<p>the following key objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage water saving at home and in the workplace, possibly through an advisory body 2. Adopt an integrated approach to land development through greater partnership working between democratic bodies, regulators and water companies 3. Create research partnership to coordinate and share research relevant to flood defence investment <p><u>North East Tourism Strategy (2005-2010)</u> This strategy emphasises the role of the region's rural and urban landscapes as a key tourism attraction. Tourism Action Plans and the Tourism Network are being established to promote tourism and capitalise upon the region's natural assets in both urban and rural landscapes. Ten key objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attract more domestic and overseas tourists to the region 2. Increase visitors' average spend and increase day visitor spend 3. Increase visits throughout the year, not solely in the main holiday season 4. Increase employment in tourism, and tourism related businesses 5. Improve the productivity of the regional tourism economy 6. Accelerate the rate of investment in the tourism product 7. Improve the quality of the tourism product 8. Improve the skills of the tourism workforce 9. Improve levels of visitor satisfaction in the North East 10. Enhance and conserve the region's natural, heritage and cultural assets <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The RES identifies culture, environment and heritage as fundamental to the unique character and image of the North East. They underpin the region's distinctive appeal for individuals, businesses and investors, which drive today's modern economy. They also form the basis of our tourism offer and help to drive the development of the creative and leisure industries. The RES has an overarching objective to promote, enhance and protect the region's natural assets to maximise their potential to underpin rising levels of productivity and participation. Through large scale, focused public and private investment in physical regeneration schemes, the RES also envisages an improvement in the quality of the built environment, particularly within the urban cores within the city regions and in rural market towns.</p> <p>Promoting sustainable communities with access to environmental assets is also seen as important in tackling the multiple causes of deprivation, helping to provide opportunities for all, and also in attracting and retaining talented individuals.</p>	<p>of greenfield sites, except in cases where brownfield sites perform so poorly in terms of sustainability considerations (e.g. remoteness from settlements and services) in comparison with greenfield sites.</p> <p>All development in rural areas should be well designed, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and local distinctiveness. Many county towns and villages are of considerable historic and architectural value. Good design should make a contribution to local identity and regional diversity.</p> <p>LPAs should continue to protect the countryside for the sake of its intrinsic character and beauty, the diversity of its landscapes and wildlife and the wealth of its natural resources. They should have particular regard to any areas that have been statutorily designated for their landscape, wildlife or historic qualities where greater priority should be given to restraint of potentially damaging development.</p> <p>The productive re-use of existing rural buildings will usually be preferable to leaving the buildings underused, vacant or derelict. The conversion of non-residential buildings to dwellings will not normally be appropriate where the buildings are remote from settlements and services. There is a need to protect building of historic and architectural importance. The historic environment also has a role to play in the economics of the region through tourism and leisure.</p> <p>The conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape and countryside should be given great weight in planning policies and development control decisions in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).</p> <p>LPAs should aim to secure environmental improvements and maximise a range of beneficial uses of this land, whilst reducing potential conflicts between neighbouring land uses. This should include improvement of public access (e.g. through support for country parks and community forests) and facilitating the provision of sport and recreation facilities.</p> <p><u>PPG 8:Telecommunications (2001)</u> Protect from visual intrusion and the implications for subsequent network development.</p> <p>Telecommunications development in the Green Belt will only be allowed under special circumstances.</p> <p>In order to limit visual intrusion, the number of masts and sites to a minimum. Sharing of masts and the use of existing buildings and structures to be encouraged to reduce cumulative impact.</p>

IRF Objective 11: To protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the region's rural and urban land and landscapes		
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	<p>Ensure that 60% of new housing is provided on previously developed land and through conversion of existing buildings</p> <p><u>Regional Housing Strategy (2006)</u> Increase % of dwellings provided on previously used urban land to well above current RPG targets of 65% by 2016.</p> <p><u>Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy (2006)</u> The aims of the strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a strategic context for the sustainable planning and management of existing and proposed green space within the Tees Valley • Support and reinforce initiatives and strategies designed to raise the economic performance of the Tees Valley, promote economic and social inclusion, create sustainable communities, and improve the environment • Provide a framework of green corridors and spaces that will help to improve access to open space for local communities and contribute to tackling issues such as poor health and quality of life • Provide an enhanced environmental context for new development and regeneration schemes • Improve access to resources through major funding regimes and improve the case for green infrastructure to be funded as a primary public investment on a similar basis to other services and infrastructure 	<p><u>PPS 22: Renewable Energy 2004)</u> When located in the green belt many renewable energy projects will comprise at least some degree of inappropriate development. Careful consideration will be need to be given to the visual impacts of projects, and developers will need to demonstrate very special circumstances that clearly outweigh any harm by reason of inappropriateness and any other harm if projects are to proceed. Such very special circumstances may include the wider environmental benefits associated with increased production of energy from renewable sources.</p> <p><u>PPG 24 – Planning and Noise (1994)</u> Special consideration should be taken where noisy development is proposed in or near sites of landscape or nature conservation importance.</p> <p><u>Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside - the future - a fair deal for rural England (2000)</u> This represents the key Government paper on providing for the needs and supporting the economy and community of the UK countryside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A living countryside, with thriving rural communities and access to high quality public services • A working countryside, with a diverse economy giving high and stable levels of employment • A protected countryside in which the environment is sustained and enhanced, and which all can enjoy • A vibrant countryside which can shape its own future and with its voice heard by Government at all levels. <p>The aim is to sustain and enhance the distinctive environment, economy and social fabric of the English countryside for the benefit of all.</p> <p><u>Farming and Food Strategy, Facing the Future (2002)</u> Farming has shaped our landscape, but there are negative environmental impacts from the production processes of all elements of the chain. It has wide ranging impacts on our health, on animal welfare and on rural communities.</p> <p><u>Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in towns and Cities: A Review and Toolkit for their Implementation (2003)</u> In the context of a new interest in the value of greenspace, English Nature was concerned to find that its accessible natural greenspace standards seemed to be little used. Therefore, in 2001, a project was commenced to look again at the standards model in order to determine whether its validity could still be supported, how local</p>

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		<p>authorities were managing greenspace policy and how the standards might be promoted effectively in the new and changing policy environment.</p> <p>The model requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that no person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace of at least 2ha in size; • provision of at least 1ha of Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 population; • that there should be at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km from home; • that there should be one accessible 100ha site within 5km; • that there should be one accessible 500ha site within 10km. <p><u>European Landscape Convention (2006)</u> Encourages public authorities to adopt policies and measures at local, regional, national and international level for protecting, managing and planning landscapes throughout Europe so as to maintain and improve landscape quality and bring the public, institutions and local and regional authorities to recognise the value and importance of landscape and to take part in related public decisions. It commits signatories to:</p> <p>integrate landscape into land use planning;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • involve the public in landscape matters; • make national landscape laws and policies; • develop awareness-raising, education and assessment of landscapes, including urban landscapes; and • co-operate at a European level. <p><u>The Countryside in and Around Towns – a vision for connecting town and country in the pursuit of sustainable development (Countryside Agency 2005)</u> The report does not contain any objectives, instead it highlights the potential of the countryside in and around urban areas, and sets out ten key functions of how the landscape can be used to achieve its overall vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A bridge to the country: Networks of new and improved parks, woodlands and other green spaces are linked to the urban centre and wider countryside by footpaths, bridleways and cycle ways. Urban parks, country parks and other green spaces are joined up to form continuous green corridors between town and country; • A gateway to the town: The quality of the countryside in and around towns is an indicator and advertisement of the quality of a town or city, creating a powerful first impression to visitors and possible investors; • A health centre: A more accessible and attractive countryside and green space infrastructure, close to where most people live and work provides an invaluable

IRF Objective 11: To protect and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the region's rural and urban land and landscapes		
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		<p>respite from the stresses of urban living;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A classroom: The countryside in and around towns provides hands-on learning opportunities in a variety of 'outdoor classrooms'; • A recycling and renewable energy centre: The countryside in and around towns is recognised as playing an important part in the sustainable management of the waste, water and pollution generated in urban areas; • A productive landscape: Farmers operating close to urban areas take full advantage of their proximity to large urban markets, supplying consumers with high quality local produce through direct marketing as well as supermarkets. Every large town and city benefits from regular Farmers' Markets; • A cultural legacy: The countryside in and around towns contains many imprints of the history of our towns and communities, their development and expansion or sometimes even their disappearance; • A place for sustainable living: Careful decisions have been taken about where to accommodate the need for new development, especially for affordable homes. Those decisions have followed an examination of the pros and cons of increasing housing densities in existing urban areas, expanding market towns and villages, allowing the selective expansion of cities, and creating brand new settlements. • An engine for regeneration: Strategies for local regeneration use the countryside on the urban edge to help communities develop their own confidence, skills and prospects. Residents in these areas are fully involved in creating and managing recreational spaces, community gardens, allotments and in bringing about other environmental improvements to make their neighbourhoods more 'liveable'; and • A nature reserve: The countryside in and around towns contains historic and newly established woodlands, wetlands, meadows and a broad array of other natural habitats. The importance of this environment to biodiversity is fully recognised and reflected in all management and land use decisions.

IRF Objective 12: To protect and enhance the region's cultural heritage and diversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
12.1 Conserve, protect and enhance the region's cultural and heritage assets (e.g. locally important buildings, Heritage Coasts, archaeological remains, World Heritage Sites, SAMs, Listed Buildings and structures and their settings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered	<p><u>Streets for All: North East (2005)</u></p> <p>The public realm must evolve to accommodate modern needs. Analysis of flourishing communities increasingly points to a quantifiable relationship between economic success and the quality of the public realm. Carefully designed, well-managed streets are not merely a desirable outcome of successful economies, they are an important driver of success. There are a number of principles that local and regional stakeholders need to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of stakeholders; • The use of traditional materials and skills; 	<p><u>UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972)</u></p> <p>Parties to the Convention recognise that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage belongs primarily to that State. It will do all it can to this end, to the utmost of its own resources and, where appropriate, with any international assistance and co-operation.</p> <p><u>Valetta Convention (2000)</u></p> <p>The Convention deals with the inventorying and protection of sites and areas, the</p>

IRF Objective 12: To protect and enhance the region's cultural heritage and diversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>Battlefields and their settings and Conservation Areas)?</p> <p>12.2 Promote accessibility and understanding of the region's cultural and heritage assets and historical environment in sustainable and well-managed ways, engage communities in identifying culturally important features and</p> <p>12.3 Promote actions that will safeguard the region's heritage assets?</p> <p>12.4 Recognise the value of the historic environment for social and economic benefit?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of first impressions; • The use of a barrier free pedestrian environment; • Innovative and new design; and • The use of legislation to reduce superfluous signs and clutter. <p><u>ONE Corporate Plan 2006-2009 and Business Plan 2006- 2007</u> The indicative spending on culture and tourism in the plan period is 51,569,000.</p> <p><u>Voices of the North East Creative Cluster (no date on document)</u> A range of actions are highlighted to enable the culture and creative industries sector to progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space Agency: matching needs of the sector with regard to workspace and providing ongoing support in this context • Festivals and Events: Create a regional programme of creative festivals and events • Pure Talent: Creative agency to assess the talent available in the region • Networks: building a solid base of networks to develop a supportive community for the sector/cluster • Business Infrastructure: • Setting the framework for creativity to meet with business • Education and learning: capitalising upon best practice to maximise the achievement of the sector/cluster • Brand development and marketing: building a strong communication strategy to relay what is occurring within the region • Resource Database: forming a comprehensive knowledge base • Creative industries 'Commission': establish a champion for the sector/industry <p>RPG1,Policy ENV20: This requires the Local Authorities to have regard to the priorities and initiatives of English Heritage which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urban regeneration • rural revival • sustainable tourism • investing in the Heritage • managing change <p><u>Revised Regional Cultural Strategy for the North East of England (2005)</u> The strategy emphasises that it is important that culture is integrated into the mainstream of economic activity and not just seen as a leisure activity. The strategic aims are as follows:</p>	<p>mandatory reporting of chance finds and the control of illicit trade in antiquities.</p> <p>It promotes high standards for all archaeological work, which should be authorised and should be carried out by suitably qualified people. It recommends the creation of archaeological reserves, and requires the conservation of excavated sites and the safe-keeping of finds. It follows closely current British practice as set out in PPG15 and PPG16 for the protection and recording of archaeology during development and contains provisions for the funding for development-led archaeology (again following closely current British practice) and for research. It also covers public awareness and access.</p> <p><u>Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe Granada, 3.X.(1985)</u> Signatories agreed to maintain inventories, adopt integrated conservation policies, and in the event of threats to the properties concerned, to take statutory measures to protect the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monuments: all buildings and structures of conspicuous historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social or technical interest, including their fixtures and fittings; • Groups of buildings: homogeneous groups of urban or rural buildings conspicuous for their historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific or technical interest which are sufficiently coherent to form topographically definable units; and • Sites: the combined works of man and nature, being areas which are partially built upon and sufficiently distinctive and homogeneous to be topographically definable and are of conspicuous historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social or technical interest. <p>Other articles relate to training and provision of information.</p> <p><u>European Spatial Development Perspective (European Commission, 1999)</u> Defines balanced spatial development as reconciling the social and economic claims for spatial development with the area's ecological and cultural functions and, hence, contributing to a sustainable, and at a larger scale, balanced territorial development'. The conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage' is identified as a fundamental goal of European policy (18). This translates into three policy guidelines for spatial development (19) of which sustainable development, prudent management and protection of nature and cultural heritage' is the key environmental objective for promoting sustainable development. This is set in the context of the recognition that Natural and cultural heritage in the EU is endangered by economic and social modernisation processes. European cultural landscapes, cities and towns, as well as a</p>

IRF Objective 12: To protect and enhance the region's cultural heritage and diversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
	<p>1. To sustain, develop and celebrate the cultural distinctiveness of the North East.</p> <p>A wider definition of what makes the region distinctive is beginning to be celebrated and promoted in its own right and as a tool for regeneration and social inclusion. The strategic objectives include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To pro-actively promote flagships and cultural and historic collections. To place culture at the heart of renewal and regeneration. To work with key partners to establish a Market Towns Cultural Initiative. To develop facilities and events which provide a national and international showcase for the region. <p>2. To prioritise investment in the protection, development and promotion of the region's natural and cultural assets.</p> <p>The strategic objectives include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve, protect and enhance the region's cultural assets To harness the potential of vibrant architecture to contribute to the region's urban and rural built environments. <p>3. To fully realise the potential of cultural and creative activity in contributing to raising educational standards, sustaining world class education facilities and developing a culture of lifelong learning.</p> <p>4. To improve opportunities for individuals and communities to experience and participate in cultural activity. Strategic objectives include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To bring the best to the region and improve access to national and international collections. To work with One NorthEast to secure resources and identify mechanisms for a cohesive and comprehensive ICT network which maximises opportunities for access and participation. To champion the added value of cultural activities as an element of key social and economic policy initiatives. <p>5. To stimulate vigorous and sustainable economic growth of the region's tourism, cultural and creative industries, to act as an economic driver and to attract businesses, investors, residents, tourists and other consumers. Strategic objectives include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the level of graduate retention. To actively engage with One NorthEast to apply the cluster process to support the sustainable development and competitiveness of the tourism, cultural and 	<p>variety of natural and historic monuments are part of the European heritage. Its fostering should be an important task for modern architecture, urban and landscape planning in all regions of the EU.'</p> <p><u>Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas Act (1990))</u> In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</p> <p>Every local planning authority shall from time to time determine which parts of their area are areas of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance, and shall designate those areas as conservation areas. It shall be the duty of a local planning authority from time to time to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of any parts of their area which are conservation areas. Where an application for planning permission for any development of land is made to a local planning authority and the development would, in the opinion of the authority, affect the character or appearance of a conservation area, special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area.</p> <p><u>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)</u> The Secretary of State shall compile and maintain for the Schedule of purposes of this Act a schedule of monuments. If any person without consent executes or causes works which will damage, destroy or make any alterations to a monument he shall be guilty of an offence.</p> <p>The Secretary of State or a local authority may from time to time by order designate as an area of archaeological importance any area which appears to him to merit treatment</p> <p><u>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)</u> Highlights the need to enhance as well as protect the historic environment, quality of the countryside and landscape and townscape character. It also highlights the importance of sensitive design that is appropriate to the local context and the importance of local distinctiveness.</p> <p><u>PPG 4: Industrial and Commercial development and small firms (1992)</u> A flexible attitude towards older buildings is required to enable suitable re-use or new uses to be instituted in under-used space where this might contribute to the</p>

IRF Objective 12: To protect and enhance the region's cultural heritage and diversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
	<p>creative industries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To transform the region's strong base of participation in culture into the development of business opportunities and company start-ups by building on the findings of the Banking on Culture Conference To ensure that all mainstream funding is accessible to the tourism, cultural and creative industries. To make the wider business aware of the significant growth potential of the region's tourism, cultural and creative industries, in part by publicising and celebrating their successes. <p>6. To develop effective qualitative and quantitative information on the cultural sector to facilitate planning, advocacy, leadership and evaluation.</p> <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The RES identifies culture, environment and heritage as fundamental to the unique character and image of the North East. They underpin the region's distinctive appeal for individuals, businesses and investors, which drive today's modern economy and underpin rising levels of productivity and participation. They also form the basis of our tourism offer and help to drive the development of the creative and leisure industries. The RES has an overarching objective to promote, enhance and protect the region's heritage and cultural assets to maximise their potential to underpin rising levels of productivity and participation.</p> <p>Promoting sustainable communities with accessible cultural assets is also important in tackling the multiple causes of deprivation, helping to provide opportunities for all.</p> <p><u>North East England Tourism Strategy 2005-2010</u> The objectives of the strategy include to enhance and conserve the region's natural, heritage and cultural assets</p> <p><u>North East England in Europe: A Framework for Action (2005)</u> Objectives include to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase participation in cultural activity at a European level by individuals and organisations Strengthen cultural exchange within an enlarged Europe and the region Encourage children and young people to see themselves as citizens of Europe with a strong sense of their own regional identity and culture Develop more effective co-ordination of European working both within the cultural sector itself and between the cultural sector and industry, education and 	<p>preservation of the building or enhancement of the building or enhancement of the townscape.</p> <p><u>PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> New development away from existing settlements, or outside areas allocated for development in development plans, should be strictly controlled; in particular, isolated new houses in the countryside require special justification. Priority should be given to the re-use of previously developed (brownfield) sites in preference to the development of greenfield sites, except in cases where brownfield sites perform so poorly in terms of sustainability considerations (e.g. remoteness from settlements and services) in comparison with greenfield sites.</p> <p>All development in rural areas should be well designed, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and local distinctiveness. Many county towns and villages are of considerable historic and architectural value. Good design should make a contribution to local identity and regional diversity.</p> <p>LPAs should continue to protect the countryside for the sake of its intrinsic character and beauty, the diversity of its landscapes and wildlife and the wealth of its natural resources. They should have particular regard to any areas that have been statutorily designated for their landscape, wildlife or historic qualities where greater priority should be given to restraint of potentially damaging development.</p> <p>The productive re-use of existing rural buildings will usually be preferable to leaving the buildings underused, vacant or derelict. The conversion of non-residential buildings to dwellings will not normally be appropriate where the buildings are remote from settlements and services. There is a need to protect building of historic and architectural importance. The historic environment also has a role to play in the economics of the region through tourism and leisure.</p> <p>The conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape and countryside should be given great weight in planning policies and development control decisions in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).</p> <p>LPAs should aim to secure environmental improvements and maximise a range of beneficial uses of this land, whilst reducing potential conflicts between neighbouring land uses. This should include improvement of public access (e.g. through support for country parks and community forests) and facilitating the provision of sport and recreation facilities.</p> <p><u>PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment (1994)</u> This outlines planning policy as regards historic buildings, conservation areas and</p>

IRF Objective 12: To protect and enhance the region's cultural heritage and diversity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
	<p>other sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position transnational working at the heart of everyday practice in the cultural sector • Raise aspirations of those involved in the creative and cultural industries in the region by encouraging take-up of European opportunities <p><u>Regional Image Strategy, One NorthEast (date not found)</u> Aims of the campaign are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness of North East England and its many superb assets • Attract more leisure and business visitors to North East England • Attract talented people to live and work in North East England • Attract investment into the region • Update and create positive perceptions of the region. <p><u>North East Rural Delivery Framework (2006)</u> Strategic objectives include managing and developing environmental and cultural assets for economic and social benefit by safeguarding and enhancing cultural special qualities.</p>	<p>other elements of the historic environment such as battlefields, historic parks and gardens and World Heritage Sites. In a similar way to PPG16 it highlights the importance of the historic environment and recognises the need for sustainable development.</p> <p><u>PPG16: Archaeology and Planning (1990)</u> Archaeological remains should be seen as a finite, fragile, vulnerable and non-renewable resource. Appropriate management is essential to ensure they survive in good condition.</p> <p>Where nationally important archaeological remains and their settings are affected by proposed development there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation.</p> <p><u>PPS22: Renewable Energy (2004)</u> Planning permission for renewable energy developments likely to have an adverse effect on a site of international importance for nature and heritage conservation (Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, RAMSAR Sites and World Heritage Sites) should only be granted once an assessment has shown that the integrity of the site would not be adversely affected. In sites with nationally recognised designations (Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Heritage Coasts, Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Registered Historic Battlefields and Registered Parks and Gardens) planning permission for renewable energy projects should only be granted where it can be demonstrated that the objectives of designation of the area will not be compromised by the development, and any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area has been designated are clearly outweighed by the environmental, social and economic benefits.</p> <p><u>MPS1: Planning and Minerals (2006)</u> Regional planning bodies (RPBs) and the Mayor of London should set out policies in their Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs) for safeguarding nationally, regionally and locally significant building stone resources. English Heritage and the industry are encouraged to make mineral planning authorities (MPAs) aware of important sources of building and roofing stone that they consider should be safeguarded from other forms of development through policies in their local development documents (LDDs).</p> <p><u>The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future (DCMS, 2001)</u> The Government looks to a future in which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public interest in the historic environment is matched by firm leadership, effective partnerships, and the development of a sound knowledge base from

IRF Objective 12: To protect and enhance the region's cultural heritage and diversity		
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		<p>which to develop policies;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource is realised; • the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as something with which the whole of society can identify and engage; • the historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations; • the historic environment's importance as an economic asset is skilfully harnessed. <p><u>Power of Place (2000)</u> The report of the review of Government policies relating to the historic environment in England. The report makes the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put conservation at the heart of renewal and regeneration • encourage the repair and use of neglected buildings • clear the backlog of repairs to buildings, monuments, and parks and gardens at risk • provide more support for rural, coastal, and marine environments; • promote good new building design that enhances its context • encourage better maintenance of historic buildings • promote conservation training and craft skills • place the historic environment at the heart of education • remove barriers to access • enable more people to participate in conservation • support the voluntary sector • make more use of landscape character appraisal • make the regulatory system work better • encourage research and scholarship to underpin conservation • publish regular 'state of the historic environment' reports • create a historic environment information network; • support local leaders • ensure the Government leads by example

IRF Objective 13: To reduce crime and the fear of crime		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
13.1. Promote the application of Secured by Design in development projects?	<p><u>Sustainable Communities in the North East: Building for the Future (2003)</u> The strategic priorities for the North East in relation to crime are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will build and maintain strong working relations with all key stakeholders of community safety, including leading figures from public services, businesses and 	<p><u>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)</u> Highlights the need to 'promote communities which are inclusive safe and crime free, whilst respecting the diverse needs of communities and the special needs of particular sectors of the community'</p>

IRF Objective 13: To reduce crime and the fear of crime		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
13.2 Promote 'safety by design' as a principle in the development of sustainable communities?	<p>voluntary sectors and representatives from black and minority ethnic groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will work with partners to devise regional crime reduction targets to reflect the national targets in domestic burglary, vehicle crime, youth offending, fear of crime and repeat victimisation. We will work with partners to devise a comprehensive regional Crime Reduction Strategy, identifying regional priorities for action. <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> Promoting safe communities is important in tackling the multiple causes of deprivation, helping to provide opportunities for all. Sustainable, safe communities are recognised as essential to retaining and attracting talented individuals and increasing levels of economic participation.</p> <p>The RES has an overarching objective to target investment in quality of place, creating safe communities to help attract and retain businesses and skilled people within the region.</p> <p>'ensure that sites and buildings ... follow Secured by Design principles'</p>	<p><u>PSA: Home Office 2005-2008</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce crime by 15% and further in high crime areas by 2007-2008 Reassure the public, reduce fear of crime and antisocial behaviour Improve delivery of justice by increasing number of crimes for which offenders are brought to justice to 1/25m by 2007-2008 Reduce unfounded asylum claims Increase voluntary and community engagement Reduce race inequalities

IRF Objective 14: To improve health and reduce inequalities in health		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
14.1 Ensure that developments are accessible (particularly on foot or by cycling or public transport) to primary health care services, e.g. through the incorporation of services within new developments?	<p><u>And The Weather Today is...(2002)</u> The Report outlines three key objectives for addressing 'Health and Safety', these being:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Surveillance systems linking climate, environment and health indicators Encourage joined-up approaches to improving health Promote sun safety, food safety and mental well being <p><u>North East of England Health Summit Report (2004)</u> The Report highlighted a range of issues which was impacting upon the health of young people in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities (for health gains) Chances – drugs, alcohol, sex Mental and emotional distress Chronic illness Accidents Acute illness <p>Three overarching challenges were highlighted as facing the region:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tackling obesity Tackling drug and alcohol misuse 	<p><u>World Health Organisation Guideline Values (2006)</u> Between 23.00 and 07.00 hours, noise levels should not exceed 30 dB LAeq to allow undisturbed sleep. Outdoor noise levels of 50 dB should not be exceeded between 07.00 and 23.00, in order to prevent people being 'moderately annoyed'.</p> <p><u>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)</u> Highlights the need to 'promote communities which are inclusive, healthy...whilst respecting the diverse needs of the communities and the special needs of sectors of the community'</p> <p><u>PPG 8:Telecommunications (2001)</u> Protect human health.</p> <p><u>PPG 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation (2002)</u> Networks of accessible, high quality open spaces and sport and recreation facilities, in both urban and rural areas, which meet the needs of residents and visitors, are fit for purpose and economically and environmentally sustainable.</p> <p><u>PPG 24 – Planning and Noise (1994)</u> Aim of PPG is to minimise the adverse impact of noise without placing unreasonable</p>
14.2 Protect and develop facilities for sporting and recreational activities (e.g. playing fields, sports facilities, footpaths etc)?		
14.3 Promote approaches to sustainable communities that address the social determinants of health?		
14.4 Contribute to promoting a		

IRF Objective 14: To improve health and reduce inequalities in health		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>healthier workforce?</p> <p>14.5 Contribute to reducing health inequalities?</p> <p>14.6 Target investment to create healthy communities?</p>	<p>16. Engaging in prevention and treatment</p> <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> A healthy workforce is key to raising productivity, particularly for the North East with high levels of inactivity due to incapacity. Targeting investment to create healthy communities is an overarching objective of the RES, to promote economic inclusion and to help attract and retain businesses and skilled people within the region. Promoting healthy communities is also important in tackling the multiple causes of deprivation, helping to provide opportunities for all.</p> <p>The RES also foresees that a significant impact can be made on public health and health inequalities by enabling people to more easily access employment and other economic opportunities.</p> <p>'Personal and public health issues must be addressed by embedding them in social and economic regeneration programmes for the outset'</p> <p><u>Rapid Health Impact Assessment of the Draft Regional Economic Strategy (2005)</u> Details the findings of the Health Impact Assessment of the Draft RES, outlining the key issues which the North East Public Health Observatory has identified as being key determinants of the improvement of health within the North East and the significant contributions which the region's key health bodies make to such improvement e.g. NHS.</p> <p><u>North East Rural Delivery Framework, April 2006</u> Objectives include improved health and well-being to support vital and viable communities</p>	<p>restrictions on development or adding unduly to the costs and administrative burdens of business.</p> <p>Potentially noisy developments in areas, which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise nuisance and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason, should be avoided.</p> <p>Development necessary for creation of jobs, construction and improvement of essential infrastructure, will generate noise and therefore the planning system should not place unjustifiable obstacles in the way of it, however they must ensure that development does not cause an unacceptable degree of disturbance.</p> <p>Noise sensitive development should not normally be permitted where high levels of noise will continue throughout the night, especially during the hours when people are normally sleeping, or in areas which are expected to become subject to unacceptably high levels of noise.</p> <p>Mitigating measures to control the source or limit exposure to noise should be considered.</p> <p>Authorities should also take into account the fact that background noise level in some parts of suburban and rural areas is very low, and the introduction of noisy activities into such areas may be especially disruptive.</p> <p><u>National Air Quality Strategy for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland (2000)</u> The Strategy aims to map out, as far as is possible, the future of ambient air quality policy in the United Kingdom in the medium term.</p> <p>It aims to provide the best practicable protection to human health by setting health-based objectives for eight main air pollutants. Specific pollutants covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • benzene • 1,3-butadiene • carbon monoxide (CO) • lead • nitrogen dioxide (NO2) • ozone • particles (PM10), and • sulphur dioxide (SO2)

IRF Objective 14: To improve health and reduce inequalities in health		
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		<p><u>Farming and Food Strategy, Facing the Future (2002)</u> Farming has shaped our landscape, but there are negative environmental impacts from the production processes of all elements of the chain. It has wide ranging impacts on our health, on animal welfare and on rural communities.</p> <p>Key principles for sustainable farming and food now and in the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a safe and hygienic working environment and high social welfare and training for all employees involved in the food chain. • Achieve consistently high standards of animal health and welfare. <p><u>Choosing Health White Paper, Department of Health (2004)</u> The objective is to create a society where more people, particularly those in disadvantaged groups or areas, are encouraged and enabled to make healthier choices. In order to close the gap, it is necessary to ensure that the most marginalised and excluded groups and areas in society see faster improvements in health. Principles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting informed choice for all • building information, support and services around people's lives and ensuring that they have equal access to them • working in partnership to make health everybody's business <p><u>Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action, Department of Health, 2003</u> Themes include addressing the underlying determinants of health, dealing with the long-term underlying causes of health inequalities including low levels of educational attainment and children living in poverty.</p> <p><u>PSA: DCMS 2005-2008</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance take-up of sporting opportunities by 5-16 yr olds so that children with minimum of 2hrs sporting activity a week increases by 85% by 2008 • Halt the annual rise in child obesity in under 11yr olds by 2010 • By 2008 increase take-up of cultural and sporting opportunities by adults and 16+ yr olds <p><u>PSA: Dept of Health 2005-2008</u> Health objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart disease and stroke reduced by at least 40% in people under 75 • At least 40% reduction in the inequalities gap between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators • Cancer reduced by a least 20% in people under 75

IRF Objective 14: To improve health and reduce inequalities in health		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 6% reduction between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators

IRF Objective 15: To ensure good accessibility for all to jobs, facilities, goods and services in the region		
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<p>15.1 Promote compact, mixed use urban development with good accessibility (particularly on foot or by cycling or public transport) to local facilities and services (e.g. jobs, education, health services, shopping, leisure, green spaces, culture etc)?</p> <p>15.2 Improve access to broadband internet infrastructure, e.g. by focusing developments in areas with broadband infrastructure or potential for broadband development?</p> <p>15.3 Reduce the need to travel, including through more sustainable patterns of development and reduced car use?</p> <p>15.4 Promote the provision of economic opportunities accessible to those wards in the region that are currently in the bottom 20% in terms of IMD?</p> <p>15.5 Promote the growth of sustainable communities in the areas of critical need in the region both urban and rural, including access to public transport, access</p>	<p><u>Towards an eRegion: Strategic Electronic Development for the North East of England (2003)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and improve access to broadband infrastructure - 100% connected by 2010. Encourage business to trade electronically by 2003. Encourage service providers to make services and info available electronically by 2005. Integrate ICT into urban and rural regeneration programmes. <p><u>Regional Transport Strategy (as part of RSS)</u></p> <p>Notes key objectives, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support economic development by tackling capacity limitations on strategic road and rail links and improve journey time reliability for freight movements in urban areas Support the growth of the region's airports and ports by improving access and developing operational infrastructure Tackle major congestion 'hotspots' in Tyne and Wear and the Tees Valley through an integrated package of infrastructure and service improvements, to facilitate continued planned major growth and mitigate adverse pollution and health impacts Increase social inclusion, health and opportunity by improving public transport networks and services, particularly to town and city centres and other major employment areas Support the regeneration of the rural areas and the former coalfields in County Durham and Northumberland by upgrading public transport infrastructure and networks <p>Overall objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the need to travel through urban regeneration and integrated land use and transport developments Manage the demand for car travel, particularly the town and city centres and other sensitive areas Make the best use of existing infrastructure 	<p><u>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calls for development which seeks to 'provide improves access for all to jobs, health, education, shops, leisure and community facilities, open space and recreation, by ensuring that new development is located where everyone can access services of facilities on foot, bicycle or public transport rather than having to rely on access by car, while recognising that this may be more difficult in rural areas' It also highlights the need to 'bring forward sufficient land of a suitable quality in appropriate locations...taking into account issues such as accessibility and sustainable transport needs..' It notes the requirement to 'reduce the need to travel and encourage accessible public transport provision to secure more sustainable patterns of transport <p><u>PPS3: Housing (2006)</u></p> <p>The Government's key housing policy goal is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity of living in a decent home, which they can afford, in a community where they want to live. To achieve this, the Government is seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes, both affordable and market housing, to address the requirements of the community. To widen opportunities for home ownership and ensure high quality housing for those who cannot afford market housing, in particular those who are vulnerable or in need. To improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing the supply of housing. To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural. <p><u>PPG 4: Industrial and Commercial development and small firms (1992)</u></p> <p>Optimum use should be made of potential sites and existing premises in inner cities and other urban areas, taking into account such factors as accessibility by public transport, particularly in the case of labour-intensive uses.</p> <p><u>PPS 6: Planning for town centres (2005)</u></p>

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SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>to jobs, services and facilities and access to green space?</p> <p>15.6 Promote more sustainable transport patterns across the region, including greater use of public transport?</p> <p>15.7 Improve connectivity and accessibility to employment, learning, health facilities and services, particularly for disadvantaged and excluded groups?</p> <p>15.8 Recognise the role of air travel in economic growth?</p> <p>15.9 Reduce and minimise the impact of airports?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve public transport and cycling and walking networks to provide attractive and sustainable alternatives to the car • Improve the regional gateways to ensure that economic growth is not held back <p><u>Space for People: Targeting Action for Woodland Access (2006)</u> There was no inventory of accessible woodland existed before this work began. A comprehensive analysis of the extent of accessible woodland across the UK was carried out and a Woodland Access Standard was developed, based on wide-ranging surveys of public use and opinion of woodland. Space for establishes targets across the UK for opening up existing woods for public access and creating new woods where insufficient woodland currently exists.</p> <p>Highlights the background data and statistics on current access to woodland resources. The document notes the importance of access to such resources by the public and the contribution which this can make to quality of life.</p> <p><u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The RES seeks to ensure that people are able to – and where necessary, encouraged to – travel sustainably to take up employment opportunities, particularly to enable people from deprived areas to travel where the job opportunities are. Effective transport links with the urban cores of the city regions are identified as important to ensure full economic inclusion. For rural areas, market towns are identified as the hubs for jobs, businesses and services. In addition, the RES states that new ways of creating remote employment i.e. taking the job to the worker, should be explored, particularly where this encourages employment in distant and deprived rural areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • overcome the 'digital divide'; and • ensure that all communities have access to employment and services through a safe, reliable and convenient public transport system, particularly economically and socially excluded communities. <p><u>North East Rural Action Plan (2003/04 update)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop tourism and culture within rural areas, particularly green tourism, backed up by a fully integrated sustainable transport system. • An 'enabling planning system', which promotes teleworking and telematics. • Development of access to broadband ICT in Market Towns and more remote rural areas. <p><u>Regional Forestry Framework: Trees, Woodlands, Forests and People (2005)</u> Increased number of people using woodlands for day visits, increased area of</p>	<p>The Government's key objective for town centres is to promote vital and viable city, town and other centres by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planning for the growth of existing centres; and • promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres and encouraging a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all. <p>Other Government objectives which need to be taken full account of in this context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance consumer choice by making provision for a range of shopping, leisure and local services, which allow genuine choice to meet the needs of the entire community, and particularly socially excluded groups; • To support an efficient, competitive and innovative retail and leisure sector, with improving productivity; • To improve accessibility, ensuring that existing or new development is, or will be, highly accessible and well served by a choice of means of transport. <p>In order to deliver the Government's objective of promoting vital and viable town centres, development should be focused in existing centres in order to strengthen and, where appropriate, regenerate them</p> <p>Local planning authorities should actively plan for growth in retail, leisure, office and other town centre uses over the period of the plan by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selecting appropriate, existing centres to accommodate the identified need; • Identifying sites within and adjoining existing centres for development or redevelopment; and • Providing for the growth of the town centre. <p>At both regional and local levels, planning authorities should plan the distribution of growth, using it to rebalance the network of centres to ensure that it is not overly dominated by the largest centres, that there is more even distribution of facilities, and that people's everyday needs are met at the local level.</p> <p>Strategies for town and other centres are an essential part of planning for their future vitality and viability. Strategies should draw together and address a wide range of issues involved in the planning, design and management of centres, and complement the statutory planning tools. Such strategies may form an important part of the preparation of the Local Development Framework, including reviewing local planning policies, providing part of the evidence base for Development Plan Documents, or as a basis for preparing Area Action Plans.</p>

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	<p>woodlands available for public access.</p> <p><u>North East England in Europe: A Framework for Action (2005)</u> Includes an objective to create an infrastructure that will provide for effective flows of goods, services, information and people across city regional and rural boundaries and beyond.</p> <p><u>North East Rural Delivery Framework (2006)</u> Objectives include improved access to support enterprising and sustainable communities.</p> <p><u>RSS Examination in Public Panel Report, (2006)</u> All strategies, plans and programmes shall help mitigate climate change, and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate by: a) Helping the Region meet its targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by including policies and proposals that: i. Minimise the need to travel by car by building within existing developed areas along existing public transport routes; ii. Reduce traffic growth and promote competitive alternatives to the car; iii. Promote walking, cycling and the use of public transport</p> <p><u>Counting Consumption: O₂ emissions, material flows and ecological footprint of the North East (2006)</u> Low-cost initiatives that can bring about transport related behaviour change will be especially important given current funding constraints, but these should not be seen as short-term measures only. By introducing a range of complementary policies, it is possible to move away from large-scale infrastructure schemes and bring about real reductions in congestion and carbon emissions. Regional co-ordination will be needed to ensure this happens. This could involve the setting of infrastructure efficiency targets for public transport and cars, and prioritization of infrastructure efficiency initiatives in local transport plans.</p>	<p><u>PPS 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (2004)</u> Good quality, carefully-sited development within existing towns and villages should be allowed where it meets local economic and community needs (including affordable housing for identified local needs), maintains or enhances the local environment, and does not conflict with other planning policies.</p> <p>Larger scale developments should be located in or near to towns or other service centres that are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>New development away from existing settlements, or outside areas allocated for development in development plans, should be strictly controlled; in particular, isolated new houses in the countryside require special justification.</p> <p>Priority should be given to the re-use of previously developed (brownfield) sites in preference to the development of greenfield sites, except in cases where brownfield sites perform so poorly in terms of sustainability considerations (e.g. remoteness from settlements and services) in comparison with greenfield sites.</p> <p>All development in rural areas should be well designed, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and local distinctiveness.</p> <p>To ensure policies are relevant and effective, LPAs should be aware of the circumstances, needs and priorities of the rural communities and businesses in their area. Where there is a lack of up-to-date, robust information, local authorities should commission surveys and assessments of rural economic and social conditions and needs, including local housing needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LPAs should facilitate and provide for new services and facilities; seek opportunities to enhance public transport as a means of improving access to service centres; and support mixed and multi-purpose uses that maintain community vitality. • LPAs should adopt a positive approach to planning proposals designed to improve the viability, accessibility or community value of existing services and facilities, such as village shops and post offices, rural petrol stations, village halls and rural public houses that play a vital role in sustaining village communities. <p><u>PPS11: Regional Spatial Strategies (2004)</u> Sites for employment should be accessible by a wide range of modes. RPGs should improve access to key services in rural areas. Major sports facilities should be located in urban areas well served by public transport where possible.</p>

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		<p><u>PPG 13: Transport (2001)</u> PPG13 provides detailed guidance for Local Authorities regarding transport planning – the key issues covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage the pattern of urban growth to make the fullest use of public transport, and focus major generators of travel demand in city, town and district centres and near to major public transport interchanges • Locate day to day facilities in local centres so that they are accessible by walking and cycling • Accommodate housing principally within existing urban areas, planning for increased intensity of development which are highly accessible by public transport, walking and cycling • Ensure that development comprising jobs, shopping, leisure and services offers a realistic choice of access by public transport, walking, and cycling, recognising that this may be less achievable in some rural areas • In rural areas, locate most development for housing, jobs, shopping, leisure and services in local service centres which are designated in the development plan to act as focal points for housing, transport and other services, and encourage better transport provision in the countryside • Ensure that strategies in the development and local transport plan complement each other and that consideration of development plan allocations and local transport investment and priorities are closely linked • Use parking policies, alongside other planning and transport measures, to promote sustainable transport choices and reduce reliance on the car for work and other journeys • Give priority to people over ease of traffic movement and plan to provide more road space to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport in town centres, local neighbourhoods and other areas with a mixture of land uses • Ensure that the needs of disabled people – as pedestrians, public transport users and motorists - are taken into account in the implementation of planning policies and traffic management schemes, and in the design of individual developments • Consider how best to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and seek by the design and layout of developments and areas, to secure community safety and road safety • Protect sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choices for both passenger and freight movements. <p>PPG13 notes that the potential for public / non-car transport is more limited in rural areas, but stresses that the same overall objectives must be applied here too – reducing isolation and social-exclusion specially of those without a car</p>

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		<p><u>PPG 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation (2002)</u> Networks of accessible, high quality open spaces and sport and recreation facilities, in both urban and rural areas, which meet the needs of residents and visitors, are fit for purpose and economically and environmentally sustainable.</p> <p>An appropriate balance between new provision and the enhancement of existing provision</p> <p>Clarity and reasonable certainty for developers and land owners in relation to the requirements and expectations of local planning authorities in respect of open space and sport and recreation provision</p> <p><u>Government/DfT 10 Year Transport Plan (2000)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, high quality public transport, both locally and nationally. People will have more choice about how they travel, and more will use public transport • more light rail systems and attractive bus services that are fully accessible and integrated with other types of transport • high quality park and ride schemes so that people do not have to drive into congested town centres • easier access to jobs and services through improved transport links to regeneration areas and better land use planning • a modern train fleet, with reliable and more frequent services, and faster trains cutting intercity journey times • a well-maintained road network with real-time driver information for strategic routes and reduced congestion • fully integrated public transport information, booking and ticketing systems, with a single ticket or card covering the whole journey • safer and more secure transport accessible to all • a transport system that makes less impact on the environment. <p>People in rural areas, particularly those without use of a car, are more worried about the lack of reliable, accessible public and community transport, and the difficulties this can create in access to work, health care, shops, schools and other services</p> <p><u>Transport White Paper: The Future of Transport – A Network for 2030, Department of Transport (2004)</u> Identifies the following objectives for transport policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balancing the need to travel with the need to improve quality of life. • Keeping the environmental impacts of new and existing transport infrastructure

IRF Objective 15: To ensure good accessibility for all to jobs, facilities, goods and services in the region		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
		<p>to a minimum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver carbon savings and reduce the impact of other emissions which pollute the environment • Reducing the impact of all forms of transport • Ensuring that the noise impacts of transport are reduced and mitigated • Reducing the impact of freight on congestion and the environment • Encourage freight traffic to be shifted from road to rail or water where this makes sense <p><u>Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside - the future - a fair deal for rural England (2000)</u> The paper sets out 10 key actions which are intended to meet the vision: 8. Ensure everyone can enjoy an accessible countryside 9. Give local power to country towns and villages 10. Think rural</p> <p>Objective 4 To increase opportunities for people to get enjoyment from the countryside. To open up public access to mountain, moor, heath and down and registered common land by the end of 2005.</p> <p>Objective 5 To promote government responsiveness to rural communities through better working together between central departments, local government, and government agencies and better co-operation with non-government bodies.</p> <p><u>Sustainable Communities: Building for the future (2005)</u> Alleviate pressures on services and housing caused by economic success where these pressures cannot be readily be dealt with within existing towns and cities.</p> <p>Where new and expanded communities are needed, to ensure that these are sustainable, well-designed, high quality and attractive places in which people will positively choose to live and work.</p> <p>The concluding section of the strategy stresses the importance of strengthening rail links and inter-modal freight interchanges especially in relation to current and future growth areas.</p> <p><u>The Future of Air Transport (2003)</u> Identifies the need for a balanced approach which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognises the importance of air travel to our national and regional economic prosperity, and that not providing additional capacity where it is needed would significantly damage the economy and national prosperity;

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reflects people's desire to travel further and more often by air, and to take advantage of the affordability of air travel and the opportunities this brings; seeks to reduce and minimise the impacts of airports on those who live nearby, and on the natural environment; ensures that, over time, aviation pays the external costs its activities impose on society at large – in other words, that the price of air travel reflects its environmental and social impacts; minimises the need for airport development in new locations by making best use of existing capacity where possible; respects the rights and interests of those affected by airport development; provides greater certainty for all concerned in the planning of future airport capacity, but at the same time is sufficiently flexible to recognise and adapt to <p><u>PSA: Dept of Work and Pensions 2005-2008</u> Notes the need to improve employment rates of those in disadvantaged group and to further improve the rights of disabled people and remove barriers to their participation in society</p> <p><u>PSA: Dept of Transport 2005-2008</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve punctuality and reliability of rail services by 85% + by 2006 By 2010 increase use of public transport by 12% + compared with 2000 levels <p><u>Rural Strategy (2004)</u> Outlines the government's commitment to social justice for all:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure fair access to public services and affordable housing Tackle social exclusion wherever it occurs

IRF Objective 16: To increase public involvement in decision-making and civic activity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
16.1 Promote the involvement of communities and stakeholders in the planning process?	<u>North East Rural Action Plan (2003/04 update)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop tourism and culture within rural areas, particularly green tourism, backed up by a fully integrated sustainable transport system. An 'enabling planning system', which promotes teleworking and telematics. Development of access to broadband ICT in Market Towns and more remote rural areas. 	<u>PPS 1: Creating sustainable communities (2005)</u> Planning must work as a partnership and involve the community to deliver sustainable development.
16.2 Recognise the importance of social, business and community networks and the environment sector	<u>North East Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</u> The RES identifies that increasing economic participation requires a society that promotes engagement. It also requires that programmes to promote economic	<u>PPG 8: Telecommunications (2001)</u> Pre-application discussions should be carried out between operators and other organisations with an interest in the proposed development e.g. statutory agencies and local groups.
16.3 Seek to increase social and		<u>PPG13: Transport (2001)</u>

IRF Objective 16: To increase public involvement in decision-making and civic activity		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>community engagement in economic activities, including social enterprise activity and volunteering?</p> <p>16.4 Support community activity, raise aspirations and build social capital?</p> <p>16.5 Involve voluntary and community organisations closest to disadvantaged and hard-to-reach groups in the development of policy?</p>	<p>participation do so in ways that support community activity, raise aspirations and build social capital. Social enterprise activity and volunteering are seen as solutions to social and environmental issues, as well as a source of employment and wealth and a route into economic activity. The RES will put in place measures that integrate with local 'first step' activity to enable progression through a variety of routes into economic activity.</p> <p><u>North East England in Europe: A Framework for Action (2005)</u> Includes an objective to involve the voluntary and community organisations closest to disadvantaged and hard-to-reach groups in the development of policy.</p> <p><u>North East Rural Delivery Framework (2006)</u> Objectives include promoting voluntary activity to support enterprising and sustainable communities.</p>	<p>PPG13 calls for good partnerships between local authorities, transport providers and operators, developers, businesses and local residents as being essential to achieving transport objective</p> <p><u>PPG22: Renewable Energy (2004)</u> Foster community involvement. Developers of renewable energy projects should engage in active consultation and discussion with local communities at an early stage in the planning process</p>

IRF Objective 17: To reduce adverse impacts on global communities		
SA Criteria	Relevant Regional Strategies	Relevant International and National Strategies
<p>17.1 Promote the use of local suppliers and locally-produced materials in construction?</p> <p>17.2 Recognise the importance of eco-footprinting in specifying the environmental implications of current consumption and production activities?</p> <p>17.3 Recognise the global opportunities for and the global impacts of growth?</p> <p>17.4 Produce data which will assist the region in developing a sustainable growth model in terms of the region's global impacts?</p>	<p><u>Farming and Food Strategy, Facing the Future (2002)</u> A key principle for sustainable farming and food now and in the future includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect and operate within the biological limits of natural resources (especially soil, water and biodiversity). <p><u>Counting Consumption: O₂ emissions, material flows and ecological footprint of the North East (2006)</u> The housing scenario shows that improved housing development standards will not place an adequate check on CO₂ emissions, but that making better use of energy in existing homes will provide a far greater contribution. The housing scenario shows that further CO₂ savings can be made if regional initiatives target existing homes in particular. The North East should use all the policy levers available by combining a regional policy that encompasses substantial retrofitting of houses, extremely high standards for new build, a centralised renewable energy strategy and decentralized energy production.</p>	<p>None</p>