

## Appendix 1 – Review of Plans, Policies, and Programmes

The review of plans, policies and programmes (PPP's) was originally produced by the consultants 'Scott Wilson' in November 2006, and subsequently updated by South Somerset District Council in April 2009 alongside consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. As set out in the Scoping Report, the context review is dynamic, and new or revised PPPs emerge on a regular basis. Therefore, the review has been revised to highlight these key updates in the last two years, and following comments received during consultation on the Scoping Report (April 2009) that suggested additions to the list of PPP's. Those highlighted in **yellow** were included following the update of relevant PPP's undertaken in September 2011.

Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>Air Quality Framework Directive 96/62/EC and Daughter Directives</p> <p>European Commission</p> <p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/som_en.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/som_en.htm</a></p>	<p>Air pollution has been one of Europe's main political concerns since the late 1970s.</p> <p>EU air quality policy takes the form of an Air Quality Framework Directive (96/62/EC) and a number of 'daughter' directives, which address individual or groups of specific pollutants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first Daughter Directive (1999/30/EC) relating to limit values for NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, Pb and PM<sub>10</sub> in ambient air came into force in July 1999 with member states having two years to translate targets into national law.</li> <li>• The second Daughter Directive (2000/69/EC) relating to limit values for benzene and carbon monoxide in ambient air came into force on the 13th of December 2000.</li> <li>• The third Daughter Directive relating to ozone 2002/3/EC was adopted on 12 February 2002.</li> <li>• There is a proposal for a fourth Daughter Directive to cover the remaining pollutants, but this has yet to be agreed or adopted.</li> </ul>	<p>South Somerset has 1 Air Quality Management Area (Yeovil) as required under the Environment Act 1995. Any significant amount of development will create additional emissions. However, there are opportunities to create new developments that are carbon neutral and to create the associated infrastructure for transport, which could include encouraging alternatives to the motor vehicle.</p>	<p>The appraisal framework requires an objective relating to air quality, attainable targets, and recognised indicators that will allow for progress to be effectively monitored. The use of Low Emission Zones and other measures could be considered for both objectives and mitigation.</p>

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<p>Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats Council of Europe and UNEP <a href="http://www.ecnc.nl/doc/europe/legislat/convpane.html">http://www.ecnc.nl/doc/europe/legislat/convpane.html</a></p>	<p>The Bern Convention came into force in 1982. Initiated and developed by the Council of Europe the principal aim of the Convention is to protect flora and fauna and their habitats, and to promote international co-operation amongst the contracting parties in their conservation efforts, with particular emphasis on the protection of endangered and vulnerable species and their habitats, particularly migratory species. The Convention includes four annexes, listing threatened species.</p>	<p>South Somerset has as a resource of biodiversity areas, from local importance to proposed European important sites. These habitats and associated species will be afforded protection under European Directives in addition to the aims of the convention.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should ensure that biodiversity, in terms of both habitats and species, (flora and fauna) are covered.</p>
<p>Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)  European Commission <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/nature/nature_conservation/eu_nature_legislation/habitats_directive/index_en.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/nature/nature_conservation/eu_nature_legislation/habitats_directive/index_en.htm</a></p>	<p>The Birds Directive has created a far-reaching protection scheme for all of Europe's wild birds, identifying 194 species and sub-species (listed in Annex I) among them as particularly threatened and in need of special conservation measures. Member States are required to designate Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for the 194 threatened species and all migratory bird species. SPAs are scientifically identified areas critical for the survival of the targeted species, such as wetlands. The SPAs form part of Natura 2000, the EU's network of protected nature sites, which was established in 1992. The designation of an area as a SPA gives it a high level of protection from potentially damaging developments.</p> <p><i>In addition, since 1993 the Birds Directive has provided the basis for the establishment of EU Species Action Plans aimed at helping the most threatened species recover.</i></p>	<p>The LDF should include policies that offer protection to designated habitats and species and will do this using guidance from PPS9 and evidence from local Biodiversity Habitat and Species Plans.</p> <p>Appropriate Assessment of the LDF should be undertaken where necessary to determine the likelihood of significant effects on Special Protection Areas (SPAs).</p>	<p>The SA Framework should ensure that protected habitats, species and sub-species are covered.</p>

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<p>Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals</p> <p>UNEP  <a href="http://www.cms.int/">http://www.cms.int/</a></p>	<p>The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (also known as CMS or Bonn Convention) aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range. It is an intergovernmental treaty, concluded under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme, concerned with the conservation of wildlife and habitats on a global scale.</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p>Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora Directive (Habitats Directive) (92/43/EEC)</p> <p>European Community  <a href="#">European Union Habitats Directive Site</a></p>	<p>The Habitats Directive sets out the requirement to submit and subsequently adopt Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) under the Natura 2000 network. Article 6 of the Directive sets out the requirements for protection, and compensation for loss of these sites.</p> <p>Annex I of the Directive sets out a list of habitat types, Annex II sets out species types, Annex IV sets out those animal and plant species in need of strict protection</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p>Convention on Biodiversity</p> <p>European Community  <a href="http://www.biodiv.org/convention/articles.asp">http://www.biodiv.org/convention/articles.asp</a></p>	<p>In June 1992, 159 governments at the Earth Summit, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, signed the Convention on Biological Diversity. It became operational on 29 December 1993 and was the first treaty to provide a legal framework for biodiversity conservation through the development of national action plans to halt the worldwide loss of animal and plant species.</p> <p>The objectives of the Convention are the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation of Biological Diversity;</li> <li>• Sustainable use of its components; and</li> <li>• Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of its utilisation of genetic resources</li> </ul>	<p>The convention's objectives highlight not only the need to conserve biological diversity (biodiversity) but also the sustainable and other uses of biodiversity.</p> <p>South Somerset, whilst having areas of biodiversity importance, may also have opportunities for eco-tourism, or bio-business. Consideration should be given to sustainable agriculture or other bio-business where possible</p>	<p>The SA should attempt to identify areas for biodiversity enhancement. The LDF should seek where possible to encourage businesses and industry that will contribute to the biodiversity of South Somerset.</p>

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<p>Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment Directive (EIA Directive) (85/337/EEC and 97/11/EC as amended) EU</p> <p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/eia-legalcontext.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/eia-legalcontext.htm</a></p>	<p>The <u>EIA</u> Directive (EU legislation) on Environmental Impact Assessment of the effects of projects on the environment was introduced in 1985 and was amended in 1997.</p> <p>The EIA procedure ensures that environmental consequences of projects are identified and assessed before authorisation is given.</p> <p>The EIA Directive outlines which project categories shall be made subject to an EIA, which procedure shall be followed and the content of the assessment.</p>	<p>Any new development that exceeds the thresholds outlined in the Directive, in addition to those set out in the Town &amp; County Planning Act (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1999 will require an EIA.</p> <p>EIA may be appropriate to fill in data gaps for site-specific appraisal. The onus of completing data gaps for sites is placed on the developer applying for planning application.</p>	<p>The SA may use the requirement for EIA on certain sites that exceed the thresholds set out in Schedule II of the Town and Country Planning Act 1999 (EIA) Regulations to complete data gaps in the SA at site level.</p>
<p>Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</p> <p><a href="http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/kpeng.html">http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/kpeng.html</a></p>	<p>The Kyoto Protocol is an amendment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), an international treaty on global warming. It also reaffirms sections of the UNFCCC. Countries that ratify this protocol commit to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide and five other greenhouse gases, or engage in emissions trading if they maintain or increase emissions of these gases. A total of 141 countries have ratified the agreement.</p>	<p>Opportunities to embrace carbon neutral developments and alternative transport modes to the motor vehicle.</p>	<p>The SA will need to include an Objective on Climate change, this comes under one of the SEA Directive topics: Climatic factors.</p>
<p>Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1971)</p> <p><a href="http://www.ramsar.org/">http://www.ramsar.org/</a></p>	<p>Ramsar is the first of the modern global intergovernmental treaties on conservation and wise use of natural resources; its provisions are relatively straightforward and general. Its original emphasis is on the conservation and wise use of wetlands primarily to provide habitat for waterbirds. Over time it has broadened its scope to cover all aspects of wetland conservation and wise use, recognizing wetlands as ecosystems that are extremely important for biodiversity conservation in general and for the well-being of human communities.</p>	<p>The LDF should include policies that offer protection to designated habitats and species and will do this using guidance from PPS9 and evidence from local Biodiversity Habitat and Species Plans.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should ensure that protected habitats, species and sub-species are covered.</p>

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<p>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</p> <p>European Community</p> <p><a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html</a></p>	<p>The Directive establishes a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater to prevent further deterioration and protect and enhance the status of aquatic ecosystems. It aims to enhance protection and improvement, by putting into place specific measures to cease or phase out discharges, emissions and losses of priority hazardous substances.</p>	<p>The LDF should include policies that offer protection to designated habitats and species and will do this using guidance from PPS25.</p>	<p>SEA includes an objective for minimising pollutions to water. SEA framework to include indicators on surface, ground and transitional water quality</p>
<p>Climate Change: The UK Programme</p> <p>DEFRA (DETR) 2006</p> <p><a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/cm4913/">http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/cm4913/</a></p>	<p>The UK's climate change programme sets out the Government's approach to the challenge of climate change. It aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflect the importance of tackling climate change;</li> <li>• Take a balanced approach, with all sectors and all parts of the UK playing their part;</li> <li>• Safeguard, and where possible enhance, the UK's competitiveness, tackle social exclusion and reduce harm to health;</li> <li>• Focus on cost effective and flexible policy options, which will work together to form an integrated package to take a long-term view, looking to targets beyond the Kyoto commitment period.</li> </ul>	<p>There will be a key challenge for the LDF in trying to lower emissions of substances through locational and, investment decisions that cause climate change - For example, dispersed patterns of development with little modal choice for access.</p>	<p>Climatic Factors is an explicit topic in the SEA Directive and therefore it is a statutory requirement for it to be integrated into the SA. The UK programme may assist with this through the provision of possible baseline information and indicators.</p>

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<p>UK Biodiversity Action Plan</p> <p>UK Biodiversity Steering Group 1994</p> <p><a href="http://www.ukbap.org.uk/EBG/england_biodiversity_strategy.asp">http://www.ukbap.org.uk/EBG/england_biodiversity_strategy.asp</a></p>	<p>The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the Government's response to the CBD;</li> <li>• Describes the UK's biological resources;</li> <li>• Commits a detailed plan for the protection of these resources; and</li> <li>• Has 391 Species Action Plans, 45 Habitat Action Plans and 162 Local Biodiversity Action Plans with targeted actions.</li> </ul> <p>Chapter 7 on Towns, cities recognises the need for biodiversity to become a part of the development policy on sustainable communities, urban green space and the built environment. The aims of the strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that construction, planning, development and regeneration have minimal adverse impacts on biodiversity and enhance it where possible.</li> <li>• To ensure that biodiversity conservation is integral to sustainable urban communities, both on the built environment, and in parks and green spaces.</li> <li>• To ensure that biodiversity conservation is integral to measures to improve the quality of people's lives.</li> </ul>	<p>The LDF should include policies that offer protection to designated habitats and species and will do this using guidance from PPS9 and evidence from local Biodiversity Habitat and Species Plans.</p>	<p>The SA objectives should include an objective to conserve and enhance biodiversity and the baseline review should include indicators for biodiversity where these are available.</p>

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<p>PPS – 7: Sustainable development in rural areas ODPM 2004 <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/sellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030148-03.hcsp#TopOfPage">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/sellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030148-03.hcsp#TopOfPage</a></p>	<p>The policies in this statement apply to rural areas, including country towns and villages and the wider, largely undeveloped countryside up to the fringes of larger urban areas. This PPS replaces <i>Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) Note 7, The Countryside - Environmental Quality and Economic and Social Development</i>, published in February 1997</p> <p>The policies set out in this PPS will need to be taken into account by local planning authorities in the preparation of local development documents. They may also be material to decisions on individual planning applications.</p>	<p>South Somerset is made up of a variety of areas types, industrial, urban and rural. There is the opportunity to develop a ‘joined – up’ approach to sustainable development within all these sectors. However, each sector will have its own set of constraints in terms of creating the most viable use of the land, all of which will need to be considered.</p>	<p>Should consider the implications of new development in rural areas.</p>

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<p>PPS – 9: Biodiversity and geological conservation</p> <p>ODPM 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/sellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/pdf/odpm_plan_pdf">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/sellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/pdf/odpm_plan_pdf</a></p>	<p>PPS9, together with a new Government Circular (which will cover relevant legislative provisions), sets out the Government's broad policy objectives in relation to biodiversity and geological conservation in England and its proposed planning policies for helping to deliver those objectives. These policies are based on the principles set out in <i>Working with the grain of nature – a biodiversity strategy for England</i>. PPS9 emphasises that the planning system has a significant part to play in meeting the Government's international commitments and domestic policies for biodiversity.</p>	<p>Policies and planning decisions should seek to maintain, or enhance biodiversity and geological conservation interests. Subject to other planning considerations, developments seeking to conserve or enhance the biodiversity and geological conservation interests of the area and/or immediate locality should be permitted. Where a proposed development may give rise to significant harmful effects, LPAs will need to be satisfied that any reasonable alternative sites that would result in less or no harm have been fully considered. Where development will result in unavoidable and significant adverse impacts, planning permission for it should only be granted where adequate mitigation measures are put in place. LPAs should avoid increasing, and where possible seek to reduce, the fragmentation and isolation of natural habitats.</p>	<p>The SEA / SA objectives should include an objective to conserve and enhance biodiversity and the baseline review should include indicators for biodiversity where these are available.</p>



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<p>PPS – 23: Planning and Pollution Control.</p> <p>ODPM 2004</p> <p><a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/sellent/groups/odpm_control/documents/contentserver/template/odpm_index.html?n=5453&amp;l=3">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/sellent/groups/odpm_control/documents/contentserver/template/odpm_index.html?n=5453&amp;l=3</a></p>	<p>PPS23 includes two separate annexes (Annex 1: <i>Pollution Control, Air and Water Quality</i> and Annex 2: <i>Development on Land Affected by Contamination</i>). A third Annex on <i>Planning and Light Pollution</i> will be published for consultation in due course. The planning system plays an important role in determining the location of development which may give rise to pollution, either directly from traffic generated, and in ensuring that other developments are, as far as possible, not affected by major existing, or potential sources of pollution. Appendix A of PPS23 lists a series of issues for consideration in preparing LDDs and taking decisions on individual planning applications.</p>	<p>Pollution impacts are a material planning consideration. LDDs should set out the criteria against which applications for potentially polluting developments will be considered. The 'precautionary principle' should be invoked when there is pollution potential. The generation of additional pollution from road traffic, the demand on natural resources and the discharges to the environment associated with any proposed development should be considered. Planning authorities should work on the assumption that the relevant pollution control regime will be properly applied and enforced.</p>	<p>The SA objectives should reflect the need to reduce pollutant emissions and enhance land, air and water quality.</p>
<p>Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland January 2000</p> <p><a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/airquality/strategy/pdf/foreword.pdf">http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/airquality/strategy/pdf/foreword.pdf</a></p>	<p>The Strategy describes the plans drawn up by the Government to improve and protect ambient air quality in the UK in the medium-term. The proposals aim to protect people's health and the environment without imposing unacceptable economic or social costs. They form an essential part of the Government's strategy for sustainable development improvements in air quality offer synergies with health and biodiversity objectives. There may also be some incidental benefit to the objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Cleaner air will also probably contribute to the attractiveness of the area to tourists. The Strategy identifies pollution targets and dates when these targets are to be met.</p>	<p>The LDF will need to ensure that pollution- or traffic- generating developments are not sited in areas of poor air quality.</p>	<p>Pollution targets can be included in SA Framework and monitoring framework</p>

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<p>South West Biodiversity Action Plan (SWBAP) (1997)</p> <p>And</p> <p>South West Biodiversity Implementation Plan (SWBIP)  <a href="http://www.swbiodiversity.org.uk/Regional/swbappa ge.htm">http://www.swbiodiversity.org.uk/Regional/swbappa ge.htm</a></p>	<p>The SWBAP was developed in 1997, in which regional habitat and species actions plans were developed, in order to facilitate the creation of local action plans for habitats and species. The regional BAP is complemented by the SWBIP, which sets out a framework of policy, priorities and actions to assist in a structured approach to delivering biodiversity. It identifies the following key areas of action and related programs of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Farming and food</li> <li>- Water and Wetlands</li> <li>- Woodland and Forestry</li> <li>- Towns, cities and development</li> <li>- Coastal and marine environment.</li> </ul>	<p>One of the aims of the SWBIP is to develop a Nature Map illustrating the major concentrations of existing biodiversity value and surrounding land, which has potential for restoration. The Nature Map can inform the LDF on these issues so biodiversity can be integrated into development/land use considerations as well as issues relating to the key areas identified in this document.</p>	<p>The SA should promote nature conservation and protect important natural “assets”. The SWBAP and SWBIP can be used to identify geographical areas and species on which effort should be focussing on.</p>

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<p>South Somerset Strategy for Nature Conservation 1999</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/3/j/Nature_Conservation_Strategy.pdf#search=%22strategy%20nature%20conservation%20south%20somerset%22">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/3/j/Nature_Conservation_Strategy.pdf#search=%22strategy%20nature%20conservation%20south%20somerset%22</a></p>	<p>The aim of the strategy is to extend the concept and application of “nature conservation” from merely the creation and conservation of LNRs to encouraging and enabling community involvement and strengthening organisational links within the district. In producing this document the District is committing itself to providing strategies for nature conservation thus abiding by the principles of Local Agenda 21. The main Strategy proposals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve local people in conservation work, stimulate public interest and awareness of biodiversity issues;</li> <li>• Develop links with voluntary and community groups as well as environmental organisations in order to maximise resources and facilitate the development of biodiversity projects;</li> <li>• Facilitate awareness and enjoyment of nature conservation, in particular through the Somerset County’s Environmental Education Scheme, and by facilitating access to sites of wildlife interest.</li> <li>• Support sustainable land management, especially by devising Management Plans for all Countryside Sites, Local Nature Reserves, and any other SSSIs/County Wildlife Sites in District Council ownership.</li> <li>• Promote restoration of habitats and creation of new ones (opportunities to establish LNRs)</li> </ul>	<p>Through this strategy there are opportunities to enhance and protect areas in e.g. urban and/or residential areas, privately owned areas of countryside or in proposals, and even to create new areas of conservation such as LNRs or areas preserved simply through community interest and action.</p> <p>Brown/green roofs or other innovative measures could be used wherever possible.</p>	<p>Biodiversity, flora and fauna are topics in the SEA Directive and so are required to be present in the SA framework.</p>

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<p>South Somerset Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), South Somerset District Council, revised 2008  <a href="http://www.ukbap.org.uk/bap.aspx?id=479">http://www.ukbap.org.uk/bap.aspx?id=479</a></p>	<p>The South Somerset BAP implements, at local level, “Biodiversity: the UK Action Plan” (1994). It also transfers the South West BAP into the local level, identifying local priorities in order to determine the contribution that they can make to the delivery of the national species and Habitat Action Plan targets.</p> <p>Updates the original BAP: there are now 10 county wide Habitat Action Plans (HAPs) and Species Action Plans (SAPs), and 4 district HAPs and SAPs.</p>	<p>The local BAP highlights a large number of habitats located in areas where human activities such as agriculture and developments may take place.</p> <p>Developments should look for opportunities to enhance and protect these areas in proposals, ensuring that not only are the sites protected but also that the mosaics in which they are located are retained where possible.</p> <p>Reduction in biodiversity loss from development and an increase in the number of significant developments where biodiversity is enhanced.</p> <p>Incorporate Strategic Nature Areas as integral to the LDF.</p>	<p>Biodiversity, Flora and fauna are all topics in the SEA Directive and so are required to be present in the SA framework. There should also be particular mention to the protection and enhancement of designated sites in the District.</p>
<p>Peripheral landscape studies of the main settlements in South Somerset, 2008-10, SSDC  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/district-wide-documents/peripheral-landscape-studies">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/district-wide-documents/peripheral-landscape-studies</a></p>	<p>A series of peripheral landscape studies have been prepared for 13 of the main settlements in South Somerset. The studies look in detail at landscape character and visual sensitivity, and consider other values and constraints, in order to assess the capacity of the landscape surrounding these settlements to accommodate new development (housing, employment, open space provision etc.).</p>	<p>Consideration of landscape impacts in locating future urban extensions to the main settlements, incorporating mitigation measures as necessary.</p>	<p>Landscape is identified in the SEA Directive as an environmental issue that requires assessment.</p>

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<p>South Somerset Countryside Service Action Plan 2005 to 2006</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/l/r/Countryside_action_plan1.pdf#search=%22south%20somerset%20countryside%20service%20action%20plan%22">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/l/r/Countryside_action_plan1.pdf#search=%22south%20somerset%20countryside%20service%20action%20plan%22</a></p>	<p>This plan aims to provide and maintain access to the countryside using the Public Rights of Way network whilst conserving wildlife through sensitive management of paths.</p>	<p>Enhancing access to and enjoyment of the countryside can have significant benefits in terms of not only stimulating people's interest in the environment but also promoting healthy habits and fitness.</p> <p>Economic benefits to the District (in terms of increased visitors/tourism) may also derive from increasing the preservation of and access to "nature".</p>	<p>The SA should promote access to the countryside and people's enjoyment of their natural surrounding. A monitoring scheme as well as good practice advice (in order to minimise erosion etc impacts from increased use of the paths) could be prepared.</p>
<p>Appropriate Assessment for Somerset Authorities Core Strategies: 'Somerset Levels and Moors and Severn Estuary (Bridgwater Bay) Natura 2000 sites' Scoping Report (2009), Somerset Authorities</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/county-wide-strategies-and-assessments">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/county-wide-strategies-and-assessments</a></p>	<p>Scopes the impact of the Core Strategy 'Issues and Options' upon the Somerset Levels and Moors and Severn Estuary Natura 2000 sites as they have related and overlapping functioning systems. Identifies the issues that have been 'scoped in' and therefore require further, more detailed consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased recreational disturbance to birds due to population growth within the District, particularly at Yeovil.</li> <li>▪ Increased water quality impacts to invertebrates due to changes in water quality arising from run-off and increased sewage treatment works that could arise.</li> <li>▪ Development of renewable energy schemes has the potential for disturbance to birds through direct habitat loss as a result of the footprint of the development and through disturbance to bird flight paths and foraging and roosting habitats.</li> </ul>	<p>Consider the key issues raised in terms of potential impacts of the Core Strategy on the Somerset Levels and Moors. Incorporate the recommendations of the Appropriate Assessment in the Core Strategy in order to comply with the Habitat Regulations.</p>	<p>Recognise the need to ensure there is not a significant adverse impact upon internationally designated biodiversity sites. Biodiversity, Flora and fauna are all topics in the SEA Directive and so are required to be present in the SA framework.</p>

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<p>Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Somerset Levels and Moors of South Somerset's draft Core Strategy incorporating preferred options, SSDC, 2010  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/district-wide-documents">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/district-wide-documents</a></p>	<p>Assesses the policies in the 'draft Core Strategy incorporating preferred options' for potential impact on the Somerset Levels and Moors, focussing on the impacts identified in the Scoping Report (see above). Four policies were considered to have potential for a significant effect (SS3, SS4, YV2, CV1), and therefore subject to more detailed assessment, but the incorporation of mitigation measures meant that there would be no adverse effect on the Somerset Levels and Moors.</p>	<p>Ensure there is no adverse effect on the Somerset Levels and Moors by incorporating the recommendations of the Appropriate Assessment in the Core Strategy in order to comply with the Habitat Regulations.</p>	<p>Recognise the need to ensure there is not a significant adverse impact upon internationally designated biodiversity sites. Biodiversity, Flora and fauna are all topics in the SEA Directive and so are required to be present in the SA framework.</p>
<p>Habitats Regulations Assessment for Bracket's Coppice SAC of South Somerset's Core Strategy – Issues and Options Screening Report (2008) and draft Core Strategy incorporating preferred options update report, Somerset County Council, 2010  (web link as above).</p>	<p>The Screening Report recommended the inclusion of a Bat Protection Zone policy and mapping specifically for Bracket's Coppice SAC. However, following further research becoming available and survey work since October 2008 it has been concluded that there is no longer a requirement for this zone. Instead, a number of policy amendments are recommended (YV2, YV5, HG6, EP6, EP7, EP8, EQ1, EQ2, EQ7) that would mean the Core Strategy would be unlikely to have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of the Bracket's Coppice SAC.</p>	<p>Incorporate recommendations to amend Core Strategy in order to comply with the Habitats Regulations, thereby ensuring there is no adverse effect on Bracket's Coppice SAC.</p>	<p>Recognise the need to ensure there is not a significant adverse impact upon internationally designated biodiversity sites. Biodiversity, Flora and fauna are all topics in the SEA Directive and so are required to be present in the SA framework.</p>


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<p>European Protected Species in South Somerset – Strategic Ecological Assessment of potential strategic housing sites, SCC, 2009  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base</a></p>	<p>Assesses the presence of European Protected Species at potential 'strategic' housing sites around Yeovil and Chard, in order to inform the Core Strategy and resultant masterplan process. Species of bat, dormice and otters are identified as being present around the two settlements. The potential impacts of new development and likelihood of impacts are set out, and mitigation and compensation measures are identified. The various sites assessed are ranked in order of preference in terms of impact upon European Protected Species.</p>	<p>Consider the findings of these studies in identifying future 'strategic' locations for development around Yeovil and Chard. This would include mitigation measures where necessary to offset potential adverse impacts.</p>	<p>Biodiversity, Flora and fauna are all topics in the SEA Directive and so are required to be present in the SA framework.</p>
<p>The Distribution of European Protected Species in South Somerset – Guidance for Spatial Planning, SCC, 2009  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base</a></p>	<p>Provides a policy and legislative background on European Protected Species and identifies those present in South Somerset, and their general locality across the District. The presence of European Protected Species around the main settlements is mapped.</p>	<p>Reflect policy and legislative background for European Protected Species. Use the distribution around South Somerset towns as guidance to inform potential urban extensions to the main towns.</p>	<p>Biodiversity, Flora and fauna are all topics in the SEA Directive and so are required to be present in the SA framework.</p>
<p>Historic Environment Assessment of Yeovil Periphery, SSDC, 2010 (web link as above).</p>	<p>Identifies and maps historic sites and features around the edge of Yeovil, evaluates the character of the historic environment, and assesses the impact of development upon the historic environment. The capacity of the historic environment to accommodate change is mapped, and sites capable of containing 5,000 dwellings (circa 220 ha) without unduly impacting upon identified historic assets and their setting are identified.</p>	<p>Use the findings of the assessment to ensure impact of Yeovil's urban extension(s) is minimised, including incorporation of suggested mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Cultural heritage (including archaeology) is in the SEA Directive and therefore required to be present in the SA framework.</p>

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<p>South Somerset Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, SSDC, 2008 (web link as above)</p>	<p>Assesses flood risk in South Somerset from all sources: tidal, fluvial, surface water, sewer, groundwater, and artificial sources i.e. reservoirs and canals, both now and in the future given the likely impacts of climate change. Maps of flood risk are included, and there is a review of flood risk at the main settlements which identifies that 8 of these contain elements that fall within Flood Zone 3, although in many cases the area affected is small.</p>	<p>Apply the Sequential Test to direct development away from areas of flood risk, where this is not possible the Exception Test will be necessary. Mitigation measures should be incorporated in order to manage flood risk.</p>	<p>Include an objective to manage and reduce the risk of flooding, and use the SFRA to inform this objective.</p>
<p>Catchment Flood Management Plans – Parrett; North and Mid Somerset; East Devon; Dorset Stour, Environment Agency, 2009. <a href="http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/114342.aspx">http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/114342.aspx</a></p>	<p>These are four strategic documents through which the Environment Agency will work with other stakeholders to identify and agree policies for long term flood risk management in South Somerset over the next 50-100 years. The plans do not propose specific or detailed measures but identify where further work is needed, and take into account likely future development and climate change. Six broad policies to manage flood risk in the catchments are set out for particular areas, such as no active intervention, continue with existing action, and take action to reduce flood risk.</p>	<p>Consider the strategic approach to flood risk management across the District.</p>	<p>Include an objective to manage and reduce the risk of flooding, and use information in the CFMPs in carrying out the appraisal.</p>
<p>River Basin Management Plan: South West River Basin District, Environment Agency, 2011. <a href="http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/125027.aspx">http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/125027.aspx</a></p>	<p>A requirement of the Water Framework Directive, these plans focus on the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. It describes the pressures facing the water environment in the south west and the actions that will address them. The range of challenges includes: pollution from agricultural activities, disused mines, water industry sewage works, and physical modification of water bodies.</p>	<p>Protect water quality by ensuring that sewage treatment works are able to cope with the requirements for new development in the District.</p>	<p>Minimise pollution to the water environment.</p>



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<p>Air Quality Strategy for Somerset, Somerset Authorities, 2008  <a href="http://www.mendip.gov.uk/Documents/7_-_App_Final_version_Air_Quality_Strategy.pdf">http://www.mendip.gov.uk/Documents/7_-_App_Final_version_Air_Quality_Strategy.pdf</a></p>	<p>Air pollution is harmful to health and ecosystems; although air quality is generally good in Somerset, traffic emissions are largely responsible for pollution hotspots, meaning there are three Air Quality Management Areas (two in Taunton, and one covering the urban area of Yeovil). Population growth, increased commuting, the demand for housing and associated services and facilities are the key issues affecting air quality in Somerset.</p>	<p>Locate development in the most sustainable locations where the need to travel is reduced; promote sustainable travel opportunities.</p>	<p>Minimise air pollution, including through the encouragement of sustainable travel.</p>
<p>Yeovil Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) 2005  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=573&amp;backid=226">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=573&amp;backid=226</a></p>	<p>Local authorities have a statutory duty under the Environment Act 1995 to review and assess the levels of pollutants [sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, fine particles (PM10), benzene, 1,3-butadiene, carbon monoxide and lead] against air quality standards and objectives laid out in the Air Quality Regulations (2000). These objectives are based on the pollutants' effect on health. Where these objectives are unlikely to be met, the Local Authority is obliged to declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), and prepare an Action Plan detailing how it intends to improve air quality for the health of residents in these areas.</p> <p>As a result of the assessment South Somerset District Council has declared one AQMA in August 2002 – Yeovil – due to predicted exceedences of the annual mean objective for 2002. Subsequently the Yeovil AQAP was published in July 2005 detailing how it intends to improve air quality for the health of residents in Yeovil. The AQAP identified road traffic as the predominant source of NO<sub>x</sub> in the AQMA. Cars are the most significant vehicle type contributing 44% of emissions, followed by HGVs and buses, which contribute respectively 23% and 16% of emissions.</p>	<p>As Yeovil is the largest town in South Somerset it has experienced significant growth in the past few decades, which has brought about an increase in road traffic.</p> <p>There is a need to manage increased demand for travel without a further significant increase in car use (a number of primary routes within the town already suffer congestion, particularly at peak times).</p> <p>The LDF can have an indirect influence through choice of location for new developments/regeneration areas; and also through developer contributions to provide cycle routes etc.</p>	<p>The SEA Directive requires that Air be considered as part of the SEA; as such air will be included in the SA framework.</p>

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<p>Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise (the Environmental Noise Directive (END))</p> <p>EC</p> <p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2002/l_189/l_18920020718en00120025.pdf">http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2002/l_189/l_18920020718en00120025.pdf</a></p>	<p>The aim of the END is to define a common approach across the European Union with the intention of avoiding, preventing or reducing on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise. This will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informing the public about environmental noise and its effects</li> <li>• The preparation of strategic noise maps for: large urban areas (referred to as 'agglomerations' in the END), major roads, major railways and major airports as defined in the END</li> </ul> <p>Preparing action plans based on the results of the noise mapping exercise. Such plans will aim to manage and reduce environmental noise where necessary, and preserve environmental noise quality where it is good</p>	<p>LDF should include development control policies to reflect the issue of noise pollution.</p>	<p>The SEA Directive does not require the assessment of noise explicitly in Annex II. However, given the impact of noise on Human Health, it should be included either as an indicator under the objective addressing human health, or, under an objective covering emissions of pollutants.</p>
<p><i>Waste Framework Directive (Directive 75/442/EEC, as amended)</i></p> <p>European Commission</p> <p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/index.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/index.htm</a></p>	<p>EU Directives legally bind all Member States to an overall objective to be achieved. They are defined following proposals by the European Commission and a process of consultation and agreement between members of the European Parliament and EU Council of elected ministers. The EU is aiming for a significant cut in the amount of rubbish generated, through new waste prevention initiatives, better use of resources, and encouraging a shift to more sustainable consumption patterns. It wants to reduce the quantity of waste going to 'final disposal' by 20% from 2000 to 2010, and by 50% by 2050, with special emphasis on cutting hazardous waste.</p>	<p>Waste planning is achieved at the county level; nonetheless SSDC should consider waste and ways of sustainably managing waste in their LDF under the parameters of sustainable development.</p>	<p>An objective in the SA framework will need to be developed to address the issue of waste such as to reduce waste generation and improve sustainable management of waste through waste minimisation, re-use and recycling.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="246 363 548 857"> <i>Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC)</i>            European Commission  <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/landfill_index.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/waste/landfill_index.htm</a> </p>	<p data-bbox="548 363 1263 857">           The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste, by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills. The Directive is intended to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of the landfill of waste on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health. It defines the different categories of waste (municipal waste, hazardous waste, non-hazardous waste and inert waste) and applies to all landfills, defined as waste disposal sites for the deposit of waste onto or into land. Landfills are divided into three classes:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• landfills for hazardous waste;</li> <li>• landfills for non-hazardous waste;</li> <li>• landfills for inert waste.</li> </ul> </p>	<p data-bbox="1263 363 1771 857">           Waste planning is achieved at the county level; nonetheless SSDC should consider waste and ways of sustainably managing waste in their LDF under the parameters of sustainable development in order to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.         </p>	<p data-bbox="1771 363 2074 857">           The SA Framework should include an objective on waste. Additionally, the SA should look, where possible to encourage synergies between waste disposal and energy production.         </p>

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<p>PPS – 10: Planning for Sustainable waste ODPM 2006</p> <p><a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_03331404.hcsp#P63_9441">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_03331404.hcsp#P63_9441</a></p>	<p>This PPS replaces Planning Policy Guidance Note 10, <i>Planning and Waste Management</i>, published in 1999. Planning authorities should prepare and deliver planning strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource and looking to disposal as the last option but one which must be adequately catered for;</li> <li>Enable sufficient and timely provision of waste management facilities to meet the needs of their communities;</li> <li>Help implement the national waste strategy, and supporting targets, and are consistent with obligations required under European legislation;</li> <li>Help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment and ensure waste is disposed of as near as possible to its place of production;</li> <li>Reflect the concerns and interests of local communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business and encourage competitiveness;</li> <li>Ensure the layout and design of new development supports sustainable waste management.</li> </ul>	<p>LDF should support principles of PPS10 through encouragement of recycling facilities within developments. This could be achieved through development control policies.</p>	<p>As above.</p>

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<p>PPG – 14: Development on unstable land</p> <p>ODPM 1990 <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_606899.pdf">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_606899.pdf</a></p>	<p>The purpose of these guidelines is principally to advise local authorities, landowners and developers on the exercise of planning controls over development on land, which is unstable or is potentially unstable. The aim is not to prevent the development of such land, though in some cases that may be the appropriate response. Rather it is to ensure that development is suitable and that the physical constraints on the land are taken into account at all stages of planning. Any scope for remedial, preventive or precautionary measures must also be fully explored so that land is not sterilised unnecessarily. It is equally important that where instability problems do arise, they should be adequately recorded so that the experience gained can be of benefit to the wider community</p>	<p>Identification of areas of unstable ground will allow the LPA to consider land uses that will not be adversely affected by any sinking (such as housing and business). Also this will help to ensure that various types of development should not be placed in unstable locations without appropriate precautions to reduce the risk to property and the public.</p> <p>This provides the opportunity to bring back unstable land into productive use where possible.</p>	<p>The requirement for Soils to be included as an SEA Directive topic means that there must be an Objective in the SA framework that will covers soil and geodiversity.</p>
<p>PPS5: Planning for the Historic Environment, CLG, 2010 <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/</a></p>	<p>Overarching aim is the historic environment and its heritage assets, both designated and non-designated should be conserved and enjoyed for both current and future generations. It should be recognised that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource and the benefits of their conservation is key, although managed change may sometimes be necessary. Heritage assets should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. Evidence from the historic environment should be captured and made publicly available.</p>	<p>Need evidence about the historic environment and heritage assets, and assess the type, numbers, distribution, significance and condition of heritage assets.</p> <p>Should set out a positive, proactive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.</p>	<p>SEA/ SA objectives to protect and enhance the historic environment. This includes aspects of cultural heritage, landscape and material assets as defined by the SEA Directive (Annex I (f)).</p>

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<p>PPG – 24: Planning and noise</p> <p>ODPM 1994  <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_606912.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_606912.hcsp</a></p>	<p>This gives guidance on the use of their planning powers to minimise the adverse impact of noise. It:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlines the considerations to be taken into account in determining planning applications both for noise-sensitive developments and for those activities which will generate noise;</li> <li>• Introduces the concept of noise exposure categories for residential development, encourages their use and recommends appropriate levels for exposure to different sources of noise; and</li> <li>• Advises on the use of conditions to minimise the impact of noise.</li> </ul>	<p>Opportunity to separate noise generating and noise sensitive land-uses. Ability to grant planning permission to noise generating developments if situated in appropriate location. Opportunity to promote high quality design that will mitigate against noisy land uses.</p> <p>Much development in South Somerset will generate noise. Must ensure development does not cause an unacceptable degree of disturbance. Special consideration is required where noisy development is proposed in or near SSSIs in South Somerset.</p>	<p>SA objectives to include an objective to promote high quality design / sustainable development. Depending on successful implementation objectives to improve the health, well-being of the population and to maintain biodiversity can be met.</p>
<p>PPS25 Development and Flood Risk, revised 2010; and Practice Guide, CLG, 2009</p> <p><a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/</a></p>	<p>The aim of PPS25 is to focus on national planning policy and provide clarity on what is required at regional and local levels to ensure that decisions are made at the most appropriate level and in a timely fashion to deliver sustainable planning for development and flood risk.</p>	<p>Identify land at risk and the degree of risk of flooding from river, sea and other sources in their areas. Prepare Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRA) as appropriate. Frame policies for the location of development, which avoid flood risk to people and property. Ensure spatial planning supports flood risk management and emergency planning.</p>	<p>SA objectives may include reducing flood risk and increasing biodiversity (if natural flood management practices are used), which can be met by implementing the guidance in the LDF.</p>

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<p>Our Environment: Our Future – The Regional Strategy for the South West Environment 2004-2014</p> <p>South West Regional Assembly</p> <p><a href="http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/media/SWR/Environment/ENV-strat-main.pdf">http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/media/SWR/Environment/ENV-strat-main.pdf</a></p>	<p>The Strategy aims to generate awareness of environmental issues in the South West and to provide a plan of action that highlights opportunities and pressures that the region faces in trying to achieve sustainable development.</p> <p>It aims to do so by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying key issues</li> <li>• Proposing a plan on how to deliver the strategy</li> <li>• Regular monitoring and reviewing (every 3 years)</li> <li>• Use of proposed targets and indicators.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy identifies a number of key issues, such as climate change, the use of natural resources, spatial planning in relation to population growth, and stresses the interrelatedness of all issues (through a matrix).</p> <p>It aims to monitor both environmental outcomes in relation to targets and indicators, and delivery of the actions identified in the Implementation Plan.</p> <p>Targets and indicators of progress are still being developed alongside baseline data.</p>	<p>The LDF can draw on the interdisciplinary analysis of key issues and targets for the South West in order to identify local sustainability issues and targets.</p> <p>The LDF can review its objectives, targets and indicators of progress against those of the regional strategy in order to ensure consistency and a common direction.</p> <p>As one of the delivery strategies involves “coordinating actions between regional and local partners”, there is a need and an opportunity to contribute to both regional and local objectives in parallel.</p>	<p>The key objectives of the Regional Strategy should be reflected in the SA objectives, containing reference to sustainable development and to the interrelatedness of environmental, social and economic issues.</p>
<p>Somerset Waste Local Plan 2001-2011 (adopted February 2005)</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/308/FE/chapters1-6.pdf">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/308/FE/chapters1-6.pdf</a></p>	<p>The plan identifies the need for more data acquisition from which a baseline of the situation and forecasts for the future can be obtained and decisions made based on it.</p>	<p>The LDF should support the Local Waste Plan through encouraging recycling through development control policies.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include an objective on waste.</p>

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<p>Somerset Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options II, SCC, 2011  <a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste">www.somerset.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste</a></p>	<p>Sets out the need for new waste management facilities in Somerset up to the year 2028. Presents options as to whether a 'strategic' or 'local' approach should be taken to provide such facilities and the environmental criteria that rule some areas out. Criteria for inclusion within development management policies are set out.</p>	<p>Support efforts to minimise waste production and encourage alternatives to landfill for waste disposal.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should include an objective on waste.</p>
<p>The Landscape of South Somerset 1993  (Hard copy available from the Council)</p>	<p>This report identifies the rich landscape character and constituent features of South Somerset and divides the area into 7 recognisable and distinct units based upon topography and geology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fivehead and High Ham escarpments, valleys and moors</li> <li>▪ Blackdown Hills plateau escarpments, footslopes and valleys</li> <li>▪ Windwhistle Ridge footslopes and valleys</li> <li>▪ Ham Hill Plateau, Yeovil Sands escarpments and valleys</li> <li>▪ Ridges and vales south and west of Yeovil</li> <li>▪ Escarpments, ridges and vales east of Yeovil</li> <li>▪ Central plain, moors and river basins.</li> </ul> <p>Features that are particularly vulnerable include hedges and hedgerow trees, woodlands, orchards and parklands.</p>	<p>In preparing development plans consider identifying areas for special treatment by means of specific policies relevant to the areas character.</p> <p>Development control policies that require applications to recognise specific character of the area in which they wish to develop.</p>	<p>Baseline information on the countryside of South Somerset.</p>



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<p>Yeovil Country Park Management Plan 2002-2007 (Hard copy available from the Council)</p>	<p>SSDC manage the County Park. Aims of the Management Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain the country park as a facility for the general public for informal recreation</li> <li>▪ Conserve the wildlife and landscape value of the park and enhance where possible</li> <li>▪ Use country park as educational resource</li> <li>▪ Offer opportunities for people to get involved with the management</li> <li>▪ Promote rights of way links with wider countryside</li> </ul>	<p>Consider the aims and objectives of the Management Plan when formulating policy concerning developments spatial distribution and the conservation of open space and countryside.</p>	<p>No national designations within park but there are some County Wildlife Sites</p>
<p>Water Resources Management Plan, Wessex Water, 2010 <a href="http://www.wessexwater.co.uk/water-and-sewerage/threecol.aspx?id=578">http://www.wessexwater.co.uk/water-and-sewerage/threecol.aspx?id=578</a></p>	<p>This plan outlines how Wessex Water intends to provide a high quality, reliable and sustainable water service over the next 25 years. It includes a description as to how demand is forecast, the available output of current sources of supply, and plans to overcome any deficits. The plan for the next five years includes improving river flows, developing a more integrated water supply grid, encouraging the wise use of water and to avoid waste.</p>	<p>Reflect the general findings to ensure there is sufficient water supply to meet development needs in the future.</p>	<p>Ensure a safe and reliable water supply is considered as part of meeting social needs and also in adapting to climate change by making efficient use of water.</p>

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<p>South Somerset Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/k/s/Inspection_Strategy_Jan_05.pdf">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/k/s/Inspection_Strategy_Jan_05.pdf</a></p>	<p>This strategy sets out how the Council will inspect its area for contaminated land to fulfil its duties under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Land of interest is prioritised according to the risk of harm to people, ecosystems or other sensitive receptors.</p> <p>It must be noted that the process of dealing with contaminated land is constrained by the availability of information on past and present uses and by that on potential types of contamination. Appropriate investigation is thus necessary in order to achieve appropriate clean up of land through the planning process (see right) or alternative powers such as those given in part II A of the Environment Protection Act 1990.</p>	<p>The planning system is an essential tool in the remediation of contaminated sites. Quality of land must remain a material consideration in preparing development plans and documents and determining planning applications.</p> <p>There is a significant opportunity for remediation in the context of new developments and regeneration, as well as an essential opportunity for prevention of contamination through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best environmental practice approach in current industrial/other activities;</li> <li>• Pollution Prevention and Control</li> <li>• Effective waste management practices and control.</li> </ul> <p>Core policy and development control policy will need to address the issue of contaminated land in the context of development proposals.</p>	<p>The SEA/SA could include objectives and indicators that address contaminated land brought back into use and/or contaminated land remediated. The planning process can aid the achievement of these wider objectives.</p>
<p>Sustainable Communities: Homes for all 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1122851">http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1122851</a></p>	<p>It includes measures to deliver new homes while protecting the environment; help for 80,000 first time buyers and key workers to own a home; Homebuy, which could enable up to 300,000 social tenants to buy a share in their home; moveUK - a new system bringing together information about jobs and homes; extending choice-based lettings nationwide; and action to halve numbers living in temporary accommodation by 2010.</p>	<p>Land allocations DPD for new housing in response to government targets.</p>	<p>Land allocations DPD would require SA/SEA.</p>

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<p>National Cycle Strategy</p> <p>Department for Transport (DfT)  <a href="http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_sustravel/documents/page/dft_sustravel_503877.hcsp">http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_sustravel/documents/page/dft_sustravel_503877.hcsp</a></p>	<p>The National Cycling Strategy (NCS) aims to increase the use of bicycles for all types of journey. It has a target to quadruple the number of trips made by bicycle by 2012 on 1996 levels. This NCS will promote cycling priority on the highway in the centre of towns, at the workplace and in new developments. By so doing, the Strategy will generate a culture change for cycling. By creating safer conditions on the road a "critical mass" of cyclists will be encouraged. Then cycling will feed on its success and make our streets safer and cleaner for everyone. By 2002 the National Cycling Strategy aims to have tapped this potential and delivered a doubling of cycle use in the UK.</p>	<p>Opportunities to 'design – in' alternative transport into the Masterplanning of new developments and into policy generally. Specifically this can be applied to the provision of cycling infrastructure. It will be important to design / require development to be orientated around transport nodes in order to minimise the distance cycled to stations and therefore maximise the numbers of residents who would walk / cycle.</p>	<p>The SA Framework should provide for assessment not only of alternative transport means (i.e. alternative to the private motorcar) but also for site location in the site-specific allocations.</p>
<p>PPG – 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreations</p> <p>ODPM 2002</p> <p><a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_606902.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_606902.hcsp</a></p>	<p>The policies set out in this guidance will need to be taken into account by local planning authorities in the preparation of their local development frameworks; they may also be material to decisions on individual planning applications.</p> <p>Open spaces, sport and recreation all underpin people's quality of life. Well-designed and implemented planning policies for open space, sport and recreation are therefore fundamental to delivering broader Government objectives.</p>	<p>Opportunity to provide new facilities and open space.</p> <p>Where recreational land and facilities are of poor quality or under-used, South Somerset should seek opportunities to improve the value of existing facilities. Also an opportunity to promote accessibility to these facilities for sustainable transport modes.</p> <p>Resist change of use of recreational space unless an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the land to be surplus to requirements. For open space, 'surplus to requirements' should include consideration of all the functions that open space can perform</p>	<p>SEA / SA objectives could incorporate the following aspects:  Encourage health and well being;  Encourage biodiversity in open spaces.  Indicators could include access to open space</p>

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<p>Planning Policy Statement 3 (PPS3) – Housing, updated June 2010, CLG</p> <p><a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/</a></p>	<p>Advises LAs that they should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have regard to local strategies, in particular local housing strategies, local homelessness strategies, community strategies, local economic strategies, the local transport plan, the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, and any local greening or design strategy;</li> <li>• Develop an evidence base that underpins all local strategies, and sub-regional strategies where relevant;</li> <li>• Work in partnership with local stakeholders and local communities.</li> </ul> <p>Provides guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allocating and releasing land for housing</li> <li>• Efficient use of land</li> <li>• Household type</li> <li>• Affordable housing</li> <li>• Rural housing</li> <li>• Designing for quality</li> <li>• Greening the residential environment</li> <li>• Managing delivery and development.</li> </ul> <p>2010 update excludes private residential gardens from the definition of PDL, and deletes national indicative minimum density of 30 dph.</p>	<p>Local development frameworks should set out a strategy for housing provision within the context of the relevant sub-regional housing market area. This strategy must be in general conformity with, and aim to meet the objectives of, the regional spatial strategy.</p>	<p>Objective to provide everyone with the opportunity of a decent home could be reflected in the SEA/SA objectives. Housing policies and land allocations will be a key focus of the SEA/SA. Indicators: household stock and type; number of affordable housing units completed annually.</p>

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<p data-bbox="259 371 533 614"> <b>Draft PPS Planning for Traveller Sites consultation, 2011, CLG</b>  <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/travellersitesconsultation">http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/travellersitesconsultation</a> </p>	<p data-bbox="562 371 1247 552"> Seeks to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community. The number of traveller sites should be increased to address under provision, having due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment. </p>	<p data-bbox="1279 371 1756 703"> Should set pitch and plot targets which address the likely permanent and transit site needs of travellers in light of historic demand. This includes identifying specific sites to enable continuous delivery for 15 years, and specific deliverable sites for 5 years supply. Criteria based policies should ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally. </p>	<p data-bbox="1787 371 2051 580"> The integration of an objective requiring the provision / availability of a decent home for all should be included within the SA Framework. </p>

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<p>The South West Regional Plan for Sport 2004-2008</p> <p><a href="http://www.sportdevelopment.org.uk/swplan2004.pdf#search=%2South%20west%20regional%20plan%20for%20sport%22">http://www.sportdevelopment.org.uk/swplan2004.pdf#search=%2South%20west%20regional%20plan%20for%20sport%22</a></p>	<p>This plan aims to improve the access to and conditions of sports facilities in the SW of England and increase health and fitness levels across the population.</p> <p>The general aim is to create a 1% year on year increase in moderate activity levels, leading to 50% of the South West population being physically active by 2020.</p> <p>This is an opportunity to enhance not only the health status of the region but also to generate economic wealth, as there will be more jobs provided through sports and sporting events. Social impacts can be very positive as an increase in sport activity is may lead to a decrease in violence, drug consumption and alienation (in particular amongst teenagers).</p>	<p>South Somerset District Council has an opportunity to recognise that sport can be used as a catalyst for deeper and wider social and economical change and regeneration and take appropriate actions, such as local targets for access to sports facilities, level of activity and monitoring of progress. There is an opportunity for positive synergies with other related/interested parties in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote education and awareness of the importance of sports</li> <li>• Improving the quality and safety of public open spaces</li> <li>• Promoting sustainable transport including access to sports facilities/open spaces</li> <li>• Increasing the number and quality of sports facilities.</li> </ul>	<p>The SA should include investigate sport and recreational aspects possibly within human health topic.</p>

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<p>Somerset Housing Market Assessment 2006</p> <p><a href="http://www.heartofsomerset.com/Forms/Somerset_Housing_Market_Report.pdf">http://www.heartofsomerset.com/Forms/Somerset_Housing_Market_Report.pdf</a></p> <p>and South Somerset Strategic Housing Market Assessment, SSSDC, 2009</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=28740">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=28740</a></p>	<p>The assessment identifies key issues concerning Somerset housing Markets and needs.</p> <p>The reduced level of new and re-lets supply together with a continued growth in housing needs creates a constant shortfall of new dwellings and increase in housing waiting lists – the greatest amount of need being in social housing.</p> <p>Due to the low supply of high-skilled jobs and low local incomes, there is a trend towards young people leaving the county, as well as an influx of retired/second home owners/high earners.</p> <p>The consequent increase in house prices means that a growing percentage of local households are being excluded from the housing market. The 2009 update identifies that there is a need for 659 affordable homes each year in South Somerset.</p>	<p>Although the RSS proposes that 60% of new houses are built in the main urban areas (Yeovil in SS), 70% of the population is rural living in the market towns and villages and it is the smaller market towns and rural areas that have the most unbalanced housing markets – in most need of affordable housing.</p> <p>The LDF must ensure that its policies to not exacerbate the already existing discrepancies. In doing so it must take care regarding the use of available land in the District as well as economic and social uses with equal weighting to housing in order to achieve truly sustainable communities.</p>	<p>The SA will need to ensure that in assessing sites, all aspects of sustainable development are considered in the assessment. The balance of these will be crucial in determining the long-term balance of these communities.</p>
<p>Somerset Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2005-2008</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/communityliving/crime/index.cfm?override=publications&amp;pubid=1757">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/communityliving/crime/index.cfm?override=publications&amp;pubid=1757</a></p>	<p>The document sets out key themes for action in Somerset which draw on National priorities and targets as well as aims, which reflect the specific concerns of Somerset (Mendip and South Somerset).</p> <p>These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road Safety</li> <li>• Vehicle Crime</li> <li>• Violent Crime</li> <li>• Anti-Social Behaviour</li> <li>• Theft (Business Crime)</li> </ul> <p>In addition to these aims the Partnership will be working to become more effective in ensuring the level and effect of crime and disorder is minimised.</p>	<p>The development carried out in SS must take these factors into account and should be seen as an opportunity to create safer communities and reduce the fear of crime. This is particularly relevant given the fact the Government aim of building 60% of new development in urban areas, where social issues tend to be concentrated/more evident.</p>	<p>SA should include objective covering crime and fear of crime. Violent crime in SS has shown the greatest increase over the past three years with 75% occurring in public and 25% in the home. Anti-Social behaviour was identified as a major concern for residents in SS.</p>

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<p>Somerset Education Development Plan Interim Plan 2004-2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/sixv3/content_view.asp?did=8799">http://www.six.somerset.gov.uk/sixv3/content_view.asp?did=8799</a></p>	<p>The plan's aim is to improve school performance, raise standards and expectations for all pupils and all those working in or with schools in Somerset. The priorities, which emerged, reflect national priorities and wish to tackle issues such as gender issues, ensuring progress of pupils with SEN, tackle underperformance in certain geographical areas and improving school leadership and management.</p>	<p>Opportunity to develop the schooling standard with and without the need to build new schools, concentrating resources in raising the standards within appropriate schools. Proposed development will need to consider its impact on the education requirements on current and future residents in order to ensure adequate quality and quantity of education for the District.</p>	<p>SA framework to include the aspiration to increase the skills and education levels within the District and establish a more balanced economic structure.</p>
<p>Celebrating Somerset's Culture: Somerset Cultural Strategy 2002</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/6F5DB/Cultural%20Strategy.pdf">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/6F5DB/Cultural%20Strategy.pdf</a></p>	<p>The Strategy aims to identify and increase the access to and quality of Somerset's distinctive cultural features and services recognising the significant benefits in terms of both personal development, community identity and economic benefits (tourism).</p> <p>Challenges identified include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in working patterns and electronic/visual access to entertainment means that people will make less effort to go out and make use of facilities;</li> <li>• Cost is an issue and more deprived areas (e.g. Yeovil) will have less access to facilities;</li> <li>• Rural areas are isolated due to deficient public transport and cannot access cultural facilities without the use of private transport;</li> <li>• Awareness: there is a need to increase the amount of information that reaches the population regarding local cultural opportunities;</li> <li>• The loss of village centres such as the post office, the pub, or shops should be avoided.</li> </ul>	<p>The quality of the Somerset landscape is protected by a number of environmental and cultural designations. There is an opportunity to promote access to and the range of cultural facilities by including environmental protection and economic objectives (tourism) i.e. working within the principles of sustainable development. Trust and volunteer groups help preserve cultural and natural heritage as well as small-scale local businesses. Promoting work in partnership with these organisations will strengthen links with the community and benefits to the community.</p> <p>The inclusion of the increasing number and range of ethnic minorities should be a concern.</p>	<p>The consideration of cultural heritage is a core topic of the SEA Directive and as such should be included in the SA Framework. Provision of facilities and access may be important indicators to monitor relevant objectives.</p>



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<p>Review of Somerset Cycling Strategy 2004</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/460%5CB2/Cycling_Strategy_-_Market_Towns_report.pdf#search=%22review%20of%20somerset%20cycling%20strategy%22">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/460%5CB2/Cycling_Strategy_-_Market_Towns_report.pdf#search=%22review%20of%20somerset%20cycling%20strategy%22</a></p>	<p>The Strategy aims to identify market towns within Somerset with the greatest potential for an increase in the levels of cycling (therefore excluding towns such as Yeovil) – in order to effectively target resources to build or improve on facilities.</p> <p>Levels of cycling in Somerset are 60% higher than national average but there is still potential for improvement.</p> <p>Topography, the size of a town as well as distance between home and town centre are considered to have the greatest impact on the potential level of cycling.</p> <p>Four locations in SS were assessed: Chard, Crewkerne, Ilminster and Wincanton. Overall they were assessed with a very low to medium potential for improvement of cycling levels.</p>	<p>The journey to work is the most common journey purpose for all cycle trips. Therefore, the choice of location for new housing or business development can have a significant impact on the potential levels of cycling. Locating development in major urban centres may increase the levels of cycling locally but discourage cycling trips to/from smaller isolated settlements.</p> <p>The LDF can nevertheless include for individual beneficial changes such as local cycle routes to secondary schools, permitting cycling in pedestrianised areas of market towns or individual cycle lanes as/where necessary.</p>	<p>The SA as a spatial strategy should look at possible areas for development that have or may have good cycling access to services and facilities and should also consider safety issues such as HGV% on roads, congestion areas or busy junctions.</p>

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<p>South Somerset Housing and Accommodation Strategy 2004-2007</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=641">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=641</a></p>	<p>The strategy highlights the issues that SS faces regarding housing. These show that SS follows the trend experienced in the whole of Somerset with the following challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ There is a high need for additional affordable rented homes with 3,500 applicants in the SS Housing Register</li> <li>♦ Average house prices are now 7.8 times the average salary in the district meaning many working households cannot meet their housing needs;</li> <li>♦ Only 10% of homeless applicants are able to find accommodation in the private rented sector.</li> <li>♦ SS has an old and ageing population partly as a result of inward migration</li> </ul>	<p>The LDF must develop strategies and targets aiming to maximise provision of affordable housing, reduce homelessness and develop the private sector.</p> <p>However in doing so it must take into account environmental, economic and social issues so that the truly sustainable communities are created and housing issues tackled with a long-term vision for the District in mind.</p>	<p>The SA will need to ensure that in assessing sites, the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development are taken into account.</p>
<p>South Somerset District Council Urban Housing Potential Study August 2006</p>	<p>Assesses the potential for residential development in existing settlements in the District, particularly on previously developed land, in the period up to 2016. Overall the study identifies potential for around 4,218 dwellings in the period 2006 –2016. The main characteristics of this potential are: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A high contribution from the redevelopment of other uses.</li> <li>• The other main sources of supply are intensification of existing areas and development outside development.</li> </ul>	<p>SSDC should use the Study to help inform policies and proposals to be included in the Local Development Framework (LDF) and inform the Council's contribution and response to regional and sub-regional policy guidance.</p>	<p>The implementation of policies and the delivery of housing provision will need to be monitored.</p>

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Somerset Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment and Accommodation Strategy 2006	There is a need for both residential sites and transit sites. Appointment of residential sites: policies HG10 and HG11 of the adopted Local Plan provide the framework which make it possible for proposals for privately owned or privately run sites to gain planning permission. Transit sites – 4 options: Local Authority owned and managed transit sites using Local Authority or public land; Lease land from private owners and develop Local Authority managed sites; Encourage the Private Sector to establish and manage Transit sites; Create partnerships between landowners, communities, the Local Authorities and the Police to provide sites on private sector landholdings	DPDs will need to explain how the land required will be made available for a Gypsy and Traveller site, and timescales for provision. In the absence of an allocations DPD, local planning authorities are expected to give substantial weight to the unmet need in considering whether a temporary planning permission is justified.	Sustainability issue: Need for residential and transit accommodation for Gypsy families within the district. It states that land will be required to accommodate 24 caravans.
Somerset Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment, SSDC, 2011 <a href="http://www.southsomer.set.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base">http://www.southsomer.set.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base</a>	Qualitative and quantitative data to inform the number of gypsy and traveller pitches that would be required in each of the Somerset authorities' between the years 2010-2015 and 2015-2020. Recommendations are made on other issues such as management, fire safety, community representation, and opening up traditional stopping places.	DPDs will need to explain how the land required will be made available for a Gypsy and Traveller site, and timescales for provision. In the absence of an allocations DPD, local planning authorities are expected to give substantial weight to the unmet need in considering whether a temporary planning permission is justified.	Sustainability issue: Need for residential and transit accommodation for Gypsy families within the district.

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<p>Quality of life in South Somerset 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomer.set.gov.uk/media/pdf/g/3/Quality_of_Life_in_South_Somerset_2005_(revised).pdf#search=%22quality%20life%20south%20somerset%202005%22">http://www.southsomer.set.gov.uk/media/pdf/g/3/Quality_of_Life_in_South_Somerset_2005_(revised).pdf#search=%22quality%20life%20south%20somerset%202005%22</a></p>	<p>This document provides socio-economic and environmental statistics which highlight the following issues that need tackling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Although SS is part of the least deprived 35% of LAs in England, this hides major inequalities as 12% of the population of SS live in the most deprived Super Output Areas in England (mostly Yeovil);</li> <li>• House prices have increased by 63% since 2001 and there is a huge demand for affordable housing especially to retain young people;</li> <li>• There is need to diversity the job sector as more than 25% is manufacturing. There is a need to increase the availability of skilled labour in order to retain and attract young people to the district.</li> <li>• Public and alternative transport routes must be improved in order to decrease the use of private car and tackle the issue of rural isolation.</li> <li>• More than half of SSSIs are in unfavourable or worse condition.</li> <li>• Gender inequalities: Men earn on average more than £7000/year than women.</li> </ul>	<p>This document provides a useful set of data that can be used to inform the policy-making process as well as providing a set of indicators that can be used in the monitoring framework.</p>	<p>The data contained in this document can be used to incorporate the baseline section of the SA.</p>
<p>South Somerset Primary Care Trust Race Equality Scheme 2005-2008 (produced by PCT)</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset-health.org.uk/southsomerset/raceequality.html">http://www.somerset-health.org.uk/southsomerset/raceequality.html</a></p>	<p>The Race Equality Scheme 2005-2008 sets out how race equality and equality of opportunity will be promoted in the delivery of healthcare.</p> <p>The Trust aims to meet its Duties mainly by reviewing policy and services with regard to the race equality impact assessment guidance as well as develop links with black and minority ethnic community groups in order to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to contribute to changes and reviews of services.</p>	<p>The Race Equality Scheme can be a useful tool in alleviating disparities between races.</p>	<p>SA framework to include an objective to alleviate inequality in the District. Possible indicator to identify access to services and facilities by Ward and by racial group.</p>

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<p>South Somerset PCT (SSPCT) Patient and Public Involvement Strategy November 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset-health.org.uk/pdf/southsomerset/PPI%20strategy%20version%20%201_1.pdf">http://www.somerset-health.org.uk/pdf/southsomerset/PPI%20strategy%20version%20%201_1.pdf</a></p>	<p>The Strategy aims to identify methods in which the SSPCT can ensure that the views of patients and users of the service are central to the planning and delivery of services.</p>	<p>Opportunity through LDF process to engage the views of the public regarding access to and satisfaction with health services.</p>	<p>Health objective should be a part of the SA Framework.</p>
<p>The Next Level: Strategy for Sport and Active Leisure in South Somerset 2006-2012</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomeset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=2252">http://www.southsomeset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=2252</a></p>	<p>This strategy aims to put in practice the aims of the Regional Strategy for Sport at the local level. It aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drive up participation levels across South Somerset by at least 1% year on year.</li> <li>• Ensure that at least 75% of young people spend at least 4 hours a week on high quality physical education at work whilst at school by 2009.</li> <li>• Improve performance standards by increasing junior representation at county, regional, national and international levels.</li> </ul> <p>It aims to do so by selecting 20 population centres with the highest needs as initial focus for new initiatives.</p>	<p>LPA can assist in implementing strategy by safeguarding recreation areas and actively seeking to create more through developer contributions and mixed-use developments.</p>	<p>Targets may be applicable in Stage 1 Baseline.</p>

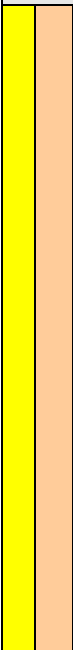
Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>South Somerset Sport and Recreation Built Facilities Assessment Report (Draft) June 2006  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/i/6/Complete_Section_3_V7.pdf">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/i/6/Complete_Section_3_V7.pdf</a></p>	<p>Contains audit of local provision including quantity, quality, effective catchment area, accessibility and levels and type of use. Report identifies existing sport and recreational needs of people living, working and visiting the District and a prediction of future needs to 2016. Audit and assessment combined to develop minimum standards.</p>	<p>Adhere to general principles for planning of new facilities; maintain and enhance existing facilities – planning obligations may be used where improvements are required to meet identified need.</p>	<p>Baseline information to feed into Stage A of the process. Potential for indicator: access to recreation and sport facilities.</p>
<p>PPS4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth, CLG, 2009  <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/</a></p>	<p>Planning authorities should plan positively and proactively to facilitate sustainable economic growth. A wide evidence base should be used, recognising the differing needs of business. Efficient and effective use of land and buildings should be sought, securing a high quality and sustainable environment. Should promote town centre vitality and viability, and adopt a sequential approach to identified town centre uses.</p>	<p>Ensure provision of a good range of sites identified for economic and mixed use development, responsive to changing needs and demands. Promote vitality and viability of town centres. Develop a hierarchy and network of centres. Promote thriving rural communities whilst continuing to protect the open countryside. Ensure high quality and inclusive design.</p>	<p>Potential for SA/SEA Objective to support economic growth, and the vitality and vibrancy of town centres and rural service centres.</p>

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<p>PPG – 19: Outdoor Advertising Control.</p> <p>ODPM 1992</p> <p><a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1144091">http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1144091</a></p>	<p>The main purpose of the advertisement control system is to help everyone involved in the display of outdoor advertising to contribute positively to the appearance of an attractive and cared-for environment in cities, towns and the countryside. The PPG advises local planning authorities how to control advertisements in the interests of "amenity" and "public safety".</p> <p>Advertisements are important to the national economy; guidance can help to ensure that signs and advertisements are in harmony with the built environment. Signs and advertisements must suit scenic, historic, architectural or cultural features, which contribute to the distinctive character of the locality.</p> <p>The advertisement control system must function quickly so that new business can open up quickly with appropriate signage.</p>	<p>Ensure that policy protects the character of the urban environment from inappropriate signage and advertisements.</p> <p>Policy should allow a quick turnover for decisions as to not adversely affect the economic performance of new business.</p> <p>Policy can be derived that is efficient, effective and simple in concept and operation.</p>	<p>SA objectives should encompass the relevant issues (e.g. conserving cultural heritage, maintaining economic growth etc.).</p>
<p><b>South Somerset Retail Study, SSDC, 2006; and 2010 update</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base</a></p>	<p>The purpose of the study is to inform and guide retail planning in the district and provide officers with a detailed strategy on which to base their assessment of forthcoming retail applications. With particular emphasis on the five main town centres of Yeovil, Chard, Crewkerne, Ilminster and Wincanton. The 2010 update includes updated figures, and broadens the range of key town centres to also include Castle Cary, Somerton, and Langport.</p>	<p>South Somerset should use study to guide selection of appropriate existing centres to accommodate the identified need for growth. They should also manage the role and function of existing centres, including promoting specialist roles for certain centres, encouraging specific types of uses.</p>	<p>Study can be used to appraise spatial aspect of plans including the core strategy and appraisal of land allocations DPD.</p>

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<p>Yeovil Urban Development Framework June 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.yeovilvision.co.uk/?Page=&amp;LHS=31&amp;Folder=47x">http://www.yeovilvision.co.uk/?Page=&amp;LHS=31&amp;Folder=47x</a></p>	<p>The Vision aims to create a town:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That is a distinctive destination in its own right</li> <li>• With a thriving centre not dependent on key magnets but which is robust, self-sustaining and has convenient access by all modes of transport</li> <li>• That is permeable and well connected</li> <li>• That has a human scale with a fine-grained mix of uses and positive urban spaces</li> <li>• That is well connected to the Country Park and wider countryside</li> <li>• That changes perception by the improving quality of its facilities and environment</li> </ul>	<p>The key document focussing on Yeovil Town Centre will be the Yeovil Town Centre Action Plan, which will have the status of a Development Plan Document (DPD). The intention is for the Yeovil UDF to perform as a key evidence base for the forthcoming Yeovil Area Action Plan.</p>	<p>Use evidence base in appraisal of Yeovil AAP.</p>
<p>The Community Plan for Crewkerne and District 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.crewkernetown.co.uk/abcd/index.php">http://www.crewkernetown.co.uk/abcd/index.php</a></p>	<p>Identifies a vision for the next 20 years as well as issues and projects from the local community in Crewkerne and the surrounding villages. Themes in the plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vibrant Community</li> <li>• Improving Prosperity</li> <li>• Leisure and Culture</li> <li>• Lifelong Learning</li> <li>• Improving Transport</li> <li>• Health and Well-being</li> <li>• Quality of Environment</li> </ul>	<p>South Somerset District Council and Somerset County Council will use the document to take action in Crewkerne and its surrounding area. It will also be used to co-ordinate proposals for improvements with organisations such as Somerset County Council.</p>	<p>Local issues are represented through the plan and could be used to inform the sustainability issues/problems that the SA/SEA Objectives are formulated to address.</p>



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<p>Chard Regeneration Scheme, SSDC, 2009-10  <a href="http://www.southsomer.set.gov.uk/business-and-regeneration/regeneration/chard-regeneration-scheme/">http://www.southsomer.set.gov.uk/business-and-regeneration/regeneration/chard-regeneration-scheme/</a></p>	<p>Sets out the means to guide the regeneration and growth of Chard over the next 20 years, using three aims as summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Build on its long tradition of innovation and manufacturing excellence;</li> <li>▪ Regeneration should strengthen the community and make the town increasingly self-sufficient;</li> <li>▪ Should develop and enhance its urban environment.</li> </ul> <p>A series of documents have been produced, including a vision for Chard, regeneration plan, implementation plan, and transport appraisal. Extensive public consultation on the plans has taken place. Four options are presented for the future growth at Chard, ranging from 410 dwellings to 3485 dwellings, with option 3 (2700 dw) the preferred option.</p>	<p>Support the regeneration and growth of Chard by incorporating the main strategic aspects of the Regeneration Scheme into the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>Local issues are represented through the plan and could be used to inform the sustainability issues/problems that the SA/SEA Objectives are formulated to address. Plus additional data that could be used if an AAP or Allocations DPD is produced.</p>

Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
 <p>Chard and Area Community Plan 2005</p>	<p>The plan is the result of widespread consultation and sets out the key aspirations that the community of Chard and the surrounding villages have for the next twenty years. The Vision is that Chard and its surrounding area will be a community that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is Healthy</li> <li>• Is Spiritually fulfilled</li> <li>• Is Safe</li> <li>• Is well connected</li> <li>• Is proud of its good self image</li> <li>• Has good facilities reflecting its role as a market town</li> <li>• Meets the needs of its vulnerable people</li> <li>• Celebrates its inclusive nature and its diverse cultures</li> <li>• Is high achieving</li> <li>• Has good quality jobs and a diverse economy</li> <li>• Has housing for everyone</li> <li>• Addresses the needs of its young people</li> <li>• Looks after its environment and heritage.</li> </ul>	<p>South Somerset District Council and Somerset County Council will use the document to take action in Chard and its surrounding area. It will also be used to co-ordinate proposals for improvements with organisations such as Somerset County Council.</p>	<p>Local issues are represented through the plan and could be used to inform the sustainability issues/problems that the SA/SEA Objectives are formulated to address. Plus additional data that could be used if an AAP or Allocations DPD is produced.</p>

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<p>Competitiveness White Paper</p> <p>Department of Trade and Industry (Dti) 1998</p> <p><a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/comp/competitive/main.htm">http://www.dti.gov.uk/comp/competitive/main.htm</a></p>	<p>The Government's White Paper set out the role it and business needs to play in improving the UK's competitiveness. The aim is to close the performance gap between the UK and other major trading nations. This is a job for business but Government must create the right environment for business success by providing an economic framework, which is stable and enterprising.</p> <p>The role of the Government is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invest in capabilities to promote enterprise and stimulate innovation</li> <li>• Catalyse collaboration to help business win competitive advantage</li> <li>• Promote competition by opening and modernising markets.</li> </ul>	<p>South Somerset has an opportunity to benefit economically through prudent choices regarding land – use and development types. However, as part of the drive for economic benefits, it is important that the Council are mindful to these aims and those of sustainable business in terms of the environment and social issues.</p>	<p>SA Framework for S.S. should include an objective(s) covering the aims. Moreover indicators on R&amp;D and academic business links, land costs, and business support, may be considered.</p>

Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>PPG8: Telecommunications</p> <p>ODPM 2001</p> <p><a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/pdf/odpm_plan_pdf_606918.pdf">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/pdf/odpm_plan_pdf_606918.pdf</a></p>	<p>The aim of PPG8 is to give guidance on planning for telecommunications development - including radio masts and towers, antennas of all kinds, radio equipment housing, public call boxes, cabinets, poles and overhead wires. It gives guidance on planning for telecommunications development - including radio masts and towers, antennas of all kinds, radio equipment housing, public call boxes, cabinets, poles and overhead wires.</p>	<p>The LDF can aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate the growth of new and existing telecommunications systems whilst keeping the environmental impact to a minimum;</li> <li>• Ensure that people have a choice as to who provides their telecommunications service, a wider range of services from which to choose and equitable access to the latest technologies as they become available;</li> <li>• Ensure continuing protection of the countryside and urban areas (particularly designated sites) whilst promoting telecommunication developments;</li> <li>• Promote the ability of local-authorities and operators to work together to find optimum solutions;</li> </ul>	<p>SEA/SA objectives generally include measures to encourage a diverse economy and improve access to services. Encouraging telecommunications can meet these objectives. However, health related objectives and maintaining biodiversity and open countryside may be in conflict with one another unless clear restrictions are included.</p>

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<p>Regional Economic Development Strategy for the South West of England 2006-2015</p> <p><a href="http://download.southweststrda.org.uk/file.asp?File=/res/general/RES2006-2015.pdf">http://download.southweststrda.org.uk/file.asp?File=/res/general/RES2006-2015.pdf</a></p>	<p>The Strategy aims to promote the economy of the SW regions within the wider context of sustainable development, i.e. taking into consideration related social and economic factors.</p> <p>The document identifies a number of issues that need to be tackled, namely some persistent pockets of social disadvantage, an ageing population, the need to optimise productivity and basic skills levels, and improve the economic and transport connections between cities and towns in order to support effective networking within the region and in the national and international context.</p>	<p>The LDF as a spatial strategy can promote mixed economic development, which would help alleviate economic and social deprivation in areas of need. Increasing investment in infrastructure and regeneration into key villages, towns and market towns is vital to sustain settlements in the long term. The development of the District's transport networks is likely to have a beneficial impact on the economy.</p>	<p>The SA will need to ensure that policies, where possible, enhance the positive economic impacts whilst minimising negative effects on the environment and enhancing social aspects. SA framework should include economic objectives.</p>
<p><b>Somerset Economic Assessment, SCC, 2011</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/irj/public/services/directory/service?rid=/wpccontent/Sites/SCC/Web%20Pages/Services/Services/Community/Somerset%20Economic%20Assessment">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/irj/public/services/directory/service?rid=/wpccontent/Sites/SCC/Web%20Pages/Services/Services/Community/Somerset%20Economic%20Assessment</a></p>	<p>Provides a profile of the Somerset economy, analysing: functional areas across which Somerset's economy operates; the productivity and structure of the economy; skills levels, worklessness and average earnings; transport, ICT and housing infrastructure; business needs; projected future trends in employment and productivity. The assessment highlights that economic development is a key priority for both local and national government. Identifies Taunton, Bridgwater and Yeovil as the economic drivers in the County.</p>	<p>Support sustainable economic growth, reflecting the key findings and issues of the assessment.</p>	<p>Include an SA objective supporting the economy. Sets out useful baseline data on the economy.</p>
<p>South Somerset Annual Town Centres/Shopping Survey April 2006 update (not published)</p>	<p>The survey illustrates a range of services and facilities (including use types and floorspaces), which are available in various town centres throughout the district. The survey identifies a number of premises, which are currently vacant.</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>As above</p>

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<p>Business Perspective On Property A Survey Of Local Businesses In South Somerset 2001</p>	<p>This report presents the results of a survey of businesses in South Somerset and sets these in the context of recent local economic trends. Results must be regarded as guidelines of the views of the entire business community and it would be misleading to place too much emphasis on any single result or on small differences in results between different groups of businesses. In total, over 1,100 businesses took part in the survey.</p>	<p>New space provided in the future will need to include a mix of size of premises and/or offer flexibility. The survey has also shown the importance of providing a mix of space types for different businesses. Although many businesses will make their choice of premises primarily on the basis of cost, there are just as many who are looking for something a little better, something that offers 'value for money' and a sizeable minority (about 1 in 5 of potential movers) that want high quality space.</p>	<p>Baseline economic data.</p>
<p>Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism, CLG, 2006  <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicystatements/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicystatements/</a></p>	<p>Highlights the crucially important role of tourism in the national economy, including generation of significant revenues, millions of jobs, supporting communities, and helping to maintain and improve important national assets.</p>	<p>In those locations where the future development of tourism is a key issue for the local authority, it will be appropriate for the core strategy to cover tourism issues together with any objectives relevant to tourism. In other local authorities it may be that the plan's broad approach to economic growth and regeneration sets the framework for the future development of tourism.</p>	<p>Encouraging tourism can help meet economic, social and environmental objectives.</p>

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<p>PPS – 22: Renewable Energy</p> <p>ODPM 2004  <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030334.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030334.hcsp</a></p>	<p>PPS22 concerns planning and development control of renewable energy developments. Increased development of renewable energy sources is vital to facilitating the delivery of the Government’s commitments to both climate change and renewable energy. Policies in PPS22 cover 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. PPS22 does not cover combined heat and power (CHP) although since some CHP projects are fuelled by a renewable resource, some policies may be relevant. The Government is producing a companion guide for PPS22, which will include a technical annex providing more details on particular technologies as well as good practice guidance on planning and renewable energy.</p>	<p>Planning policies that rule out or place constraints on the development of all, or specific types of, renewable energy technologies should not be included in plans.</p> <p>LPA may include policies requiring a percentage of the energy to be used in new developments to come from on-site renewable energy developments. Such policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should only be applied to developments where the installation of renewable energy generation equipment is viable; and</li> <li>• Should not be framed in such a way as to place an undue burden on developers.</li> </ul> <p>LPA and developers should consider the opportunity for incorporating renewable energy projects in all new developments.</p> <p>LPA should only allocate specific sites for renewable energy in plans where a developer has already indicated an interest in the site, has confirmed that the site is viable, and that it will be brought forward during the plan period.</p>	<p>The SA objectives should reflect the need to increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy derived from renewable resources. It could also consider the spatial implications on energy demand/efficiency and use of renewables and the need for new infrastructure and generation capacity.</p>

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<p>England Rural Development Programme</p> <p>DEFRA: 2005  <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/default.htm">http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/default.htm</a></p>	<p>Contributes to the delivery of the Government's Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food by helping farmers and foresters to respond better to consumer requirements and become more competitive, diverse, flexible and environmentally responsible. The ERDP provides a framework for the operation of 10 separate but integrated schemes, which provide new opportunities to protect and improve the countryside, to develop sustainable enterprises and to help rural communities to thrive.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rural tourism</li> <li>2. Woodland</li> <li>3. Attractive landscape and Wildlife habitats</li> <li>4. Hill land and extensive farming systems</li> <li>5. Quality foods including local/speciality/organic foods</li> <li>6. Organic farming systems</li> <li>7. Rural Heritage</li> <li>8. Villages</li> <li>9. Rural crafts</li> <li>10. Energy production</li> </ol>	<p>There are opportunities for some of the schemes to be implemented across the District, in particular, in light of predicted development, Rural Tourism, Energy Production, Rural Crafts, Farmers Markets and Organic Farming systems.</p>	<p>The SA should take on board the requirements of the scheme and be flexible in making recommendations on rural sustainability, and should, in part, be informed by the schemes and look for synergies where possible.</p>

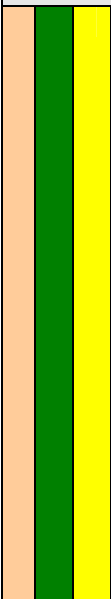


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<p>Towards 2015 Shaping Tomorrow's Tourism: South West of England (Consultation Document) January 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.towards2015.co.uk/">http://www.towards2015.co.uk/</a></p>	<p>The document provides information on key issues and priorities for action regarding tourism in the region. The document highlights the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making tourism less seasonal and more competitive;</li> <li>• Ensuring a sustainable approach to tourism, where the approach is one of environmental preservation;</li> <li>• Providing better careers in the tourism industry;</li> <li>• Making tourism welcomed and wanted by the host communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targets and indicators from the document could be adopted in order to help achieve and monitor benefits of tourism in the light of sustainable development.</li> </ul>	<p>Encouraging growth in tourism could meet SA objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing employment diversification</li> <li>• Encouraging a good quality environment</li> <li>• Enhancing and protecting biodiversity, open spaces and historic buildings.</li> </ul>
<p>Regional Renewable Energy Strategy for the South West of England 2003-2010</p> <p><a href="http://www.regensw.co.uk/content-download/RRES-Strategy-FullReport.pdf">http://www.regensw.co.uk/content-download/RRES-Strategy-FullReport.pdf</a></p>	<p>This strategy is aimed at promoting and increasing the size of the South West renewable energy industry and helping to achieve the regional target of 11-15% renewable electricity generation by 2010 – identifying targets for action. RPG10 states that LAs should support and encourage the region to meet national targets for a 12.5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2008-12.</p>	<p>SSDC should look at the Key Actions and Opportunities for Development in order to apply recommendations that are appropriate for the LA. Ultimately the District should attempt to maximise its renewable energy potential.</p>	<p>Objective to increase renewable energy sources. If potential for renewables is significant, it may be appropriate to utilise a sequential approach to planning applications in the power sector.</p>

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<p>Somerset County Council Renewable Energy Strategy 2003-2010</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/media/545FA/RenewableEnergyStrategy.pdf">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/media/545FA/RenewableEnergyStrategy.pdf</a></p>	<p>RPG10 states that LAs should encourage and support the SW region to meet the agreed emissions reduction target of 20% between 1990 and 2010 under Kyoto terms. The regional target is of 11-15% renewable energy generation by 2010.</p> <p>The Strategy aims to support and encourage the development and installation of new renewable energy technology, and proposes renewable energy source-specific targets.</p>	<p>The LDF should take into account the potential of SS for renewables in its spatial planning objectives.</p>	<p>As above - SA will help appraise locations for renewable energy sources and uses.</p>
<p>South Somerset Tourism Strategy 2004-2007</p> <p><a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/0/j/Tourism-Strategy1.pdf">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/0/j/Tourism-Strategy1.pdf</a></p>	<p>The aim of the Strategy is to increase the prosperity of SS by maximising tourism potential whilst minimising impact on the environment. It also highlights strengths and weaknesses of the District, including but not limited to:</p> <p><b>Strengths:</b> local produce, diverse countryside, numerous tourist attractions and events, established walking and cycling routes, attractive towns and villages, excellent access and customer loyalty.</p> <p><b>Weaknesses:</b> still an unknown destination with no major landmarks (e.g. coast or National Parks), it is mainly visited in summer, fragmented industry, limited attractions for families and teenagers, lack of awareness of tourism benefits within the local community, poor public transport infrastructure and lack of year-round attractions.</p>	<p>The LDF should take into consideration the need for sustainable planning in major tourism-related projects such as large-scale hotels, family attractions etc. The improvement of transport networks apart from being a social and economic need would greatly benefit the tourism industry. Increased tourism may put several areas of SS under pressure and sensitive land-use planning as well as mitigation measures should be considered. On the other hand, there is also scope for environmental benefits as the quality of the landscape and countryside is one of SS's main tourism assets.</p>	<p>The SA will need to test tourism policies against sustainable transport, land use, local community benefits and preservation and enhancement of historic assets, biodiversity and open space.</p>

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<p>Employment Land Review Stages 1, 2 and 3, SSDC, 2009-2010  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base</a></p>	<p>Stage 1 of the ELR looks at the supply of traditional employment land (i.e. 'B' uses) across the District in the form of established business parks and trading estates, and the land available in the form of residual Local Plan allocations, extant planning permissions, lapsed planning permissions, developments under construction and completions. Stage 2 looks at the overall need for employment land across the District, whilst Stage 3 attributes levels of employment land for each of the main settlements in the District.</p>	<p>The Review will inform the selection of employment sites and areas to be allocated and safeguarded in the LDF.</p>	<p>The SA will need to ensure that policies, where possible, enhance the positive economic impacts whilst minimising negative effects on the environment and enhancing social aspects. SA framework should include economic objectives.</p>

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<p>The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development – Plan of Implementation</p> <p>UN 2002</p> <p><a href="http://www.un.org/e/sa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POIToc.htm">http://www.un.org/e/sa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POIToc.htm</a></p>	<p>The WSSD represented a reaffirmation of international commitment to sustainable development. The key outcomes of the summit were the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development. The Plan of Implementation highlights 8 objectives which should jointly lead to the strengthening of institutional arrangements on sustainable development, these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening commitments to sustainable development;</li> <li>• Integration of the economic social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner;</li> <li>• Strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21, including through mobilisation of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, particularly for developing countries;</li> <li>• Strengthen coherence, coordination and monitoring;</li> <li>• Promoting the rule of law and strengthening of governmental institutions increasing the effectiveness and efficiency through limiting overlap and duplication of activities of international organisations, within and outside the United Nations system, based on their mandates and comparative advantages;</li> <li>• Enhancing participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholder in the implementation of Agenda 21, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation;</li> <li>• Strengthening capacities for sustainable development at all levels, including the local level, in particular those of developing countries; and</li> <li>• Strengthening international cooperation aimed at reinforcing the implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the Summit.</li> </ul>	<p>The objectives highlighted offer synergies with other, high – level government policy on sustainable development and community engagement. Particular emphasis should be made on strengthening the commitment to SD (Securing our Future) and community engagement.</p> <p>The LDF will address many of the priorities set out in WSSD such as either through prioritising core policies or influencing location of activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable production and consumption – waste and promotion and location of industrial ecology principles</li> <li>• Biodiversity protection and enhancement</li> <li>• Health – access to health and minimising adverse consequences of development</li> <li>• Energy – use of renewables, efficiency and climate change</li> <li>• Water – protection and utilisation</li> <li>• Agriculture – soils and geodiversity</li> <li>• And poverty - Social inclusion</li> </ul>	<p>The synergies where applicable should be integrated in the SA Framework. For example the SA will need to evaluate core policies that promote or hinder all these areas and the location of related activities.</p>

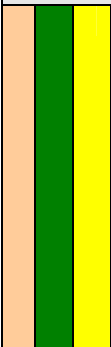
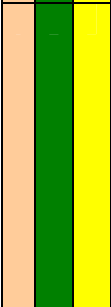
Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
 <p data-bbox="293 368 539 523">Securing the future: Delivering the UK Sustainability Development Strategy</p> <p data-bbox="293 555 450 580">ODPM 2005</p> <p data-bbox="293 619 533 799"><a href="http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/publications/uk-strategy/uk-strategy-2005.htm">http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/publications/uk-strategy/uk-strategy-2005.htm</a></p>	<p data-bbox="555 368 1249 491">The strategy reiterates the purpose and framework goal of the framework but further defines the strategy for sustainable development in the UK including shared priorities for UK action including:</p> <ul data-bbox="555 528 1249 683" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable consumption and production;</li> <li>• Climate change and energy;</li> <li>• Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement; and</li> <li>• Sustainable communities.</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="555 687 1249 810">The strategy further develops the indicators discussed in 'A better quality of life' (1999), adding new indicators and refining existing ones. Baseline information for these indicators is due to be released summer 2005.</p>	<p data-bbox="1272 368 1765 560">A challenge for authorities will be to take on board the framework goal, talking the four objectives of Sustainable Development simultaneously. Additionally, ensuring that policies meet the 5 guiding principles:</p> <ul data-bbox="1272 564 1765 874" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living within environmental limits;</li> <li>• Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;</li> <li>• Achieving a sustainable economy;</li> <li>• Promoting good governance; and</li> <li>• Using sound science responsibly.</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="1272 879 1765 963">For a policy to be “sustainable” it must respect all five of the principles set out above.</p>	<p data-bbox="1780 368 2065 799">SA framework will need to integrate the priorities and principles. The SA will be a key mechanism for helping to deliver these objectives and will encourage the use of sound science through the collection of an evidence base and is a key tool for helping to achieve better governance</p>

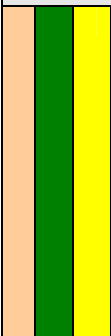
Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future</p> <p>ODPM 2003</p> <p><a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_communities/documents/page/odpm_comm_022184.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_communities/documents/page/odpm_comm_022184.hcsp</a></p>	<p>This document outlines a programme of action to tackle pressing problems in communities in England. It is part of the Government's wider drive to raise the quality of life in communities through increasing prosperity, reducing inequalities, more employment, better public services, better health and education, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, and much more. It reflects our key principles for public service reform: raising standards, devolving and delegating decision-making, providing greater flexibility over use of resources and choice for customers.</p> <p>It builds on existing policies and actions notably; Urban and Rural White Papers, (<i>Our Towns and Cities: the Future and Our Countryside: the Future - November 2000</i>), policies for devolving power to regions, and modernisation of local government.</p>	<p>Support the development of 'sustainable communities'.</p>	<p>Identifies quality of life issues that could be used in the formulation of SA Objectives and the SA Framework.</p>
<p>Code for Sustainable Homes, CLG, 2006 (plus more recent technical guides and supporting studies)</p> <p><a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/sustainability/codesustainablehomes/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/sustainability/codesustainablehomes/</a></p>	<p>The Code for Sustainable Homes is the national standard for the sustainable design and construction of new homes, which aims to reduce carbon emissions and create homes that are more sustainable. The Code measures the sustainability of a new home against nine categories of sustainable design, and covers energy/CO2, water, materials, surface water run-off, waste, pollution, health and well being, management and ecology. Performance against each level is measured, and an overall score from one to six is given.</p>	<p>Require new homes to be meet specified standards of the Code.</p>	<p>Consider the principles of the Code for Sustainable Homes as important methods of achieving sustainable development for new homes.</p>

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<p><b>Climate Change Act 2008</b>  <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/uk/legislation/">http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/uk/legislation/</a></p>	<p>Two key aims: to improve carbon management and help the transition to a low carbon economy, and to demonstrate strong leadership internationally. Introduces legally binding greenhouse gas emission reductions.</p>	<p>New development should be planned to limit carbon dioxide emissions. New development should make good use of opportunities for decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy.</p>	<p>Promote reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
<p><b>National Policy Statements for Energy, DECC, 2011</b>  <a href="http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/consents_planning/nps_en_infra/nps_en_infra.aspx">http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/consents_planning/nps_en_infra/nps_en_infra.aspx</a></p>	<p>A series of six Energy NPSs, including overarching energy statement, renewables and nuclear. These provide the policy framework for making decisions on nationally significant infrastructure facilities.</p>	<p>Reference the fact that nationally significant infrastructure will be considered by the Infrastructure Planning Commission in line with the National Policy Statements.</p>	<p>Support for low carbon energy generation, which will help climate change mitigation.</p>
<p><b>Draft National Planning Policy Framework, CLG 2011</b>  <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/</a></p>	<p>There is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Proposes definition of sustainable development based around pursuing its three components in an integrated way, which delivers multiple goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prosperity: build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring sufficient land of the right type and in the right places is available to allow growth and innovation.</li> <li>- People: promote strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing an increased supply of housing, creating a good quality built environment, with accessible local services.</li> <li>- Places: protect and enhance the natural, built and historic environment, use natural resources prudently, and mitigate and adapt to climate change.</li> </ul>	<p>Each local authority should produce a Local Plan for its area, which can be reviewed in whole or part to respond flexibly to changing circumstances. Any additional DPDs should only be used where clearly justified, and SPDs should only be necessary where their production can help to bring forward sustainable development at an accelerated rate, and must not add to the financial burdens on development.</p>	<p>Makes clear that SA should be an integrated part of the plan preparation process and consider likely significant social, environmental and economic effects. Includes definition of delivering sustainable development.</p>

Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development</p> <p>ODPM 2005</p> <p><a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_027494.pdf">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_027494.pdf</a></p>	<p>Planning in South Somerset should facilitate and promote sustainable patterns of urban and rural development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social, and environmental objectives to improve people’s quality of life;</li> <li>• Contributing to sustainable economic growth;</li> <li>• Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities;</li> <li>• Ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; and</li> <li>• Ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community.</li> </ul> <p>The key principles above should be used to inform the spatial planning process. PPS1 reinforces the requirement of an SA/SEA for spatial plans.</p>	<p>Planning undertaken in sustainable ways can meet the needs of future generations.</p> <p>Objectives of sustainable development to be at the heart of planning policy.</p> <p>Encourage spatial planning to integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes that influence the nature of places and how they function.</p> <p>Para 27 outlines the general approach to delivering sustainable development.</p> <p>A spatial approach should be adopted whereby land use is tied in to other policies and programmes that influence the nature of places and how they function.</p>	<p>It would be prudent for the SA to ensure synergies and efficiencies between the SA monitoring and the LDF monitoring requirements.</p> <p>The SA/SEA will need to be integrated into the process of community involvement as described in paragraph 40.</p>

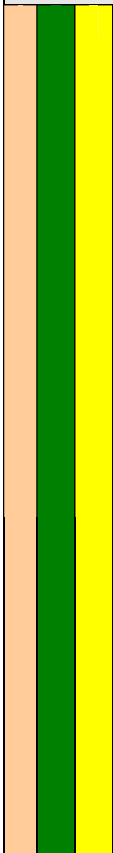


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 <p>PPS: Planning and Climate Change, CLG, 2007  <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/</a></p>	<p>Secure the highest viable resource and energy efficiency and reduction in emissions. Promote sustainable travel. Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience to climate change. Conserve and enhance biodiversity, recognising the affect of climate change on habitats and species.</p>	<p>New development should be planned to limit carbon dioxide emissions, and should make good use of opportunities for decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy. Future vulnerability of new development should be minimised, and climate change consideration integrated into all spatial planning concerns. Mitigation and adaptation should be considered in planning new development.</p>	<p>Consider tackling climate change as an underlying theme in achieving sustainable development.</p>
 <p>PPS: eco-towns – A supplement to PPS1, CLG, 2009  <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicyguidance/planningpolicystatements/planningpolicystatements/</a></p>	<p>Sets out high environmental standards that should be achieved to ensure that eco-towns are exemplars of good practice and provide a showcase for sustainable living. These standards include: the eco-town should be zero carbon, homes should meet Code for Sustainable Homes level 4, at least 50% of trips should be by non-car, and 40% of the eco-town's total area should be allocated to green space.</p>	<p>Studies are being carried out to ascertain whether the proposed Yeovil urban extension can be built to meet eco-town standards.</p>	<p>Identifies the exemplification of sustainable development.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="293 368 539 678"> <b>PPS12: Local Spatial Planning, CLG, 2008</b>  <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/policiesandstatements/planningpolicystatements/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/policiesandstatements/planningpolicystatements/</a> </p>	<p data-bbox="555 368 1254 646"> Sets out the Government's policy on the preparation of local development documents which will comprise the LDF. "<i>LAs should adopt a spatial planning approach to LDFs to ensure the most efficient use of land by balancing competing demands within the context of sustainable development</i>" Spatial planning should also integrate land use policies with other policies and programmes of influence on land use planning issues (e.g. the different Strategies). </p>	<p data-bbox="1272 368 1762 467"> The focus should be on the Core Strategy, with other DPDs only being produced where considered necessary. </p>	<p data-bbox="1780 368 2063 400"> Requirement for SA. </p>

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<p>PPG 13: Transport ODPM 2001 (updated 2011 which deletes requirement to set maximum residential parking standards)</p> <p><a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/pdf/odpm_plan_pdf_606896.pdf">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/pdf/odpm_plan_pdf_606896.pdf</a></p>	<p>By shaping the pattern of development and influencing the location, scale, density, design and mix of land uses, planning can help to reduce the length of journeys and make it safer and easier for people to access jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>The aim is to reduce congestion on the roads and limit, or if possible decrease, emissions of Greenhouse gases and other pollutants.</p>	<p>The LDF provides an opportunity to integrate different types of transport to benefit the environment, health and wealth creation.</p> <p>Policies to manage the pattern of urban growth can make the fullest use of urban transport and focus major generators of travel demand in towns and district centres.</p> <p>Policies to locate day-to-day facilities in local centres may encourage walking and cycling.</p> <p>Social inclusion can be managed by ensuring that jobs, shopping, leisure, facilities and services are accessible by public transport.</p> <p>A comprehensive transport strategy with integrated land use planning needs to be implemented in order to encourage use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>Good partnerships between local authorities transport providers and operators, developers, businesses and local residents are essential to reaching sustainable transport objectives.</p>	<p>SA Objectives: Reducing the need to travel by private car;</p> <p>Improving accessibility of key goods and services to local communities; Reducing air pollution; Improving health; and Reducing emissions that cause climate change.</p>

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<p>DfT Circular 02/07 Planning and the Strategic Road Network, 2007  <a href="http://www2.dft.gov.uk/pgr/regional/strategic/policy/circular207planningandstrategic.html">http://www2.dft.gov.uk/pgr/regional/strategic/policy/circular207planningandstrategic.html</a></p>	<p>Explains how the Highways Agency will participate in the planning process. The successful delivery of development relies upon infrastructure provision, and key to this is ensuring that the strategic road network can cope with additional development. Wherever possible, alternatives to building new roads should be sought, by reducing the impact on road users and the environment, improving road performance through better network management and making smarter journey choices easier.</p>	<p>Development should be promoted at sustainable locations, and appropriate demand management measures should be incorporated. In producing LDFs, the Highways Agency will offer advice and technical support that will guide the scale and location of proposals in relation to the strategic road network.</p>	<p>Reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable travel modes.</p>
<p>Delivering a Sustainable Transport System, DfT, 2008  <a href="http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.dft.gov.uk/about/strategy/transportstrategy/dasts/">http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.dft.gov.uk/about/strategy/transportstrategy/dasts/</a></p>	<p>Outlines five goals for transport, broadly support economic growth; tackle climate change; contribute to better safety, security and health; promote equality of opportunity; improve quality of life and promote a healthy natural environment. The focus is on delivering strong economic growth while at the same time reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which is recognised as the biggest challenge. Improving reliability and reducing congestion will be a priority – the worst option of stop-start traffic is bad for the economy, climate change and quality of life.</p>	<p>Reflect the transport goals in considering the scale, nature and location of future development. Recognise that where new housing is created will have implications for the transport infrastructure required to support housing.</p>	<p>Reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable travel modes.</p>
<p>Planning for Mixed Communities Consultation Paper 2005  <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1503140">http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1503140</a></p>	<p>In relation to market housing, the revised approach focuses on the needs of households, and recognises the need to take account of market considerations and to provide a degree of choice. It suggests that local planning authorities should plan for the range of different households likely to need housing over the plan period and not for a range of size and type of housing based on floorspace or numbers of rooms. A key objective of the policy is to create mixed and inclusive communities that offer a wide range of housing and promote social inclusion.</p>	<p>Follow practice guidance on local housing assessments and planning for mixed communities which will help local planning authorities develop an evidence base which deals with all the salient matters, but which is succinct and fit for purpose, and which can be regularly updated.</p>	<p>Need to provide housing to meet identified needs of the community.</p>

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 <p>RPG10: Regional Planning for the South West of England 2001  <a href="http://swrpm.org.uk/documents/library/RPG10Fulltext.pdf">http://swrpm.org.uk/documents/library/RPG10Fulltext.pdf</a></p>	<p>RPG10 provides a regional spatial strategy for the region, within which the LDF should be prepared, and sets out a broad development strategy for the period to 2016 and beyond.</p> <p>The plan is intended to complement other regional policies, e.g. for economic development and housing, and manages the approach to other guidance such as PPG11 and PPG3.</p> <p>The plan aims to balance economic and housing development (410,000 households between 1996 and 2016) with rising standards of environmental management and resource use, increase the use of public transport and reduce the levels of social exclusion, deprivation and resource consumption.</p>	<p>There are opportunities for synergies between all the authorities covered under the RPG10 “umbrella”. This will be covered in more depth in the sub-regional context review.</p> <p>The LDF should take into account the policies set out in RPG10 (e.g. VIS1, 2, 3 and 4).</p> <p>For example the LDF should agree targets for monitoring, taking into account guidance in RPG10 and targets set out in the Sustainable Development Framework.</p> <p>The plan identifies Yeovil as a potential designated centre for sustainable growth.</p>	<p>The SA should acknowledge the plan in the context review and attempt to integrate the objectives of the plan within the SA framework.</p>
<p>The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England 2001  <a href="http://www.oursouthwest.com/RegiSus/framework/framework.htm">http://www.oursouthwest.com/RegiSus/framework/framework.htm</a></p>	<p>The framework provides 15 themes, covering the range of economic, social and environmental issues within the region, as the core framework, with associated objectives and headline indicators.</p> <p>The document highlight LAs’ responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2000 of preparing community strategies for promoting sustainability in their area.</p>	<p>The checklist is a useful tool to “assess the extent to which any project or proposal measures up to sustainability criteria”. The checklist can be customised to meet the needs of South Somerset and therefore may provide a useful assessment and monitoring tool.</p>	<p>The SA should be informed by the objectives set out in the Framework, and could consider adopting some of the headline ones. Issues highlighted in the framework should be integrated, where appropriate, for SS.</p>

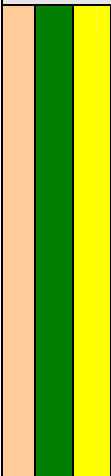
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<p>Just Connect: An Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS) for the South West 2004-2026</p> <p><a href="http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/media/SWRA/IRS/Just_Connect.pdf">http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/media/SWRA/IRS/Just_Connect.pdf</a></p>	<p>“Just Connect” is the overarching strategy setting the context for the different South West strategies, covering the period 2004-2026. Its main aim is to improve integration between regional strategies and more coordinated working between regional organisations.</p> <p>There is an opportunity to optimise benefits from any synergies between strategies and solve or mitigate any tensions or conflicts between the different strategies.</p>	<p>The IRS highlights key aims for the South West, which should be highlighted in the LDF development.</p> <p>The document also points out that in order to achieve these aims integrated action across strategies is crucial. These issues and priorities may act in a constraining fashion for the creation of LDF policy, as they will set the framework in which policy at a local level is created.</p>	<p>The SA must take into consideration the objectives, visions and purposes of the strategy, in particular in terms of population growth, environment, employment and social deprivation.</p>
<p>The Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West 2006-2026</p> <p><a href="http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=836">http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=836</a></p>	<p>Spatial Strategy will provide the most sustainable way of dealing with change and pressure for development, while addressing some of the region’s major challenges. By concentrating most new development at a number of key regionally and sub-regionally significant centres and then more locally at service centres identified in LDDs. Three Strategy Emphases have been developed to indicate the broad approach to development in different parts of the region. Stimulating economic growth, realising potential and managing growth. South Somerset is in ‘realising potential’: - realising the economic and other potential, particularly of the Strategically Significant Cities and Towns, to add to general regional prosperity and address local regeneration, particularly in the north and centre of the region. Sections on: transport, population growth, distinctive environments and cultural life, Economic Prosperity and Quality of Employment Opportunity, deprivation and participation.</p>	<p>Yeovil is close to Sherborne, and there is a strong interaction between the two places across the administrative boundary and, when producing their LDDs, South Somerset and North Dorset Councils should work together closely. Key objectives of the Yeovil Vision that LDDs need to address include diversifying the economy, broadening the range of retail and leisure opportunities and improving the transport connections, as well as changing the image of the town. LDDs should make provision for job growth in the Yeovil Travel To Work Areas for about 9,100 jobs and an average housing provision of about 320 dwellings per annum at Yeovil over the plan period.</p>	<p>Regional baseline environmental, economic, demographic and social information. South West biodiversity targets. Regional sustainability issues.</p>

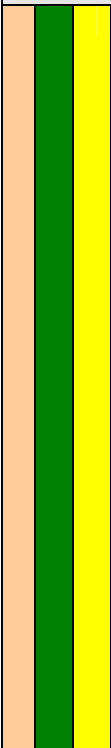
Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>South West of England (Draft) Regional Spatial Strategy Sustainability Appraisal  <a href="http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=836">http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=836</a></p>	<p>SSA was used to identify the sustainability advantages and disadvantages of five different options for the spatial distribution of development, and of two different options for the level of growth to be accommodated by the region. The findings were used to inform the public consultation exercise on these possible development strategies. As a result of the SSA process, the draft RSS now includes some very ambitious and challenging policies that, if implemented, mean that the South West will be taking a huge step towards grappling with climate change.</p>	<p>Use the sustainability strengths of the RSS identified in the SSA to guide formation of policies in the local planning context. Use recommendations of the SSA to guide development of policies and allocations.</p>	<p>Identification of sustainability issues for the region. Consider SA Objectives as starting point in formulation of SA Framework.</p>
<p>The Draft Revised Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West incorporating the Secretary of State's Proposed Changes, 2008, CLG  <a href="http://www.gosw.gov.uk/gosw/planning/home/691545/713860/?a=42496">http://www.gosw.gov.uk/gosw/planning/home/691545/713860/?a=42496</a></p>	<p>Following the Examination in Public into the draft RSS (see above) and publication of the Panel Report, the Secretary of State's Proposed Changes were published for public consultation. Increased development is proposed compared to the draft RSS, based upon updated household projections. The three strategy emphases have been deleted. New development should be directed to the Strategically Significant Cities and Towns, and Market Towns, with small towns and villages only seeing growth appropriate to meet local needs.</p>	<p>Increased housing figures for South Somerset with 19,700 dwellings required 2006-26 – 6,400 of these within Yeovil's existing urban area and 5,000 within an area of search around Yeovil.</p> <p>Nb. the Coalition Government have announced that RSSs will be revoked, which is being taken forward in the emerging Localism Bill.</p>	<p>Regional baseline environmental, economic, demographic and social information. South West biodiversity targets. Regional sustainability issues.</p>

Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>South West Regional Spatial Strategy Proposed Changes Sustainability Appraisal, 2008, CLG</p> <p><a href="http://www.gosw.gov.uk/gosw/planning/home/691545/713860/?a=42496">http://www.gosw.gov.uk/gosw/planning/home/691545/713860/?a=42496</a></p>	<p>Overall, the Proposed Changes have some aspects that are welcomed in sustainability terms, but there are more that significantly weaken the Draft RSS.</p>	<p>Use the sustainability strengths of the RSS identified in the SSA to guide formation of policies in the local planning context. Use recommendations of the SSA to guide development of policies and allocations.</p>	<p>Identification of sustainability issues for the region. Consider SA Objectives as starting point in formulation of SA Framework.</p>
<p>Somerset Mineral Local Plan 1997-2011 (adopted April 2004)</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/67F42/Minerals%20Plan%20first%20section.pdf">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/67F42/Minerals%20Plan%20first%20section.pdf</a></p>	<p>The Minerals Local Plan is intended to work in conjunction with the Structure, Waste and area Local Plans (produce by the LAs) to constitute the Development plan for the county.</p> <p>The aim is to allow Somerset to contribute to the regional and national need for minerals still achieving a pattern of sustainable development across the County – including promoting the recycling of materials.</p> <p>It is important to recognise the challenge posed by trying to conciliate the exploitation of resources with environmental aims in order to achieve a balance of economic, social and environmental impacts/benefits.</p>	<p>The LDF should ensure mineral reserves are conserved as far as practicable and not sterilised through new development.</p>	<p>The SA should attempt to identify the consequences for sustainable development of South Somerset’s mineral extraction plans for the future. Monitoring and mitigation measures can be put in practice.</p>

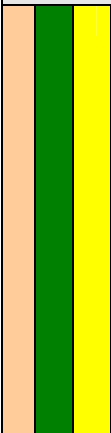


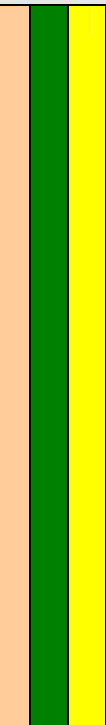
Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>Somerset &amp; Exmoor National Park Joint Structure Plan Review 1991-2011</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/enprop/structureplan/review0.htm">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/enprop/structureplan/review0.htm</a></p>	<p>The Joint Structure Plan Review provides the strategic base for all land use planning in the combined area covered by Somerset and the Exmoor National Park for the period up to 2011. The Plan has been prepared as a joint Structure Plan between Somerset County Council and the Exmoor National Park Authority.</p> <p>The Plan has three main functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a framework of strategic policies for local planning and development control decisions.</li> <li>• To ensure that the provision for development is realistic and consistent with national and regional policy.</li> <li>• To secure consistency between local plans.</li> </ul>	<p>Four main elements that should be given equal consideration in the determination of future land-use development. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustained and stable economic growth and employment;</li> <li>• Recognition of the social needs of all parts of the community and reducing inequality;</li> <li>• Protection of the environment; and</li> <li>• The prudent use of natural resources.</li> </ul>	<p>Baseline data and trends; identification of sustainability issues for use in Stage A.</p>
<p>Somerset and Exmoor National Park Joint Structure Plan Alteration 1996-2016 Deposit Draft June 2004</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/22A40/section1.pdf">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/22A40/section1.pdf</a></p>	<p>Since the Joint Structure Plan was adopted, Regional Planning Guidance for the South West (RPG10) 1996 - 2016 has been issued, along with changes in national planning policy guidance. In order to keep the guidance of the Structure Plan up to date, the adopted Plan is being rolled forward as an Alteration to 2016 to provide the strategic policy context for Local Development Frameworks (formally known as Local Plans) to proceed.</p>	<p>The Alterations to the policies of the Plan are clearly set out in this document. Additions to policies are underlined and deletions crossed out. Where extensive parts of the Plan are removed this is explained. Until the RSS is issued in 2007, there would be an absence of strategic guidance in the period up to 2016. Therefore this document is important to provide the necessary early strategic guidance for the preparation of LDFs to begin.</p>	

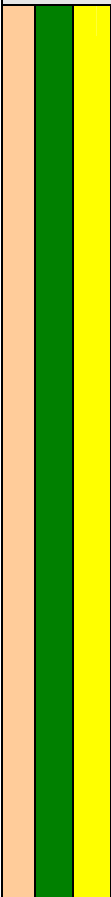
Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
 <p>Somerset A Landscape for the Future: Vision and Community Strategy 2004</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/31B/CE/SSP_-_A_vision_for_Somerset.pdf">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/31B/CE/SSP_-_A_vision_for_Somerset.pdf</a></p>	<p>The document sets out the overall vision for the development of Somerset until 2025 and beyond, with six strategic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the image of Somerset and increasing interest of external parties such as businesses and tourists.</li> <li>• Boost and diversify Somerset's economy by making it an attractive place for business growth.</li> <li>• Increase residents' level of education and skills.</li> <li>• Improve the availability and range of cultural opportunities;</li> <li>• Improve infrastructure, access and transport;</li> <li>• Create a strong community infrastructure with enough affordable housing, community facilities and with increased community participation.</li> </ul>	<p>Improving areas such business and housing infrastructure is likely to put pressure on the local environment and on services (e.g. transport) namely by boosting population growth.</p>	<p>Baseline data for housing needs, community safety, economy and environmental pressures, as well as quality of life indicators.</p>

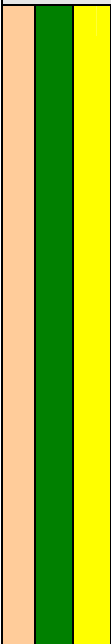
Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
 <p data-bbox="293 368 533 491">State of the County - Somerset Community Profile 2003</p> <p data-bbox="293 523 533 646"><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/statistics/communityprofile/">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/statistics/communityprofile/</a></p>	<p data-bbox="555 368 1249 523">The document attempts to provide a broad picture of the state of the community of South Somerset taking into account the social, economic and environmental issues of the county. The document highlights the following facts amongst others:</p> <ul data-bbox="555 528 1249 1109" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="555 528 1249 715">• Economy: there is a shortage of technical jobs such as computer services, communications, electronics, which slows down the economy and is an incentive for young people leaving the county. <i>Increasing such jobs will have development/spatial planning consequences.</i></li> <li data-bbox="555 719 1249 874">• Housing: the long-term needs for affordable housing must be assessed, as the lack of provision of affordable housing is an economic constraint for the county. <i>This will have environmental/landscape impacts.</i></li> <li data-bbox="555 879 1249 943">• Environmental: Climate change might increase the risk of flooding of low-lying/coastal/riverside areas.</li> <li data-bbox="555 948 1249 1038">• Waste: Somerset only has 10 years of landfill left from 2003 and if the recycling targets are not met a significant amount of land must be allocated for landfill.</li> <li data-bbox="555 1043 1249 1109">• Biodiversity: Protected areas are at risk from pollution, poor land management habitat &amp; species decline</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="1272 368 1765 491">The LDF should address the need for a strategic housing planning service in the district and make sure that affordable housing needs are met.</p> <p data-bbox="1272 496 1765 746">The impact of new development on landscape/environment may be significant due to population growth in the district. Development should take into account landscape/heritage/visual/environmental issues and minimise disruption to the rural nature of South Somerset.</p> <p data-bbox="1272 751 1765 906">The LDF should set up targets for habitat restoration and species preservation taking into account the pressures of current and future development.</p>	<p data-bbox="1780 368 2065 954">Key employment, housing and environmental objectives should be reflected in the SA objectives. These should include specific mention to sustainability objectives such as maximising development on brownfield land, protecting or enhancing landscape and the historic environment and reducing commuting needs.</p>

Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
<p>Somerset LTP2 2006-2011</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/transport/localtransportplans/localtransportplan2/index.cfm?override=publications&amp;pubid=">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset/transport/localtransportplans/localtransportplan2/index.cfm?override=publications&amp;pubid=</a></p>	<p>The document lists the following objectives for Somerset's transport system for 2006-2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve safety for all who travel;</li> <li>• Reduce social exclusion and improve access to everyday facilities;</li> <li>• Reduce the growth of congestion and pollution and improve health;</li> <li>• Support sustainable economic growth in appropriate locations; and</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the built and natural environment.</li> </ul> <p>Yeovil is identified as one of the 3 major centres.</p>	<p>Yeovil is identified as one of the three key centres for employment and economic growth. Congestion and air pollution are likely to increase in these areas with potential for health impacts, increase in accidents and reduction in overall quality of life.</p>	<p>The SA should recommend sustainable options to integrate LTP within the LDF but also to mitigate the impacts of increased traffic in Yeovil.</p>
<p>Somerset LTP2 SEA Statement July 2006</p> <p><a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/B54/4F/LTP2_SEA_06.pdf">http://www.somerset.gov.uk/media/B54/4F/LTP2_SEA_06.pdf</a></p>	<p>The SEA details the impacts of the LTP2 on the environment as well as actions and mitigation measures to be taken. Residual cumulative effects identified include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The adverse affect on overall species abundance through further building of transport infrastructure and other types of development;</li> <li>• The loss of archaeological resources due to development of transport infrastructure and further building activity; and</li> <li>• The increase of CO2 emissions associated with increases in traffic which results both from increased speeds made possible by road improvements and from further house building in Somerset.</li> </ul>	<p>Where possible aim to introduce spatial planning policies that do not exacerbate negative environmental effects identified in the SEA of the LTP.</p>	<p>Take into account sustainability issues and residual cumulative effects relating to transport when assessing options for LDDs.</p>

Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
 <p data-bbox="293 363 546 798">Somerset Future Transport Plan 2011 – 2026, 2011, SCC  <a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk/futuretransportplan">www.somerset.gov.uk/futuretransportplan</a></p>	<p data-bbox="546 363 1263 582">Replaces LTP2, and describes the transport policy challenges over the next 15 years, such as minimising the growth of traffic in urban areas, maintaining the road network, improving accessibility to jobs and services in rural areas. The policies and investments that will help tackle these challenges are outlined. This is based around the five national Government goals to:</p> <ul data-bbox="546 582 1263 798" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduce carbon emissions;</li> <li>▪ Support economic growth;</li> <li>▪ Promote equality of opportunity;</li> <li>▪ Contribute to better safety, security and health;</li> <li>▪ Improve quality of life and a healthy natural environment.</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="1263 363 1771 518">Reflect the transport goals in considering the scale and distribution of new development. Incorporate mitigation measures where necessary to reduce the effect of traffic.</p>	<p data-bbox="1771 363 2074 486">Reflect transport issues in the sustainability objectives.</p> <p data-bbox="1771 518 2074 766">Although transport is not explicitly mentioned in SEA Directive, there are links to air, human health, climate issues as required by the SEA Directive.</p>

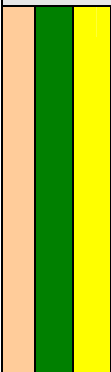
Relevant Plan, Policy, Programme – Proponent Body, Date & Source	Opportunities / synergies / challenges / constraints	How could the LDF Respond	Implications for the SA
 <p data-bbox="293 368 533 735">South Somerset District Council District-wide Car Parking Strategy Study Report Version 5.4 Consultation Draft 2006  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/5/d/Abstract_Study_1.pdf">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/5/d/Abstract_Study_1.pdf</a></p>	<p data-bbox="562 368 1240 523">Framework for a District-wide parking strategy, within which an action plan is developed to manage the Council's parking stock to best meet the impact of car travel linked to the needs of the residential, business and employment communities. Key Strategy Objectives:</p> <ul data-bbox="562 528 1240 1086" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="562 528 1240 587">• Offer car parking that is convenient, well maintained, secure and publicised;</li> <li data-bbox="562 592 1240 651">• Provide capacity that seeks to balance the competing demands of residents, workers and visitors;</li> <li data-bbox="562 655 1240 715">• Be consistent with national, regional and local policies;</li> <li data-bbox="562 719 1240 778">• Contribute to wider transport strategies relating to congestion, sustainability and the environment;</li> <li data-bbox="562 783 1240 842">• Use tariffs to control use by time, influence modal shift and better balance the comparative costs of car and public transport;</li> <li data-bbox="562 847 1240 906">• Provide income for maintenance and future investment;</li> <li data-bbox="562 911 1240 970">• Recognise local conditions that warrant different approaches;</li> <li data-bbox="562 975 1240 1086">• Introduce restraint only when matched by the provision of convenient, attractive alternatives.</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="1279 368 1756 799">The skeletal Action Plan illustrates (in Project Centre's view) how the various tools available to the Council could further the objectives of the strategy. The ability of the District Council to influence and change travel patterns and behaviour through parking management is constrained by its control of the parking stock. It is the Project Centre's view that whatever pressures applied by developers or communities to change the current level of control these should be resisted by the Council.</p>	<p data-bbox="1787 368 2056 922">Study identifies hierarchy that will determine appropriate combinations of travel patterns to be applied as part of the supply demand comparisons, it seeks to recognise the role of parking within wider strategies. The highest level of the hierarchy represents an area where it is practicable to achieve a higher level of modal shift than lower in the hierarchy.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="293 368 533 582">South Somerset District Local Plan 1991-2011  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=2094">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=2094</a></p>	<p data-bbox="555 368 1249 491">This sets out the strategic and development control policies for guiding development proposals and determining planning applications. Guiding principles of the Local Plan:</p> <ul data-bbox="555 496 1249 1264" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="555 496 1249 528">• To achieve sustainable development</li> <li data-bbox="555 533 1249 587">• To maintain and enhance the social and economic well being of the area;</li> <li data-bbox="555 592 1249 715">• To locate development where it does not encourage additional car borne travel, particularly taking advantage of locations well served by public transport;</li> <li data-bbox="555 719 1249 842">• To make efficient use of resources, particularly by giving priority to the re-use of previously developed sites, and achieving the maximum benefits from the land that is used;</li> <li data-bbox="555 847 1249 938">• To conserve and enhance the distinctive character and quality of the urban and rural landscape and townscape;</li> <li data-bbox="555 943 1249 997">• To conserve and enhance the architectural and historic heritage of the area;</li> <li data-bbox="555 1002 1249 1056">• To protect and enhance the natural environment, including biodiversity;</li> <li data-bbox="555 1061 1249 1264">• To seek to make sustainable design and building practice normal rather than exceptional throughout South Somerset by the year 2010 through education awareness raising, the provision of exemplar projects, co-operation with Registered Social Landlords and the implementation of the policies in this local plan.</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="1272 368 1762 432">Save all relevant policies as determined by the Council.</p> <p data-bbox="1272 437 1762 687">The documents that will make up the Local Development Framework will have a broader spatial approach but will continue to address the land-use based issues that affect the District. The Local Plan will provide an initial background for the development of the component documents that will form the LDF.</p> <p data-bbox="1272 692 1762 783">Development proposals will be expected to assist in achieving the Guiding Principles.</p> <p data-bbox="1272 788 1762 1007">The approach to identifying development sites has been wherever possible to use previously developed (or "brownfield") land, but it needs to be recognised that the stock of this land in a District such as South Somerset is very limited.</p> <p data-bbox="1272 1011 1762 1198">Through the continually expanding evidence base (including AMR) and the iterative SA/SEA process, The Council would assess the need for new policy or additional detail to be provided through subsequent DPDs and SPDs.</p>	<p data-bbox="1780 368 2047 523">Make appropriate use of historical / trend data from Plan in the baseline in assessing performance.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="293 368 533 643">South Somerset District Council Corporate Plan 2005 – 2012  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/f/8/Corporate_Plan_2005-2012.pdf">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/media/pdf/f/8/Corporate_Plan_2005-2012.pdf</a></p>	<p data-bbox="555 368 1245 703">The vision of the Corporate Plan is for the District Council to be: <i>“an organisation consistently delivering an improving quality of life for all”</i>  The mission statement is the foundation for all priorities, strategies, plans and assignments: <i>“South Somerset District Council’s strength is its flexible approach to creating a district in which people want to live, work or visit. The Enable–Partner–Deliver concept is a bold statement of how we will work with communities and partners to seize opportunities, realise ambitions and secure improvement.”</i></p> <p data-bbox="555 708 770 735">5 corporate aims:</p> <ul data-bbox="555 740 1245 1010" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="555 740 1178 799">• Deliver well managed, cost effective services valued by our customers;</li> <li data-bbox="555 804 1245 831">• Increase economic vitality and prosperity;</li> <li data-bbox="555 836 1245 895">• Improve the health and well-being of our citizens;</li> <li data-bbox="555 900 1245 959">• Ensure safe, sustainable and cohesive communities;</li> <li data-bbox="555 963 1245 1010">• Promote a balanced natural and built environment.</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="1272 368 1762 496">SSDC need to be aware of the corporate aims, vision and mission statement in the preparation of their local development documents.</p>	<p data-bbox="1780 368 2065 735">“Quality of life” survey identifies potential sustainability issues identified by District residents through community engagement. Plan includes targets, which could be used to identify indicator status in Stage A2 baseline evidence.</p>



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<p>South Somerset District Council Corporate Plan 2009 – 2012 (June 2009)  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/district-wide-documents/">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/district-wide-documents/</a></p>	<p>Sets out how the District Council intends to shape the future of the district by having ambitious intentions to improve the quality of life for communities, residents, businesses and visitors. Vision and mission statement remain the same but 'environment' corporate themes slightly amended to 'enhance the environment, address and adapt to climate change'.</p>	<p>Need to be aware of the corporate aims, vision and mission statement in the preparation of local development documents. The key target areas could be used for objective setting and monitoring purposes.</p>	<p>Sets out useful contextual information. Plan includes targets, which could be used to identify indicator status in Stage A2 baseline evidence.</p>
<p>South Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 – 26, 2008, SSDC  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/district-wide-documents/">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/evidence-base/district-wide-documents/</a></p>	<p>A masterplan for how people in the district want to live and work, now and in the future, produced by the Local Strategic Partnership in consultation with the community. There are 5 overarching themes (well being; environmentally sensitive; well run, well served and well connected; thriving economy; well designed and well built), underpinned by 12 goals. Each goal contains several strategic priorities and actions.</p>	<p>Ensure consideration is given to the Sustainable Community Strategy, which identifies the aspirations of the District's residents, early in the plan-making process.</p>	<p>Identifies sustainability issues in the district. Sets out useful contextual information. Plan includes targets, which could be used to identify indicator status in Stage A2 baseline evidence.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="293 368 533 616"> <b>South Somerset Local Development Scheme 2007 – 10, SSDC</b>  <a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=2093">http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=2093</a> </p>	<p data-bbox="555 368 1254 459">Sets the context for the planning process in the District. It summarises the content of the LDF and the nature of each LDD to be produced. It sets out:</p> <ul data-bbox="555 464 1254 735" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="555 464 1254 523">• The documents that currently form the development plan in South Somerset;</li> <li data-bbox="555 528 1254 619">• The Local Development Documents (LDDs) that the Council will produce as part of the South Somerset LDF, and their preparation timetable;</li> <li data-bbox="555 624 1254 683">• How progress will be monitored and reviewed; and</li> <li data-bbox="555 687 1254 735">• The resources that will be used in the preparation of Local Development Documents.</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="1272 368 1762 619">Prepare the DPDs set out in the LDS, along with the AMR, and SPDs as appropriate. SPDs will provide further details of policies and proposals in DPDs, which could take the form of design guides, other guidance, development briefs, or issue-based documents.</p>	<p data-bbox="1780 368 1906 395">As above.</p>