

Core Strategy DPD &
Development Policies DPD -
Sustainability Appraisal
(Summary)



Local Development Framework

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Development Policies DPD -
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Final Sustainability Appraisal Report

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CORE STRATEGY DPD AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES DPD. WAKEFIELD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Author:

Name **Clare Harmer MSc AIEMA and Tara Sethi MSc**

Signature _____

Position Consultant

Reference: EN4549/R/11.3.1/CH

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Checked by:

Rob Gardner MSc AIEMA

Signature _____

Position Principal Consultant

Issued by: Waterman Environmental
South Central
11 Peter Street
Manchester M2 5Qr

Approved by:

Name **Joanna Bagley BSc (Hons) AIEMA**

Signature _____

Position Associate Director

Telephone: 0161 839 8392

Fax: 0161 839 8394

menvironmental@waterman-group.co.uk

www.waterman-group.co.uk/we

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The Local Development Framework (LDF) is the emerging development plan for Wakefield. LDFs are the new form of plan controlling the way in which land is used and where development takes place, introduced by the Government's planning reforms. The LDF, once adopted, will replace the adopted Wakefield District Unitary Development Plan 1st Alteration, and will guide new development in the District for the period up to 2026. The LDF consists of a number of separate documents including Development Plan Documents (DPDs) (which have statutory status) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). This report relates to the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) and the Development Policies DPD, both of which form part of the LDF. Prior to the production of this report the two DPDs were published in one document, however for this 'submission' stage, the document has been split into two separate DPDs.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Sustainability Appraisal (SA) have been carried out on these DPDs in order to meet the requirements of new planning legislation¹ and regulations². The combined SEA and SA process is subsequently referred to as SA only. The main purpose of SA is to see whether implementation of the plan that is being assessed is likely to have any significant environmental, social or economic effects. If significant negative effects are identified, recommendations are made as to how these can be avoided, offset or reduced. Recommendations are also made on how to enhance beneficial effects. A programme to monitor significant effects is also required.

This document forms the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the SA Report and provides a summary, in non-technical language, of the principal findings of the SA. The SA has been undertaken on behalf of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council by Waterman Environmental and the Centre for Sustainability at TRL Ltd.

THE WAKEFIELD LDF OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the LDF are as follows:

- 1) To ensure that all new development, activities and uses of land adhere to and promote the principles of sustainable development and enhance the quality of life for district residents.
- 2) To meet the needs of the district by building on its strengths and the opportunities provided through good links with the wider Leeds City Region, enabling it to play a prominent role in the creation of sustainable communities, in line with the strategy and policy framework provided by the Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire & the Humber.
- 3) To locate development where it will provide the opportunity for people to satisfy their day-to-day needs for employment, shopping, education, leisure, health and other services locally or in places which minimise the need to travel and are accessible safely and conveniently by non-car modes of travel – walking, cycling, public transport. This will be achieved by:
 - a) concentrating most new development within Wakefield, Castleford, Pontefract and other urban areas, with major developments located in the largest settlements;
 - b) focusing development activity in Wakefield city, Castleford, Pontefract and other town centres, taking advantage of existing services and high levels of accessibility; and

¹ Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004)

² Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004).

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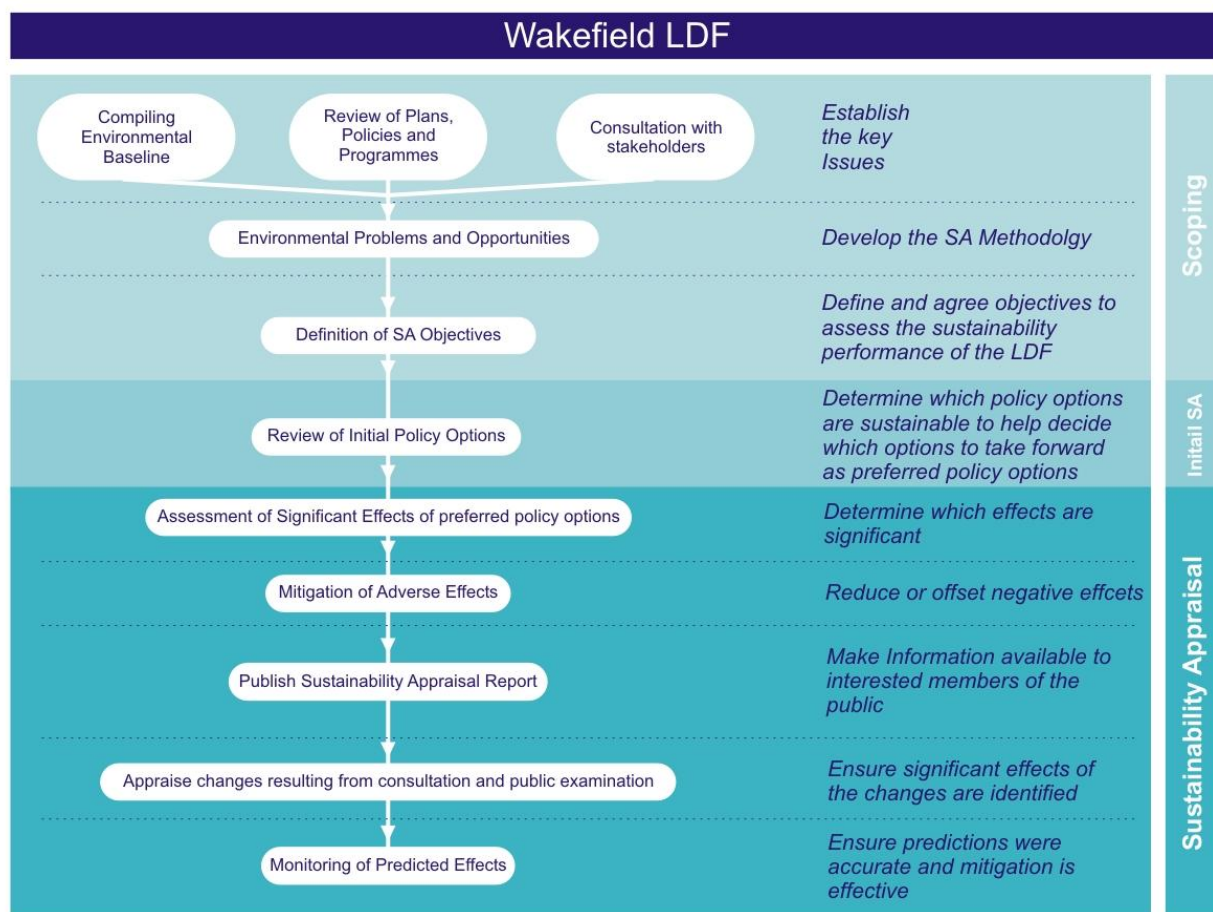
- c) allowing small scale development in local service centres, villages and rural areas which meets identified local needs or maintains the viability of local services.
- 4) To make it easier to travel around the district and the wider Leeds City Region and to access local services and amenities using sustainable transport modes (walking, cycling, public transport), by increasing transport choice and improving public transport accessibility particularly in the South East of the district.
- 5) To provide sufficient good quality housing of the appropriate sizes, types, tenures and affordability to meet the identified needs of the district, in line with the housing requirement of RSS, by promoting efficient use and improvement of the existing housing stock and providing new housing in sustainable locations.
- 6) To create attractive, successful and accessible city and town centres by encouraging development which provides a range of services and activities which are appropriate to the function and size of the centre.
- 7) To support the growth of a dynamic local economy which increases prosperity for all sections of the community by:
 - a) encouraging investment and enterprise in the district and the development of clusters of economic activity;
 - b) building on the competitive advantages enjoyed by the district;
 - c) the urban renaissance of Wakefield City;
 - d) reconnecting the Coalfield Communities in the South East;
 - e) the urban renaissance of the Five Towns;
 - f) encouraging the diversification of the rural economy.
- 8) To provide a range of high quality, accessible cultural, recreational and leisure opportunities across the district to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.
- 9) To protect and enhance the historic heritage, character and identity of the individual settlements of the district by:
 - a) ensuring that the scale and location of development in each settlement is in keeping with its size, form and character;
 - b) ensuring that the buildings and open spaces which create character are protected, maintained and enhanced;
 - c) ensuring high quality, sustainable, design in all new development;
 - d) retaining the Green Belt to make a clear distinction between town and country.
- 10) To ensure that the district's natural environment, including wildlife habitats and landscape character, is conserved and protected and that new development identifies, protects and enhances important assets and where possible creates new wildlife habitats.
- 11) To promote and maintain a clean, attractive and safe environment by reducing waste, avoiding pollution, and promoting high quality design in all new development.
- 12) To reduce the impact of development on climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, notably by conserving resources, and to adapt to the potential effects of climate change by managing and reducing risks, particularly flood risk.

THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL PROCESS

The SA process used in Wakefield is summarised in the Figure below. The assessment to date, has comprised four stages as follows:

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- Determining the key issues upon which the SA should focus and setting and agreeing sustainability objectives, a process known as ‘Scoping’;
- Appraisal of the Core Strategy and Development Control Policy Issues and Options, referred to as the ‘Initial SA’;
- Appraisal of the Preferred Options chosen, referred to as the ‘SA Report’; and
- Appraisal of the changes made between the preferred options and submission stages, referred to as the ‘Final SA Report’.



Summary of the SA Process

SCOPING

The aim of the scoping stage is to determine the key environmental, social and economic issues arising in the district and the framework for assessing the plans. The SEA Regulations require that the following topics are investigated in order to determine whether the introduction of the policies will have significant effects on these topic areas:

- Population
- Human health
- Biodiversity, flora and fauna
- Soil
- Water
- Air
- Climatic factors
- Material Assets
- Cultural heritage
- Landscape
- And the interrelationship between these factors

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In addition to these “SEA topics”, other social and economic factors are also taken into account.

After documenting the sustainability characteristics of the area, and identifying any trends (i.e. is the situation getting better or worse?), other planning documents and policies were reviewed to see how these would influence the SA and the LDF. From the outputs of these two initial stages, the key environmental, social and economic issues and opportunities that relate to the area, and on which the assessment should focus, were established. These issues are described below.

Key Sustainability Issues and Baseline

Key sustainability issues have been identified from the review of planning documentation, information on the existing sustainability characteristics of the District and following discussions with WMDC. These are described below.

Economic Issues

High unemployment exists in some areas of the District, particularly in the south east and north east of the District and parts of the city of Wakefield, due to the decline in traditional industries. Many new jobs are temporary, part time and lower paid. Good quality job opportunities need to be provided in all areas of the District to reduce the levels of hardship experienced by some people.

Economic growth in the District is below the national average. Investment and new business activities in the District need to be encouraged, and conditions that enable economic growth developed.

Shops, manufacturing work and health and social work are the largest employers in the District but jobs in the financial and other business services, leisure and recreation, hotels and catering and other professional services are increasing. However, Wakefield has the smallest number of offices in West Yorkshire, with most located in Wakefield City centre. Demand for office accommodation is growing outside established town centres in the District.

There is a continuing demand for sites of 2-8 hectares for distribution warehouses, mainly at the industrial estates in the motorway and A1 corridors and on open greenfield land.

Social Issues

The impact of the decline of the traditional industries in areas of the south-east and north of the District has resulted in higher than the national average levels of social and economic hardship.

The number of adults with qualifications in the Wakefield District is relatively low although the number of pupils achieving GCSE grades A to C has increased, so that it is now in line with the regional average.

Wakefield has a relatively high level of burglary and theft from motor vehicles compared with the national average and car crime has been increasing.

There is a need for affordable housing throughout the District and the number of new homes built on previously developed land should to be maintained at current levels.

The proportion of residents with limiting long-term illness is relatively high and has risen from 15.3% in 1991 to 22.4% in 2001. Almost half of these are of working age.

Environmental Issues

Protected ecological sites cover only 2% of Wakefield District's land area. Woodland cover in the District is just 3.8%, compared with the national figure of 10.5%. Due to the decline of coal mining and other traditional industries, the district has suffered significant environmental degradation, dereliction and (in part) potential for suspected ground contamination. Future development should increasingly be on previously developed land, and, where possible, enable the clean-up of contaminated land.

Air quality along the M1 motorway and the A1 near Darrington, is worse than the national average, and in these specific areas Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) have been declared. Traffic is the main

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source of the pollutants in these locations, and therefore it is important that development decisions do not exacerbate the current situation.

The water quality of the rivers Aire, Calder and Dearne has improved over recent years largely as a result of improvements to sewage treatment and industrial waste discharges. Rates of improvement have slowed in the last few years however. A clean environment should be promoted and maintained, including the quality of rivers.

The District has a lower level of carbon dioxide emissions per head than the Region as a whole. Ferrybridge Power Station has also begun using renewable energy sources, as well as coal, as an energy source and so the amount of energy from renewable sources is increasing but still remains relatively low.

The amount of household waste recycled in recent years has increased significantly to 21% which is more than the Regional average.

See http://www.communityhealthprofiles.info/profiles/hp2006/lo_res/00DB-HP2006.pdf for further baseline information.

SA Objectives

Based on these key issues, fifteen SA Objectives were developed as shown below. These were then agreed with environmental bodies and others and uses as the basis for the appraisal.

- SA1** Good quality employment opportunities available to all;
- SA2** Conditions which enable business success, economic growth and investment;
- SA3** Education and training opportunities to build skills and capacities;
- SA4** Conditions and services to engender good health;
- SA5** Safety and security for people and property;
- SA6** Vibrant communities to participate in decision making;
- SA7** Create, enhance and provide accessibility to culture, leisure and recreation activities;
- SA8** Local needs met locally;
- SA9** Quality housing available to everyone;
- SA10** To provide a transport network which maximises access whilst minimising detrimental impacts;
- SA11** A quality built environment that protects and enhances its historic assets, and efficient land use patterns that make good use of derelict sites, minimise travel and promote balanced development;
- SA12** A bio-diverse and attractive natural environment;
- SA13** Minimal pollution levels;
- SA14** Minimal greenhouse gas emissions and a managed response to the effects of climate change; and
- SA15** Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources with minimal production of waste.

Testing the LDF Objectives

In order to ensure that the LDF objectives don't conflict with the sustainability objectives, they were tested against each other. No significant conflicts were found. Increases in development proposed by the LDF objectives will affect the amount of greenhouse gas emissions and level of waste produced within the

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District, however, this needs to be balanced against the need to provide economic growth, employment and housing for local residents, visitors and workers.

Consultations on the Scope

Consultations on the key issues and SA objectives were undertaken with the Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature, and the Environment Agency to confirm that they were in agreement with the findings of the initial stages, and to provide an opportunity to suggest changes to the assessment. Consultation with these bodies is a legal requirement however in addition, a wider group of local stakeholders were also included in the consultation exercises so that input could be provided on the approach to assessing the social and economic factors covered by the assessment, as well as the more local environmental issues.

INITIAL SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL (DECEMBER 2004 - JANUARY 2005)

One of the requirements of SA is to consider alternative approaches to achieving the objectives of the plan, so that the effects of these alternatives can be assessed. The Issues and Options Report for the Core Strategy and Development Policies DPD proposed a number of options for achieving the LDF objectives.

These policy options were assessed against the agreed SA objectives. The purpose of this appraisal, known as an 'Initial Sustainability Appraisal', was to help to guide the Council on choosing preferred options.

The policy options available to plan makers in seeking to meet the objectives are heavily constrained by national and regional planning guidance, and the Initial Sustainability Appraisal found that, in most cases the proposed options that were the least sustainable were those that looked at the 'do nothing' option, these being the options that did not follow the new guidance.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF PREFERRED OPTIONS (MAY 2005 - JANUARY 2006)

This stage of the SA involved predicting the environmental, social and economic effects that were likely to result from the implementation of the preferred policy options, and then evaluating the significance of the predicted effects. Where adverse effects were identified, recommendations were made as to how these could be mitigated. Most of these recommendations were taken on board when the Preferred Options were being developed into the Submission Policies.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF SUBMISSION POLICIES (SEPTEMBER 2006 – NOVEMBER 2007)

The policies chosen by the Council for inclusion in the Submission DPDs have been appraised against the agreed SA Objectives. The appraisal has focused on identifying the significant environmental, social, and economic effects which may result from the implementation of the policies. The policies were assessed for their likely impact against the 15 SA objectives, and the findings of the assessment are summarised below. Only medium term effects are presented to provide a snapshot of the assessment and avoid un-necessary repetition. The short and long-term effects are the same or very similar to the medium term effects. The key to the tables below is as follows:

✓✓	Very sustainable
✓	Sustainable
?	Uncertain
-	Neutral
×	Unsustainable
××	Very unsustainable

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Policy (Abridged)		SA Objective (Abridged)														
		SA1. Employment	SA2. Economy	SA3. Education	SA4. Health	SA5. Security	SA6. Participation	SA7. Leisure	SA8. Local Needs	SA9. Housing	SA10. Transport	SA11. Land use	SA12. Natural Environment	SA13. Pollution Levels	SA14. Climate Change	SA15. Natural resources
Core Strategy Policies																
CS1	Location of Development	✓	✓	✓	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CS2	The Scale and Distribution of Additional Housing	✓	✓	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	x	x
CS3	Release of Housing Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	-
CS4	Sustainable Transport	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓
CS5	Community Facilities and Services	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	?	✓	✓
CS6	Housing Mix, Affordability and Quality	-	-	-	?	?	-	✓	?	✓	-	✓	-	-	-	-
CS7	Accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers	-	-	✓	?	?	-	✓	✓	-	-	?	?	-	-	-
CS8	The Local Economy	✓	✓	✓	-	?	?	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	?	x	x
CS9	Transport Network	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	?	?	?
CS10	Design, Safety and Environmental Quality	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
CS11	Leisure, Recreation and Open Space	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	?	✓	✓
CS12	Green Belt	x	x	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-
CS13	Mitigating/Adapting to Climate Change/Efficient use of Resources	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CS14	Influencing the Demand for Travel	✓	?	?	✓	✓	-	✓	?	✓	-	?	✓	?	✓	?
CS15	Waste Management	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	?	?	?	✓
CS16	Minerals	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	?	?	✓	✓
Development Policies																
D1	Housing Density	✓	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓
D2	Housing in Rural Areas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	?	-	-	✓
D3	Dwellings for Agricultural/Forestry Workers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D4	Windfall Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	?	✓	✓	✓
D5	Access to Undeveloped Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-
D6	Safeguarded Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓
D7	Affordable Housing	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	-	?	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	?
D8	Affordable Housing on Rural Exception Sites	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	-	?	?	-	-	-
D9	Protecting Employment Land	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-
D10	Sites Designated for Biodiversity/Geodiversity	-	-	-	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D11	Ecological protection of Watercourses/Water Bodies	-	-	-	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D12	Wildlife Habitat Network	-	-	-	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D13	Protection of Trees and Woodland	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D14	Landscape Character	-	-	-	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D15	Design of New Development	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	-	✓
D16	Extensions and Alterations to Dwellings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D17	Waterfront Design	-	-	-	✓	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D18	Landscape Design	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D19	Protected Areas of Open Land	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D20	Open Space in Residential Areas	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	-	✓	-
D21	Access and Highway Safety	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-
D22	Safety and Security Through Design	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D23	Shopfront Design and Advertisements	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D24	Telecommunications Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D25	Development Affecting Archaeological Sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D26	Development Affecting Historic Locations	-	-	-	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D27	Development Affecting Listed Buildings	-	-	-	-	?	-	✓	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-
D28	Development in Conservation Areas	-	-	-	-	?	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D29	Buildings of Local Interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-
D30	Pollution Control	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
D31	Light Pollution	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-
D32	Protection from Hazardous Operations	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-
D33	Contaminated Land	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓
D34	Existing Uses in the Green Belt	x	x	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D35	Surface Water Drainage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
D36	Flood Risk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
D37	Protection of Agricultural Land	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D38	Renewable Energy	-	-	?	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓
D39	Renewable Energy Regeneration technology	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
D40	Efficient Use of Resources	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Summary of Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Assessment (Medium Term Effects)

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Significant Positive Effects

As shown above, significant positive effects were identified for 14 of the SA Objectives in either or both of the Core Strategy and Development Policies DPDs. These include:

- Encouraging skills training and protecting employment land to enhance the level of employment in the District;
- Protecting existing community facilities, leisure and recreation and encouraging new facilities to be provided within new developments;
- Helping to increase the number of journeys made by means other than the car, including by walking, cycling or public transport;
- Protecting the greenbelt, greenspaces, areas of nature conservation importance and local landscape character from inappropriate development;
- Making sure new developments consider safety and security;
- Providing new housing, including affordable housing;
- Protecting and enhancing areas of cultural, environmental and historic interest;
- Encouraging the efficient use of natural resources and waste minimisation or recycling; and
- Minimising the risk of pollution and encouraging renewable energy generation.

Significant Negative Effects

The only significant negative effects identified during the assessment resulted from the level of proposed new development on:

- Natural resource use – construction and use of new developments will increase the amount of energy, water, building materials and land used; and
- Waste production – increased activity in the District will increase the amount of waste produced.

Significant Uncertainties

As the LDF aims to guide development, there are a number of cases where the effect of the plan is uncertain. Significant uncertainties include:

- The locations of development. The location of new houses and businesses is a key factor in working out what the actual effects of the plan will be. The location of the developments will be determined, in part, by another planning document controlling which areas of the District will be allocated for which use, known as Site Specific Proposals DPD. This will also undergo a SA, to help guide the Council on which sites are most sustainable; and
- How some policies will relate with other policies in the plan. For example, restricting business in certain areas may improve the environment but may affect employment levels in that area.

Cumulative Effects

Cumulative effects are those effects that when added together become more significant even if on their own they do not appear to be significant. Cumulative effects can occur with other plans and policies as well as within the plan itself. The cumulative effects of the SA are generally positive and include:

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- The additive effects of encouraging development near to public transport links, improving public transport and encouraging walking and cycling, all of which should help to reduce car usage and the related problems of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions;
- The additive effects of encouraging economic development and provision of a wide range of housing types which can lead to improved feelings of wellbeing and reduced levels of crime.

Mitigation Measures

SA Guidance requires that measures should be considered to prevent, reduce or offset any significant negative effects that have been identified during the assessment process.

In nearly every case where significant negative effects and other less significant negative effects have been identified during the assessment process, the Core Strategy and Development Policies DPDs have put forward the mitigation measures required to prevent or reduce the severity of this effect. For example, provision of a policy to require renewable energy use in new developments and policies to minimise the potential for increasing air pollution, particularly in designated Air Quality Management Areas.

HOW THE ASSESSMENT HAS INFLUENCED THE PLAN

The process of undertaking sustainability appraisal on the emerging policy options for the LDDs is not a 'rubber stamping operation' that is carried out once the policies have been determined, but instead is an interactive process which informs the option development process. This has resulted in:

- Revisions to the LDF objectives as a result of the initial SA stages;
- Guiding the selection and wording of the preferred policies and the supporting documents; and
- Recommending mitigation measures to include into the preferred policies and planning documents.

MONITORING PROPOSALS

Once the plans are implemented, their effects on the environment, society and economy are to be monitored to allow action to be taken to reduce and/or offset any significant effects. The monitoring programme will be finalised for inclusion in the SA Statement which will accompany the adopted plans. Where possible the monitoring will make use of existing arrangements, such as those reported in the WMDC LDF Annual Monitoring Report. The recommended monitoring includes:

- Growth of local businesses by turnover and employees numbers;
- Long term unemployment;
- Educational achievement indicators;
- Town centre health checks;
- Percentage of new housing developments which conform with the Regional Transport Strategy accessibility criteria;
- Proportion of journeys on foot or by cycle;
- Energy use per household; and
- Regional data on carbon dioxide emissions.

**Final SA Report, Wakefield Metropolitan District
Council Core Strategy DPD and Development
Policies DPD**

NEXT STEPS

When the Core Strategy and Development Policies DPDs are submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination in Public they will be accompanied by this SA Report along with a number of other supporting documents.

If significant changes to the DPDs are found to be required following the examination it may be necessary to undertake some additional sustainability appraisal on these changes.

When the DPDs are adopted by Wakefield MDC an 'Adoption Statement' will be produced which summarises how the findings of the SA process have been taken into account during the preparation of the DPDs, and how sustainability considerations have been integrated.

At this stage information will also be provided to explain why the options carried forward into the plan have been accepted, and why other reasonable alternatives were rejected prior to the LDDs being submitted for adoption.

The Adoption Statement will also provide details of how monitoring will be carried out during implementation of the DPD.