

A NEW VISION FOR DEVELOPING WAKEFIELD DISTRICT



Local Development Framework

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Developer Contributions

Supplementary Planning Document

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Information

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لکھائی، بریل یا کسی اور زبان میں اس کا ترجمہ
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Sustainability Appraisal

In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is required to be undertaken to assess the environmental, economic and social implications of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) of which the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document is one.

Sustainability Appraisals help planning authorities fulfill the objectives of contributing to achieving sustainable development in preparing its plans and documents. The SA will consider the SPD's implications, from a social, economic and environmental perspective, by assessing options and the draft SPD against available baseline data and sustainability objectives.

1.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment

In addition to the requirement for a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) must also be carried out in accordance with the requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC on the "assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment." The objective of the SEA Directive is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoptions of plans, with a view to promoting sustainable development. SEA and SA are very closely linked. SA aims to integrate sustainability issues into decision making by appraising the plan or strategy using environmental, social and economic objectives; SEA also aims to facilitate sustainable development but its emphasis is on integrating environmental considerations into decision making through a thorough analysis of environmental issues.

The requirements for the SEA Directive are incorporated into the SA process, and the SA appraisal will assess environmental effects as well as social and economic impacts, consistent with SA guidance.

Sustainability Appraisal Overview and Timetable

The Government has produced guidance on how to carry out an appraisal, drawn from the statutory regulations relating to the SEA Directive and SA. In line with the 'Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks' published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) in November 2005 a framework has been developed for preparing the SA.

There are several stages to the SA process and this Scoping Report represents the first stage in undertaking a full Sustainability Appraisal of the Developer Contributions SPD.

Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Stage A - Scoping

Collecting information/ Developing an appraisal framework

- Collecting baseline information on relevant environmental, social and economic topics
- Outlining other policies, plans and programmes which will inform the Developer Contributions SPD
- Identifying appropriate indicators and developing a framework for undertaking the appraisal systematically
- Identifying key sustainability issues with regard to the topics being dealt with in the SPD.
- Consulting with statutory bodies with social, environmental and economic responsibilities to ensure the scope of the appraisal is satisfactory

Stage B

Appraisal of the preparatory work for the draft SPD

- Testing the objectives and options for the policies
- Refining preferred options for publication

Stage C

Prepare comprehensive sustainability appraisal report to accompany Draft SPD for consultation

Stage D

Following consultation appraise any consequential modifications to the SPD and publish final Sustainability Appraisal together with the adopted SPD.

Stage E

Monitoring implementation of the SPD and publish sustainability monitoring reports periodically as part of the Annual Monitoring Report as new information becomes available.

This Scoping Report will document Stage A of the process and facilitate early engagement and consultation with the relevant statutory bodies and other key stakeholders on the scope and methodology of the appraisal.

2.0 Background for the Developer Contributions SPD

The purpose of the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document will set out how benefits for the community, which reasonably arise from development proposals in the district, will be negotiated and delivered. The proposed SPD would be a material consideration in relevant planning applications and has been produced in accordance with Government Circular 05/05: Planning Obligations that requires that all contributions must be directly related and proportionate to proposed development.

2.1 Purpose of this Scoping Report

The Scoping Report is the first stage of the SA process. This report will look at the potential sustainability effects of the developer contributions SPD which shall decide on the scope and level of detail of the SA. The outcome of the Scoping Report will be the Sustainability Appraisal Framework which will provide the structure and scope of the final SA.

2.2 Consultation on the Scoping Report

Comments on this report are invited from the consultation bodies required by the SEA Regulations together with other key consultees who represent social, economic and environmental interests in Wakefield. These consultees have been identified in accordance with the Statement of Community Involvement and are set out below:

- Countryside Agency
- English Heritage
- English Nature
- Environment Agency
- Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
- Yorkshire Forward
- Wakefield First
- Kirklees Metropolitan Council
- Barnsley Metropolitan Council
- Doncaster Metropolitan Council
- Selby District Council
- Leeds City Council
- City of Bradford Council
- Calderdale District Council
- Learning and Skills Council for West Yorkshire
- West Yorkshire Strategic Health Authority
- Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The consultation period will be five weeks, with written responses received before the end of December 2006. In addition to the above consultees the public will be consulted on both the Initial SA Report and the final SA Report.

3.0 Relevant Plan, Programmes and Objectives

The SPD may be influenced in various ways by other plans, strategies and policies which are National, Regional and Local. These documents have been reviewed as part of this scoping report to determine the objectives and targets relevant to this SPD.

This section contains a brief introduction of plans, strategies and policies that are relevant to the Developer Contributions SPD.

3.1 National Policy

Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPGs) set out Government Policy on a wide range of development issues such as housing, the economy, and the environment and transport issues at a national level.

PPS 1: Delivering Sustainable Development. In order to meet the aims of PPS 1 the provisions within the SPD will seek to promote:

- Urban and rural regeneration which will improve the well being of communities, improve facilities, promote high quality and safe development and create new opportunities for the people living in those communities.
- Communities which are inclusive, healthy, safe and crime free, whilst respecting the diverse needs of communities and the special needs of particular sectors of the community.
- Reduce the need to travel and encourage accessible public transport provision to secure more sustainable patterns of transport development.

PPG 3: Housing

In order to achieve the aims of PPG 3 and create a mix of inclusive communities which offer a choice of housing and lifestyle. The affordable housing element of the SPD will assist in achieving the objectives for affordable housing as set out in PPG 3.

PPS 3: Housing

(Draft) PPS 3 sets out the national planning policy framework for delivering the Government's housing objectives. The affordable housing element of the SPD will assist in achieving the objectives to provide for the need for affordable housing as set out in PPS 3.

PPS 6: Planning for Town Centres

In line with PPS 6 improving accessibility and ensuring that existing and new development is, or will be, accessible and well served by a means of transport, the Developer Contributions SPD may assist in maintaining or improving accessibility to retail facilities.

PPS 12: Local Development Frameworks (LDFs)

An integral component of PPS 12 is to ensure effective public participation, community involvement and consultation will be an integral part of preparing the SPD which will be prepared in accordance with PPS 12.

PPG 17: Open Space, Sport and Recreation

Planning obligations should be used where appropriate to seek increased provision of open spaces and local sports and recreational facilities, and the enhancement of existing facilities. Developer contributions can be used as a means to remedy deficiencies in the quantity and quality of open space.

Circular 05/05: Specific policy guidance relating to developer contributions has been provided by the Government in ODPM Circular 5/05 - Planning Obligations (July 2005.) The Circular provides that planning obligations should only be sought where they meet the following tests:

- Relevant to planning
- Necessary to make the proposed development acceptable in planning terms

- Directly related to the proposed development
- Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the proposed development
- Reasonable in all other aspects

Furthermore, this Circular encourages local authorities to use formulae and standard charges as part of the framework for negotiating and securing planning obligations to speed up negotiations by ensuring predictability in terms of the likely size and scale of the contribution.

3.2 Regional Policy

At Regional level the Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber provides a further interpretation of strategic planning policies which influence local policies and are reflected in the Developer Contributions SPD.

Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF)

The RSDF seeks to ensure that sustainable development is an integral part of policy and decision making at regional, sub-regional levels and local levels.

Regional Spatial Strategy the Yorkshire and Humber Plan (Draft)

This Plan is the 'Regional Spatial Strategy' for Yorkshire and the Humber Region. The Plan sets out the scale, priorities and broad locations for change and development in the region over the period to 2021. It provides a framework for 'where things go' and 'how much' development should take place, it includes a Regional Transport Strategy, and links all this with broader issues such as the environment, sustainable development and quality of life.

RPG 12:

The provisions of the SPD will contribute to the four central objectives of sustainable development for the region.

Regional Economic Strategy 2006-2015 (Consultation Draft)

Objective 3 seeks to emphasise 'Skilled people with talents that employers value and which offer due reward'. The contributions sought from the Developer Contributions SPD will seek to directly contribute towards Objective 3.

3.3 Wakefield Strategies

Wakefield also has a number of planning policies and documents such as the Wakefield Unitary Development Plan Policies adopted in 2003 which provides the current spatial framework and planning policies for the District as well as various other relevant policies which are summarised below.

Wakefield Community Strategy - Fast Forward

In line with the Fast Forward Community Strategy contributions sought from developers will seek to create a safer environment for Wakefield through increasing the percentage of residents who feel safe while outside in the District during the day and at night and assist in Wakefield becoming the safest Metropolitan District in West Yorkshire to live in by 2010.

Wakefield Green Space Strategy (Consultation Draft)

The SPD will seek to increase the number of residents that live within the catchment area of accessible Greenspace in line with the Green Space Strategy.

Wakefield Municipal Waste Strategy

The SPD will seek to increase the amount of waste recycled to 18% by 2005/6 in line with the Wakefield Municipal Waste Strategy.

Policy R2 of the Wakefield Unitary Development Plan First Alteration

At local level, the UDP approaches planning obligations through Policy R2 which seeks to minimize the effects of proposed development. This policy is used as a tool to secure planning obligations which can overcome the negative effects of development and achieve other policies in the plan.

Emerging Local Development Framework Policies

The emerging Local Development Framework proposes a number of policies in the Core Strategy and Development Control Policies which where appropriate could result in a planning obligation and a developer contribution. These policies are set out below:

- **Core Strategy**

- Policy CS3 Development criteria
- Policy CS12 Affordable housing
- Policy CS13 Affordable housing on exception sites
- Policy CS21 Transport and development
- Policy CS22 Walking and Cycling
- Policy CS23 Public transport
- Policy CS30 Community facilities and services
- Policy CS31 Leisure, recreation and open space
- Policy CS37 Waste management
- Policy CS39 Provision of minerals other than coal

- **Development Control Policies**

- Policy NAT1 Protected sites
- Policy NAT4 Wildlife habitat network
- Policy NAT6 Development affecting trees
- Policy EIC3 Development in functional floodplains
- Policy EIC6 Air quality
- Policy EIC7 Noise pollution
- Policy REN2 Renewable energy generation technology
- Policy MIN1 Mineral extraction

Supplementary Planning Guidance 5: Sustainable Development Guide

This document sets out the principles of sustainable development and how these can be applied in practice to the development process.

Supplementary Planning Guidance 6: Affordable Housing

Explains the Council's procedures on how the planning system can assist in the provision of affordable housing. Developer contributions will seek to increase the levels of affordable housing in the District of the scale and type that is required to meet local housing need.

Supplementary Planning Guidance 7: Parking Standards

A set of cycle and parking standards covering a range of land use types and locations. Monies secured through planning obligations will assist in achieving the objectives of the Parking Standards SPG.

Residential Design Guide

This document sets out the standards and guidelines against which planning applications for residential development will be considered by the Local Planning Authority and its aim is to encourage an innovative and flexible approach to new development.

Wakefield City Centre Streetstyle Design Guide

This document forms the basis for development of the public realm throughout Wakefield. It has three overarching principles for the public realm these being the creation of a people orientated city, creation of a sense of identity for Wakefield and the creation of a spatial hierarchy to provide a structure for the development of the public realm.

4.0 Baseline Information

Government guidance emphasises that baseline information provides the basis for predicting and monitoring effects and helps to identify sustainability problems and alternative ways of dealing with them. The collection of this data about the current state of the District with regard to developer contributions is used within the SA to help predict the SPD's effects.

Indicators and targets have been identified at this stage to enable the SA indicators and targets to be established later on in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

The list below in Table 1 gives a summary of baseline topics which are also objectives for this SPD.

SPD Objectives

- (SPDO1) Affordable Housing
- (SPDO2) Public Open Space
- (SPDO3) Education
- (SPDO4) Off site highways and transportation works
- (SPDO5) Off site drainage works
- (SPDO6) Environmental works
- (SPDO7) Public Realm
- (SPDO8) Community and Health facilities
- (SPDO9) Economic Regeneration
- (SPDO10) Refuse and Waste Disposal
- (SPDO11) Air Quality
- Other benefits

These objectives will be changed in light of early engagement and more detailed objectives will be developed at Stage B alongside the draft SPD.

This Scoping Report only presents an initial review of potential baseline data and indicators. Other sources will be reviewed and a fuller description of the characteristics of developer contributions in Wakefield will be included as part of the next stages of the SA.

4.1 Summary of Key Sustainability Issues

Affordable Housing

The national policy related to affordable housing is contained primarily in PPG 3: Housing and Circular 6/98: Planning for Affordable Housing. These establish a definition of affordable housing and the parameters within which local authorities can seek to secure provision through new development.

The demand for housing has been high recently, specifically in the Northern and Western parts of the District. Completions for the years 2000-2004 averaged 1,155 per annum, 22% above the housing requirement for the District set in Regional Planning Guidance (now Regional Spatial Strategy.) Demand for new housing has also been high in some parts of the Southeast of the District but other parts have experienced market failure necessitating action to bring about renewal.

House prices have risen steeply throughout the District, leading to local shortages of affordable housing in all areas. Shortages are the most acute in the Northern and Western areas where prices are highest but even in the Southeast there are local shortages of some types of affordable housing. Average house prices remain 7% lower than the regional average.

The emerging Local Development Framework proposes policy CS12 relating to affordable housing. This seeks to ensure that all proposals for residential development must provide affordable dwellings where there is an identified local need for them as shown in the latest Housing Needs Statement and above the thresholds outlined in policy CS12.

From April 2004 to date 21 affordable housing schemes have been agreed, which gives a total subsidy for affordable housing of £5,497,029. The numbers of units delivered in this time is 50 and this comprises 3 lifetime homes, 5 disabled bungalows, 4 bungalows, 7 flats and 27 houses. Schemes currently secured but not yet delivered include 60 units and comprise 6 disabled bungalows, 1 lifetime home, 23 flats and 30 houses.

Public Open Space

PPG 17 sets the national context for open space and recreation issues. It highlights the role this issue plays in underpinning people's quality of life and supporting broader government objectives such as urban renewal, social cohesion and sustainable development. By helping to secure appropriate open space and recreation facilities as part of new development, this SPD would be entirely consistent with PPG 17.

There are 22 urban parks managed and maintained by the Council. Wakefield Countryside Service manages over 1100 acres of land including 2 country parks, nature reserves, woodlands and commons for the benefit of wildlife and for people to enjoy. In general there is considered to be insufficient provision of green and open space within the District. The need for public open space associated with new developments will continue and may be required for leisure, commercial and other uses and not only residential.

The calculation on which the open space requirement is based will need to be reviewed along with the mechanisms for ensuring future maintenance.

Contributions of £522,625 have been sought towards improvements to parks and public spaces which were identified by the Greenspace Strategy as priorities for open space and recreation across the District. To date, schemes include Grasmere Road playing fields, Sharlston Common, Redhill Avenue, Milnsthorne Playing Fields, Thornes Park and Saville Park both of which included equipped playspaces.

Education facilities

Adult educational attainment in the District is low; over 39% of Wakefield Residents aged between 16 and 74 have no qualifications. Furthermore the level of people educated to degree level is the lowest in West Yorkshire and significantly below the national average. GCSE scores are rising at one of the highest rates in Yorkshire.

Currently education contributions are sought only where the new housing that will generate a need for places which cannot be met by existing schools. The decision as to whether new school places will be required is based on public information issued from the Councils Family Services Directorate. These will be an important part of future developer contributions where existing facilities cannot meet the demands arising from new development. Such contributions will usually be directed at providing additional capacity but where it can be shown that the existing facilities are significantly substandard then an upgrade of existing facilities could be considered.

Developments of 25 houses or more are assessed for the need of a developer contribution. The number of school pupils resulting from a housing development is based on 3 children per age group per 100 houses.

The basis of calculating a contribution is the DFES cost multiplier the current figures for which are primary £9,645 per place, secondary (11-16) £14,738 per place and post 16 £17,013 per place.

A more focused approach to the need for education contributions has developed over the past year with sums being achieved at Lambsons, Castleford (£592,900) and Aberford Road, Wakefield (£100,000). In the past a sum of £40,000 was received at Woolley Colliery although this had to be passed to Barnsley MBC under the term of the agreement. Once the developer contributions SPD is in force, regular monitoring of contributions will take place.

Public Realm

In accordance with Fast Forward, the Council is working towards improving the urban environment by developing the Urban Renaissance Initiative for Wakefield City. To facilitate this, in 2002 architects Koetter Kim were appointed to assist in developing a long-term vision for the urban renaissance of the city. In 2004, two documents were produced by Koetter Kim, Wakefield: A Strategic Framework for the District addresses district-wide issues and Wakefield: Developing the Vision. Public realm is an important element of the urban environment. Parallel to the work undertaken by Koetter Kim was the programme of work carried out on the quality of urban space by urban quality consultants, Gehl Architects. This resulted in the production of the Wakefield Strategy Plan (December 2004).

The public realm is a key component in the city's revival and aspiration to become a successful, distinctive and vibrant city and will be to the benefit of everyone who lives, works and visits the city. Consequently, developments and developers will benefit from an improved public realm and should be required to contribute to the improvement programme.

To facilitate public realm improvements within Wakefield city centre the Wakefield City Centre Streetstyle Design Guide has been prepared to provide a clear strategy and guidance for enhancing the streets and spaces within the city centre. Improvements will be largely implemented through the Council's public realm and highway schemes, smaller scale maintenance schemes and as part of private developments. The Council intends to incorporate the principles and strategy outlined in this document into the Local Development Framework Central Wakefield Area Action Plan and to incorporate the detailed design guidance in a Supplementary Planning Document as appropriate. Developer contributions are being sought for improvements within the vicinity of the Emerald Ring and the area within it.

Public realm contributions will become more important as the Council seeks to improve the quality of residential, commercial, leisure and other environments within the city. To date contributions have been secured towards tree planting on the Emerald Ring at Ings Road, Wakefield and a contribution to environmental initiatives in College Grove, Wakefield.

Off site highways and transportation works

Peak period traffic has been a problem in the city centre over the last 3-4 years with over 76% of people arriving in the city centre by car in the peak hours. Peak hour traffic has risen 13% between 1999 and 2002/03. This causes significant peak hour queuing problems at several points throughout the city. New developments will add to this congestion. There is also evidence of very low cycle use in the city and some evidence that bus use is falling. Generally public transport services are poor in many areas including the Five Towns and between different parts of the District.

In order to ensure a safe development in highway terms and to alleviate the existing problems on the road these works are a necessity and they vary in terms of location and the development. Contributions towards these works have never been quantified to date in Wakefield.

In future contributions could also be sought towards public transport initiatives through bus stops and shelters, rail time information, displays, metro passes and also potentially park and ride facilities.

Off site drainage works

Contributions toward off site drainage schemes have been achieved for a scheme in South Elmsall towards Frickley Colliery Drainage Scheme.

A developer funded drainage and flood risk reduction works is currently being implemented at a cost £335K. These works have been secured through developer contributions and funding is available for at least four years.

Environmental Works

Measures toward environmental works include future watercourse maintenance in the areas of Ackton Pastures and Castleford. Environmental village improvements which include all local community benefits as well as works to an adjoining factory to limit noise and dust.

Community and Health Facilities

Life expectancy between 2001 and 2003 in Wakefield was below the national average at 79.7 years for females and 75.1 for males. This is steadily increasing.

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

New residential development also increases pressure on health facilities and the need to seek developer contributions is increasingly being recognized to improve the health of the district.

Various benefits such as village sports and community facilities and the promotion of local employment (Tesco, Hemsworth) have previously been sought, however, to date these contributions have been sought on an ad hoc basis.

The impact of significant developments on community facilities needs to be considered. In the past the development of 375 houses at Woolley Colliery resulted in contributions of £100k (payable to a local community trust) and £45k (payable to WMDC) for the enhancement of local community facilities. The provision of land for a community centre on site and mains gas and cable TV to an existing adjacent settlement was also secured.

At present, there is no evidence to provide baseline information. Once the developer contributions SPD is in force, regular monitoring of contributions will take place.

Economic Regeneration

As outlined previously adult educational attainment in the District is low. Providing skills training for current employer needs within the District would be one way of underpinning the economic regeneration which is taking place in many parts of the District. Where new industrial/commercial developments are proposed then a contribution to secure training opportunities to fill local skills gaps may be appropriate.

Refuse and Waste Disposal

In 2001/02 7.4% of the District's household waste was recycled. 6% of the total municipal waste is recycled.

Air Quality

The LDF Core Strategy recognized that areas of poor air quality arise and where this is a particular problem Air Quality Management Areas will be identified. Where development is close to or could have a significantly detrimental impact then mitigation measures may be appropriately secured through a planning obligation.

Other benefits secured

These have been secured on an ad hoc basis.

Conclusions

As demonstrated above, planning obligations can cover a large number of issues and it is therefore necessary to establish at the local level what sort of planning obligation is appropriate for each planning application.

Limitations and Outstanding Data

The baseline data collected at this stage is meant to give a general overview of the sustainability issues facing the Wakefield District. As this is an early stage in the SA process and when comments from consultations are known it may be necessary to collect and collate more data.

The requirement to monitor the sustainability of the Developer Contributions SPD in the long run (As set out in Section 6 Sustainability Appraisal Framework) will provide further detailed and focused baseline information for use in subsequent SAs.

5.0 Sustainability Issues Associated with Developer Contribution Policies

Key sustainability issues have been identified from the review of relevant planning documentation as well as the baseline information and are described below.

5.1 Social

Demands for housing combined with rising house prices throughout the District have led to local shortages of affordable housing in all areas. Shortages are the most acute in the Northern and Western areas where prices are highest but even in the South East there are local shortages for some types of affordable housing. The Housing Needs Survey 2002 showed an affordability requirement for 114 additional homes each year. The overall affordable requirement has been calculated as 582 additional homes per year in accordance with the Government Housing Need Model. Developer contributions towards affordable housing ensure that local residents who have been excluded from the general market are provided for.

To encourage communities that are sustainable developer contributions towards Recreation Open Space, Education and Health provision can mitigate the deficit that could be caused by new developments in communities not adequately provided with such services and facilities or where new developments would result in additional demand on existing facilities, reducing the quality of service to existing residents.

Developer contributions to public transport, cycleways/footpath networks and other 'Green Transport' initiatives can also increase access to local facilities.

5.2 Environmental

In seeking contributions for improvements which make a development proposal acceptable, wider benefits to the local environment may result.

Developer contributions towards recreation open space enhance the landscape and amenity value of a site and the immediate area and the provision of sustainable urban drainage schemes (SUDS) can have a beneficial impact on the water environment of the site and the local area.

5.3 Economic

Developer contributions towards affordable housing schemes and mixed housing schemes will have positive economic effects such as assisting lower paid workers to live close to work and helping local residents remain in the area. Furthermore, the higher densities will ensure the efficient use of land for the community as a whole and will generate further support for local services as well as act as the catalyst for new provision.

In requiring developer contributions recognition needs to be acknowledged of the negative effect they may have on the development if the burdens on developers actually deter investment. Therefore any contributions sought must be necessary and appropriate to the development proposed as required by Circular 05/05. 6.0 SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

A range of objectives have been identified, which cover the spread of sustainability issues, to measure the success of the policies and proposals included in the Developer Contributions SPD. The objectives are based on the four Government aims for sustainability (Government's UK strategy for Sustainable Development, A Better Quality of Life (May 1996) :

- Social progress which recognizes the needs of everyone
- Effective protection of the environment
- Prudent use of natural resources
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment

6.0 Sustainability Framework

A range of objectives have been identified, which cover the spread of sustainability issues, to measure the success of the policies and proposals included in the Developer Contributions SPD. The objectives are based on the four Government aims for sustainability (Government's UK strategy for Sustainable Development, A Better Quality of Life (May 1996) :

- Social progress which recognizes the needs of everyone
- Effective protection of the environment
- Prudent use of natural resources
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment

The following section presents the Sustainability Appraisal Framework through which the SPD will be assessed.

The SA objectives and indicators for economic, social and environmental issues are identified in Table 2 below.

The following notes are applicable to the table below:

The indicators used are based on the ODPM guidance and guidance from the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly. The source of the indicator where known is number referenced (1-5) and listed below:

1. Local Quality of Life Counts (DETR, July 2000)
2. Quality of Life Counts (DETR, December 1999)
3. Audit Commission Voluntary Quality of Life Indicators (Definitions handbook, Audit Commission, 2002-2003)
4. DTI Business Competitiveness Indicators (Unitary/Local Authority/Learning and Skills Council areas/NUTS areas)
5. DETR Indices of Deprivation, 2000

A number of the sustainability objectives have a wide scope and involve an overlap between themes (e.g. a quality built environment that makes good use of derelict sites, minimises travel and promotes balanced development). In such cases the use of indicators may be repeated.

Sustainability Objectives (Ref:)	Sub Objectives	Indicators and Source
Economic		
<p>Good quality employment opportunities available to all (SA1)</p> <p>Conditions which enable business success, economic growth and investment (SA2)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it ensure employment opportunities are accessible by public transport • Will it maximize local skills? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of people of working age who are in work (2) (3) • Proportion of people of working age out of work for more than two years (2) • Proportion of unemployed people claiming benefits who have been out of work for more than a year • Employment
Social		
<p>Education and training opportunities to build skills and capacities (SA3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve levels of basic skills and/ or information/ communication technology (ICT)? • Will it support the voluntary sector and/ or promote volunteering? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult education facilities • Learning participation (2) • Qualification/ skills - percentage of working age population (16 to 64/59 with qualifications to either NVQ level 1 / 2 equivalent, NVQ level 3 or 4 or a trade apprenticeship or with no formal qualifications (4)
<p>Conditions and services to engender good health (SA4)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve equitable access to health service? (especially to groups of people most excluded and in the highest need) • Will it address health inequalities (address the gap between those with the worst health and those with better health)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of journeys on foot or by cycle • Access to local green space (2) • Achievement of 'Accessible Natural Green Space Standards' • Access to the countryside (2) • Health Inequalities
<p>Safety and security for people and property (SA5)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce fear of crime • Will it reduce causes of accidents (including measures to reduce road accidents such as speed restrictions and traffic calming)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fear of crime (1) (2) • Percentage of residents surveyed who feel 'fairly safe' or 'very safe' after dark whilst outside in their local authority
<p>Vibrant communities to participate in decision making (SA6)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve and increase community facilities? • Will it improve social cohesion in deprived former mining communities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously (3) • Percentage of voluntary/ community organizations in a specified locality per 1,000 that performed well or very well in the last year

Sustainability Objectives (Ref:)	Sub Objectives	Indicators and Source
Social		
Create, enhance and provide accessibility to culture, leisure and recreation activities (SA7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it increase provision of culture, leisure and recreation (CLR) activities/ venues? ● Will it increase non- car based access to CLR activities? ● Will it increase participation in CLR activities by tourists and local people? ● Will it preserve, promote and enhance regional culture and heritage? ● Will it improve access and affordability of CLR facilities which engender health, quality of life and learning? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of leisure and recreation facilities ● Number of leisure and recreation groups/ clubs ● Proximity of facilities to public transport nodes
Local needs met locally (SA8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it ensure essential services (e.g health services and shops) and resources to serve communities are available within reasonable non car based traveling distance? ● Will it provide appropriate housing for local needs? ● Will it support the vibrancy of city, town and village centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Percentage of residents surveyed finding it easy to access key local services ● Percentage of residents defined as within a distance of 500m (15 minutes walk) of key local services (3) ● Access to a Post Office (5) ● Access to food shops (5) ● Access to a GP (5) ● Access to a primary school (5) ● Facilities for young people (3)
Quality housing available to everyone (SA9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it make housing available to people in need (taking into account requirements of location, size, type and affordability)? ● Will it provide affordable housing opportunities throughout the District ● Will it improve the quality of housing stock (increase safety and security, reduce unfit housing, improve accessibility for people with disabilities)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Affordable housing (house price/ earnings affordability ratio) (3) ● Availability of good quality housing for all social groups including low income households, lone parent households, ethnic minorities, disabled and young people ● Affordable housing completion figures

Sustainability Objectives (Ref:)	Sub Objectives	Indicators and Source
Environmental		
<p>To provide a transport network which maximizes access whilst minimizing detrimental impacts (SA10)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it reduce the need to travel by increasing access to key resources and services by means other than the car (e.g. by improving public transport)? ● Will it provide/ improve/ promote information about alternatives to car based transport? ● Will it support less use as well as more efficient use of cars (e.g. car sharing)? ● Will it improve access to opportunities and facilities for all groups? ● Will it make the transport/ environment attractive to non-car users (e.g pedestrians and cyclists)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Access to services in rural areas (2) ● Access for disabled people (2) ● Density of development ● Passenger travel by modes (2) ● Percentage of residents surveyed using different modes of transport, their reason for, and distance of, travel (3) ● Percentage of children travelling to (a) primary school and (b) secondary school by different modes of transport (3) ● Leisure trips by mode of transport (2)
<p>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 (SA11)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it promote the development of communities with accessible services, employment, shops and leisure facilities? ● Will it increase the use of sustainable urban drainage (which reduces run-off and improves water quality)? ● Will it ensure new developments provide essential services accessible without use of a car and are accessible by public transport? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Percentage of new housing developed on previously developed land (3)
<p>A bio-diverse and attractive natural environment (SA12)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it protect and enhance existing priority habitats and species and provide for appropriate long term management of wildlife habitats? ● Will it promote, educate and raise awareness of the enjoyment and benefits of the natural environment and biodiversity and promote access to wildlife on appropriate sites? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Net change in natural/ semi-natural habitats (1)

Sustainability Objectives (Ref:)	Sub Objectives	Indicators and Source
Environmental		
Minimal pollution levels (SA13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it clean up contaminated land? ● "Will it lead to an improvement in air quality within the designated AQMAs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of days of air pollution (1) ● Number of days per year when air pollution is moderate or higher for PM10 ● Annual average nitrogen dioxide concentration ● Concentrations of NO2 in the AQMAs ● Concentrations of selected air pollutants (2) ● Population living in Air Quality Management Areas
Minimal greenhouse gas emissions and a managed response to the effects of climate change (SA14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport? ● Will it increase the amount of energy from renewable sources that is generated and consumed in the region? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CO2 emissions by end user (2) ● Energy efficiency of road passenger travel/ average fuel consumption of new cars (2) ● Proportion of energy supplied from renewable sources
Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources with minimal production of waste (SA15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will it increase prevention, re-use, recovery and recycling of waste? ● Will it increase awareness and provide information on resource efficiency and waste? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Household waste recycling

Testing the Developer Contributions SPD Objectives

In order to ensure there are no conflicts between national, regional and local sustainability objectives it is necessary to test that the LDF objectives are compatible with the SA Framework.

The initial objectives set out in Section 4 have been tested against the SA objectives. It is important to note that this testing is to provide consultees with an early indication of the compatibility and sustainability of the objectives of the SPD. A more in depth testing of the objectives will be undertaken at Stage B of the SA.

Therefore the SPD objectives as set out in section 4, Table 1 have been tested for compatibility with the SA objectives as set out in section 6 Table 2 using a matrix. Where compatibility is unclear or assumptions have been made, comments and/ or recommendations have been made. These are presented below:

SPD objective 5 versus SA objective 14 Improvements to highways and transportation works should give priority to pedestrians and cyclists over cars within the District, specifically in settlement centres. Public transport should be maximized and prioritized. Failure to do so will conflict with the sub objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport.

SPD objective 9 versus SA objectives 13 and 14 Careful consideration needs to be given as the potential for economic regeneration based on the District's road transport links could lead to an increase in carbon emissions and greater use of non renewable resources.

Testing the Developer Contributions SPD Objectives

Objective	SPDO1	SPDO2	SPDO3	SPDO4	SPDO5	SPDO6	SPDO7	SPDO8	SPDO9	SPDO10	SPDO11
SA1	--	--	✓	--	--	--	--	--	✓	--	--
SA2	--	--	✓	--	--	--	--	--	✓	--	--
SA3	--	--	✓	--	--	--	--	--	✓	--	--
SA4	--	✓	✓	--	--	--	✓	✓	--	--	✓
SA5	--	--	--	✓	--	--	✓	--	✓	--	--
SA6	✓	✓	✓	--	--	--	✓	✓	✓	--	--
SA7	--	✓	--	--	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	--	--
SA8	✓	--	✓	✓	--	✓	✓	✓	✓	--	--
SA9	✓	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SA10	--	--	--	✓	--	--	--	--	✓	--	--
SA11	✓	✓	--	✓	✓	✓	--	✓	✓	--	--
SA12	--	--	--	--	--	✓	--	--	--	--	--
SA13	--	--	--	✓	--	✓	--	--	?	✓	✓
SA14	--	--	--	?	✓	✓	--	--	?	--	✓
SA15	--	--	✓	--	✓	✓	--	--	--	✓	--

For a list of SPD Objectives please see Table 1

For a list of SA Objectives please see Table 2

✓ Objectives are compatible

? Compatibility is unclear and may depend on how the objective is implemented

X Objectives are incompatible

-- No obvious relation between the objectives

7.0 Questions for Consultees

The Council considers these SA objectives and appraisal questions fully address the sustainability issues in relation to the proposed SPD. The views of the consultees are requested on all aspects of this document but specifically on the following questions:

1. Are there any other plans and programmes which should influence the SPD?
2. Do you have any facts and figures about the Developer Contribution topics?
3. Are there any sustainability issues which could help in assessing the sustainability of the SPD policies and which you consider important, that are not adequately included in the document?