

Annex B – Review of Policies, Plans, Programmes and Sustainability Objectives

B1 ***REVIEW OF POLICIES, PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES***

This Annex presents a detailed review of policies, plans, programmes (PPPs) and sustainability objectives that are of relevance to the Phase Three Revision of the West Midlands RSS and/or to the Sustainability Appraisal. The review includes PPPs and objectives that have been developed at European, national and regional levels.

Review of Policies, Plans, Programmes and Sustainability Objectives

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<i>European Policy</i>		
Ambient Air Quality Directive 2008		
<p>Sets a framework for how the UK must monitor and report ambient levels of key air pollutants including sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter (PM10 and PM2,5), lead, benzene and carbon monoxide. Where levels are higher than the limit value, measures must be taken to attain target values and objectives within a specific time limit. Where levels are lower than the limit value, levels must be maintained and the best ambient air quality preserved, compatible with sustainable development.</p> <p>In areas where the target or limit value is exceeded, air quality plans must be prepared for achieving the target or limit value. Short term action plans must be prepared where alert thresholds may be exceeded. Information must be made available to the public and appropriate bodies on ambient air quality, air quality plans and reports.</p>	<p>Limit values are set for nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, benzene, carbon monoxide, lead and PM10;</p> <p>Alert thresholds are set for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and ozone.</p> <p>Critical levels for protection of vegetation are set for sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides</p> <p>A national exposure reduction target, target value and limit value are set for PM2,5</p>	<p>The RSS should seek to ensure development does not lead to an increase of air pollution and should promote a pattern of development which enables improvement in areas of existing poor air quality.</p>
Habitats Directive		
<p>Requires the protection of listed species. Plans and projects can only be permitted having ascertained no adverse effect on the integrity of an SAC, although may still be permitted if there are no alternatives, and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest. Member States shall also endeavour to encourage the management of features of the landscape to support the network.</p>		<p>The RSS will be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment which should ensure that there are no likely significant adverse effects on European designated sites. The RSS should also seek opportunities to contribute to the enhancement of the network of sites.</p>
Wild Birds Directive		
<p>Requires the maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species. Plans and projects can only be permitted having ascertained no adverse effect on the integrity of an SPA, although may still be permitted if there are no alternatives, and there are imperative reasons of overriding</p>		<p>The RSS will be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment which should ensure that there are no likely significant adverse effects on European designated sites. The RSS should also seek</p>

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public interest. Member States shall also endeavour to encourage the management of features of the landscape to support the Natura 2000 network of which SPAs form a part.		opportunities to contribute to the enhancement of the network of sites.
Water Framework Directive		
Requires that all inland and coastal waters within defined river basin districts must reach at least good ecological and chemical status by 2015. For each river basin district a river basin management plan must be established which integrates general protection of the aquatic ecology, specific protection of unique and valuable habitats, protection of drinking water resources, and protection of bathing water.		The Phase Three RSS will have an important role in controlling water quality impacts and should ensure that housing and economic growth does not lead to a deterioration through increased demand for supply and wastewater treatment.
Waste Framework Directive 2008		
<p>Member States must adopt the waste hierarchy when developing national waste policies. Energy-efficient waste incineration is considered a recovery operation, provided that it complies with certain energy-efficiency criteria.</p> <p>Member States must take into account the general environmental protection principles of precaution and sustainability, technical feasibility and economic viability, protection of resources as well as the overall environmental, human health, economic and social impacts. Waste management must be carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • without risk to water, air, soil, plants or animals; • without causing a nuisance through noise or odours; and • without adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest. <p>Member States may take measures to ensure that anyone who professionally develops, manufactures, processes, treats, sells or imports products has extended producer responsibility.</p> <p>By 2015, separate collection shall be set up for at least paper, metal, plastic and glass.</p> <p>Competent authorities are required to produce waste management plans. The waste management plans shall set out an analysis of the current waste</p>	<p>Targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by 2020, 50% re-use and recycling of at least paper, metal, plastic and glass from households and possibly from other origins as far as these waste streams are similar to waste from households; • by 2020, 70% re-use recycling and material recovery of non-hazardous construction and demolition waste including backfilling operations using waste to substitute other materials. 	<p>RSS should promote and support the sustainable management of waste in line with the waste hierarchy without adversely affecting the environment and human health. It may be required to contain the particular information specified by the Directive on the required content of waste management plans.</p>

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<p>management situation, as well as the measures to be taken to improve re-use, recycling, recovery and disposal of waste and an evaluation of how the plan will support the implementation of the Directive.</p> <p>The Directive also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • defines the conditions for mixing hazardous waste; • provides for measures to encourage the separate collection of bio-waste with a view to the composting and digestion of bio-waste; • requires Member States to take measures in terms of control of hazardous waste. 		
Landfill Directive		
<p>Requires a substantial reduction in the amount of biodegradable municipal waste being landfilled, with targets for 2010, 2013 and 2020. Classifies landfills as hazardous, non hazardous, or inert and prevents the co-disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste. Requires that waste must be pre-treated before being landfilled and that landfill gas must be collected, treated and used to produce energy. If the gas cannot be used it must be flared.</p> <p>Bans the landfilling of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waste which is corrosive, oxidising, highly flammable, flammable or explosive • liquid hazardous waste, infectious hospital and other clinical wastes • whole used tyres • shredded tyres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by 2010 to reduce BMW landfilled to 75% of that produced in 1995 • by 2013 to reduce BMW landfilled to 50% of that produced in 1995 • by 2020 to reduce BMW landfilled to 35% of that produced in 1995 	<p>The RSS should promote significant reductions in the landfill of biodegradable municipal waste in order to contribute to achieving the Directive targets. Not directly relevant to Phase Three policies.</p>
Hazardous Waste Directive		
<p>Member States must ensure that hazardous waste is dealt with so as not to constitute a threat to the population or the environment. Requires the prevention of the mixing of non-hazardous and hazardous waste and the separation of hazardous waste from other waste where technically and economically feasible.</p>		<p>The RSS should promote adequate and appropriate treatment and disposal of hazardous waste. Not directly relevant to Phase Three policies.</p>

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Bathing Water Quality Directive		
Sets standards for the quality of designated bathing waters		The RSS should ensure that development does not lead to the deterioration of bathing water, particularly through the discharge of urban wastewater.
Nitrates Directive		
Aims to reduce the pollution of water by nitrates from agricultural activities.		The RSS has limited scope for influencing agricultural activities.
Floods Directive		
<p>Requires Member States to prepare the following assessments for the European Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preliminary flood risk assessments to identify areas that are at potentially significant flood risk, by 20 December 2011; • flood hazard maps (showing the likelihood and flow of the potential flooding) and flood risk maps (showing the impact), by 20 December 2013; • flood risk management plans (showing measures to decrease the likelihood or impact of flooding), by 22 December 2015; and • updates every 6 years thereafter that take into account the impact of climate change. 		Not within the scope of the RSS.
Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings		
<p>The objective of this Directive is to promote the improvement of the energy performance of buildings within the Community, taking into account outdoor climatic and local conditions, as well as indoor climate requirements and cost-effectiveness.</p> <p>Lays down requirements as regards:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the general framework for a methodology of calculation of the integrated energy performance of buildings; b) the application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of new buildings; 		The RSS should promote energy efficiency in new construction.

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<p>c) the application of minimum requirements on the energy performance of large existing buildings that are subject to major renovation;</p> <p>d) energy certification of buildings; and</p> <p>e) regular inspection of boilers and of air- conditioning systems in buildings and in addition an assessment of the heating installation in which the boilers are more than 15 years old.</p>		
<p>Convention on Wetlands, 1971 (Ramsar Convention)</p>		
<p>Parties to the Convention are committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work towards the maintenance of the ecological character of wetlands through the implementation of ecosystem approaches, through national land-use planning, appropriate policies and legislation, management actions, and public education; • designate suitable wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance and ensure their effective management; and • cooperate internationally concerning transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems, shared species, and development projects that may affect wetlands • to establish nature reserves in wetlands, whether or not they are included in the Ramsar List, and to promote training in the fields of wetland research, management and wardening 		<p>RSS should avoid adverse impacts on designated sites, and abide by the provisions of the Habitats Regulations Assessment in relation to Ramsar sites.</p>
<p>UNESCO World Heritage Convention 1972</p>		
<p>Aims to protect heritage around the world that is of such outstanding universal value that its conservation is important for current and future generations. Parties agree to identify, protect, conserve, and present World Heritage properties, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • giving the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community and integrating the protection of that heritage into comprehensive planning programs • undertaking appropriate legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures necessary for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of this heritage 		<p>The RSS should ensure there are no adverse effects on the region's World Heritage Sites and aim to integrate sites into the life of the community to ensure their protection and rehabilitation.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> refraining from deliberate measures which might damage, directly or indirectly, the cultural and natural heritage of other Parties to the Convention, and to help other Parties in the identification and protection of their properties. 		
European Landscape Convention		
<p>Aims to encourage public authorities to adopt policies and measures for protecting, managing and planning landscapes. Provides for a flexible approach ranging from strict conservation through protection, management and improvement to actual creation. Promotes interaction between local and central authorities.</p>		<p>RSS should ensure landscape character and quality is protected and enhanced.</p>
<i>National Policy</i>		
UK Sustainable Development Strategy, Defra, March 2005		
<p>Reducing the inefficient use of resources</p> <p>Increasing opportunities for communities to learn about sustainable development and volunteer in SD activities</p> <p>Encourage sustainable procurement</p> <p>Stimulating the market to innovate and to produce more cost effective and sustainable options</p> <p>UK must improve its ability to turn new ideas and emerging technologies into more innovative, high value products, processes and services</p> <p>More sustainable waste management – reduction, re-use, recycling, composting and using waste as a source of energy</p> <p>Promote the use of Modern Methods of Construction, including reducing waste and more recycling of construction and demolition waste in place of new quarrying</p> <p>Ensure the protection of wildlife resources</p> <p>Ensure that there are strict controls on development in the open countryside</p>	<p>Reduce carbon dioxide emissions by some 60 per cent by about 2050 with real progress by 2020</p> <p>Reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% below base year levels over the period 2008-12.</p> <p>Reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2010.</p> <p>10% of electricity to be supplied from renewables by 2010/11, with an aspiration to double this by 2020.</p> <p>The Government has also announced its intention to extend the Renewables Obligation</p>	<p>Sets a broad-ranging policy agenda for achieving sustainable development in the UK. The RSS should be in conformity with this agenda and the SA will test the RSS against the principles and objectives contained within the strategy.</p>

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<p>ensure that our finest countryside and landscapes are protected for the benefit of everyone</p> <p>Minimise climate change, including through energy efficiency and the use of renewables</p>	<p>to 15 per cent in 2015/16</p>	
<p>Energy White Paper: Meeting the Energy Challenge, DTi, May 2007</p>		
<p>Delivery of energy security and acceleration of the transition to a low carbon economy through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saving energy - Developing cleaner energy supplies - Secure reliable energy at process set in competitive markets. <p>The development of cleaner large scale electricity generation.</p> <p>Cleaner production of energy from fossil fuels.</p> <p><i>Households</i></p> <p>New homes should be zero carbon as soon as practically possible, and existing homes should have improved energy efficiency. Every home should be adequately and affordably heated.</p> <p><i>Heat and distributed energy</i></p> <p>There is scope for increased use of heat and distributed energy, including by making planning permission for microgeneration easier and providing better planning guidance to ensure that the CHP option is considered.</p> <p><i>Renewable electricity</i></p> <p>Renewables are key to the strategy to tackle climate change. The target is for renewables to contribute 10% of electricity supplies 2010, with an aspiration for this level to double by 2020.</p> <p><i>Low carbon transport</i></p> <p>The main opportunity in the near-term lies in reducing energy use, through a combination of increasing the fuel efficiency of vehicles and through the choices we make in using them and other transport modes; and in the longer term in innovation in vehicle design and through spatial and transport planning. Alternative fuels will also be promoted.</p> <p><i>EU energy policy</i></p>	<p>10% of energy generated by renewables by 2010.</p> <p>20% of energy consumption by 2020 to be met through renewables.</p>	<p>Policy on energy use will need to reflect the aims of the White Paper, in particular on greater energy efficiency in homes, reducing the need to travel and promoting a shift to more sustainable modes, and promoting microgeneration and distributed heat.</p>

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<p>The European Council agreed in March 2007 to a common European strategy for energy security and tackling climate change. Targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to save 20% of the EU's energy consumption in 2020 compared with current projections. • to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020 and by 30% in the context of international action. • To generate 20% of the EU's energy from renewables by 2020, covering heat and transport as well as electricity. <p>A minimum of 10% for the share of biofuels in EU petrol and diesel consumption, to be achieved by all Member States.</p>		
Energy White Paper: Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade and Industry, February 2003		
<p>Renewable energy will play an important part in reducing carbon dioxide emissions.</p> <p>The future energy system will require greater involvement from English regions and from local communities, complemented by a planning system that is more helpful to investment in infrastructure and new electricity generation, particularly renewables.</p> <p>Government will continue to emphasise the benefits of CHP and community heating whenever Planning Policy Guidance, Regional Planning Guidance or Sustainable Development Guidance is introduced or reviewed.</p> <p>Regional bodies are encouraged to examine strategically the resources and opportunities for renewable projects within their areas and what they can do to develop them in their region.</p>	<p>Reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of some 60% from current levels by about 2050.</p> <p>Renewables to supply 10% of UK electricity in 2010, subject to the costs being acceptable to the consumer.</p> <p>Doubling renewables' share of electricity generation in the decade after that.</p> <p>To hit the 10% target the UK will need to install approximately 10,000MW of renewables capacity by 2010, an annual build rate of over 1250MW.</p>	<p>The RSS will need to set the spatial and policy framework to promote and accommodate the West Midlands' contribution to new renewable energy capacity.</p>
The Energy Challenge, Energy Review Report (July 2006)		
<p>Sets out the next steps in responding to the energy challenges facing the United Kingdom. It makes a number of proposals for actions to be taken now, identifies proposals on which Government intends to consult further, and</p>		<p>Phase Three should seek to reflect the national priorities where appropriate, particularly</p>

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<p>indicates areas where Government considers there is further work to be done.</p> <p>Implementation of the Energy Strategy will need to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carbon emissions reductions • energy efficiency • distributed energy • oil, gas and coal – security of supply, investment • electricity generation – renewable obligations cleaner generation, nuclear generation • efficient and streamlined inquires – simplified gas infrastructure • transport – car fuel efficiency 		<p>emissions reduction and increased energy efficiency.</p>
<p>Our Energy Challenge: Power from the People, DTi, March 2006</p>		
<p>The objective is to create conditions under which microgeneration becomes a realistic alternative or supplementary energy generation source for the householder, for the community and for small businesses.</p> <p>Local authorities have a key role to play in relation to microgeneration, particularly with respect to planning permission for new developments and for the installation of some microgeneration technologies on existing buildings.</p> <p>We need to increase the contribution from bioenergy and at the same time ensure that biomass production from energy crops or forestry is sustainable. Appropriate safeguards for biodiversity, the historic environment and other environmental factors need to be in place.</p> <p>DTI and DfES will work with industry and other key stakeholders to develop a scheme for installing microgeneration technologies in schools.</p>		<p>The RSS should ensure promotion of microgeneration in new development.</p>
<p>The UK Renewable Energy Strategy, DECC, July 2009</p>		
<p>Put in place the mechanisms to provide financial support for renewable electricity and heat: extend and expand the Renewables Obligation for large-scale renewable generation; amend or replace the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation to increase use of sustainable biofuels; and introduce a new Renewable Heat Incentive and ‘Feed-In Tariffs’ to support renewable heat and</p>		<p>The RSS should promote the development of renewable energy, both large and small-scale, particularly as an integral component of new developments.</p>

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<p>small-scale electricity generation.</p> <p>Drive delivery and clear away barriers: including through stronger supply chains and through the planning system; quicker grid connections and more sustainable bioenergy supplies; protect our environment and natural heritage through the application of relevant controls.</p> <p>Increase investment in emerging technologies and pursue new sources of supply: greater support for wave and tidal generation, offshore wind and biofuels; confirming the schemes under consideration to generate energy from the Severn Estuary with a decision in 2010 on whether to seek to harness the potential of Severn tidal power to supply up to 5% of the UK's electricity needs.</p> <p>Create new opportunities for individuals, communities and business to harness renewable energy: support investment in small-scale renewable heat and electricity generation; guidance for developers to share the benefits of large-scale projects with local communities; encourage greater adoption of renewables in central Government and the wider public sector.</p>		
<p>Delivering a Sustainable Transport System, DfT, November 2008</p>		
<p>Five goals capture the full range of government objectives on transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximising the overall competitiveness and productivity of the national economy, so as to achieve a sustained high level of GDP growth. • Reducing transport's emissions of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases, with the desired outcome of avoiding dangerous climate change. • Contributing to better health and longer life-expectancy through reducing the risk of death, injury or illness arising from transport, and promoting travel modes that are beneficial to health. • Improving quality of life for transport users and non-transport users, including through a healthy natural environment, with the desired outcome of improved well-being for all. • Promoting greater equality of transport opportunity for all citizens, with the desired outcome of achieving a fairer society. <p>For domestic transport, improve the carbon efficiency of all modes of</p>		<p>Ensure that transport policies and decisions on development priorities deliver the five goals set out in DaSTS. Priorities for transport in RSS should be aligned with the identified priorities for action in DaSTS over the next few years. Transport policy is not directly relevant to Phase Three, but falls within the scope of Phase Two.</p>

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<p>transport, encourage behavioural change and support the provision of lower-emission transport. This will support freedom of choice about when and how to travel. Further progress on road and rail electrification and the decarbonisation of electricity generation. Seeks to encourage modal shift, reduce the need to travel and provide effective access for everyone to jobs, services and social networks.</p> <p>Land use planning and the decision on where new housing is created have clear implications for the transport infrastructure required to support housing.</p> <p>Improving reliability and reducing congestion will be a priority.</p> <p>Enable people and freight to shift to lower carbon modes of transport such as the electrified railway.</p> <p>On infrastructure, the focus is on maintaining and improving the connectivity of national strategic infrastructure. The priority to 2014 is making better use of the existing network, combined with a targeted programme of improvements to improve capacity, reliability and safety in the most congested areas.</p>		
<p>Low Carbon Transport: A Greener Future, A Carbon Reduction Strategy for Transport, DfT, July 2009</p>		
<p>Supporting a shift to new technologies and fuels. Covers cars, vans, HGVs, buses, rail and air, promoting increased engine/fuel efficiency and lower emission technologies.</p> <p>Promoting the use of sustainable biofuels through legislation on transport fuels and research.</p> <p>Make public transport an accessible, attractive, low carbon and easy-to-use option for individuals and business, particularly focusing on rail and buses and promoting better coordination and integration of different services to improve the attractiveness and convenience of public transport. Also promoting cycling.</p> <p>Emphasising to regional and local authorities the importance of carbon reduction as well as delivering on other transport goals. The government would like to see action to reduce carbon emissions being further prioritised</p>		<p>The RSS should promote better coordination of public transport services and infrastructure, more balanced development that reduces the need to travel, and promote the use of public transport and cycling. Transport policy is not directly relevant to Phase Three, but falls within the scope of Phase Two.</p>

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<p>in the next round of Local Area Agreements, expected to be in place by April 2011.</p> <p>Promoting change through better information for car drivers, work with the bus, freight and logistics industries, to help lower their emissions and operating costs, targeted support to enable companies to transfer freight from road to rail or water.</p> <p>Reducing the amount we need to travel, through the use of information technology to enable access to people, goods and services without having to travel, and by ensuring that spatial planning takes full account of the potential consequences of development for transport.</p> <p>Using market mechanisms to encourage a shift to lower carbon transport, including promoting the use of trading systems to reduce emissions in aviation and shipping, fiscal measures and reducing the cost of public transport.</p>		
Towards a Sustainable Transport System, Department for Transport, October 2007		
<p>Identifies goals to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve the performance of the existing network, focusing on the most unreliable, congested and crowded sections in order to improve predictable journey time, by making best use of existing networks, securing new infrastructure investment and delivering better bus services • cut emissions of greenhouse gases, including by encouraging innovation in low carbon technologies, promoting greener alternatives, provision of good public transport and better urban design. • protect people's safety, security and health, including by promoting safe travel, addressing the negative impacts of transport on people's health and promoting the health benefits of cycling and walking. • improve quality of life, including through a healthy natural environment, by minimising negative impacts of noise and vibration and on biodiversity and landscape, and by promoting positive benefits of transport and travel. <p>Seeks to encourage modal-shift and reduce people's need to travel.</p>		<p>The RSS should ensure that development is promote in locations which contribute to reducing the pressure on congested parts of the road network, and which avoids adverse effects on the environment from transport. It should also ensure that development reduces the need to travel and that opportunities are provided for more sustainable modes of transport, including cycling and walking. Transport policy is not directly relevant to Phase Three, but falls within the scope of Phase Two.</p>

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Transport White Paper: The Future of Transport – A Network for 2030, Department of Transport, July 2004		
<p>Balancing the need to travel with the need to improve quality of life.</p> <p>Keeping the environmental impacts of new and existing transport infrastructure to a minimum</p> <p>Deliver carbon savings and reduce the impact of other emissions which pollute the environment</p> <p>Reducing the impact of all forms of transport</p> <p>Ensuring that the noise impacts of transport are reduced and mitigated</p> <p>Reducing the impact of freight on congestion and the environment</p> <p>Encourage freight traffic to be shifted from road to rail or water where this makes sense</p>	<p>Reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured in Great Britain in road accidents by 40% and the number of children killed or seriously injured by 50% by 2010 compared with the average for 1994-98.</p>	<p>Transport policies within the RSS should be aligned with the objectives in the White Paper. Transport policy is not directly relevant to Phase Three, but falls within the scope of Phase Two.</p>
Transport Ten Year Plan, DfT, 2000		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a modern, high quality public transport, both locally and nationally. People will have more choice about how they travel, and more will use public transport • more light rail systems and attractive bus services that are fully accessible and integrated with other types of transport • high quality park and ride schemes so that people do not have to drive into congested town centres • easier access to jobs and services through improved transport links to regeneration areas and better land use planning • a modern train fleet, with reliable and more frequent services, and faster trains cutting intercity journey times • a well-maintained road network with real-time driver information for strategic routes and reduced congestion • fully integrated public transport information, booking and ticketing 	<p>Includes a large number of targets and indicators</p>	<p>Transport planning is integrated at regional level by the Regional Transport Strategy (RTS), which is an integral part of the RSS. The RTS should ensure that major transport investment is properly co-ordinated across transport modes and reflects wider land-use planning considerations, including major new housing development. It will also provide the regional context for Local Transport Plans.</p> <p>RTS should provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regional priorities for transport investment and management, across all modes, consistent with other regional objectives • strategic guidance on the role and future development of railways, airports, ports and

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<p>systems, with a single ticket or card covering the whole journey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safer and more secure transport accessible to all • a transport system that makes less impact on the environment. 		<p>inland waterways in the region, for both passenger and freight, consistent with national policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • guidance on measures to increase transport choice, including the better integration of rail and bus services • public transport accessibility criteria for major developments • regional strategic guidance and co-ordination where necessary on other matters such as car parking standards and road-user charging. <p>Transport policy is not directly relevant to Phase Three, but falls within the scope of Phase Two.</p>
The Rural Development Programme for England 2007-2013, Defra, December 2007		
<p>To build profitable, innovative and competitive farming, food and forestry sectors, that meet the needs of consumers and make a net positive contribution to the environment by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing a greater awareness of market opportunities, and a greater ability to exploit these opportunities, particularly in relation to renewable energy and added-value products • promoting and encouraging greater collaboration and co-operation between producers, and between producers and the rest of the supply chain • improving agricultural and forestry industry uptake of technology and entrepreneurial skills • increasing opportunities for knowledge transfer and skills enhancement, by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enabling better access to mainstream business training; • filling gaps in existing training and advice provision • promoting the adoption and dissemination of innovative business 		<p>Policies relevant to rural areas within the RSS should be aligned with the objectives in the RDPE.</p>

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<p>processes and practices</p> <p>To improve the environment and countryside by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserving natural wildlife • Protecting natural resources • Adapting farming methods to enhance biodiversity and resource protection • Maintaining and enhancing landscape quality and character • Promoting sustainable forest management • Avoiding marginalisation • Contributing to climate change mitigation <p>To enhance opportunity in rural areas, in a way that harnesses and builds upon environmental quality, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting innovative rurally based business development and enterprise • improving skills in the rural workforce through providing learning opportunities and facilitating access to learning and development opportunities • tackling social disadvantage through steps to support fair access to services • supporting areas of economic underperformance and individuals experiencing disadvantage. • promoting public access to, and understanding of, the countryside, and conserving and enhancing rural heritage, including the traditional farmed landscape <p>To mobilise the development potential of rural areas in a way that stimulates innovation to the benefit of the local area</p>		
Rural Strategy 2004, Defra, July 2004		
<p>Providing thriving economies and communities in rural areas and a countryside for all to enjoy</p> <p>Ensure that our economic and social strategies are consistent with our aim of protecting and enhancing all aspects of our natural heritage for this and</p>		<p>Policies relevant to rural areas within the RSS should be aligned with the objectives in the White Paper.</p>

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<p>future generations.</p> <p>Increasing need to take action to prevent damage to and improve the quality of natural resources in the countryside</p> <p>Ensuring that the potential of delivery through social enterprises is recognised and exploited. Defra will support development of social enterprise both as a regeneration tool in disadvantaged areas and as a means of sustaining services in more prosperous areas for which the commercial market is weak</p> <p>Fair access to public services</p> <p>Improve the sustainable management of soils</p> <p>Provide better access to the countryside and to enable more people from a wider range of backgrounds to enjoy its benefits</p>		
Climate Change the UK Programme 2006, Defra, March 2006		
<p>The Climate Change Programme is based on a number of principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the need to take a balanced approach with all sectors and all parts of the UK playing their part; • the need to safeguard, and where possible enhance, the UK's competitiveness, encourage technological innovation, promote social inclusion and reduce harm to health; • the need to focus on flexible and cost effective policy options which will work together to form an integrated package; • the need to take a long term view, looking to targets beyond the first Kyoto commitment period and considering the need for the UK to adapt to the impacts of climate change; and • the need for the Programme to be kept under review. 	<p>Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2010. • To reduce carbon dioxide emissions by some 60% by about 2050 	<p>Regional bodies have powers and responsibilities that will impact on the long-term shift to low carbon such as the responsibility Regional Planning Bodies have for promoting balanced and energy efficient development. Regional bodies are uniquely placed to help coordinate local, subregional and regional activity with national policy, and reduce overlaps to optimise outcomes. The RSS should aim to ensure that all policies contribute to supporting the objectives of the Programme.</p>
UK's National Strategy for Climate and Energy: Transition to a Low Carbon Society, DECC, 2009		
<p>Sets out the Government's transition plan for becoming a low carbon country: cutting emissions, maintaining secure energy supplies, maximising economic opportunities, and protecting the most vulnerable. To deliver these goals the Government will:</p>	<p>The plan to 2020 is for: UK emissions to be 18% below 2008 levels and over one third below 1990 levels. 15% of all our energy – for</p>	<p>The RSS should support the objectives of the strategy, in particular by promoting domestic energy efficiency, reducing transport emissions and reducing the landfill of waste. For Phase</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive decarbonisation, by providing a carbon price, supporting new technologies and infrastructure and helping households and businesses overcome barriers to low carbon choices. • Secure energy supplies by ensuring a supportive climate for the substantial new investment needed to bring forward low carbon infrastructure. • Help UK low carbon and energy businesses to grow. • Protect consumers, in particular the most vulnerable. • Help businesses manage the costs of tackling climate change and help everyone adapt to climate impacts. • Protect the environment by making the most of measures which bring wider environmental benefits and minimising impacts where they are unavoidable. <p>The plan seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build the UK's position as a global centre of green manufacturing in low carbon sectors such as offshore wind, marine energy, low carbon construction and ultra-low carbon vehicles. • Make homes greener by helping households become more energy efficient • supporting the development and use of clean technologies, including investment in offshore wind and marine energy. • Transform transport by supporting electric cars and promoting renewable transport energy. • tackle emissions from farming, encouraging English farmers to take action themselves to reduce emissions to at least 6% lower than currently predicted by 2020, through more efficient use of fertiliser, and better management of livestock and manure, and supporting anaerobic digestion to turn waste and manure into renewable energy. • Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills, and better capture of landfill emissions. • Encourage private funding for woodland creation. 	<p>electricity, heat and transport – from renewable sources.</p> <p>Getting 40% of our electricity from low carbon sources.</p> <p>Produce around 30% of our electricity from renewables.</p> <p>Cut emissions from power and heavy industry together by 22% on 2008 levels.</p> <p>Cut emissions from homes by 29% on 2008 levels.</p> <p>Cut emissions from transport by 14% on 2008 levels.</p> <p>Committing to source 10% of UK transport energy from sustainable renewable sources.</p> <p>Cut emissions from workplaces by 13% on 2008 levels.</p> <p>Sourcing 10% of UK transport energy from sustainable renewable sources.</p> <p>Cut emissions from farming and waste by 6% on 2008 levels.</p> <p>Cut average carbon dioxide emissions from new cars across the EU by 40% on 2007 levels.</p> <p>Also introduces a target to limit UK aviation emissions to below 2005 levels by 2050.</p>	<p>Three, policy on energy efficiency is of direct relevance, while policy on transport and waste management are dealt with under Phase Two.</p> <p>Waste is relevant to Phase Three in respect of the management of secondary aggregates.</p>
Climate Change Act 2008		
Sets emission reduction targets for 2020 and 2050. Also introduces a system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to reduce the net UK carbon 	The RSS must seek to support the UK emissions

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>of carbon budgeting which constrains the total amount of emissions in a given time period. Carbon budget periods will last five years, beginning with the period 2008-2012, and must be set three periods ahead.</p> <p>Includes powers to enable the Government and the devolved administrations to introduce new domestic trading schemes to reduce emissions through secondary legislation.</p> <p>Sets out a procedure for assessing the risks of the impact of climate change for the UK, and a requirement on the Government to develop an adaptation programme on matters for which it is responsible. The Act also gives powers to direct persons or bodies with functions of a public nature and statutory undertakers on assessing the risks of climate change, the preparation of reports setting out policies and proposals for addressing those risks and assessing the progress made towards implementing those proposals and policies.</p> <p>Also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amendments to improve the operation of the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligations; • a power to introduce charges for single use carrier bags; • a power to pilot local authority incentive schemes to encourage household waste minimisation and recycling; • amendments relating to the Certified Emissions Reductions Scheme; • powers and duties relating to the reporting of emissions by companies and other persons; • a duty to make annual reports on the efficiency and contribution to sustainability of buildings on the civil estate. 	<p>account for the year 2050 to at least 80% below the level of net UK emissions of targeted greenhouse gases in 1990.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the carbon budget for 2018-2022 must be set to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide by at least 26% by 2020, against 1990 levels. 	<p>reduction targets across the all of the sectors within its scope, including industry and commerce, housing, transport, waste management, energy generation and resource efficiency.</p> <p>It should also give policy support to climate change adaptation measures.</p>
<p>Planning Act 2008</p>		
<p>Creates a new system of development consent for nationally significant infrastructure projects, covering certain types of energy, transport, water, wastewater and waste projects. A new independent body, the Infrastructure Planning Commission, will be responsible for examining applications for development consent for nationally significant infrastructure projects, and for</p>		<p>The RSS should include policies designed to secure that the development and use of land in the region contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>deciding any such application when there is in force a relevant national policy statement. The Secretary of State will be responsible for determining an application for development consent where there is no national policy statement covering the relevant type of infrastructure.</p> <p>Changes are also being made in relation to local authorities' development plans, in particular the power of local planning authorities to decline to determine subsequent applications.</p> <p>Regional Planning Bodies are given the power to delegate their functions to Regional Development Agencies.</p> <p>The RSS must include policies designed to secure that the development and use of land in the region contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.</p> <p>The Secretary of State may make regulations providing for the imposition of a charge to be known as Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The overall purpose is to ensure that costs incurred in providing infrastructure to support the development of an area can be funded (wholly or partly) by owners or developers of land.</p>		
Planning for a Sustainable Future White Paper, DCLG, Defra, DfT, DTI, May 2007		
<p>Sets out a series of 'challenges' faced by the planning system including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting the challenge of climate change; • Supporting sustainable economic development; • Increasing the supply of housing; • Protecting and enhancing the environment and natural resources; • Improving local and national infrastructure; and • Maintaining security of energy supply. <p>Includes measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting the building of zero-carbon homes and business premises that are low energy and produce lower carbon emissions; • locating development to reduce the need to travel; • making walking and cycling accessible, attractive and essential components of new development; 		<p>RSS should promote high energy efficiency buildings, reduced travel demand through appropriate location for development, promotion of walking and cycling in new development and promoting public transport improvements through greater integration of infrastructure and facilities.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting integrated public transport; • investment in energy generation; • publication of National Policy Statements. 		
Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003		
Places a requirement on the Secretary of State to adopt a strategy to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill, including measures to achieve the targets by recycling, composting, biogas production, materials recovery or energy recovery.		Reduction of biodegradable waste to landfill will be a key objective of regional waste policy within the RSS. Waste policy is dealt with under Phase Two and management of biodegradable waste is not directly relevant to Phase Three.
Future Water – The Government’s Water Strategy for England, Defra, February 2008		
<p>The vision of the strategy is for by 2030 at the latest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued to provide high levels of drinking water quality from our taps; • sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water; • ensured a sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and cost reflective water charges; • cut greenhouse gas emissions; and • embedded continuous adaptation to climate change and other pressures across the water industry and water users. 		Housing provision will need to take into consideration not only water availability but also, implications for water pollution and the increased risk of flooding.
Water Act 2003		
<p>The sustainable use of water resources</p> <p>The promotion of water conservation</p> <p>Places a duty on the Secretary of State to take appropriate steps to encourage water conservation</p> <p>Places a duty on public authorities to take into account the desirability of conserving water supplies to premises</p>		The RSS should ensure that policies support the conservation and sustainable use of water as prescribed by the Act.

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, Defra, July 2007		
<p>Sets out air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK into the long term. It sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues, details objectives to be achieved, and proposes measures to be considered further to help reach them. The UK Government's and devolved administrations' primary objective is to ensure that all citizens should have access to outdoor air without significant risk to their health, where this is economically and technically feasible.</p>	<p>Targets include the following for key pollutants for the protection of human health:</p> <p>Nitrogen dioxide: 40 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ annual mean</p> <p>PM10: 40 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ annual mean</p> <p>PM2.5: 25 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ annual mean and 15% reduction in urban areas</p> <p>Sulphur dioxide: 125$\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ 24 hour mean not to be exceeded more than times a year 24</p> <p>Ozone: 100$\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ 8 hour mean not to be exceeded more than 10 times a year</p> <p>PAHs: 0.25$\text{ng}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ B[a]P annual mean</p> <p>1,3- butadiene: 2.25$\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ annual mean</p> <p>Carbon monoxide: 10$\text{mg}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ 8 hour mean</p> <p>Lead: 0.25$\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ annual mean</p> <p>Targets include the following for key pollutants for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems:</p> <p>Nitrogen oxides: 30$\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ annual mean</p> <p>Sulphur dioxide: 20$\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$</p>	<p>The RSS should take account of national air quality standards and the potential effects of future development on air quality across the region.</p>

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	annual mean Ozone: Target value of 18,000µg m-3 average over 5 years	
Waste Strategy for England 2007, Defra, May 2007		
<p>Key objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decouple waste growth (in all sectors) from economic growth and put more emphasis on waste prevention and re-use; • meet and exceed the landfill directive diversion targets for biodegradable municipal waste in 2010, 2013 and 2020; • increase diversion from landfill of non-municipal waste and secure better integration of treatment for municipal and non-municipal waste; • secure the investment in infrastructure needed to divert waste from landfill and for the management of hazardous waste; • get the most environmental benefit from that investment, through increased recycling of resources and recovery of energy from residual waste using a mix of technologies. 	<p>Targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a new target to reduce the amount of household waste not re-used, recycled or composted from over 22.2 million tonnes in 2000 and 18.6 million tonnes in 2005 to 15.8 million tonnes in 2010 with an aspiration to reduce it to 14.3 million tonnes in 2015 and 12.2 million tonnes in 2020 – a reduction of 45% between 2000 and 2020. This is equivalent to a fall of from 450 kg per person in 2000 and 370kg per person in 2005 to 310kg in 2010, 270 kg in 2015 and 225 kg in 2020 (a 50% reduction from 2000). • higher national targets for re-use, recycling and composting of household waste – at least 40% by 2010, 45% by 2015 and 50% by 2020 • national targets for the recovery of municipal waste – 53% by 2010, 67% by 2015 and 75% by 2020 	<p>Regional Planning Bodies are responsible for developing Regional Waste Strategies as a component of RSSs. These should establish the framework for waste planning within the region and promote the objectives of the national waste strategy in achieving the sustainable management of waste, particularly the diversion of waste from landfill and the movement of waste management up the waste hierarchy.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> expecting the reduction of commercial and industrial waste going to landfill by at least 20% by 2010 compared to 2004 	
Heritage Protection For the 21 st Century, DCMS, March 2007		
The historic environment is an essential element of building sustainable communities, providing a sense of identity and place, a focus for regeneration and economic development and helping to promote the sustainable use of resources through reuse of buildings.		The RSS should promote the positive role of the historic environment in building sustainable communities and economic development and regeneration and promote the re-use of buildings.
The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future, DCMS, December 2001		
<p>The headline messages of the document are that Government looks to a future in which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> public interest in the historic environment is matched by firm leadership, effective partnerships, and the development of a sound knowledge base from which to develop policies; the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource is realised; the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as something with which the whole of society can identify and engage; the historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations; the historic environment's importance as an economic asset is skilfully harnessed. <p>Policy commitments include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government looks to local authorities to adopt a positive approach to the management of the historic environment within their area and monitoring its condition. It urges them to appoint champions for the historic environment within their management structures and to ensure 		The RSS should aim to support and encourage the achievement of these objectives wherever relevant.

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>that elected members have access to training in respect of the historic environment wherever it is needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government wants to ensure that local policy-making on the historic environment takes proper account of the value a community places on particular aspects of its immediate environment. The Government commends character assessment to local authorities both as a useful tool in itself and as a way of encouraging greater involvement by local communities in conservation issues • The Government encourages local authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships, in preparing their community strategies, to consider the role of the historic environment in promoting economic, employment and educational opportunities within the locality. 		
<p>Securing Biodiversity: A New Framework for Delivering Priority Habitats and Species in England, Defra and Natural England, 2008</p>		
<p>Aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage the adoption of an ecosystem approach and better embed climate change adaptation principles in conservation action; • achieve biodiversity enhancements across whole landscapes and seascapes; • achieve our priority habitat targets through greater collective emphasis on habitat restoration and expansion; • enhance the recovery of priority species by better integrating their needs into habitat-based work where possible, and through targeted species recovery work where necessary; • support the restoration of designated sites, including by enhancing the wider countryside in which they sit; • support the conservation of marine biodiversity, inside and outside of designated sites; • establish and implement a delivery programme, with agreed accountabilities, for priority species and habitats in England; • improve the integration of national, regional and local levels of delivery; 		<p>The RSS should ensure protection for priority habitats and species and promote wherever possible the integration of biodiversity enhancement into developments and policies. It should adopt an ecosystems approach to development.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve the links between relevant policy-makers and biodiversity practitioners; • strengthen biodiversity partnerships by clarifying roles at England, regional and local levels. 		
Working with the Grain of Nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England, Defra, 2002		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture: encouraging the management of farming and agricultural land so as to conserve and enhance biodiversity as part of the Government's Sustainable Food and Farming Strategy • Water: aiming for a whole catchment approach to the wise, sustainable use of water and wetlands • Woodland: with the management and extension of woodland so as to promote enhanced biodiversity and quality of life • Urban areas: where biodiversity needs to become a part of the development of policy on sustainable communities, urban green space and the built environment 	<p>Headline indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • populations of wild birds • condition of SSSIs • progress with Biodiversity Action Plans • area of land under agri-environment agreement • biological quality of rivers • fish stocks around the UK fished within safe limits • progress with Local Biodiversity Action Plans • public attitudes to biodiversity <p>A large number of more specific core indicators are also identified, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incorporation of biodiversity objectives in regional programmes and strategies 	<p>Local and regional action for biodiversity has been vital to the UK Biodiversity Action Plan since its inception. In particular, the Strategy aims for integration of biodiversity objectives into regional plans, policies and programmes. It also seeks local and regional activity at appropriate and complementary geographical scales to make a tangible contribution to national plans and programmes</p> <p>The RSS should make an effective contribution wherever relevant to the strategy's aims and objectives for agriculture, woodland and forestry, water and wetlands and urban areas.</p>
Conserving Biodiversity in a Changing Climate: Guidance on Building Capacity to Adapt, Defra and UK Biodiversity Partnership, May 2007		
Summarises current thinking on how to reduce the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and how to adapt existing plans and projects in the light of		The RSS should support the principles of the guidance, including by conserving and enhancing

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<p>climate change. Guiding principles and actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve existing biodiversity • Conserve Protected Areas and other high-quality wildlife habitats • Conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species • Reduce sources of harm not linked to climate • Develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes • Conserve and enhance local variation within sites and habitats • Make space for the natural development of rivers and coasts • Establish ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation • Make sound decisions based on analysis 		<p>habitats and species and promoting opportunities to create and restore habitats and networks. Developments which constrain the natural functions of rivers and coasts should be avoided.</p>
The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended)		
<p>The Secretary of State has a duty to propose a list of sites which are important for either habitats or species to the European Commission. The Regulations also require the compilation and maintenance of a register of sites, to include SACs and SPAs, termed the Natura 2000 network.</p> <p>Country agencies may enter into management agreements to secure the conservation of a site, and provide for the control of potentially damaging operations, whereby consent from the country agency may only be granted once it has been shown through appropriate assessment that the proposed operation will not adversely affect the integrity of the site. However, an operation may proceed where there are no alternative solutions and which must be carried out for reasons of overriding public interest. In such instances the Secretary of State must secure compensation to ensure the overall integrity of the Natura 2000 system.</p> <p>The Regulations make special provisions for the protection of European marine sites, requiring the country agencies to advise other authorities of the conservation objectives for a site, and also of the operations which may affect its integrity.</p> <p>It is an offence to deliberately capture, kill, disturb, or trade in the animals</p>		<p>The RSS must be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>listed, or pick, collect, cut, uproot, destroy, or trade in the plants listed, except through the granting of licences</p> <p>Competent authorities should consider or review planning permission and restrict or revoke permission where the integrity of the site would be adversely affected.</p>		
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000		
<p>The Act provides for public access on foot to certain types of land and encourages the creation of new routes. It provides for better management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and requires all relevant authorities to have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of AONBs when performing their functions. It also increases protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation, placing a duty on Government Departments and the National Assembly for Wales to have regard for the conservation of biodiversity and maintain lists of species and habitats for which conservation steps should be taken or promoted, in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity. It also places a duty on public bodies to further the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs, and increases penalties on conviction where the provision are breached.</p>		<p>The RSS should ensure that development in the region gives appropriate protection to AONBs and SSSIs, and that biodiversity more generally is protected and enhanced.</p>
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981		
<p>Consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds. The Act makes it an offence (with exceptions) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • intentionally kill, injure, or take any wild bird or their eggs or nests; • pick, uproot, trade in, or possess (for the purposes of trade) any wild plant listed in Schedule 8, and prohibits the unauthorised intentional uprooting of such plants; • intentionally kill, injure, or take, possess, or trade in any wild animal listed in Schedule 5, and prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places. 		<p>The RSS is unlikely to undertake any activities or have any effects which fall under the scope of the Act.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>The Act also prohibits certain methods of killing, injuring, or taking wild animals.</p> <p>The Act also provides for the notification of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) by reason of their flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features by the country agencies. It also contains measures for the protection and management of SSSIs.</p>		
Homes for the Future: More Affordable, More Sustainable - Housing Green Paper, DCLG, July 2007		
<p>The Paper sets out plans for 2 million new homes by 2016 and 3 million new homes by 2020 which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more homes - backed by more ambitious building targets, increased investment, and new ways of identifying and using land for development; • more social housing - ensuring that a decent home at an affordable price is for the many, not the few; • building homes more quickly - by unblocking the planning system and releasing land for development; • more affordable homes - by increasing the options for low cost home ownership and more long term and affordable mortgage products; and • greener homes - with high environmental standards and flagship developments leading the way. <p>The proposals assume that housing supply will rise over time towards the 240,000 per year target in 2016, delivering approximately two million new homes by 2016 and continuing at around 240,000 homes per annum over the next four years to deliver an extra million new homes by 2020.</p> <p>The two million new homes that will be delivered by 2016 will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.6 million homes are already in RSSs and plans now in place including around 650,000 homes in Growth Areas with support from the 2003 Sustainable Communities Plan (e.g. Thames Gateway and Milton Keynes/South Midlands); • 150,000-200,000 additional homes in RSS and plans now under consideration, including many smaller sites and urban area schemes, together with further, partial RSS reviews where they are needed; • 100,000 extra homes in 45 towns and cities that make up the 29 New 	<p>Target of 240000 additional homes per year. 3 million new homes are needed by 2020, 2 million by 2016.</p> <p>Government will help deliver at least 180,000 new affordable homes over the next three years, and more than 70,000 affordable homes a year by 2010-11. At least 45,000 new social homes a year by 2010-11 – a 50% increase in social housing in 3 years, more than doubling new provision since 2004-05, and a goal of 50,000 new social rented homes a year, in the next spending review period.</p> <p>200,000 new homes to be delivered on surplus public sector land by 2016. National target that over 60% of homes should be built on brownfield land.</p> <p>All new homes to be zero carbon from 2016. Strengthened building regulations by 25% in</p>	<p>The RSS should seek to ensure sufficient new housing to meet demand and ensure sufficient affordable housing, and to ensure that developments are well-designed and protect and enhance environmental quality, and have good sustainable access to services. New homes should be much more energy and water efficient, meeting the national targets for carbon. 60% of new housing should be delivered on brownfield land.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>Growth Points which have already come forward in 2006 proposing high growth schemes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional round of New Growth Points with an ambition would be to deliver around 50,000 new homes depending on bids; <p>An invitation for local authorities and developers to propose 5 new eco-town schemes, with the entire community designed to be able to reach zero carbon standards. Each scheme could provide between 5,000 and 20,000 new homes. Depending on bids with a potential of some 25-100,000 homes.</p> <p>Brownfield land should be the priority for development. New settlements should be attractive places with good quality neighbourhoods and green public space that help create healthy communities. They must provide good local infrastructure – transport, schools and healthcare. The paper aims to increase protection of the environment by cutting carbon emissions. The government will also set new minimum standards for water use in new homes cutting average water use by almost 20%. The aim is to eliminate poorly-designed new housing, and make good and very good new development the norm.</p>	<p>2010 and by 44% in 2013 to set the standards to help achieve this.</p>	
<p>Building a Greener Future Policy Statement, DCLG, July 2007</p>		
<p>Confirms the Government’s commitment to a zero carbon target for new homes in 2016. Involves changes to the Building Regulations to strengthen the requirements in relation to insulation, ventilation, air tightness, heating and light fittings. Planning policy will be developed to set a framework for development to deliver zero carbon outcomes. The Government will be working with industry and organisations to encourage exemplar developments, and with the Taskforce on issues like skills, research and the development and dissemination of good practice. All new homes would be required to have a mandatory Code for Sustainable Homes rating indicating whether they had been assessed and, if they had, the performance of the home against the Code.</p>	<p>All new homes to be zero carbon by 2016.</p>	<p>The RSS should support the implementation of the Code for Sustainable Homes and ensure all new homes are zero carbon by 2016. This is primarily dealt with under Phase Two.</p>
<p>Water Efficiency in New Buildings Policy Statement, Defra and DCLG, July 2007</p>		
<p>Adopts a minimum standard for new homes of 125 l/p/d across England and Wales.</p>		<p>The RSS should promote high standards of water</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>Proposes to investigate the scope for setting a standard or range of standards for non-residential buildings as part of the Communities and Local Government led work of the Green Commercial Buildings Task Group. Seeks to meet Government's broader objective of raising the sustainability of water use in buildings by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transforming the market in water using fittings, encouraging innovation in design and performance; • helping to remove uncertainty and risk for manufacturers and increase demand; • securing long term savings in water consumption by discouraging the replacement of water efficient fittings installed in new homes with ones that use more water; • addressing water use across a wider range of non-domestic buildings than could be achieved through setting whole building standards and ensuring equity of treatment between building users; and • gradually improving water efficiency in existing buildings through refurbishment and replacement of fittings at the end of life with ones that are more efficient. 		<p>efficiency in all development, residential and non-residential.</p>
Sustainable Communities Plan: Building for the Future, DCLG, February 2003		
<p>To ensure all tenants have a decent home by 2010. To improve conditions for vulnerable people in private accommodation. To ensure all tenants, social and private, get an excellent service from their landlord. To ensure all communities have a clean, safe and attractive environment. Low demand and abandonment – bring back to life those communities where there is low demand for housing, and where homes have been abandoned. Land, countryside and rural communities – ensure that in tackling housing shortages the countryside is protected and enhanced rather than creating urban sprawl. Address housing needs of rural communities who are often the guardians of the countryside.</p>		<p>The RSS should aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage housing to be addressed as part of a wider strategy for neighbourhood renewal and sustainable communities • Encourage environmental enhancement as central to regeneration • Encourage restoration and management of brownfield land. • Have due regard for landscape character and designations and encourage green space networks as basis for development

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address affordable housing need in rural areas as well as urban.
World Class Skills: Implementing the Leitch Review of Skills in England, Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills, July 2007		
<p>Supporting individuals to improve their skills and progress at work, including by removing any barriers related to a person's age, race, gender or class, to fair and equal access to more training and education opportunities. Employers leading the way on skills, raising employer ambition and investment in skills at all levels and ensuring that the supply of skills and qualifications is driven by employers.</p> <p>A new partnership for the workplace, encouraging all employers to take responsibility for the skills of their workforce, supporting them to become more skilled and better qualified, with Government help.</p> <p>Ensuring that young people are equipped with the skills, competencies, understanding and attributes they need to succeed in a modern, sustainable economy.</p>	<p>By 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> participation in full-time education amongst 16-18 years olds to rise to 84%; 89% of adults to be qualified to at least level 1 literacy, and 81 per cent to be qualified to at least entry level 3 numeracy; 79% of adults to be qualified to at least full level 2; and 56% of adults to be qualified to at least full level 3. <p>By 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 36% of adults to be qualified to level 4 and above. 	Skills development is outside the scope of the RSS.
Education and Skills: Delivering Results, A Strategy to 2006, DfES, December 2002		
<p>Aim:</p> <p>To help build a competitive economy and inclusive society by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating opportunities for everyone to develop their learning. Releasing potential in people to make the most of themselves. Achieving excellence in standards of education and levels of skills. <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give children an excellent start in education so that they have a better foundation for future learning. 	Document contains a wide range of targets relating to education and skills, including a target of two technology institutes in each region to meet the rising demand for high-level technical skills.	The RSS should aim to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the strategy wherever relevant.

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable all young people to develop and to equip themselves with the skills, knowledge and personal qualities needed for life and work. • Encourage and enable adults to learn, improve their skills and enrich their lives. 		
Skills for Growth: The National Skills Strategy, Department for Business Innovation and Skills, November 2009		
<p>Commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a modern technician class through more advanced apprenticeships; • Investing in skills in the sectors on which future growth and jobs depend; • Empowering individuals through skills accounts giving people ‘consumer choice’ and better information about courses; • The introduction of light touch monitoring arrangements for our best providers; • Simplifying the skills landscape, working with UKCES to implement their recommendation to reduce the number of separately publicly funded agencies by over 30 in the next three years. 		Skills development is outside the scope of the RSS.
The UK Low Carbon Industrial Strategy, DBIS and DECC, July 2009		
<p>Promotes an increase in British and global markets for low carbon goods and services, and also by using energy and other resources more efficiently to reduce costs. The Government will aim to make the transition in a way that ensures a fair distribution of costs and benefits across the economy. Identifies investment priorities for offshore wind, wave and tidal power, civil nuclear power, ultralow-carbon vehicles, renewable construction materials, renewable chemicals and low carbon manufacturing. Promotes low carbon activities and priorities to become common across all parts of Britain, including greater energy efficiency, smarter low carbon procurement and the construction or retrofit of low carbon buildings. Commits to wider actions that Government is taking to ease Britain’s transition to a low carbon economy. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures to encourage organisations to take advantage of greater resource efficiency and energy savings; 		RSS should promote greater energy efficiency and renewables generation in new development and ensure climate change adaptation and resilience.

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitating the low carbon transition through a transformation of Britain’s infrastructure, including investment in the refurbishment of the UK’s energy infrastructure to handle renewable technologies, including micro-generation; • Equipping the British workforce with the skills that will allow them to seize the opportunities of the low carbon economy; • Driving demand for low carbon products through procurement and by providing consumers with information and incentives to encourage them to choose lower carbon options; • Creating a climate resilient economy. This includes activities to understand and increase awareness of the inevitable changes in climate such as the Climate Change Projections. 		
Our Health, Our Care, Our Say: A New Direction for Community Services, Department of Health, January 2006		
<p>More services and support will be brought closer to where people need it most. There will be an increase the quantity and quality of primary care in under-served, deprived areas, and steps taken to ensure that people with particular needs get the services they require. In social care, new ways to break down inequalities in access to services.</p>		<p>The RSS should ensure balanced development so that communities have the access to services that they require.</p>
Choosing Activity: A Physical Activity Plan, Department of Health, March 2005		
<p>Building on Choosing Health, Making Healthier Choices Easier this action plan, developed through a consultative process, details actions required at local, regional and national levels to meet the Chief Medical Officers recommended levels of daily activity.</p> <p>Keys areas of focus of the plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • choosing activity in a consumer society • Children and young people: starting on an active path • Active communities • An active healthcare system • Choosing activity in the workplace 		<p>Policy on the development of housing will need to take into consideration access to safe recreational space and for the promotion of active transport modes (walking, cycling).</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
Choosing Health White Paper, Department of Health, November 2004		
<p>To create a society where more people, particularly those in disadvantaged groups or areas, are encouraged and enabled to make healthier choices. In order to close the gap, we must ensure that the most marginalised and excluded groups and areas in society see faster improvements in health.</p> <p>Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting informed choice for all • building information, support and services around people’s lives and ensuring that they have equal access to them • working in partnership to make health everybody’s business 		<p>A range of policy issues covered by the RSS are directly relevant to health and health inequalities eg housing, transport, planning, employment, education and skills, environment, rural affairs. Furthermore, health inequality often has a spatial element. The RSS should consider its potential impacts on health and health inequalities and also where opportunities exist for promoting better health for all.</p>
Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action, Department of Health, July 2003		
<p>Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting families, mothers and children – to ensure the best possible start in life and break the inter-generational cycle of health • engaging communities and individuals – to ensure relevance, responsiveness and sustainability • preventing illness and providing effective treatment and care – making certain that the NHS provides leadership and makes the contribution to reducing inequalities that is expected of it • addressing the underlying determinants of health – dealing with the long-term underlying causes of health inequalities. <p>Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preventing health inequalities getting worse by reducing exposure to risks and addressing the underlying causes of ill health • working through the mainstream by making services more responsive to the needs of disadvantaged populations 	<p>Targets:</p> <p>By 2010 to reduce the inequalities in health outcomes by 10 per cent as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth</p> <p>Starting with local authorities, by 2010 to reduce by at least 10% the gap between the areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators (the spearhead group) and the population as a whole</p> <p>Starting with children under one year, by 2010 to reduce by at least 10 per cent the gap in mortality between routine and manual groups and the</p>	<p>The White Paper on devolution to the English regions, envisages an important part for regional assemblies in promoting health and tackling inequalities through a regional strategy for health, developed jointly with the Regional Directors of Public Health. However, the Programme also specifically foresees that regional policies can be assessed for their impact on health and health inequalities. This will be included as part of the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> targeting specific interventions through new ways of meeting need, particularly in areas resistant to change supporting action from the centre and through the regions by clear policies effectively managed delivering at a local level and meeting national standards through diversity of provision 	<p>population as a whole.</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Death rates from cancer and heart disease Teenage conception rate Road accident casualty rates in disadvantaged communities Numbers of primary care professionals Uptake of flu vaccinations Smoking among manual groups and among pregnant women Educational attainment Consumption of fruit and vegetables Proportion in non-decent housing PE and school sport Children in poverty Homeless families living in temporary accommodation 	
<p>The Future of Air Transport, Department for Transport, December 2003</p>		
<p>A balanced approach which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognises the importance of air travel to our national and regional economic prosperity, and that not providing additional capacity where it 	<p>Improving the public transport mode share of access to Birmingham International Airport significantly, with 25 per cent as</p>	<p>Land for future airport-related development may be safeguarded within RSS. Airport surface access strategies and schemes should be reflected, as appropriate, in Regional Transport Strategies</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>is needed would significantly damage the economy and national prosperity;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reflects people’s desire to travel further and more often by air, and to take advantage of the affordability of air travel and the opportunities this brings; • seeks to reduce and minimise the impacts of airports on those who live nearby, and on the natural environment; • ensures that, over time, aviation pays the external costs its activities impose on society at large – in other words, that the price of air travel reflects its environmental and social impacts; • minimises the need for airport development in new locations by making best use of existing capacity where possible; • respects the rights and interests of those affected by airport development; • provides greater certainty for all concerned in the planning of future airport capacity, but at the same time is sufficiently flexible to recognise and adapt to the uncertainties inherent in long-term planning. 	<p>a long-term target.</p>	<p>within RSS. Improved rail, bus and coach services will need to contribute to this. Air transport policy is dealt with under Phase Two and is not directly relevant to Phase Three.</p>
<p>Improving Opportunity, Strengthening Society: The Government’s strategy to increase race equality and community cohesion, Home Office, January 2005</p>		
<p>Provide more tailored support for jobseekers from disadvantaged communities, improving literacy and numeracy among adults</p> <p>Make better use of government procurement to promote diversity and race equality in organisations that supply public bodies.</p> <p>More tailored services to meet the particular health needs of different cultural and ethnic groups.</p> <p>Tackle health inequalities experienced by minority ethnic groups,</p> <p>Ensure that all social tenants live in decent accommodation by 2010, and at least 70 per cent of vulnerable owner occupiers and private tenants are in decent accommodation through greater help with home improvements</p> <p>Improve opportunities for young people from all backgrounds to learn and</p>		<p>The RSS should promote equality, community cohesion and social inclusion, particularly through service provision, improving housing quality and choice and addressing the determinants of health inequalities.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>socialise together and to develop an inclusive sense of British identity alongside their other cultural identities.</p> <p>Providing increased opportunities for youth volunteering and by exploring options for developing local ceremonies to help mark their transition to adult membership of society.</p> <p>Enabling more people to participate in sports and arts, particularly from disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>Help different cultural groups promote a tolerant society in which all groups can resolve differences in a framework of mutual respect and fairness.</p> <p>Help more people from disadvantaged backgrounds to be active in their communities and engage with public services, such as through volunteering.</p> <p>Increase participation by at least 5 per cent among those at most risk of social exclusion.</p>		

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
World Class Places: The Government’s Strategy for Improving Quality of Place, DCLG, May 2009		
<p>Vision: to ensure that all places are planned, designed and developed to provide everyone, including future generations, with a decent quality of life and fair chances.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Strengthen leadership on quality of place at the national and regional level. Actions include boosting the role of ministerial design champions. 2 Encourage local civic leaders and local government to prioritise quality of place. Actions include improving support and training on quality of place for civic leaders and planning committee members and developing options for measuring quality of place and establishing this measure as a local government indicator. 3 Ensure relevant government policy, guidance and standards consistently promote quality of place and are user-friendly. Actions include introducing new planning policy on the historic environment and green infrastructure. 4 Put the public and community at the centre of place-shaping. Actions include promoting and funding more user engagement in the design of new public buildings. 5 Ensure all development for which central government is directly responsible is built to high design and sustainability standards and promotes quality of place. Actions include establishing design thresholds for all new government funded building programmes. 6 Encourage higher standards of market-led development. Actions include developing and promoting the business case for investing in high quality development 7 Strengthen quality of place skills, knowledge and capacity. Actions include strengthening the Government’s regional offer to local authorities, public services and developers. 		<p>The RSS should ensure that all new development is built to a high standard of design that enhances the quality of places.</p>
A Strategy for England’s Trees, Woods and Forests, Defra, June 2007		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide, in England, a resource of trees, woods and forests in places where they can contribute most in terms of environmental, economic and social benefits now and for future generations 		<p>Phase Three should ensure that policy on forestry and woodlands support the objectives of the national strategy. RSS could further support the</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that existing and newly-planted trees, woods and forests are resilient to the impacts of climate change and also contribute to the way in which biodiversity and natural resources adjust to a changing climate • protect and enhance the environmental resources of water, soil, air, biodiversity and landscapes (both woodland and non-woodland), and the cultural and amenity values of trees and woodland • increase the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to the quality of life for those living in, working in or visiting England • improve the competitiveness of woodland businesses and promote the development of new or improved markets for sustainable woodland products and ecosystem services where this will deliver identifiable public benefits, nationally or locally, including the reduction of carbon emissions 		<p>forestry sector by promoting sustainable construction practices in new developments, and promoting the use of green infrastructure including trees and woodlands within new developments for multiple social and environmental benefits including climate change adaptation.</p>
<p>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development</p>		
<p>Planning should facilitate and promote sustainable and inclusive patterns of urban and rural development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people's quality of life; • contributing to sustainable economic development; • protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities; • ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; and, • ensuring that development supports good access to key services for all members of the community. <p>Reduce energy use, reduce emissions, promote the development of renewable energy resources, and take climate change impacts into account in the location and design of development.</p> <p>Plan policies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that the impact of development on the social fabric of communities 		<p>The policies set out in this PPS will need to be taken into account by the RPB in the preparation of the RSS. RSS provides the framework for delivering sustainable development. PPS1 specifies that In preparing spatial plans, planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a clear vision for the future pattern of development, with clear objectives for achieving that vision and strategies for delivery and implementation. Planning should lead and focus on outcomes. Plan policies must be set out clearly, with indicators against which progress can be measured. Plans should guide patterns of development and seek to manage changes to the areas they cover. • Consider the needs and problems of the communities in their areas and how they

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>is considered and taken into account;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek to reduce social inequalities; • address accessibility to community facilities <p>Planning policies should seek to protect and enhance the quality, character and amenity value of the countryside and urban areas as a whole. A high level of protection should be given to most valued townscapes and landscapes, wildlife habitats and natural resources.</p> <p>Development plan policies should take account of environmental issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the use of renewable energy; air quality and pollution; land contamination; the protection of groundwater from contamination; and noise and light pollution; • the protection of the wider countryside and the impact of development on landscape quality; the conservation and enhancement of wildlife species and habitats and the promotion of biodiversity; the need to improve the built and natural environment in and around urban areas and rural settlements, including the provision of good quality open space; the conservation of soil quality; and the preservation and enhancement of built and archaeological heritage; • avoiding new development in areas at risk of flooding and sea-level rise, and as far as possible, by accommodating natural hazards and the impacts of climate change; and, • the management of waste in ways that protect the environment and human health, including producing less waste and using it as a resource wherever possible. <p>Development plan policies should seek to minimise the need to consume new resources</p> <p>Local authorities should promote the sustainable use of water resources</p> <p>In preparing development plans, planning authorities should seek to:</p>		<p>interact, and relate them to the use and development of land. They should deal not only with what can be built where and in what circumstances, but should set out also how social, economic and environmental objectives will be achieved through plan policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek to integrate the wide range of activities relating to development and regeneration. Plans should take full account of other relevant strategies and programmes and, where possible, be drawn up in collaboration with those responsible for them. The aim should be to co-ordinate urban and rural regeneration strategies, regional economic and housing strategies, community development and local transport plans with development plans. Planning authorities should consult closely with the bodies responsible for those strategies to ensure a coherent and consistent approach. RSS should draw upon and be supported by a common, robust, evidence base.

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support efficient, competitive and innovative business, commercial and industrial sectors. • bring forward sufficient land of a suitable quality in appropriate locations to meet the expected needs for industrial development, taking into account issues such as accessibility and sustainable transport needs, the provision of essential infrastructure, including for sustainable waste management, and the need to avoid flood risk and other natural hazards. <p>Reduce the need to travel</p> <p>Bring vacant and underused previously developed land and buildings back into beneficial use</p>		
Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change Supplement to Planning Policy Statement 1, December 2007		
<p>Regional planning bodies and all planning authorities should prepare, and manage the delivery of, spatial strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make a full contribution to delivering the Government’s Climate Change Programme and energy policies, and in doing so contribute to global sustainability; • in providing for the homes, jobs, services and infrastructure needed by communities, and in renewing and shaping the places where they live and work, secure the highest viable resource and energy efficiency and reduction in emissions; • deliver patterns of urban growth and sustainable rural developments that help secure the fullest possible use of sustainable transport for moving freight, public transport, cycling and walking; and, which overall, reduce the need to travel, especially by car; • secure new development and shape places that minimise vulnerability, and provide resilience, to climate change; and in ways that are consistent with social cohesion and inclusion; • conserve and enhance biodiversity, recognising that the distribution of habitats and species will be affected by climate change; • reflect the development needs and interests of communities and enable them to contribute effectively to tackling climate change; and 		<p>Spatial strategies should secure the highest viable resource and energy efficiency, promote balanced development and adaptation to climate change, and encourage more sustainable transport use and renewable low carbon energy generation. Regional planning bodies should also consider and take account of the effects of climate change including the availability of water resources and adaptation for biodiversity.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • respond to the concerns of business and encourage competitiveness and technological innovation in mitigating and adapting to climate change. <p>Decision-Making Principles</p> <p>All planning authorities should apply the following principles in making decisions about their spatial strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the proposed provision for new development, its spatial distribution, location and design should be planned to limit carbon dioxide emissions; • new development should be planned to make good use of opportunities for decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy; • new development should be planned to minimise future vulnerability in a changing climate; • climate change considerations should be integrated into all spatial planning concerns; • mitigation and adaptation should not be considered independently of each other, and new development should be planned with both in mind; <p>In particular, regional planning bodies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pay attention to the location of major generators of travel, the effect of differing patterns of urban growth and sustainable rural development on the movement of goods and the potential to build into new and existing development more efficient means of energy supply and increasing contributions from renewable and low-carbon energy sources; • focus substantial new development on locations with good accessibility by means other than the private car and where energy can be gained from decentralised energy supply systems; • maximise opportunities for renewable and low-carbon sources of energy supply and decentralised energy supply systems; • set regional targets for renewable energy generation; • encourage land uses and land management practices that help secure carbon sinks; • consider and take account of the availability of water resources; • consider avoiding new development in those areas with likely increased vulnerability to the effects of climate change; and 		

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bring forward adaptation options for existing development in likely vulnerable areas. <p>Regional planning bodies should consider the likely performance of the RSS on mitigating climate change and in adapting to the impacts of likely changes to the climate. Strategic targets and trajectories should be used as a strategic tool for shaping policies and contributing to the annual monitoring and reporting of regional planning bodies.</p> <p>Planning authorities should expect new development to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> comply with adopted DPD policies on local requirements for decentralised energy supply and for sustainable buildings, unless it can be demonstrated that this is not feasible or viable; be planned so as to minimise carbon dioxide by considering how all aspects of development form, together with the proposed density and mix of development, support opportunities for decentralised and renewable or low-carbon energy supply; deliver a high quality local environment; provide public and private open space so that it offers accessible choice of shade and shelter, recognising the opportunities for flood storage, wildlife and people; give priority to the use of sustainable drainage systems and wastewater recycling; provide for sustainable waste management; and create opportunities for sustainable transport including through travel plans, walking and cycling and the provision and management of car parking. 		
PPG2: Green belts		
<p>The use of land in the Green Belt has a positive role to play in fulfilling the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to provide opportunities for access to the open countryside for the urban population; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation near 		<p>RSS sets the framework for Green Belt policy and settlement policy, including the direction of long-term development. RSS should therefore be consistent with PPG2 wherever relevant, both in terms of general Green Belt policy and policy on specific types of development within the Green</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>urban areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to retain attractive landscapes, and enhance landscapes, near to where people live; • to improve damaged and derelict land around towns; • to secure nature conservation interest; and • to retain land in agricultural, forestry and related uses. <p>The essential characteristic of Green Belts is their permanence. Their protection must be maintained as far as can be seen ahead.</p> <p>There will be a presumption against inappropriate development unless very special circumstances are proved</p> <p>The visual amenity of Green Belt should not be injured by proposals for development.</p> <p>In addition to the above main objectives, more detailed policy is set out in relation to specific types of development.</p>		Belt.
PPS 3 Housing, November 2006		
<p>The Government is seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes, both affordable and market housing, to address the requirements of the community. • To widen opportunities for home ownership and ensure high quality housing for those who cannot afford market housing, in particular those who are vulnerable or in need. • To improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing the supply of housing. • To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural. <p>The specific outcomes that the planning system should deliver are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High quality housing that is well-designed and built to a high standard. • A mix of housing, both market and affordable, particularly in terms of tenure and price, to support a wide variety of households in all areas, both 		<p>The RSS will put the policies and principles of PPS3 into practice. The Government expects the regional planning body (RPB) to prepare an RSS which aims to provide sufficient housing to meet the likely housing requirements of the region. The RPB should take a realistic and responsible approach to future housing provision, assessing both the need for housing and the capacity of the area to accommodate it.</p> <p>In arriving at proposals as to the amount and broad distribution of housing provision, the RPB should take account of the policy priorities set out in this guidance. In planning the provision of new</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>urban and rural.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sufficient quantity of housing taking into account need and demand and seeking to improve choice. • Housing developments in suitable locations, which offer a good range of community facilities and with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure. • A flexible, responsive supply of land, which makes efficient and effective use of land, including re-use of previously-developed land, where appropriate. <p>Matters to consider when assessing design quality include the extent to which the proposed development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is easily accessible and well-connected to public transport and community facilities and services, and is well laid out so that all the space is used efficiently, is safe, accessible and user-friendly. • Provides, or enables good access to, community and green and open amenity and recreational space (including play space) as well as private outdoor space such as residential gardens, patios and balconies. • Is well integrated with, and complements, the neighbouring buildings and the local area more generally in terms of scale, density, layout and access. • Facilitates the efficient use of resources, during construction and in use, and seeks to adapt to and reduce the impact of, and on, climate change. • Takes a design-led approach to the provision of car-parking space, that is well-integrated with a high quality public realm and streets that are pedestrian, cycle and vehicle friendly. • Creates, or enhances, a distinctive character that relates well to the surroundings and supports a sense of local pride and civic identity. • Provides for the retention or re-establishment of the biodiversity within residential environments 		<p>housing, factors to be taken into account should include the Government's latest published household projections, the needs of the regional economy, the capacity of urban areas to accommodate more housing, the environmental implications and the capacity of the existing or planned infrastructure.</p> <p>Housing policy is primarily dealt with under Phase Two.</p>
PPS4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth		
<p>The Government's overarching objective is sustainable economic growth, in other words growth that can be sustained and is within environmental limits, but also enhances environmental and social welfare and avoids greater</p>		<p>The preparation of development plans, including RSS, is now the main mechanism by which major new proposals for economic development can be</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>extremes in future economic cycles. To help achieve this, objectives for planning are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build prosperous communities by improving the economic performance of cities, towns, regions, sub-regions and local areas, both urban and rural; • reduce the gap in economic growth rates between regions, promoting regeneration and tackling deprivation; • deliver more sustainable patterns of development, reduce the need to travel, especially by car and respond to climate change; • promote the vitality and viability of town and other centres as important places for communities. To do this, the Government wants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ new economic growth and development of main town centre uses to be focused in existing centres, with the aim of offering a wide range of services to communities in an attractive and safe environment and remedying deficiencies in provision in areas with poor access to facilities ○ competition between retailers and enhanced consumer choice through the provision of innovative and efficient shopping, leisure, tourism and local services in town centres, which allow genuine choice to meet the needs of the entire community (particularly socially excluded groups) ○ the historic, archaeological and architectural heritage of centres to be conserved and, where appropriate, enhanced to provide a sense of place and a focus for the community and for civic activity • raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas by promoting thriving, inclusive and locally distinctive rural communities whilst continuing to protect the open countryside for the benefit of all 		<p>assessed. Policies must take account of the need for development in appropriate locations to meet the needs of settlements at all spatial levels, including the need for economic growth and access to services and facilities, while at the same time seek to control the emissions of greenhouse gases through ensuring sustainable patterns of development. Policy on employment land is dealt with primarily under Phase Two and is of limited relevance to Phase Three.</p>
PPS6: Planning for Town Centres		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planning for the growth and development of existing centres • promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres 	<p>the amount of completed retail, office and leisure development</p> <p>the percentage of completed office, retail and leisure</p>	<p>Through regional spatial strategies and local development documents, regional planning bodies and local planning authorities respectively should implement the Government's objectives for town</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encouraging a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all. • enhancing consumer choice by making provision for a range of shopping, leisure and local services, which allow genuine choice to meet the needs of the entire community and particularly socially-excluded groups; • supporting efficient, competitive and innovative retail, leisure, tourism and other sectors, with improving productivity; • improving accessibility, ensuring that existing or new development is, or will be, accessible and well-served by a choice of means of transport. • to promote social inclusion, ensuring that communities have access to a range of main town centre uses, and that deficiencies in provision in areas with poor access to facilities are remedied; • to encourage investment to regenerate deprived areas, creating additional employment opportunities and an improved physical environment; • to promote economic growth of regional, sub-regional and local economies; • to deliver more sustainable patterns of development, ensuring that locations are fully exploited through high-density, mixed-use development and promoting sustainable transport choices, including reducing the need to travel and providing alternatives to car use; • to promote high quality and inclusive design, improve the quality of the public realm and open spaces, protect and enhance the architectural and historic heritage of centres, provide a sense of place and a focus for the community and for civic activity and ensure that town centres provide an attractive, accessible and safe environment for businesses, shoppers and residents. 	<p>development in town centres</p> <p>the network and hierarchy of centres (at both the regional and local levels)</p> <p>the need for further development</p> <p>the vitality and viability of centres (at the local level).</p>	<p>centres, by planning positively for their growth and development. They should therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a hierarchy and network of centres; • assess the need for further main town centre uses and ensure there is the capacity to accommodate them; • focus development in, and plan for the expansion of, existing centres as appropriate, and at the local level identify appropriate sites in development plan documents; • promote town centre management, creating partnerships to develop, improve and maintain the town centre, and manage the evening and night-time economy; and • regularly monitor and review the impact and effectiveness of their policies for promoting vital and viable town centres. <p>Centres policy is dealt with under Phase Two and is of no direct relevance to Phase Three.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas		
<p>Raise the quality of life and the environment in rural area</p> <p>Promote more sustainable patterns of development</p> <p>Improve the economic performance of English regions</p> <p>Focus most new development in or near to local service centres</p> <p>Identify suitable buildings and development sites for community services and facilities, particularly small-scale</p> <p>Protect best agricultural land</p> <p>Give favourable consideration to proposals for diversification in Green Belts where the development preserves the openness of the Green Belt</p>		<p>Planning authorities have an important role to play in delivering the Government's objectives for rural areas. The policies and objectives set out in PPS7 will need to be taken into account by regional planning bodies in the preparation of Regional Spatial Strategies. Planning policies in RSS should facilitate and promote sustainable patterns of development and sustainable communities in rural areas. This should include policies to sustain, enhance and, where appropriate, revitalise country towns and villages (including through the provision of affordable housing) and for strong, diverse, economic activity, whilst maintaining local character and a high quality environment. To ensure these policies are relevant and effective, planning authorities should be aware of the circumstances, needs and priorities of the rural communities and businesses in their area, and of the interdependence between urban and rural areas.</p>
PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation		
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to promote sustainable development by ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development, to conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology by sustaining, and where possible improving, the quality and extent of natural habitat and geological and geomorphological sites, the natural physical processes on which they depend and the populations of 		<p>The planning system has a significant part to play in meeting the Government's international commitments and domestic policies for habitats, species and ecosystems. In particular, PPS9 specifies that Regional Spatial Strategies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> incorporate biodiversity objectives; address regional, sub-regional and cross-boundary issues in relation to habitats,

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>naturally occurring species which they support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to contribute to rural renewal and urban renaissance by enhancing biodiversity in green spaces and ensuring that developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high quality environment. <p>Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development plan policies and planning decisions should be based upon up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of their areas. Plan policies and planning decisions should aim to maintain, and enhance, restore or add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests Plan policies on the form and location of development should take a strategic approach to the conservation, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and geology, and recognise the contributions that sites, areas and features, both individually and in combination, make to conserving these resources. Plan policies should promote opportunities for the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity and geological features within the design of development. 		<p>species and geomorphological processes through criteria-based policies;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> include policies to conserve and enhance biodiversity at the regional and subregional levels; include targets for the restoration and re-creation of priority habitats and the recovery of priority species populations, linked to national goals; and identify suitable indicators for monitoring biodiversity.
PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management		
<p>Regional planning bodies and all planning authorities should, to the extent appropriate to their responsibilities, prepare and deliver planning strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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; provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste, and enable sufficient and timely provision of waste 		<p>The RSS should include a concise strategy for waste management. This is a key component of the RSS, formulated in conjunction with other spatial concerns.</p> <p>Regional planning bodies should adhere to a number of principles in preparing RSS, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RSS should aim to provide sufficient opportunities to meet the identified needs of

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>management facilities to meet the needs of communities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help implement the national waste strategy, and supporting targets, are consistent with obligations required under European legislation and support and complement other guidance and legal controls; • help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment, and enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations; • reflect the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business, and encourage competitiveness; • protect green belts but recognise the particular locational needs of some types of waste management facilities when defining detailed green belt boundaries and, in determining planning applications, that these locational needs, together with the wider environmental and economic benefits of sustainable waste management, are material considerations that should be given significant weight in determining whether proposals should be given planning permission; • ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management. 		<p>the region for waste management for all waste streams. In turn, planning authorities should prepare local development documents that reflect their contribution to delivering the RSS;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste management should be considered alongside other spatial planning concerns and should be integrated effectively with other strategies including municipal waste management strategies; • The planned provision of new capacity and its spatial distribution should be based on clear policy objectives, robust analysis of available data and information, and an appraisal of options. <p>Policy objectives of the RSS should be in line with the planning policies set out in this PPS. Sustainability appraisal should be applied so as to shape planning strategies that support the Government’s planning objectives for waste management set out in PPS10.</p> <p>Reviews of RSS should reflect any changes to the national waste strategy and occur at least every five years, or sooner if there are signs of under-provision of waste management capacity or over-provision of disposal options where these would undermine movement up the waste hierarchy.</p> <p>The strategy for waste management within the RSS should be carried forward into local development documents and will inform the preparation and review of municipal waste</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
		management strategies.
PPS11: Regional Spatial Strategies		
<p>The RSS should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> articulate a spatial vision of what the region will look like at the end of the period of the strategy and show how this will contribute to achieving sustainable development objectives; provide a concise spatial strategy for achieving that vision, defining its main aims and objectives, illustrated by a key diagram, with the policies clearly highlighted; address regional or sub-regional issues that will often cross county or unitary authority and, on occasion, district boundaries, and take advantage of the range of development options that exist at that level. The RSS should not address local issues which should be the subject of a LDD; be consistent with and supportive of other regional frameworks and strategies, including the RSDF and the regional cultural, economic and housing strategies; be specific to the region: whilst it should have regard to national policies it should not simply repeat them nor resort to platitudes. It should provide spatially specific policies applying national policies to the circumstances of the region; be locationally but not site specific, while not going into the level of detail more appropriate to a LDD; be focused on delivery mechanisms which make clear what is to be done by whom and by when; provide a clear link between policy objectives and priorities, targets and indicators. It should be monitored annually against the delivery of its priorities and the realisation of its vision for the region, and reviewed as 		<p>The Government’s policy on the role of the RSS in relation to each policy topic is set out in the topic-specific PPSs, with the exception of transport which is set out in PPS11 itself.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>appropriate;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • should apply the test of adding value to the overall planning process; and • contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. 		
PPG13: Transport		
<p>More sustainable choices for both people and moving freight</p> <p>Accessibility to services by public transport, walking and cycling</p> <p>Reduce the need to travel, especially by car</p>		<p>Land use planning has a key role in delivering the Governments integrated transport strategy. By shaping the pattern of development and influencing the location, scale, density, design and mix of land uses, planning can help to reduce the need to travel, 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>To assist in the co-ordination of transport and land use planning, local planning and highway authorities should have regard to the Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) which forms part of the RSS. This provides the long-term strategic framework which informs development plans, local transport plans and transport operators in developing their plans and programmes.</p> <p>PPS11 provides guidance on the preparation of the RTS and sets out those issues which the RTS, and more widely RSS, should cover.</p> <p>Transport policy is dealt with under Phase Two and is of limited relevance to Phase Three.</p>
PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment		
Provides a full statement of Government policies for the identification and		RSS should be consistent with national policy

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>protection of historic buildings, conservation areas, and other elements of the historic environment. It is fundamental to the Government's policies for environmental stewardship that there should be effective protection for all aspects of the historic environment. The physical survivals of our past are to be valued and protected for their own sake, as a central part of our cultural heritage and our sense of national identity. That the objective of planning processes should be to reconcile the need for economic growth with the need to protect the natural and historic environment.</p>		<p>objectives on the historic environment set out in PPG15.</p>
<p>PPG16: Archaeology and Planning</p>		
<p>Archaeological remains must not be needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed There should be a presumption in favour of the physical preservation of nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not.</p>		<p>Development plans, including RSS, should reconcile the need for development with the interests of conservation including archaeology.</p>
<p>PPG17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation</p>		
<p>Open spaces, sports and recreational facilities that are of high quality or of particular value to a local community should be recognised and given protection. With any development, consideration should be made to avoid any erosion of recreational function and maintain or enhance the character of open spaces; ensure open spaces do not suffer from increased over looking, traffic flows or other encroachment; protect and enhance the public rights of way network; and consider the impact of any development on biodiversity and nature conservation. Parks, recreation grounds, playing fields and allotments must not be regarded as previously developed land.</p>		<p>The policies set out PPG17 will need to be taken into account by the RPB in the preparation of RSS. In particular, to ensure effective planning for open space, sport and recreation it is essential that the needs of communities are known. Assessments will normally be undertaken at district level, although assessments of strategic facilities should be undertaken at regional or sub-regional levels.</p>
<p>Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism, DCLG, May 2006</p>		
<p>Where specific tourism policies are included in a plan, they should aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maximise the benefits of tourism, in particular ensuring that the development is able to reach its potential to contribute to tourism in the area and for local communities to enjoy those benefits; 		<p>In promoting tourism, RSS should aim to maximise the benefits of tourism, including to local communities. Development should be in optimal locations, integrated with surroundings and avoid</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify optimal locations, for example to maximise synergies with other tourist attractions and to promote opportunities for access by public transport; • integrate development with its surroundings both in terms of design and layout and in the way that the service or facility is able to function; and • avoid adverse impacts, for example by disturbance to activities on adjacent land. <p>Planners will need to understand and often reconcile a number of important factors when preparing such policies, in particular, market demand, environmental impact, transport and accessibility, functional links, regeneration benefits and labour supply.</p>		adverse impacts.
PPS22: Renewable Energy		
<p>Renewable energy developments should be capable of being accommodated throughout England in locations where the technology is viable and environmental, economic, and social impacts can be addressed satisfactorily.</p> <p>Regional Spatial Strategies should contain policies designed to promote and encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy resources.</p> <p>Regional Planning Bodies should not make assumptions about the technical and commercial feasibility of renewable energy projects</p> <p>Development proposals should demonstrate any environmental, economic and social benefits as well as how any environmental and social impacts have been minimised through careful consideration of location, scale, design and other measures.</p>	<p>The RSS should include the target for renewable energy capacity in the region, derived from assessments of the region's renewable energy resource potential, and taking into account the regional environmental, economic and social impacts (either positive or negative) that may result from exploitation of that resource potential.</p> <p>Targets should be expressed as the minimum amount of installed capacity for renewable energy in the region, expressed in megawatts, and may also be expressed in terms of the percentage of electricity consumed or supplied. Targets</p>	<p>The policies set out in this statement will need to be taken into account by RPBs in the preparation of RSS.</p> <p>Criteria-based policies should be set out in RSS where these can be applied across a region, or across clearly identified sub-regional areas. These criteria should then be used to identify broad areas at the regional/sub-regional level where development of particular types of renewable energy may be considered appropriate. Planning applications for renewable energy projects should be assessed against the specific criteria set out in RSS. RPBs should ensure that such criteria-based policies are consistent with, or reinforced by, policies in plans on other issues against which renewable energy applications could be assessed.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
	should be set for achievement by 2010 and by 2020	
PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control		
<p>Protecting and improving the natural environment, public health and safety, and amenity</p> <p>Urban and rural regeneration and the redevelopment of previously developed sites</p>		<p>The policies in PPS23 and the advice in the accompanying Annexes should be taken into account by RPBs in preparing RSSs.</p> <p>RSS provides the opportunity to assess and indicate the scale of regionally important, longer-term demands for land for potentially polluting development, and any regional constraints on development arising from the cumulative impact of existing and proposed potentially polluting developments or uses.</p>
PPS25: Development and Flood Risk, December 2006		
<p>Positive planning should avoid, reduce and manage flood risk by taking full account in decisions on plans and applications of present and future flood risk and the wider implications for flood risk of development located outside flood risk areas. A risk-based approach should be adopted at all levels of planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoid adding to the causes of flood risk, by such means as avoiding inappropriate development in flood risk areas and minimising run-off from new development • managing flood “pathways” to reduce the likelihood of flooding including by maximising the use of sustainable drainage systems; • reducing the consequences of flooding by avoiding inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding. <p>Flood risk assessment should be carried out to assess the risks of flooding to and from development and inform the application of the sequential approach to determining the suitability of land for development in flood risk areas. Departures from the sequential approach will only be justified in exceptional circumstances where it is necessary to meet the wider aims of sustainable</p>		<p>RSSs should include a broad consideration of flood risk from all sources and set out a strategy for managing it. RSS should avoid adding to the causes of flood risk, by such means as avoiding inappropriate development in flood risk areas and minimising run-off from new development. RSS should seek to reduce the likelihood of flooding by ensuring that the design and location of the development maximises the use of SUDS, and takes account of its susceptibility to flooding, the performance and processes of river/coastal systems and appropriate flood defence infrastructure, and of the likely routes and storage of floodwater, and its influence on flood risk downstream. Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs) when developing Regional Spatial Strategies</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>development. Those proposing development are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrating that it is consistent with policies on flood risk; • providing an assessment of whether any proposed development is likely to be affected by flooding, whether it will increase flood risk elsewhere, and the measures proposed to deal with these effects and risks; • demonstrating that risks will be successfully managed; • incorporating sustainable drainage systems and, where necessary, flood resilience measures; • identifying opportunities to reduce flood risk, enhance biodiversity and amenity and seek collective solutions to managing flood risk. 		<p>should apply the sequential approach when establishing locational criteria for regionally significant land uses, including the identification of broad locations. The RPB should take flood risk into account in determining strategic planning considerations in the RSS for its region, including the criteria to be used for selecting and determining broad strategic locations for housing provision and transport infrastructure. Its RFRA should identify the risk to its regionally strategic locations.</p>
MPS1 Planning and Minerals, November 2006		
<p>Aims to provide a framework for meeting need for minerals sustainably, by considering the social, environmental and economic factors of doing so and securing avoidance or appropriate mitigation of environmental impacts where extraction takes place. Promotes a hierarchical approach to minerals supply, firstly to reduce as far as practicable the quantity of material used and waste generated, then to use as much recycled and secondary material as possible, before finally securing the remainder of material needed through new primary extraction. Objectives for minerals planning are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to ensure, so far as practicable, the prudent, efficient and sustainable use of minerals and recycling of suitable materials, thereby minimising the requirement for new primary extraction; • to conserve mineral resources through appropriate provision and timing of supply; • to safeguard mineral resources as far as possible; • to prevent or minimise production of mineral waste; • to prevent or reduce as far as possible, impacts on the environment and human health; • to protect internationally and nationally designated areas of landscape value and nature conservation importance other than in the exceptional circumstances; 		<p>RSS should promote the sustainable use of minerals, conserving resources, encouraging increased use of secondary and recycled materials and reducing waste. This should ensure protection of the environment and health, provision of an adequate supply and sustainable management of minerals.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to secure adequate and steady supplies of minerals without irreversible damage; • to maximise the benefits and minimise the impacts of minerals operations over their full life cycle; • to promote the sustainable transport of minerals by rail, sea or inland waterways; • to protect and seek to enhance the overall quality of the environment once extraction has ceased, and to safeguard the long-term potential of land for a wide range of after-uses; • to secure closer integration of minerals planning policy with national policy on sustainable construction and waste management and other applicable environmental protection legislation; and • to encourage the use of high quality materials for the purposes for which they are most suitable. 		
<i>Regional Policy</i>		
West Midlands Regional Climate Change Action Plan, West Midlands Regional Assembly, Advantage West Midlands, Environment Agency, Government Office West Midlands and Natural England, December 2007		
<p><i>Planning and Environment</i></p> <p>Plan for low-carbon, well-adapted sustainable communities with high quality green infrastructure and thriving biodiversity, with low-carbon new development, improved existing stock, and sustainable transport and waste planning to deliver substantially reduced emissions and resilience to likely climate change impacts.</p> <p>P1. Ensure that revisions to the Regional Spatial Strategy (including Transport and Waste) and Regional Housing Strategy effectively address the need to reduce emissions and adapt to unavoidable climate change impacts</p> <p>P2. Raise design and environmental standards for new build</p> <p>P3. Work with local authorities to promote development schemes that are exemplars of sustainable development and construction, setting the highest standards of design, effectively incorporating green infrastructure, which are low-carbon or carbon neutral in operation and adapted to likely climate</p>	<p>Where there are gaps in national monitoring or where Regional accountability is required for progress, establish appropriate regional carbon reduction targets and adaptation goals, and a robust and transparent framework for monitoring and reviewing progress.</p> <p>Climate change targets to be incorporated and reflected in all regional policy; climate change impact assessments to be completed for all new regional</p>	<p>The RSS should support emissions reduction across all relevant policy areas and promote climate change adaptation.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>impacts</p> <p>P5. Interventions directed towards achieving an absolute reduction in emissions from transport, including reduced car use and a significant shift to more sustainable modes, including improved public transport services</p> <p>P6. Identify strategic sites for decentralised energy production/district heating and include a policy applying to e.g. major investment sites in RSS review</p> <p><i>Economy</i></p> <p>E2. Help regional businesses improve resource efficiency (energy, transport, waste and water)</p> <p>E3. Move the region towards greater energy efficiency and security, by supporting and encouraging decentralised and sustainable production, lower energy demand through greater energy efficiency, waste minimisation and reprocessing opportunities</p> <p>E4. Encourage new and creative working practices and lifestyle changes which shift the region towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and stimulate demand for low-carbon housing, transport and consumer products; encouraging local markets and local sourcing to support regional supply chains and minimise carbon footprint</p> <p>E5. Help businesses identify and realise the opportunities and manage the risks of the changing climate for their markets, products, premises, people and logistics</p> <p><i>Communication</i></p> <p>C5. Promote sustainable and renewable energy as a strong economic driver</p>	<p>policy development</p>	
Restoring the Region's Wildlife: The Regional Biodiversity Strategy for the West Midlands, Final Draft, January 2005		
<p>Maintaining and improving the condition of habitats, species and ecosystems</p> <p>Developing an area based approach to restoring wildlife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop a coordinated and integrated spatial framework, incorporating other aspects such as landscape and historic elements as appropriate • Establish spatial biodiversity objectives for the region, linking to the habitat targets. 	<p>Twenty-three UK priority habitats occur in the West Midlands, and a much larger number of priority species¹, and each of these has targets for their maintenance, restoration and creation or expansion.</p> <p>A set of regional habitat targets</p>	<p>Successful nature conservation is a shared responsibility and is dependent in part on the effective alignment, co-ordination and integration of regional documents. The RSS provides a powerful set of statutory planning policies which can help to achieve a step change in biodiversity gains in the region. The importance of biodiversity is highlighted in the existing RSS, which includes a</p>

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<p>Monitoring the condition of habitats, species and ecosystems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop coordinated monitoring between key agencies • Link data to key issues e.g. Indicators, Regional Spatial Strategy and climate change <p>Re-connecting and integrating action for biodiversity with other environmental, social and economic activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop relationships with other sectors, for example exploring brownfield issues with the business sector • Explore economic issues for effective land management • Identify data (and gaps) which can be used to demonstrate examples of re-connecting biodiversity with other activities. • Investigate extent to which greenspace standards (such as English Nature's) are being applied and develop the application of this and other access standards 	<p>has been included in the RSS and the West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership is continuing to work with local biodiversity partnerships to further develop these. Although more difficult, to do there is a need to develop an equivalent set of regional targets for species. Appendix 3 of strategy lists targets.</p>	<p>statutory policy requiring local authorities and others to provide for biodiversity in their plans and programmes. A spatial approach to biodiversity conservation is set out, including the identification of areas of concentrations of high quality biodiversity sites described as Biodiversity Enhancement Areas. These areas <i>"offer some of the best prospects for retaining environments with a rich and resilient biodiversity resource"</i>. They are also key places for adopting an area-based approach to nature conservation, working across local authority boundaries where appropriate.</p>
<p>A Water Resources Strategy for the West Midlands, Environment Agency (no date)</p>		
<p>Underpinning principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prudent and sustainable use of natural resources • to seek the efficient use of water while bringing forward timely proposals for resource development (the 'twin-track' approach) • the need for the strategy to be robust to uncertainty and change • where there is uncertainty about the consequences of a proposal, decisions taken should ensure that the environment is protected (the 'precautionary principle') <p>Water abstraction cut-backs are necessary in some areas to improve the environment.</p> <p>Water resource options that are flexible to the possible impacts of climate</p>	<p>Estimates of reductions in groundwater licences required to achieve sustainable levels of abstraction amount to up to 100 MI/d region-wide.</p> <p>By 2025, the Agency expects to see water savings of up to 140 MI/d compared to the highest growth scenario, in addition to water savings through maintaining current active leakage control targets.</p>	<p>Future developments in the West Midlands should recognise the limited availability of water and incorporate efficiency measures and sustainable drainage systems at the planning stage.</p> <p>The timing and location of new development must respect water resources and environmental constraints. Planners should seek to ensure that development is sustainable, both in terms of water demand (water efficient devices and rainwater harvesting), water abstraction, treatment and supply, and water disposal (sewerage and sustainable urban drainage systems).</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
change are preferred.		<p>The Agency will work with planners to look for water efficiency in new developments.</p> <p>Continued availability of reliable public water supply is essential. Some of this will be achieved through efficiency savings; some through improvements to existing schemes and the way in which they are managed. Some new resource schemes will also be needed. All resource development schemes will need careful investigation by those who will own or benefit from the schemes to ensure that their environmental impacts are acceptable, and that schemes can be promoted at an appropriate time.</p>
Connecting to Success: West Midlands Economic Strategy, AWM and WMRA, December 2007		
<p>Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seizing market opportunities • Developing markets and sectors with the most wealth and employment potential • Creating economically sustainable new businesses • Competing in the global economy • Capitalising on sustainability and low-carbon opportunities • Improving competitiveness • Investing in business processes and enterprise • Stimulating employer investment in skills and training • Harnessing knowledge • Investing in high-value skills for the future economy • Stimulating innovation, creativity and knowledge generation <p>Place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing Birmingham's competitiveness • Birmingham competing as a global city • Improving infrastructure 	<p>Gross Value Added per head</p> <p>Index of Sustainable Economic Wellbeing</p> <p>GVA per employee</p> <p>CO2 emissions per £10k GVA</p> <p>Total industry & commercial energy consumption (GWh) per £billion GVA</p> <p>Average vehicle delay for the slowest 10% of journeys on the strategic road network (mins per 10 vehicle miles)</p> <p>% of all trips made by public transport</p> <p>Total fuel consumption for road transport per head of population</p>	<p>WMRA, which fully endorses and supports <i>Delivering Advantage</i>, has the leading regional role in ensuring consistency between different regional strategies. It is responsible for the Regional Concordat and has several additional roles in relation to this Strategy. As part of its scrutiny function, it will review progress throughout the life of the Strategy, identify issues partners need to address for fully effective delivery and work to make that happen. In addition, WMRA will deliver or make a major contribution to certain actions, particularly in respect of promoting and lobbying for the region. As the Regional Planning Body, WMRA also has a role in ensuring consistency between the delivery of the RSS and the West Midlands Economic Strategy.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving transport & communications to increase accessibility, efficiency & competitiveness • Supporting a secure, low-carbon energy infrastructure for the region • Sustainable management & utilisation of our land & property assets • Developing sustainable communities • Regenerating our most deprived communities • Maximising our cultural offer and natural assets <p>People:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable living • Changing attitudes to sustainability and consumption • Raising ambitions and aspirations • Raising aspirations of leaders and managers • Driving up ambition and aspiration • Achieving full potential & opportunities for all • Skills for employment and enterprise • Defining employability <p>Powerful voice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerful voice for the West Midlands • Improving the evidence base for policy • Engaging with UK, European & international decision-makers • Position the West Midlands as a global centre where people and businesses choose to connect 	<p>(kg per person)</p> <p>% of land used for developments previously developed</p> <p>CO2 emissions (kg carbon) per resident</p> <p>Regional variation in Housing Affordability Index</p> <p>Proportion of super output areas in 10% most deprived nationally on the economic deprivation index</p> <p>% of adults engaging in more than one cultural sector during the year</p> <p>% people usually working from home or travelling to work using sustainable means of transport</p> <p>% household waste which is recycled or composted</p> <p>Difference between working-age employment rate for white and non-white ethnic groups</p> <p>Difference between employment rate for people aged between 50 and retirement age and for the rest of the working-age population</p> <p>Difference between employment rate for people with a disability and for the rest of the working-</p>	

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
	age population	
Enriching Our Region: An Environmental Manifesto for the West Midlands, West Midlands Regional Sustainability Forum, 2005		
<p>Action required to achieve the vision for 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • replace GDP by ISEW • reduce consumption of natural resources • creative management of waste material • universal recognition of need for recycling • West Midlands to become a leader in energy efficiency • Exploration of new economic sectors • Promoting consumption of local raw materials • Improvement of the public realm • More mixed development • Tackling social problems • Equitable protection from effects of development • Reclamation of derelict and disused land • Sustainable new and refurbished homes • Greater use of design guidance • Right of appeal against planning decisions • Increase proportion of affordable homes • Minimum standards of access to open, recreational and community space • Encourage new ways of working • Amended food policy in favour of local producers • Concentrating housing and economic development in urban areas 		<p>Sets out a desired direction of change for a number of policy areas of relevance to the RSS. The SA should take account of the manifesto in assessing potential opportunities for making a contribution to achieving the vision.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing car-free communities • Better use of brownfield land • No large development in rural areas • Sensitive planning • National road charging scheme • Improved local facilities and services • Better public transport • No overall increase in road capacity • More effective use of existing airport capacity • Greater care of natural assets • Planning policies to recognise and provide for quality, diversity and distinctiveness of landscapes • Radical improvement in air quality • Recovery of threatened wildlife species • Expansion of important habitats • Introduce water conservation measures 		
The West Midlands ICT Cluster Strategy 2005, West Midlands ICT Cluster Opportunity Group		
<p>Aims to develop a cluster of ICT businesses and partners to bring competitive advantage to the region.</p> <p>Strategic directions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a well networked sector. • Growing a small number of niche sub-sectors. • Research, collaboration and spin-out activities to exploit innovation. <p>Strategic Enablers:</p>	<p>Jobs created and safeguarded</p> <p>Skills including training accreditation</p>	<p>Consider opportunities to support sector in infrastructure development and support for learning and skills.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure provision, including knowledge, facilities, infrastructure, people, business expertise and finance. • Providing the full range of skills required now and in the future. • Providing data & intelligence to underpin strategy and decision making. 		
International Trade Strategic Plan for the West Midlands, AWM/Trade Partners UK		
To better prepare businesses to take part in international trade by developing a workforce with international trade skills for the future		Consider opportunities to support sector in promotion of learning and skills.
The West Midlands Language Strategy, Advantage West Midlands, October 2003		
<p>Support and assistance to small companies and those trying to break into new export markets.</p> <p>Support for inward investment by improving language skills in the workforce.</p> <p>Increasing the number of modern language graduates and those with combined honours with languages.</p> <p>Increasing social inclusion through improved English language skills and provision for deaf people.</p>		Consider opportunities to support sector in promotion of learning and skills.
Cultural Life in the West Midlands: A Call for Action, West Midlands Life,		
<p>Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote excellence and innovation • To ensure diversity, access and equity • To increase investment, sustainability and effectiveness <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that the West Midlands is recognised as one of the foremost regions for cultural activity both nationally and internationally • To encourage people to visit because of the wealth of cultural and creative 		Ensure that culture is embedded into the strategic planning process, with an understanding of the priorities and themes within the Regional Cultural Strategy, particularly in relation to the built and archaeological heritage, sport and physical recreation and tourism.

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that distinctive sub-regional and local cultural identity is celebrated • To ensure that the best is preserved and renewed and to encourage new cultural work to be created and provide opportunities for innovation and experimentation. • To ensure access to the very best in cultural education and experiences, throughout school and beyond. • To ensure that new cultural choices are created where there are strategic gaps or new demands. • To ensure that all residents and visitors have access to the very best range of cultural activities. • To ensure that the Cultural Strategy is fully recognised in all other strategic development plans. 		
West Midlands Regional Energy Strategy, West Midlands Regional Assembly, Advantage West Midlands and Government Office for the West Midlands, November 2004		
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving energy efficiency • Increasing the use of renewable energy resources • Maximising uptake of business opportunities 	<p>Improving energy efficiency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry: Reduce CO2 emissions by 2.4 Mt (18%) by 2010 and an additional 4.3 Mt (32%) by 2020. • Commercial and public sector: Reduce emissions by 2.0 Mt (36%) by 2010 and an additional 1.5Mt (26%) by 2020. • Domestic: Reduce emissions by 2.4 Mt (19%) by 2010, and an additional 3.7 Mt (29%) by 	<p>The RSS has the ability to affect energy use by influencing the location, nature and standard of development and through influencing patterns of transport in the region.</p> <p>The RSS also already takes a proactive approach to renewable energy provision and energy conservation with specific policies on energy generation, including criteria for the location of renewable energy schemes, and energy conservation, requiring local authorities to develop policies to minimise the energy demands from development and encouraging good quality combined heat and power schemes.</p> <p>The RSS also has a role in encouraging local</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
	<p>2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport: Stabilise emissions by 2010 and reduce by 0.7 Mt (7%) by 2020. • Combined Heat and Power2: A target of 1,000 MWe by 2010 <p>Increasing the use of renewable energy resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable generation equivalent to 5% of electricity consumption by 2010 and 10% by 2020. • Heat from renewable sources providing 250 GWh (0.3% of consumption) by 2010 and 650 GWh (1% of consumption) by 2020. • Production of 460 GWh of liquid biofuels per year by 2010. <p>Maximising uptake of business opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure local procurement guidance to Local Authorities includes energy issues. • Ensure that publicly funded business diversification and creation support recognises the significant opportunities 	<p>development frameworks to recognise and reflect the benefits of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • security of supply issues • community heating and CHP • building integration of renewables • actions to address climate change mitigation measures <p>It can also place emphasis on the creation of high quality built and natural environments, including promoting energy efficiency and renewables and sustainable transport patterns.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
	<p>that are available from the supply of low carbon goods and services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the particularly strong prospects for low carbon technologies are recognised in the strategies relating to innovation and business academic links. • The development of targeted courses and training to meet known skills shortages. 	
West Midlands Visitor Economy Strategy, Advantage West Midlands, March 2008		
<p>The visitor economy has a key role to play in delivering the WMES objectives. To do that, the focus for the next three years will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliver Birmingham as a premier European city break destination that celebrates its contemporary culture and further enhances its role as an international leader in the conference and exhibitions sector • To capitalise on the region’s world-class business tourism venues and fully exploit its location and established high profile as a business destination • To place contemporary culture and the cultural heritage of the West Midlands at the heart of the visitor experience and to use it to drive visitors to the region and to grow the short break market, capitalising on the opportunities of the Cultural Olympiad • To deliver a high quality food and drink experience that captures the very best of the English countryside and for our shire and market towns to delight their visitors with a distinctive experience and a warm welcome • To make the West Midlands a region of celebration throughout the year, led by a high profile events and festivals programme that attracts visitors from across Britain. <p>Vision: To be a global visitor destination where people, business and culture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>The Visitor Economy Strategy has an important contribution to make in addressing three of the four major challenges identified for the RSS. These are: urban renaissance; rural renaissance; and diversifying and modernising the region’s economy. The fourth challenge of modernising the region’s transport infrastructure will have a significant bearing on the success or otherwise of the Visitor Economy Strategy as well as the RSS. The RSS seeks to encourage a step change in the performance of the regional economy so that it supports both the environment and an improvement in the quality of life for everyone who lives within the region. The visitor economy has an important role to play in this. As a result, regard should be paid to potential synergies and impacts with the visitor economy in the policies of the RSS across a range of subjects: tourism and</p>

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<p>connect.</p> <p>The strategic objectives for tourism set out in the original VES are about attracting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more visitors from outside the region • more overnight visitors • more business and high-value leisure visitors • more private sector tourism investment. <p>enhancing the West Midlands for residents and visitors to create:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘liveable’ and ‘visitable’ places • world-class cultural/sport/leisure facilities • high standards of quality • avenues for learning, business support and careers • jobs and economic benefit • sustainable development (environmentally, socially, economically) • local and regional pride. <p>supporting local businesses and cultural life by enhancing and promoting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the quality and quantity of authentic local products • what is distinctive and unique about the region/sub-regions • the multicultural experience of the region. <p>The approach of this strategy is to go for growth and back the WMES by prioritising action that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grows the value of the visitor economy • increases competitiveness in UK and international markets • helps to strengthen the image and profile of the region and its appeal as a visitor destination. <p>If it meets these criteria, it is preferable that in addition it contributes to key crosscutting ambitions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to supporting inward investment and helping develop business destinations • to contributing to the growth of GVA in the region – by retaining jobs, skilled employees and spend in the region and by sourcing local supplies and services to support economic self-sufficiency • to delivering sustainable communities and future growth. 		<p>culture; the development of towns and city centres, including Birmingham; rural economic development; agriculture and farm diversification; the quality of the environment including specific environmental assets; the water environment; the historic environment; and transport.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
West Midlands Regional Forestry Framework 2004 and Delivery Plan 2007-10, Forestry Commission West Midlands Conservancy		
<p>To increase significantly regional woodland cover linked to the Regional Spatial Strategy</p> <p>To raise the profile of trees and woodlands in relation to the historic environment</p> <p>To promote actively the contribution that woodland and forestry makes to the culture of those living in the West Midlands</p> <p>To promote woodland and forestry in support of regeneration and development</p> <p>To improve awareness, understanding and support for wood energy</p> <p>To develop opportunities to promote waste minimisation and recycling</p> <p>To agree and secure a commitment to work towards a standard and priorities for local community access</p> <p>To develop tourism opportunities</p> <p>To take up opportunities for long-term public access</p> <p>To maximise the use of woodland and forestry to deliver a healthier region</p> <p>Develop further links between wooded green space and health</p> <p>To increase public knowledge of woodland and forestry by education and raising awareness</p> <p>To promote examples and inspire people about the benefits of trees and woodlands and to secure community involvement in establishing trees for local communities</p> <p>Meet national targets for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the priority habitats and species of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)</p> <p>Protect and enhance ancient and/or semi-natural woodland</p> <p>To increase contributions and commitment to wildlife gain</p>		<p>The RSS provides a regional policy on woodland and forestry, including the contribution of the woodland and forestry sector to the regional landscape, economy and quality of life. It also requires the statutory monitoring of increases in woodland and forestry as referred to in Biodiversity Action Plans.</p> <p>The delivery plan will contribute directly to the regional strategic outcomes in the RSS. There are also a range of opportunities for the RSS to make a contribution towards the objectives of the Forestry Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • include woodland-creation opportunities at a landscape scale that build on the woodland opportunities map and including Biodiversity Enhancement Areas and AONB • include strategies for green space utilising the Regional Biodiversity Strategy, drawing on the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan and linking with regional economic and planning priorities (clusters, corridors, zones, etc) • promote the value of trees and woodland, including for access and recreation, health, regeneration and the historic and natural environment. • Use landscape character assessment, including biodiversity and historic environment knowledge, to inform development plans

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>Target action through landscape-scale improvements</p> <p>To develop the role and effectiveness of trees in reducing flood risk and flood management</p> <p>To actively promote the significance of woodland and forestry to landscape, historic, biodiversity and other environmental designations;</p> <p>Clarify the contribution of the woodland and forestry sector to air quality both at nationally and locally</p> <p>Maintain soil quality and prevent soil erosion, reduce flood risk, protect water quality and conserve water resources through appropriate woodland creation and management</p> <p>Develop a regional greenspace strategy (urban and rural) with a strategic approach to forestry for regeneration integrated with the woodland opportunities map</p> <p>Encouraging woodland as an after-use on mineral and waste management sites</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote planting of trees and woodlands on appropriate land, including urban areas, transport corridors, agricultural land • Make appropriate links to the Regional Wood Energy Strategy • Promote reuse and recycling of timber in construction • Include timber-related issues in the Regional Waste Strategy • Promote the importance of trees and woodlands in other plans and strategies • Promote protection and enhancement of veteran trees and ancient woodland through planning policies • Seek to create wet woodlands to assist flood management and enhance biodiversity
West Midlands Regional Housing Strategy 2005, Regional Housing Board, June 2005		
<p>To create a strong regional economy, which through the provision of “pathways of housing choice” enables people to live near their work in pleasant affordable homes.</p> <p>To redress the failure of the housing markets which have resulted in little or, in some cases no substantial range of choice whether in price or type.</p> <p>In pursuit of sustainable communities, to work with the private sector, Registered Social Landlords and planning authorities to deliver the required new range and types of housing.</p> <p>In particular, to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urban renaissance, providing a wider range of housing types, which 	<p>Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halve the numbers living in temporary accommodation by 2010 • Ensure that all social housing meets set standards of decency by 2010, by reducing the number of households living in social housing that does not meet these 	<p>Through the RSS, the region has endorsed a vision for how it sees the future development of its diverse communities. Policy co-ordination and alignment between the Regional Housing Strategy, the RSS and the Regional Economic Strategy is essential to realising this vision.</p> <p>One of the intentions of the strategy is to give confidence to developers that the West Midlands is committed to develop and support vibrant housing markets within the context of the urban</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>deliver homes to address gaps and ensure a good balance of housing types within an individual market.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rural renaissance, addressing low demand characteristics across rural North Staffordshire and high demand, high affordability problems of the South of the Region. <p>Core aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to create mixed, balanced and inclusive communities to assist in the delivery of the RSS policies of Urban and Rural renaissance to influence the future development of new housing provision to facilitate and enhance the economic development of the Region To address the variety of needs across a range of specific sectors of housing circumstances To work towards the success of the two Housing Market Renewal Area Pathfinders in Birmingham/Sandwell and North Staffordshire/Stoke and the Regionally identified housing restructuring areas of East Birmingham/North Solihull and Evolve - Black Country and Telford to support action for the Government’s Decent Homes Standard to be met in the municipal, social sectors and for those in vulnerable circumstances in the private sector To achieve social and intermediate market housing located to achieve balanced and sustainable communities To improve the inter-relationship in Strategy and investment between housing and economic development to achieve a synergy for Urban And Rural Renaissance To address environmental issues and adapt house building to the requirements of Climate Change 	<p>standards by a third between 2001 and 2004, with most of the improvement taking place in the most deprived local authority areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eradicate fuel poverty for vulnerable households by 2010 and for all households by 2016. In refurbishments for Decent Homes Standard, raise energy efficiency to current Building Regulations standards, or as near as practicable, not only to Decent Homes minimum. Local authorities should establish the volume of non-decent homes occupied by vulnerable households in the private sector and produce plans for increasing the number of vulnerable households in decent housing with a view to ensuring that this is at least 65% by 2006, 70% by 2010 and 75% by 2020 <p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mix, progress, barriers, rate of change Planning consents for residential property 	<p>and rural renaissance policies of the RSS.</p> <p>The Strategy also promotes the regional application of national guidance on protecting and enhancing the environment, working towards sustainable communities, meeting the decent homes standard, achieving excellence in design, making housing stock more energy efficient and reducing fuel poverty. The Strategy also champions the application of the environmental and sustainability objectives of the RSS, the RSDF, the Regional Design Framework, the Regional Energy Strategy, and regional initiatives to promote construction excellence and skills enhancement.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing starts and completions (market and affordable) • House prices relative to national and regional averages • Vacancy rates and Concealed Households. • Net and gross migration • Rate and location of demolition and housing market restructuring • Measures of economic change • Delivery of exceptions sites • Affordability –lowest quartile house prices to lowest quartile and mean earnings • Numbers, types, tenures and locations of newly built housing • Numbers types and locations of newly created employment 	
A Sustainable Future for the West Midlands: Regional Sustainable Development Framework Version Two, Sustainability West Midlands and partners, July 2006		
Principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting people and communities at the centre of strategy development and policy decisions; engaging people in the decisions that affect their lives and their communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, creating equal opportunity for all, and meeting the varied needs of our diverse communities in terms of gender, age, 		Defines the meaning of sustainable development for the West Midlands region, and sets out the objectives which need to be achieved in order to implement development which is sustainable. The RSS must take account of these objectives in

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>ethnicity, disability, faith, sexuality, and background, and in the various rural and urban communities in the West Midlands region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuing the environment and living within environmental limits, respecting the limits of the earth’s ability to provide resources and reabsorb pollutants in order to avoid serious or irreversible damage, and recognising the importance of the environment and biodiversity to well-being, health and economic vitality. • Gathering and using sound evidence as the basis for policy-making, taking account of whole-life costs and benefits of our decisions and activities, including impacts that can’t easily be valued in money terms, and taking account of long-term impacts in the wider social, environmental and economic context, and adopting the “precautionary principle”, that is, where there is a possibility that an action might result in damage to human health or the environment, the action should be avoided or measures identified to prevent or limit damage and degradation. • Taking account of the national and global implications of our activities, as well as those within the Region, and wherever possible adopting the “polluter pays” principle, that those responsible for environmental or social degradation should meet the costs of the consequences. <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sustainable consumption and production <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Use natural resources such as water and minerals efficiently, including by incorporating efficiency measures into new land use and developments, redevelopment and refurbishment 1.2. Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives 1.3. Promote and ensure high standards of sustainable resource- efficient design, construction and maintenance of buildings, both new build and existing stock, where possible exceeding the requirements of the Building Regulations 1.4. Increase use of public transport, cycling and walking as a proportion of 		<p>developing the regional plan. The Sustainability Appraisal will use the objectives as a starting point for drawing up a framework of criteria against which the RSS will be appraised in order to assess its contribution to sustainable development.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>total travel in order to reduce road traffic congestion, pollution and accidents, and improve health through increased physical activity</p> <p>1.5. Ensure development is primarily focused in the major urban areas, and makes efficient use of existing physical infrastructure and reduces need to travel, especially by private car</p> <p>1.6. Encourage and enable waste minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery to divert resources away from the waste stream, including the use of recycled materials where possible</p> <p>1.7. Encourage local sourcing of food, goods and materials</p> <p>1.8. Reward efficient resource use and encourage development of alternative and renewable resources in order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels</p> <p>1.9. Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with regional organisations and agencies leading by example</p> <p>1.10. Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise</p> <p>1.11. Achieve a strong, stable and sustainable economy and prosperity for the benefit of all the Region’s inhabitants</p> <p>2. Climate change and energy</p> <p>2.1. Reduce overall energy use through increased energy efficiency</p> <p>2.2. Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources, including by micro-generation, CHP, district heating, and in transportation</p> <p>2.3. Minimise the Region’s contribution to the causes of climate change by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources</p> <p>2.4. Implement a managed response to the unavoidable impacts of climate change, ensuring that the design and planning process takes into account predicted changes in the Region’s climate</p> <p>2.5. Land use and development that takes into account predicted changes in the Region’s climate including flood risk</p> <p>3. Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement</p>		

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>3.1. Value, protect, enhance and restore the Region’s environmental assets, including the natural, built and historic environment and landscape</p> <p>3.2. Value, maintain, restore and re-create regional biodiversity, where possible using approaches that improve the resilience of natural systems such as linking fragmented habitats</p> <p>3.3. Minimise air, water, soil, light and noise pollution levels and create good quality air, water and soils</p> <p>3.4. Encourage land use and development that optimises the use of previously developed land and buildings</p> <p>3.5. Encourage land use and development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity, and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place</p> <p>3.6. Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practice in agricultural management or enabling communities to improve their neighbourhoods</p> <p>3.7. Promote environmental justice, recognising that deprived areas and disadvantaged communities are more likely to be affected by environmental damage and degradation</p> <p>4. Sustainable communities</p> <p>4.1. Enable communities to influence the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life</p> <p>4.2. Ensure easy and equitable access to services, facilities and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and that people are not disadvantaged with regard to ethnicity, gender, age, disability, faith, sexuality, background or location</p> <p>4.3. Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantage</p> <p>4.4. Improve health and reduce health inequalities by encouraging and enabling healthy active lifestyles and protecting health, as well as providing equitable access to health services</p> <p>4.5. Provide decent and affordable housing for all, of the right quantity, type, tenure and affordability to meet local needs, in clean, safe and pleasant</p>		

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>local environments</p> <p>4.6. Reduce crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour</p> <p>4.7. Improve opportunities to participate in the diverse cultural, sport and recreational opportunities the West Midlands can offer locally and in the wider region</p> <p>4.8. Encourage physical development with a better balance of jobs, housing, social and cultural services and amenities within each part of the Region in order to meet local needs locally and encourage stable and sustainable communities</p> <p>4.9. Ensure that the Region’s workforce is equipped with the skills to access high quality employment opportunities suited to the changing needs of the Regional economy, whilst recognising the value and contribution of unpaid work</p> <p>4.10. Promote investment in future prosperity, including ongoing investment and engagement in learning and skills development</p>		
Regional Planning Guidance for the West Midlands (RPG11), Government Office for the West Midlands, June 2004		
<p>Strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to make the major urban areas of the West Midlands increasingly attractive places where people want to live, work and invest; • to secure the regeneration of the rural areas of the Region; • to create a joined-up multi-centred Regional structure where all areas/centres have distinct roles to play; • to retain the Green Belt, but to allow an adjustment of boundaries where this is necessary to support urban regeneration; • to support the cities and towns of the Region to meet their local and sub-regional development needs; • to support the diversification and modernisation of the Region’s economy while ensuring that opportunities for growth are linked to meeting needs and reducing social exclusion; 	<p>Contains a wide range of indicators and targets to enable progress towards objectives to be measured across all areas of policy covered by RPG. Continuity in monitoring against these indicators and targets should be maintained by RSS wherever possible and relevant.</p> <p>Headline indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pattern of housing development across the Region. • Pattern of population 	<p>RPG11 provides the starting point for the RSS Phase Three revision, both in the strategic objectives and in the detailed policies which underpin them. Major revisions to the objectives and policies are not anticipated, but development and refinement of the policies to address some specific issues in the revision. RSS will therefore need to take account of the overall policy framework and strategic objectives in formulating specific policies.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to ensure the quality of the environment is conserved and enhanced across all parts of the Region; • to improve significantly the Region’s transport systems; • to promote the development of a network of strategic centres across the Region; and • to promote Birmingham as a world city <p>Guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To secure more sustainable patterns of development throughout the Region • To encourage a better balance between jobs, houses and services within each part of the Region in order to create more sustainable and stable communities • To encourage economic growth and increased prosperity throughout the RPG period which serves the broad sustainable development needs of the Region • To ensure that regional inequalities in education, employment, health, environment, and social and cultural potential are narrowed • To facilitate appropriate development in rural communities where job and service needs exist • To protect and enhance the quality of the environment, strengthening the interrelationship with economic and social progress and health and well-being • To ensure that the Region’s economic and social potential is not undermined by congestion and inaccessibility, but is supported through the provision of a better balanced and improved transport system • To ensure that every part of the West Midlands has a positive role to play in achieving a wider regional vision, and to have full regard to the linkages and relationships that exist between the West Midlands and adjacent 	<p>movement to and from the Major Urban Areas and changes over time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pattern of employment development across the Region. • Changes in the number of jobs in different parts of the Region over time. • Changes in the % of the population who are economically active in different parts of the Region • The pattern of deprivation across the Region • Changes in house prices, relative to the Regional average across different parts of the Region. • The pattern of development within and between town centres and the health of town centres. • Percentage of residents satisfied with living in their local community • Changes in the level of accessibility to employment and key services in different parts of the Region. 	

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<p>areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patterns and levels of congestion on the Region’s primary highway and public transport network. • Changes in the amount of derelict and contaminated land in different parts of the Region. • Changes in the number of days with poor air quality in different parts of the Region • Changes in the level of crime and people’s perception of crime, in different parts of the Region. 	
<p>Priorities Action Plan, West Midlands Regional Skills Partnership</p>		
<p>Key priorities for the employer offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate skills support with business development support to raise demand for skills and encourage enterprise within organisations • Develop the skills of the workforce – particularly to expand training for basic skills, level 2 and level 3 qualifications • Develop higher level skills for higher value products and services • Recruit and retain employees (and support progression) <p>Key priorities for the individual offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop management and leadership skills • Improve employability and encourage progression • Widen access and progression to FE and HE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross Value Added • Levels of employment (including employment rate) • Levels of worklessness • Skills levels across those of working age • Percentage of employment in K1 and K2 knowledge intensive sectors • Numbers of organisations employing graduates • Total entrepreneurial activity 	<p>In addressing the spatial dimension of learning and skills development, the RSS should be aware of opportunities to support the priorities set out in the Action Plan.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build skills for enterprise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of employers reporting skills gaps Wages 	
Skills Action Plan West Midlands Region 2008-2011, AWM and LSC, March 2008		
	<p>89% of adults with functional literacy and 81% with functional numeracy</p> <p>79% of adults qualified to at least a Level 2</p> <p>56% of adults qualified to at least a Level 3</p> <p>34% of adults qualified to at least a Level 4</p>	Not relevant to RSS

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
Rural Renaissance: Advantage West Midlands' Rural Framework,		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To foster the sustainable development and diversification of the rural economy of the West Midlands. To work with partners to develop the business clusters with greatest potential and reach, with a particular focus in the least well performing areas of the region. • To raise skills levels and improve access to skills development opportunities in rural areas, in support of the ten business clusters. • To support restructuring in the West Midlands rural economy through development of an accessible, modern, social and economic infrastructure and the environmental conditions appropriate to the growth needs of rural areas. • To address the region's most significant rural regeneration needs through a locally targeted approach, which improves social infrastructure and capacity; through improving access to opportunity. • To be an effective champion for the rural West Midlands at regional, national and international levels, ensuring that the West Midlands makes the most of all opportunities. 		<p>Rural Renaissance sets out AWM's integrated approach to rural development, demonstrating its role and strategy for implementing the West Midlands Economic Strategy in the rural West Midlands. The rural renaissance chapter of the RSS lays out the spatial and planning development framework for rural areas and has been developed in the light of the WMES. The RSS's overall approach is to foster sustainable local growth patterns whilst acting to counter the urban-to-rural migration patterns that appear to be undermining viability of the urban centres. This is supported by the Rural Renaissance Framework, which has been developed in consultation with the West Midlands Rural Affairs Forum which the Regional Assembly looks to as its rural policy forum.</p>
West Midlands Rural Delivery Framework First Iteration, Rural Accord West Midlands, April 2006		
<p>Strategic Priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhancing the value of the countryside 2. Developing a diverse and dynamic business base 3. Learning and skills improved 4. Creating the conditions for growth 5. Achieving fair access to services for all 6. Securing vibrant, active, inclusive and sustainable communities 		<p>The RSS should aim to support the strategic priorities of the Rural Delivery Framework.</p>

Key objectives relevant to the RSS	Key targets and indicators relevant to RSS and SA	Implications for the RSS
Valuing People and Places: Priorities for Action, Culture West Midlands, June 2005		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The identification of a select number of key opportunities for further large-scale cultural developments that could achieve iconic national significance and international recognition • Improved management and promotion of nationally and internationally significant cultural destinations, for example SSSIs and AONBs • Improvements in the quality of the public realm, townscapes, green spaces and parks, creating places that build on local distinctiveness, value the historic environment and improve Quality of Place for communities • Inclusion, especially in Local Development Frameworks, of imaginative proposals to enable the improvement and further development of high quality cultural facilities and opportunities including innovative uses of community buildings • A strong cross-cutting approach to cultural development in support of Local Authority Shared Priorities and in local Community Plans • Encouraging partnership working aimed at improving the development and delivery of cultural opportunities, at neighbourhood, local, sub-regional and regional level • Further development of joint-working with local services and community groups to improve cultural opportunities in disadvantaged urban and rural areas • New ways to promote cultural uses, events, good design and regeneration investment to enliven and animate neglected public spaces, parks, town centres and brownfield sites • Support those cultural facilities which have the potential to deliver benefits beyond the local area either because they are unique, of high quality or particularly accessible to the wider region • More engagement at a sub-regional level in joint planning to align cultural priorities with the priorities of Regeneration Zones and 		<p>There are clear links between the themes of urban and rural renaissance in the RSS and the objectives in the Cultural Strategy of promoting cultural vitality and diversity. The RSS should aim to support the objectives of the cultural strategy wherever relevant and recognise the importance of the role of culture in regional renaissance and quality of life.</p>

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Neighbourhood Renewal programmes, for example improving the historic environment to kickstart town centre regeneration		
West Midlands Regional Concordat Third Edition, West Midlands Regional Assembly and partners, July 2006		
<p>Strategic priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Renaissance – developing the Major Urban Areas in such a way that they can increasingly meet their own economic and social needs in order to counter the unsustainable outward movement of people and jobs facilitated by previous strategies • Rural Renaissance – addressing more effectively the major changes which are challenging the traditional roles of rural areas and the countryside • Modernising and diversifying the economy and creating a dynamic business base – ensuring that opportunities for growth are linked to meeting needs and that they help reduce social exclusion • Upskilling the Region’s workforce – developing a highly qualified and appropriately skilled workforce driven by informed employer demand, responsive training providers and eager learners • Promoting the Region’s competitiveness and assets in a global setting – communicating the Region’s strengths, opportunities and needs with confidence and coherence • Securing and developing the Region’s environment and culture – as assets supporting our quality of life, economic and social aspirations and acting as key components in regeneration 		<p>The Concordat provides a framework for partnership working between regional organisations and for the integration of regional strategies. It emphasises a common aim to secure the protection and improvement of the quality of life of the population of the West Midlands Region and identifies a number of key regional priorities towards which the partners will work.</p> <p>By endorsing the Concordat, the Regional Assembly has committed to ensuring that as far as possible, strategic objectives within different policy areas and different strategic documents are complementary. It will also be necessary to ensure that regional strategic work takes account of the strategic work taking place at sub-regional and local level.</p> <p>The RSS will increasingly seek to address issues of sub-regional as well as regional importance, and be consistent with and supportive of other regional strategies and statements. The Concordat underlines and formalises those strategic aims.</p>
West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy Annual Monitoring Report 2008, West Midlands Regional Assembly, February 2009		
None	Amount and Type of Completed Employment Land (gross) 2007/08	This set of key indicators has been identified to provide evidence on the direction of change within the region and the influence of RSS policy. They form the foundation of the Annual

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	<p>% Land Developed for Employment on Previously Developed Land 2007/08</p> <p>Amount and Type of Employment Land Available 2008</p> <p>Amount of Floorspace Developed for Town Centre Uses 2007/8</p> <p>Plan Period and housing targets</p> <p>Net additional dwellings – in previous years</p> <p>Net additional dwellings – for the reporting year</p> <p>Net additional dwellings in future years</p> <p>Managed Delivery Target</p> <p>New and converted dwellings on previously developed land</p> <p>Gross affordable housing completions</p> <p>Housing Quality – Building for Life Assessments</p> <p>Planning Applications approved contrary to Environmental Agency Advice</p> <p>Changes in areas of Biodiversity Importance</p> <p>Renewable Energy Generation</p> <p>Capacity of New Waste Management Facilities by Waste</p>	<p>Monitoring Report on implementation of the RSS. The SA should take account of these indicators and be consistent with them wherever relevant for the SA, both in order to assess past and current trends in sustainability within the region and to assess the likely future significant impacts of the RSS.</p>

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	Planning Authority Amount of Municipal Waste Arising by Waste Planning Authority	
Investing for Health: A Strategic Framework for the West Midlands 2007-2012, NHS West Midlands, 2007		
<p>Supporting innovation and ensuring proven evidence-based actions are taken to achieve more patients engaged in their own health and a significant shift towards preventative and 'wellness' services. In so doing, to tackle inequalities head on.</p> <p>Supporting the delivery of local plans to achieve a significant increase in the availability of services in the community.</p>		RSS should ensure access to health and community services for new and existing communities. It should also aim to promote and support more active, healthy lifestyles.
Sign Up for Sport: A Regional Plan for Sport in the West Midlands 2004-2008, Sport England, October 2004		
<p>Aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • significantly increase participation in sport within all age and social groups; • widen access to sport; • create safer and stronger communities through sport; • promote improvements in health and wellbeing and other social and economic benefits; • provide the basis for progression to higher levels of performance; • improve education through PE and sport. 	<p>Achieve an increase each year of 50,000 people who become involved in sport, physical activity or active recreation (5 x 30 minutes a week).</p> <p>Achieve an increase between 2004 and 2008 in the number of performers in the West Midlands competing for England and GB teams and achieving international success.</p> <p>Achieve an above average increase in participation each year for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> _ women and girls; _ the over 45's; _ black and ethnic minority communities; 	RSS should promote wider access to sports facilities for all communities to increase participation across all ages and social groups.

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	<p>_ disabled people and _ those on lower incomes. Achieve an increase each year of 50,000 people who become involved in sport, physical activity or active recreation (5 x 30 minutes a week), and through this, contribute to reducing obesity and diabetes in the West Midlands. Achieve the target of 75% of 5-16 year olds in the West Midlands, taking part in two hours a week of high quality PE & school sport within and beyond the curriculum, by 2006 (extended to 85% by 2008). Achieve a growth in the contribution sport makes to the economy of the West Midlands between 2004 and 2008.</p>	
A Point to Prove: A Framework for Social Enterprise in the West Midlands, Advantage West Midlands, March 2004		
<p>Ambitions include to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen citizenship by harnessing the commitment of individuals to invest time, energy and commitment into the region's social enterprise base • Encourage entrepreneurship by growing an expanding pool of energetic and innovative social entrepreneurs to develop future enterprises. 		Of limited relevance to RSS.
West Midlands European Social Fund Regional Strategic Framework 2007 – 2010, West Midlands Regional Skills Partnership, June 2007		
<p>Priority 1: Extending Employment Opportunities Key Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase employment and reduce unemployment and inactivity 		Skills development is not within the remit of RSS, however it can support the objectives of the framework by ensuring communities have access

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle barriers to work faced by disadvantaged groups • Reduce the numbers of young people not in education, employment or training • Helping unemployed and inactive parents to enter sustainable jobs and make progress at work <p>Priority 2: Developing a Skilled and Adaptable Workforce</p> <p>Key Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a skilled and adaptable workforce • Reduce the number of people without basic skills • Increase the number of people qualified to level 2 and re train people to hold relevant level 2 qualifications where necessary; and where justified to level 3 • Reduce gender segregation in the workforce • Develop managers and workers in small enterprises 		<p>to work and education/training services, particularly for disadvantaged communities or where access is currently poor.</p>
<p>West Midlands Health and Well-Being Strategy, West Midlands Regional Health Partnership, January 2008</p>		
<p>The vision of the West Midlands Regional Health and Well-Being Strategy is: ‘To maintain, enhance, improve and protect the health and well-being of people in the West Midlands Region and to reduce health inequalities by 2020 within environmental limits, so as not to compromise healthy life for future generations’.</p> <p>The aims and purpose of the Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce inequalities in health and well-being with a particular focus on the causes • Improve the quality of life of all citizens • Promote both mental and physical well-being throughout people’s lives • Identify and plan for the implications of the projected demographic changes for the West Midlands • Ensure health issues continue to be promoted in other regional strategies and support delivery of these, in particular the West Midlands Economic Strategy and West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy <p>Planning, Transport and Health Priorities for Action</p>		<p>The RSS should ensure that it takes all appropriate steps to: promote healthy, active lifestyles; provide good quality, affordable and resource-efficient homes; inclusive communities; support increased participation in culture, sport and leisure; and ensure sustainable access to employment, services and facilities, particularly through the design and location of new development and targeting the needs of disadvantaged communities. Measures should include promotion of walking, cycling and public transport, mitigating and adapting to climate change, and ensuring a high quality environment with accessible green spaces.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote health and well-being as an integral part of the social, environmental and physical regeneration of our towns, cities and rural areas • support the creation of more sustainable communities, where services are accessible to those they serve • Reduce social exclusion and promote independence by improving safe access to services by providing quality transport networks • Encourage employers to have active travel plans, which promote walking, cycling and the use of public transport • Promote partnership working to encourage ‘designing for health’ where new developments incorporate open space to encourage recreation and play, create accessibility to necessary services, promote the benefits of active travel, minimise road traffic accidents and discourage crime and anti-social behaviour. <p>Housing and Health Priorities for Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the provision of affordable decent homes built to the lifetime standard, as a minimum standard. • Promote health and well-being through sustainable design, energy efficiency, warmth, the reduction of risk of accidents in the home, green space and the provision of space for play • Promote affordable warmth and ending fuel poverty • Reduce homelessness and improve the health of homeless people • Promote the housing needs of diverse and additional needs groups and support people to remain in their own homes. <p>Environment and Health Priorities for Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the benefits of a diverse natural environment for physical and mental health and support the development of green infrastructure • Increase the number of people using the countryside and green spaces • Tackle climate change and its impacts, by reducing emissions of global warming gases and promoting adaptation to climate change • Reverse the trend of rising obesity levels by 2020, particularly in 		

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<p>childhood, to enable the maintenance of healthy weight across the population and reduce the number of people in the Region who do no physical activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect people and their environment from threats such as air pollution, land contamination, water pollution and noise pollution • Develop effective arrangements to minimise the health and environmental impacts of major incidents. <p>Economy, Skills and Health Priorities for Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure children and adults get the most out of life by supporting them to develop their skills for employment and access to employment • Broaden access to jobs by targeting unemployed people to take up entry level jobs in health and social care • Target particularly disadvantaged groups: BME communities, refugees, economic migrants, lone parents, incapacity benefit claimants, mental health services users, older people, young unemployed, offenders and ex-offenders, and families with children in poverty • Provide progression opportunities through up-skilling once in employment • More broadly, use investment in the health and social care sector as a driver for economic growth, including investment through Local Area Agreements. <p>Culture, Leisure and Health Priorities for Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the number of adults in the Region doing less than 30 minutes of physical activity, sport and active recreation per week and contribute to exceeding the target for a 1% year on year increase in physical activity levels in the population • Improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of cultural, leisure and play opportunities and facilities for residents <p>Children, Young People and Families Priorities for Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce child poverty • Reduce infant and perinatal mortality rates with a particular focus on 		

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<p>areas with the highest rates</p> <p>Later Life</p> <p>Priorities for Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for measures which tackle inequality and reduce poverty amongst the older population, nationally, regionally and locally. • Maximise the quantity, quality and accessibility of local resources and facilities in order to ensure that all older people may be fully active consumers of public services • Proactively promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and prevention as part of mental health and physical well-being and independence • Advocate for measures to promote independence to ensure that older people can remain living within their own homes and communities as long as they wish. 		
Regional Freight Strategy, West Midlands Regional Assembly, Spring 2007		
<p>To improve the efficiency of road haulage</p> <p>To identify and promote appropriate opportunities for modal shift from road to rail freight</p> <p>To promote appropriate development of air freight capacity within the West Midlands</p> <p>To support the role of strategic pipelines to deliver safely and efficiently</p> <p>To promote the sustainable use of inland waterways for freight movement</p>		<p>The RSS should promote more sustainable freight transport, including by promoting a shift to rail/water and supporting a more efficient road network. Transport policy is dealt with under Phase Two and is of no direct relevance to Phase Three.</p>