

RSS Stage 1: Identify the issues for a RSS revision and prepare a project plan, including a statement of public participation

SA stages and tasks

SA Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope

- **A1:** Identifying other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives.
- **A2:** Collecting baseline information.
- **A3:** Identifying sustainability issues and problems.
- **A4:** Developing the SA framework.
- **A5:** Consulting on the scope of the SA.

RSS Stage 2: Develop options and policies, taking account of assessed effects and developing the draft RSS revision

SA stages and tasks

SA Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects

- **B1:** Testing the RSS revision objectives against the SA framework.
- **B2:** Developing the RSS revision options.
- **B3:** Predicting the effects of the RSS revision.
- **B4:** Evaluating the effects of the RSS revision.
- **B5:** Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.
- **B6:** Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the RSS revision.

SA Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report

- **C1:** Preparing the SA Report.

RSS Stages 3, 4 and 5: Submission of the draft RSS revision to the Secretary of State, Examination-in-Public and the Panel report

SA stages and tasks

SA Stage D: Consulting on the draft RSS revision and the SA Report

- **D1:** Consulting on the draft RSS revision and SA Report.

RSS Stages 6 and 7: Publication of proposed changes and issue of revised RSS

SA stages and tasks

- **D2:** Appraising any significant changes proposed by the Secretary of State.
- **D3:** Making decisions and providing information.

RSS Stage 8: Implementation, monitoring and review

SA stages and tasks

SA Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the RSS revision

- **E1:** Finalising aims and methods for monitoring.
- **E2:** Responding to adverse effects.

(Table taken from “Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents”, Guidance for Regional Planning Bodies and Local Planning Authorities, produced by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in November 2005)