

South Lakeland Local Development Framework

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Consultation Draft – September 2005

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www.southlakeland.gov.uk/ldf

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1. INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Document

- 1.1 This document sets out the proposed scope and methodology for the *Sustainability Appraisal* (SA) of the documents comprising the South Lakeland Local Development Framework (LDF). Under the new planning system, the Local Development Framework for South Lakeland will in due course replace the South Lakeland Local Plan. Sustainability Appraisal is intended to help planning authorities make sure their plans contribute to the objective of *sustainable development*. It ensures that likely social, economic and environmental impacts of proposals are taken into account, and form part of consultation during plan preparation.

The Sustainability Appraisal process also incorporates the requirements of the European Directive on *Strategic Environmental Appraisal* (SEA). Throughout this document Sustainability Appraisal (or SA) should be read to include Strategic Environmental Appraisal (SEA).

Your Chance to Comment

- 1.2 Let us have your comments on this document no later than **Friday 28 October 2005**, ending a 5-week consultation period. Comments on the enclosed form can be posted to the Development Plans Manager, South Lakeland District Council, South Lakeland House, Kendal, LA9 4DL or emailed to developmentplans@southlakeland.gov.uk For any queries or paper copies of the document, contact the Development Plans Team on 01539 733333 extn 7490.
- 1.3 The Scoping Report will be posted or emailed to the organisations listed in Appendix 4. We will also inform everyone on the LDF consultee database that they can view and comment on the document on the Council's website www.southlakeland.gov.uk/ldf The document is also available for inspection at South Lakeland House, Kendal, Ulverston Town Hall and the libraries at Arnside, Grange-over-Sands, Kendal, Kirkby Lonsdale, Milnthorpe and Ulverston.
- 1.4 We welcome your comments, particularly on the following questions:
- **Relevant plans and programmes** (*Para 2.4, Table 1 and Appendix 1*) – are there other documents relevant to the LDF, which we should take into account? Have we adequately taken account of those listed?
 - **District 'baseline' profile and Key Sustainability Issues** (*Section 3*) – can you suggest (or provide) any other relevant information? Have we identified the main sustainability issues?
 - **Sustainability objectives and appraisal questions** ((*Para 2.4 and Appendix 2*) – do you agree with those we have identified, through joint working with local authorities in Cumbria and the 4 statutory agencies?
 - **Sustainability indicators** (*Appendix 3*) – we welcome your comments on our initial ideas for indicators and data sources, and your suggestions for others.
 - **Methodology** (*Section 2, Para 2.15 and Appendix 5*) - do you think the appraisal methodology is clear and workable?

Your comments will be taken into account in the final version of this Scoping Report. It will then form the basis for appraising forthcoming Local Development Framework documents.

Local Development Framework Documents Requiring Sustainability Appraisal

- 1.5 Under the new planning system, the District Council is required to prepare a Local Development Framework (LDF) for South Lakeland district, outside the national parks. Its purpose is to set policies and proposals to protect the district's important environmental assets from inappropriate development – such as landscape, nature conservation, built heritage – and also to guide the location and design of new development, for homes, businesses, shops etc.
- 1.6 Sustainability Appraisal is required for the LDF documents listed below, which the Council intends to prepare. Full details of these documents and the timescale for preparation is contained in the *Local Development Scheme*, which can be viewed or downloaded from the Council's website.

Development Plan Documents (DPDs) – These will form the statutory 'Development Plan', together with the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and sub-regional strategy of the Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan. We intend to prepare the following DPDs:-

• Core Strategy	• Site Allocations
• Development Control Policies	• Proposals Plan

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) – These will provide more detailed guidance on policy. When the DPDs are complete, we intend to prepare the following SPDs:-

• Design	• Conservation
• Amenity	• Planning Gain (S106)
• Public Realm (evidence gathering)	• Landscape & Renewables

Other LDF documents, which do **not** require SA, are:

- Statement of Community Involvement
- Local Development Scheme
- Annual Monitoring Reports

This Scoping Report has been prepared as a single scoping report to provide a sustainability framework for all four of the forthcoming DPDs, beginning with the Core Strategy Issue and Options report in autumn 2005. We consider that it provides adequate information to appraise the 4 DPDs.

We will review the adequacy of the Scoping Report for the appraisal of the subsequent SPDs, and if necessary consult on any proposed changes, before starting to prepare them.

- 1.7 SA must form an integral part of each stage of preparing DPDs and SPDs. A formal SA Report must accompany each DPD and SPD at the following stages:

Stage	DPD	SPD
Early Consultation	× (Reg 25)	×
Formal Public Participation	√ (Reg 26)	√ (Reg 17)
Submission to Secretary of State and Independent Examination	√ (Reg 28)	×
Adoption	√	√

While a formal SA report is not required at the early consultation stage on 'issues and options' for a DPD, the work required at the initial SA stage still needs to be undertaken and relevant information kept up to date on the Council's website. This work will need to include:-

- Testing the plan objectives against the SA framework
- Developing and refining options
- Predicting and assessing effects
- Identifying mitigation measures
- Developing proposals for monitoring

Full details of the stages of sustainability appraisal and how they relate to the plan making stages, will be set out as an appendix in the final version of this Scoping Report, using information from ODPM final guidance to be published in October 2005.

- 1.8 The Government places strong emphasis on early consultation in preparing LDF documents – known as 'front loading'. Draft guidance advises that it is highly desirable that new sites or policy changes with significant environmental effects are not raised between the submission and examination stage. The proponent of the policy change or new site will be responsible for providing the necessary information to the Council to incorporate it within the SA report. The information provided will have to be consistent with the scope and level of detail of the SA undertaken by the Council. If the Inspector requires public consultation on the effects of the proposal, this too will have to be undertaken by the proponent in a way consistent with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

What is Sustainability Appraisal (SA)?

- 1.9 SA is a systematic, iterative process undertaken during the preparation of a plan. Its role is to assess the extent to which emerging policies and proposals will help achieve relevant social, environmental and economic 'sustainability' objectives. It provides an opportunity to consider ways in which a plan can improve social, economic or environmental conditions, or identify and address any negative effects, which draft policies, or proposals might have.
- 1.10 The purpose of the SA process is to make sure that the documents, which comprise the South Lakeland Local Development Framework, make an effective contribution to the overall goal of *sustainable development*. This is commonly defined as "*development, which meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,*" (*World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987*).
- 1.11 The UK Government, in its Sustainable Development Strategy (1999,) sets out four aims of sustainable development:
- *social progress which recognises the needs of everyone;*
 - *effective protection of the environment;*
 - *the prudent use of natural resources; and*
 - *maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.*
- 1.12 The Government's view is that these aims, incorporating economic, social and environmental needs are all equally important and interdependent. However, these needs can often conflict with each other. The Government's requirement for 'Sustainability Appraisal' of LDF Documents by Local Planning Authorities aims to achieve a balance between these issues as far as practicable.
- 1.13 To this end, this Scoping Report aims to:

- i. Set out a framework for undertaking the Sustainability Appraisal of relevant LDF documents, including setting:
 - *Sustainability objectives* against which draft policies and proposals can be assessed;
 - *Sustainability indicators* to help measure progress towards meeting these objectives.
 - ii. Review the environmental, social and economic objectives in other plans relevant to the South Lakeland Local Development Framework, and to formulating sustainability objectives for the appraisal process.
 - iii. Assess the broad environmental, social and economic characteristics of South Lakeland (so called 'baseline assessment') and how these are changing; and
 - iv. Consider key 'sustainability' issues and problems (in the light of ii. and iii. above), which the LDF should address in pursuing sustainable development.
- 1.14 The results of the Sustainability Appraisal process for each DPD, must be documented in a SA Report, at the stages indicated at paragraph 1.7 above. The SA Report must also incorporate an '*Environment Report*', as required by the SEA Directive – see 1.15 below. We propose that the SA Reports for each DPD (at each relevant stage) will combine in a single document, the key elements of this Scoping Report, together with the results of the appraisal of each document. The main elements of the SA Report will be:
- A non-technical summary – including summary of the difference the process has made.
 - Summary of appraisal methodology.
 - Plan objectives and options to be appraised.
 - Summary of how SEA requirements have been met in the report.
 - Outline of sustainability objectives, baseline data and indicators.
 - The appraisal results of the potential environmental, social and economic effects of objectives and options.
 - Draw conclusions about:
 - The policy options to be preferred.
 - Changes to objectives and options, considered or made, including measures to mitigate against potential adverse impact.
 - Problems encountered in undertaking the appraisal.

Relationship to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 1.15 The SEA Directive requires the 'environmental assessment' of any plans prepared by public authorities, which are likely to have 'significant effects' on the environment. The requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) covers relevant plans whose formal preparation began after 21 July 2004. The requirements certainly apply to the planned DPDs of the South Lakeland Development Framework, and may also extend to some of the SPDs, depending on their scope and likely significant effects.
- 1.16 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Sustainability Appraisal of all emerging DPDs and SPDs. The SA process set out by Government incorporates the requirements for SEA, thus extending the scope of the exercise to include social and economic matters as well as environmental ones.
- 1.17 We propose that the Sustainable Appraisal reports for South Lakeland's DPDs will combine the requirements of both SA and SEA. In particular the SA Reports will meet the need for

an Environmental Report as required by SEA. Appendix 6 lists the requirements of the SEA Directive in detail, indicating where these are met in this Scoping Report (where relevant) or will be met in the forthcoming SA Report for each DPD.

Determination of Documents Requiring SEA

1.18 Under the SEA regulations a formal *determination* is required as to on whether or not a plan which deals with the use of “small areas at a local level” or which makes “minor modifications” to an existing plan, is likely to have ‘significant environmental effects’ – be they positive or negative. We consider that all 4 DPDs of the South Lakeland LDF (listed at 1.6 above) **are** likely to have significant environmental effects, taking account of the criteria for determination listed in the SEA Directive. These criteria are set out in full in Appendix 7 and in summary relate to:

- The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of likely effects;
- The likely cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects;
- The magnitude and spatial extent of the likely effects.

We welcome **comments** on this proposed determination.

1.19 Subject to comments, we intend to make a formal determination that significant environmental effects are likely (with an accompanying statement of reasons) and will send it to those bodies listed in Appendix 4, and make the determination available to the public within 28 days on the Council’s website. It is proposed to undertake this determination at the ‘submission’ stage of each DPD, as part of the accompanying SA Report.

1.20 For Supplementary Planning Documents (which we intend to prepare after the DPDs are complete), we will consult the 4 statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on whether:-

- this Scoping Report (in its final form) contains adequate information and issues to provide the SA Framework for each SPD
- the SPD is likely to have significant environmental effects (and make a determination accordingly).

2. METHODOLOGY

General Approach

2.1 We have developed the sustainability framework for the South Lakeland Local Development Framework jointly with other planning authorities in the Cumbria sub-region. In particular we have jointly developed or are exploring the practicability of: -

- Common sustainability objectives and indicators
- Common sources of baseline information
- A co-ordinated approach to monitoring activity

This on-going approach recognises that many sustainability issues are common to authorities within Cumbria and also the need to share resources and information gathering. The countywide approach benefits from the early, direct involvement of all 4 statutory agencies – Countryside Agency, English Nature, English Heritage & Environment Agency.

2.2 The scoping process in this report has also taken account of current national guidance¹ and SA frameworks developed by other local authorities including those in Cambridgeshire. The main elements of the exercise in this report comprise:

Element	Purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewing relevant plans and programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To assess the context provided by other plans and programmes – in particular, relevant environmental, social and economic objectives.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identifying sustainability objectives and appraisal questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To assess the emerging policies and proposals and any specific measures required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Selecting appropriate indicators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To provide some key elements of the evidence base as a way of measuring progress towards sustainable development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collection and review of baseline information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To assess the existing social, economic and environmental characteristics of the area, as a basis for the appraisal.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification of key issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To identify priorities for the plan to address

The results of **consultation** on this draft Scoping Report will further refine the sustainability framework proposed.

2.3 Developing the above elements has been iterative rather than sequential, particularly as commencement of work on the report was able to take account of early work on sustainability objectives by the Cumbrian planning authorities.

Setting Objectives and Reviewing Relevant Plans and Documents

2.4 The production of the South Lakeland Local Development Framework needs to take account of a wide range of other plans and programmes; on two accounts:

- They may have policy objectives or requirements that need to be addressed in DPDs or SPDs.

¹Office of Deputy Prime Minister's Consultation Paper on 'Sustainability of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks (September 2004).

- They may have used appraisal objectives, which help shape the sustainability appraisal objectives against which the emerging LDF policies should be appraised.

2.5 The process of identifying sustainability objectives began with a list of draft objectives prepared by Cumbria County Council's Sustainability Officer, in consultation with the planning authorities within the county and the 4 statutory agencies. The 16 objectives are structured around the four national objectives for sustainable development, and are based on objectives used to appraise the Cumbria Joint Structure Plan and Cumbria Sub Regional Guidance. The objectives were modified to take account of the subsequently published advice on sustainability appraisal issued by ODPM (Sept 2004) and the North West Regional Assembly (Action for Sustainability, 2003).

The following table demonstrates how the 16 proposed Sustainability Appraisal objectives (set out in Appendix 2) meet the requirements of the SEA Regulations 2004 to consider likely impact on a series of environmental topic areas.

The SEA Directive Topic Areas	Proposed Sustainability Objectives (Appendix 2)
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	EN1 to protect and enhance biodiversity.
Population	SP1 to increase the level of participation in democratic processes; SP2 to improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces; SP4 to improve the levels of skills, education and training; SP6 to create vibrant, active, inclusive and open minded communities with a strong sense of local history; EC1 to retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities; EC2 to improve access to jobs.
Human Health	SP5 to improve the health and sense of well-being of people;
Soil	NR3 to restore and protect land and soil;
Water	NR2 to improve water quality and water resources;
Air	NR1 to improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gases;
Climatic factors	NR1 to improve local air quality, reduce greenhouse gases, <i>promote renewable energy & reduce need to travel;</i>
Material assets	SP3 to provide everyone with a decent home; NR4 to manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste <i>and encourage recycling;</i> EC3 to diversify and strengthen the local economy;
Cultural heritage	EN3 to improve the quality of the built environment and <i>promote energy efficiency'</i>
Landscape	EN2 to preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character for future generations.

2.6 We have sought to test and influence these emerging sustainability objectives in the following ways. We identified a wide range of *relevant documents* at international, national, regional and local level (listed in Appendix 1) and identified those with appraisal objectives and objectives we considered to have particular relevance to the South Lakeland LDF. In Table 1 we cross related the *objectives and appraisal objectives* of these key national, regional and local documents with the 16 proposed SA objectives and tested for correlation or gaps. Underlining indicates the resulting changes to objectives.

The joint working arrangement also helped formulate the ‘appraisal questions’ or decision-making criteria to provide more specific criteria for use in assessing draft proposals against objectives. Given the origins of the draft sustainability objectives and influences on them prior to preparing this document, it is not surprising that these two exercises have largely endorsed the draft list of objectives (and appraisal questions) set out in Appendix 3.

South Lakeland Community Strategy

2.8 The vision and objectives of the South Lakeland Local Development Framework will be based on the communities’ priorities, as expressed in the South Lakeland Community Strategy, published in May 2004 by the South Lakeland Local Strategic Partnership after extensive consultation. The relationship between the objectives of the Community Strategy and the proposed appraisal objectives for the South Lakeland LDF are set out in Table 1. (The Strategy’s objectives were also subject (earlier) to a Sustainability Appraisal, using the same basic sustainability objectives proposed in this Scoping Report)

2.9 The Community Strategy has identified a vision for South Lakeland as:

“South Lakeland’s distinctive character, environment and location will continue to be important in providing opportunities for people who chose the district as a place to live, work and visit. These major assets will be safeguarded, social needs addressed and other issues which affect the quality of life would be tackled, whilst a successful economy is developed and sustained”.

2.10 The priority themes of the Community Strategy are:

1. Improving health
2. Providing jobs, skills and regeneration
3. Affordable housing
4. Accessible transport
5. Quality environment

Its cross-cutting themes are:

6. Promoting community involvement for all
7. Valuing culture
8. Reducing crime and disorder
9. Supporting children and young people

Indicators and Data Collection

2.11 The selection of indicators to highlight key aspects of environmental, social or economic performance can help in:

- assembling the *evidence* for the appraisal process;
- identifying important *issues* and problems that should be addressed by the plan; and
- *monitoring* the effects of policies and proposals once they have been implemented.

2.12 Appendix 3 sets out a series of proposed indicators, related to the 16 sustainability appraisal objectives. In identifying these we have taken account of:

- national guidance and some initial advice from the 4 statutory agencies;
- existing Regional indicators produced by the North West Regional Assembly (NWRA) or at local level – for example, the District Council’s Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI) set out in its annual Performance Plan;

- indicators used in the SA frameworks of other comparable local authorities.

2.13 The work of identifying indicators is on going, as new sources of data are sought and information becomes available. These include:

- The forthcoming Audit Commission's Area Profiles website, setting out Local Quality of Life Indicators which will be launched autumn 2005;
- Further information and advice arising from the joint approach by the Cumbrian planning authorities and the four statutory agencies – including consultation responses to this draft document.

Where there are 'gaps' in the datasets, we feel it important to continue seeking relevant indicators and data.

2.14 Appendix 3 lists the indicators identified so far against relevant appraisal objectives and seeks to report both the current situation and identified trends for each indicator. This data is provided both for South Lakeland (either district wide - or the South Lakeland LDF area), together with a 'comparator' area so that local information is seen in context – usually the North West Region, but sometimes at Cumbria County level, where regional data is not available. Other columns in the table provide for:

- An indication as to whether the level of influence of the LDF on the indicator (high, medium or low);
- An overall assessment commentary;
- A record of data sources;

Method of Appraisal and Appraisal Panel

2.15 Appraisal Panel. We propose to undertake the sustainability appraisal of emerging LDF policies and proposals by means of an independent panel, with knowledge and experience of a cross-section of the social, economic and environmental appraisal objectives, which comprise the SA appraisal framework. Suggestions to form an initial 'pool' are listed below, from which members can be drawn to form individual panel meetings.

Social

- Cumbria Association of Local Councils
- South Lakeland Local Strategic Partnership
- Morecambe Bay Primary Care Trust
- County Council Neighbourhood Development
- SLDC Policy
- Voluntary Action Cumbria

Economic

- SLDC Economic Development
- Local Strategic Partnership (Jobs, Skills, Regeneration Task Group)
- South Lakes Chamber of Commerce
- Cumbria Tourist Board
- Cumbria Vision

Environmental

- 4 statutory agencies: the Environment Agency is willing to join in this instance but others may not have resources (English Nature, Countryside Agency, English Heritage)
- County Council Sustainability Officer
- Cumbria Wildlife Trust
- SLDC Historic Conservation, Environmental Protection (air quality), Waste Management and Recycling
- Cumbria County Archaeologist and Ecologist
- National Trust

We would welcome suggestions and offers of other relevant help, and are exploring reciprocal arrangements between planning officers of neighbouring authorities.

2.16 Method of Appraisal: Appendix 5 sets out a proposed matrix for recording and scoring the results of the sustainability appraisal by the panel. These results would form the basis for a written summary of the results of the appraisal in the Sustainability Report, accompanying each DPD or SPD.

2.17 Each panel meeting would discuss and record its systematic appraisal of each policy, proposal or option against all of the 16 SA objectives and related appraisal questions, providing a summary at the end. The process would include:

- Taking account of baseline information and indicators (where available)
- Describing the nature of the impact and its extent - whether positive, or adverse, based on the following scale and method of recording:

- Strong positive impact	√√	+4
- Positive impact	√	+2
- No impact	0	0
- Negative impact	x	-2
- Strong negative impact	xx	-4
- Uncertain impact	?	-

- Recording and commenting on the impact in terms of its:
 - Timescale
 - Geographic scale
 - Cumulative effect
 - Likelihood
 - Whether permanent or temporary

(This addresses the SEA Directive's requirement that likely significant impact should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, as well as positive or negative – see Appendix 7)

- For adverse impacts, the commentary should set out any suggestions to minimise or mitigate the impact, including changes to the proposal
- Providing a summary record and score for each group of objectives - social, economic, environmental - with overall conclusions and recommendations, including which option is preferred as a result of the appraisal.

- 2.18 Scoring. Putting a numerical value on the assessment ratings allows outcomes to be presented visually. This can show at a glance which policy or option is most supportive of the overall goal of sustainable development, and those that are not, and need to be addressed. Appendix 5 illustrates 2 options for graphically illustrating the summary score for each policy option.
- the 'wheel' diagram shows increasingly sustainable scores towards the centre (based on a model by Lancaster City Council)
 - the bar chart illustrates scores for each appraisal objective (based on Cumbria County Council's approach to appraising the South Lakeland Community Strategy)

Table 1: Sustainability Appraisal Objectives and Sources

Ref.	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives	Source	Relationship to:				
		ODPM Draft SA Guidance (Sept 2004)	Other Plans/ Programmes	RPG13 Appraisal Objectives	Structure Plan Appraisal Objectives	South Lakeland Community Strategy	SLDC Corporate Priority Objectives
SOCIAL PROGRESS WHICH RECOGNISES THE NEEDS OF EVERYONE							
SP1	To increase the level of participation in democratic processes	~	LDEF, AS, CSS	13	13	6	1.5
SP2	To improve access to services and facilities, the countryside and open spaces	~	NWRES, AS, NWRHS, CSS, CBAP, CSRS, CDMP	5,15,17	5, 15	4, 5	1.5, 5.2
SP3	To provide everyone with a decent home	+	HS, LDEF, CSS, NWRES, NWRHS, CSRS	11	11	3	2.1
SP4	To improve the level of skills, education and training	+	ED, LDEF, AS, NWRES, CSS, NWRHS, CBAP, TSENW, CSRS, CDMP	7	7	2	4.1, 4.2
SP5	To improve the health and sense of well-being of people	+	NWRES, AS, CSS, CSRS, NWRHS	10, 12	10, 12	1, 8	3.5, 5.2, 5.4
SP6	To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense of local history	~	NWRES, AS, CSS, CSRS, NWRHS	8, 14, 16	8, 14	6, 7, 9	5.1
EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT							
EN1	To protect and enhance biodiversity	+	NWRES, AS, CBAP, CSS, CMW, CSRS	17, 19	18	5	3.3
EN2	To preserve and enhance landscape quality and character	~	LDEF, AS NWRES, CSS, CBAP, CMW, CDMP	3, 18	3, 16	5	3.3
EN3	To improve the quality of the built environment and <u>promote energy efficiency</u>	~	LDEF, AS, NWRES, CSS, NWRHS, CMW, CDMP	3, 4, 16, 18	3, 4, 16, 17	5	3.4

Ref.	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives	Source	Relationship to:				
		ODPM Draft SA Guidance (Sept 2004)	Other Plans/ Programmes	RPG13 Appraisal Objectives	Structure Plan Appraisal Objectives	South Lakeland Community Strategy	SLDC Corporate Priority Objectives
SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES							
NR1	To improve local air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, <u>promote renewable energy and reduce the need to travel</u>	~	NWRES, AS, CBAP, CSS, CMW	9, 21, 23	9, 20, 22	1	5.4
NR2	To improve water quality and water resources	~	NWRES, AS, CBAP, CSS	20, 23	19	5	3.3
NR3	To restore and protect land and soil	~	NWRES, AS, CBAP, CMW, CSS	22	21	5	3.3, 4.5
NR4	To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste <u>and encourage recycling</u>	~	NWRES, AS, CMW, CSS, CSRS	24, 26	23, 25	5	3.1
BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY IN WHICH ALL CAN PROSPER							
EC1	To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities	~	ED, LDEF, AS, NWRES, CSS, CMW, CSRS, TSENW, CDMP	1, 2	1	2	4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5
EC2	To improve access to jobs	~	ED, LDEF, AS, NWRES, CSS, CSRS	6	2, 6	2	4.1, 4.2
EC3	To diversify and strengthen the local economy	~	ED, LDEF, AS, CDMP, NWRES, CSS, CSRS	2, 5, 7	2, 5	2	4.1, 4.4

The column headed ODPM Draft SA Guidance shows the relationship each objective has to those suggested in Annex 5 of the ODPM's Consultation Draft Guidance on Sustainability Appraisal (September 2004). A '+' indicates that the objective is identical or very similar to the one in the Guidance; a '-' indicates the objective is not in the Guidance; and a '~' indicates the objective is a modification of an objective in the Guidance. The column headed 'Other Plans/Programmes' show the relationship between the sustainability objectives and the appraisal objectives or plan objectives of other documents of particular relevance to the South Lakeland Local Development Framework. Underlining shows where objectives have been modified as a result.

AS	Action for Sustainability in North West (2003)	ED	SLDC Economic Development Strategy (2004)
CBAP	Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan (2001)	HS	SLDC Housing Strategy (2004)
CMW	Cumbria Minerals & Waste Local Plan (2000) [preparation of LDF started]	LDEF	Lake District Economic Futures, Policy Statement (March 2005)
CSRS	Cumbria Sub-Regional Strategy - Sustainable Cumbria 2004 – 2024 (2004)	NWRES	North West Regional Economic Strategy (2003) [under review July 2005]
CSS	Cumbria Sustainability Strategy (2004)	NWRHS	North West Regional Housing Strategy (2003)
CDMP	Cumbria Destination Management Plan 2005 – 06	TSENW	Tourism Strategy for England's North West (2003)

The final four columns show the relationship between the sustainability appraisal objectives and RPG13 appraisal objectives (1 – 26), Cumbria Structure Plan (sub-regional guidance) appraisal objectives (1 – 25), South Lakeland Community Strategy priority themes 1 - 9 & South Lakeland Corporate Plan priority objectives 1 – 5.4.

3. BASELINE ASSESSMENT AND KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

Introduction

3.1 This section provides a baseline information review of South Lakeland (outside National Parks), with relevant topics grouped under the four national aims of sustainable development relating to social progress, environmental protection, natural resources and economic activity. This information, or 'baseline' data provides the basis for:

- Identifying key sustainability issues (listed on the end of each section).
- Predicting and monitoring the effects of the Local Development Framework.

The collection of baseline data has been closely linked to the development of sustainability appraisal objectives and indicators. As gaps in indicator data are filled and more information becomes available, further information may be added to the baseline assessment (and in due course presented in the form of a table, as advised in ODPM's Consultation Draft Guidance, Annex 3).

3.2 South Lakeland is a large, predominantly rural district located in south Cumbria, within the North West Region of England. It has a population of 102,900, with a population density of 67 people per square kilometre, compared with an average of 480 for the North West. It has 5 market towns - Kendal (27,500), Ulverston (11,100), Grange-over-Sands (4,000), Milnthorpe (2,150) and Kirkby Lonsdale (1,800) – which are identified as key service centres in the Cumbria Structure Plan. Of the large number of smaller settlements and villages, a significant number provide a role of local service centre. (ONS)

SOCIAL PROGRESS

Population

3.3 The 2004 mid year estimate of the population of South Lakeland (including the National Parks) stood at 102,900. The population has grown by 7.4% over the last 20 years (1982 – 2002), as a result of residential development and in-migration, reflecting the areas attractiveness as a place to live, work and retire. This compares to a decrease of 2% in population over the same period for the North West. The population has increased by 500 since the 2003 mid year estimate, but overall is relatively stable. It is expected to grow to just 103,200 in 2013 and 105,500 in 2023.

3.4 About 21% of the population are over 65, compared to 19% for Cumbria and 16% for the United Kingdom. This represents an increasing trend. Consequently, the population of "working age" and proportion of young people in the district is smaller than elsewhere. The mean average age for South Lakeland is 43, compared with an average age of 39 for England and Wales.

Housing

3.5 At the 2001 census, there were 44,129 households in South Lakeland District, of which 75% were owner occupied, compared to 69% for the North West. The cost of owner occupied houses has risen steadily since 1998. Average house prices in Kendal for example have increased from £84,000 in 2000 to £178,000 in 2004.

3.6 The growing need for affordable housing is documented in the 2002 Housing Needs Survey and other local parish-based surveys. The 2002 survey estimated about 2,700 households in need of affordable housing.

Social Inclusiveness & Deprivation

3.7 The Index of Multiple Deprivation gives a useful indication of the level of deprivation in the district. It provides an overall measure of how deprived a community is by scoring a wide range of issues, including employment, health, education, housing and crime. Overall, levels of deprivation in the district are low. South Lakeland is ranked 292nd, out of 354

Council areas - with 1 being the most deprived and 354 the most deprived area. (ODPM 2004).

- 3.8 At ward level, Ulverston East is the district's most deprived ward, ranked 1391 out of 7936 wards in England (with 1 being the most deprived). Kendal Heron Hill is the district's least deprived ward, ranked 7813 – within the top 1.5% of wards nationally.

Education

- 3.9 The district has a range of local authority schools, including 6 secondary schools. The standard of education provision is high with the population of school aged children predicted to fall, may have implications for some rural primary schools.
- 3.10 Amongst the working age population, 35.2% has a qualification of NVQ4 or above. This is higher than the average for the North West of 23% (ONS, Census 2001).

Community Safety

- 3.11 South Lakeland is generally a safe place to live, although the number of notified offences rose from 4,830 in 2003/4 to 5,311 in 2004/5 – a 10% increase, which may reflect changes in approach to the recording of incidents and data collection. The level of crime in the district is low, but fear of crime and concern about nuisance remains an issue. A survey by Cumbria Police 2003 recorded that 73% of respondents felt that crime levels in the area had improved or stayed the same. The number of racial incidents reported in the district is extremely low, reflecting in part the ethnic make-up of the district, with 99% classed as 'white' in the 2001 Census compared to 91% for England and Wales.

Health

- 3.12 Overall the health of South Lakeland's residents is good. Life expectancy is 78 years for men and 82 for women, which is higher than the average for the North West of 74 years for men and 79 years for women. In South Lakeland, 33% of households had 1 or more persons with a limiting long-term illness compared to 37% for Cumbria.

Although levels of health are good, there is significant pressure and demand on health services provided within the district, including GP surgeries. There are no acute hospital services in South Lakeland; so many residents have to travel to hospitals in Lancaster, Barrow or elsewhere.

Leisure & Recreation

- 3.13 The District Council is undertaking a study to assess the level of provision, quality and accessibility of open spaces, sport and recreation facilities in the district (PPG17 Open Space and Sport Assessment). The results of the exercise will indicate the overall quantity, quality and accessibility of sites and where there are any shortfalls or deficiencies. The information will be added to this baseline assessment when available.

Transport

- 3.14 Most households in South Lakeland own a car, with 34.3% of households owning two or more compared to 29.4% in England and Wales. In 2001, 19% of households in South Lakeland did not have access to a car compared to 27% for England and Wales. The district benefits from rail services including the West Coast Mainline, a branch line to Windermere (serving Kendal and Burneside) and the link to Barrow, which serves Arnside, Grange and Ulverston. Reasonable levels of bus services are provided for the towns and larger villages, but with much less provision for rural areas, resulting in problems for some households in accessing jobs, service and education – notably amongst the elderly and the young.

Social Progress	
Key Sustainability Issues	Potential Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing high demand to live in the district, due to its attractiveness as a place to retire to, work in, or have a second home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure policies balance needs of local people with those moving into the district
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A growing need for affordable housing for local people, partly due to above-average house prices, resulting from factors listed above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure policies and proposals maximise opportunities for affordable housing to be secured, appropriate to need and viability of development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing number of elderly as a proportion of the population – with implications for service – particularly health and transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure specialist needs of the elderly can be met in appropriate locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of young people, particularly graduates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide enough employment land to meet need of businesses likely to employ young people with qualifications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear of crime is disproportionate to actual incidence, particularly among the elderly and in rural areas. Localised area (and times) of nuisance and disorder. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure new developments and town enhancement schemes are designed to limit the fear of crime
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to services and facilities is a problem in rural areas, linked to income, age and inadequate public transport in more remote areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take into account in designating local service centres and taking opportunities for new development to improve facilities and their accessibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relative affluence can disguise smaller areas of relative deprivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore with agencies promoting regeneration how LDF documents can improve social and economic opportunities in more deprived areas – eg employment, services, transport.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a significant minority of the population have low qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> address training and skills issues in liaison with appropriate service providers.

PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT

Cultural Heritage

- 3.15 South Lakeland has a rich and varied cultural heritage, ranging from prehistoric sites and remains to early industrial sites, such as watermills and iron furnaces. It also has a wealth of Georgian and Victorian buildings, some by recognise architects. The importance of the area's cultural heritage is recognised the following designations (outside the national parks)
- 10 Conservation Areas, designated for their special architectural or historic interest
 - about 1500 listed buildings and structures
 - about 60 Scheduled Ancient Monuments of national importance, with many other archaeological sites listed on Cumbria County Council's Sites and Monuments Record.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

- 3.16 South Lakeland has a wide variety of wildlife or biodiversity. This includes 23 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), which are areas of national importance for nature conservation or geology. It also has over 200 County Wildlife sites, of regional importance, designated by the Cumbria Wildlife Trust. The condition of SSSIs was assessed in 2004 and in South Lakeland 88.8% of sites is in a favourable or recovering condition compared to 71% for Cumbria and 75% for the North West. The district's coastline, comprising Morecambe and Duddon Estuary, is of international nature conservation importance and has been designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA), for wild birds, also a Special Area of Conservation, designated under the EU Habitat and Species Directive.
- 3.17 Outside the designated sites, the District supports a wide variety of important habitats and species. Habitats include moorland, woodland (including ancient woodland), lime rich grasslands and grazing sea marsh. We intend to work closely with English Nature the Cumbria Wildlife Trust and Cumbria County Council's Ecologist in the forthcoming review of the Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan (CBAP) to identify appropriate sustainability indicators for selected habitats and species and to provide more baseline information.

Landscape

- 3.18 All of the landscape of South Lakeland (even outside the national parks) is of high quality. Arnside- Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) falls partly in South Lakeland and partly in Lancaster City. Most of the rest of district is designated as of County Landscape importance in the Cumbria Joint Structure Plan. The extent of these designations means that they are often subject to development pressure, not just in low-lying areas adjoining settlements but more recently in upland areas, in the search for suitable sites for wind energy.

Built Environment and Design

- 3.19 Outside designated Conservation Areas many parts of towns and villages have significant townscape character and interest. Protecting and enhancing all of the district's built environment - old and new – demands good design, whether to respect the best of the past styles or to create the quality of contemporary design which will be valued by future generations.

Protection of Environment	
Key Sustainability Issues	Potential Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting a rich cultural heritage from unsympathetic alterations and development; and securing resources for its repair and improvement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure designated areas receive appropriate protection and that policies seek opportunities to secure repair and enhancement where relevant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> protecting extensive nationally important nature conservation areas, often vulnerable to leisure and recreation pressures more than direct development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure designated areas receive appropriate protection and that policies seek opportunities to secure enhancement where relevant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> overall long term decline in wider characteristic habitats and species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure development proposals recognise need for habitat and species conservation and enhancement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vulnerability of landscape to erosion of character - also loss of tranquillity and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure development seek to protect, enhance and where possible restore

impact of lights on night sky.	landscape character.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bland or poor design can harm distinctiveness of local built character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policies and policy guidance which promotes good quality design

NATURAL RESOURCES

Air

- 3.20 The assessment of air quality in the district is required by the Environment Act 1995. The assessment and modelling of a wide range of air pollutants across the district has resulted in the need for an Air Quality Management Plan in Lowther Street in Kendal. Levels of nitrogen dioxide are declining on the whole across the district but remain quite high in Kendal Town centre. Recent changes to traffic management in Kendal are likely to reduce air pollutants in the pedestrianised area of the town centre, but the problem may increase in the roads to which traffic has been displaced. The scheme has also reduced traffic lanes in Lowther Street from two to one.

Water

- 3.21 Within South Lakeland the water quality of rivers is generally good. The Environment Agency is providing information on main rivers with water quality classified as good or fair. Threats to water quality include spillage from industrial areas, run off from roads and drains, agricultural fertilisers and waste.
- 3.22 The use of water in South Lakeland and Cumbria continues to rise with customers of United Utilities using around 150 litres of water per day, an increase of % (*to check*), compare with the water use of 10 years ago.
- 3.23 Flood risk is an issue in parts of the district, particularly in low-lying urban areas next to main rivers (such as the river Kent in Kendal), but also in some coastal areas. The Environment Agency provides the Council with flood risk maps showing areas at risk from flooding. The Environment Agency will provide data on the number of planning applications permitted contrary to the advice of the Agency, where an objection was made on flood defence grounds. Flooding has become a more high profile issue over the last 10 years as the result of incidents flooding of residential and commercial properties in Kendal.

Land and Soil

- 3.24 South Lakeland has significant areas of undeveloped land, mainly agricultural, which it is important to conserve both in the interests of efficient land use, as well as for agriculture. Government policy requires 'brownfield' land (ie land that has been previously developed) in preference to 'greenfield' land. In 2002/3 58% of new build dwellings were completed on brownfield land or through conversion of existing buildings, compared to 46% in Cumbria. The percentage in Cumbria is expected to rise significantly as the new policy takes full effect. The Council also aims to see 10 vacant dwellings restored to habitation each year.

Waste and Recycling

- 3.25 Most of South Lakeland's waste goes to land fill sites outside the district. The amount of waste collected continues to rise, standing at 506 kg per person for 2004/5, a rise from 466kg per person in 2003/4. This compared with 592kg per person for Cumbria as a whole in 2003/4. Recycling of waste can help reduce the need for raw resources and landfill/waste disposal sites. In 2003/4 13% of South Lakeland's waste was recycled compared to 15% for the North West. This represents a 6% increase in the district from the previous year.

Climate

- 3.26 Climate change is one of the biggest issues facing the district. Global temperatures are increasing as gases such as carbon dioxide and methane trap heat from the sun in the

earth's atmosphere. Five of the six warmest years in the UK have been recorded since 1990, and there has been an average increase in temperature of 1% since 1990. (ONS)

- 3.27 Overall emissions of greenhouse gases have fallen 10% nationally since. However there has been a large increase in the emission of green house gases from transport in the same period and domestic oil consumption has also risen 5% in the last 30 years.
- 3.28 To help reduce reliance on fossil fuels, renewable sources of fuel consumption can be used for energy production. South Lakeland's upland areas have proved suitable for wind energy schemes, where acceptable on landscape and other reasons.

Sustainable Use Of Natural Resources	
Key Sustainability Issues	Potential Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeking to minimise air pollution and reduce pressure on pockets of poor air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure development is located sustainably, so as not to worsen areas of poor air quality, reduces the need to travel and allows for alternative means of transport.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing demand for water and continuing threats of pollution to water resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure policies promote development, which conserves water and reduces or removes risk of pollution to water sources.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing opportunities long term to develop brown field sites in preference to greenfield sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guide new development to maximise use of brown field sites and minimise use of greenfield sites.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of flooding of property in some low lying areas of the district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate developments so that any increase in flood risk is minimised or mitigated; also promote techniques to manage surface water drainage in ways that minimise flood risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing production of domestic waste despite improvement in recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new developments make adequate provision for recycling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities to exploit renewable energy resources, where acceptable in terms of landscape and wider planning policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policies which encourage renewable energy sources in appropriate locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall long term impact of climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate new developments to reduce need to travel and hence reduce greenhouse gas emissions; require new developments to be energy efficient in their design, construction and use.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Structure

3.31 South Lakeland's economic structure is set out in the table below:

Employment Type	Numbers Employed	Percentage
Agriculture/Fishing	880	2.2
Energy/Water	-	-
Manufacturing	5402	13.5
Construction	1342	3.4
Distribution/Retailing/Hotels/Catering	15,154	38.0
Transport/Communications	1341	3.4
Banking/Finance/Insurance	3,913	9.8
Public Administration	9570	23.9
Other Services	1957	4.9
All Industries	39,879	100%

South Lakeland is 'over represented' in distribution etc (38%) compared to the national average, reflecting the importance of the tourism industry. Banking, finance and insurance sector is 'under represented', with 10% in South Lakeland compared to 20% in this sector in England and Wales. South Lakeland's economic activity rate stood at 87% in 2003/4, comparing favourably with 76.5% for the North West. The challenges facing the agricultural industry have increased in recent years – not just from the 'foot and mouth crisis'. The search for farm diversification opportunities has increased as a result.

Wealth Creation

3.32 The technical measure of wealth creation is 'Gross value Added' (GVA) – the amount of value, which the economy collectively adds to the value of goods and services, which it buys in. Between 1995 and 2001, Cumbria's GVA grew by just over 10%, but while this was 90% of the UK average and 101% of the regional average in 1995, these comparative figures fell to 75% and 86% respectively by 2001. Within Cumbria, GVA is measured for East and West Cumbria. The GVA for East Cumbria (which includes South Lakeland) is consistently one or two percentage points below that for West Cumbria and the county average.

Land Supply

3.33 The LDF will be tasked with supplying enough employment land to meet the requirements set out in the County Structure plan. The modifications to the Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure e Plan, published in August 2005, indicate that South Lakeland (outside the national parks) will need to provide the following amounts of land in three five-year time periods. A key challenge of the forthcoming LDF will be to provide sufficient new employment land of the right quality and right locations, to met these requirements and the needs of local industry.

Employment Land Market Sector	2001 - 2006	2006 - 2001	2001 - 2016
Strategic Employment Site	5ha	5ha	0
Local Employment Site	5ha	5ha	5ha
Business Science Park	3ha	3ha	3ha

Unemployment

- 3.34 Overall unemployment in South Lakeland is very low. In May 2005 the district's unemployment rate stood at 0.7%, based on residents claiming benefit. This compared to 1.9% for Cumbria and 2.4% for both the North West and UK as a whole. The rate for the Barrow Travel to Work area (which includes Ulverston) was 2.6%.

Since 1997, a total of 2,971 jobs have been lost in the South Lakeland economy (Dec 2003). The majority of these have been from larger companies with headquarters outside the District and therefore outside local control or influence

Income

- 3.35 South Lakeland shares in the characteristic of Cumbria as a 'low wage' economy. Wage levels in the county are 15% below the national average, and almost a third below the national average for managers and senior officials.

Town Centres and Regeneration

- 3.36 South Lakeland's town centres face strong competition from regional shopping centres in Lancashire and elsewhere in Cumbria, as well as out of town centres. Ulverston is part of the national Market Towns Initiative (MTI), and benefits from a strong partnership and agreed 3-year programme. Kendal has suffered significant job losses in recent years - many in relatively well-paid sectors. The town is not eligible for MTI status, but a strengthened Kendal partnership is seeking to put together a strategy to attract external funding to improve the town's assets and competitiveness. The Council with partners are exploring several ambitious regeneration projects aiming and revitalising the economy of South Lakeland's towns and rural areas, including:

- Lancaster Canal, Northern Reaches, Kendal (Stage 1)
- Ulverston Canal and Town Centre Regeneration
- South Lakes Gateway Project
- Grange 'Time and Tide' Project

Building A Sustainable Economy	
Key Sustainability Issues	Potential Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • over dependence on distribution and services, and relative weakness in other sectors, particularly financial and ICT services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide adequate land for employment development, of range of types and location to meet various business needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing loss of better-paid professional/commercial employment coupled with low wage, low skilled economy, resulting in less choice and quality of employment. More people forced to commute out of District for work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide adequate land for employment development, of range of types and location to meet various business needs. Enable development of small units in suitable locations, working with relevant agencies

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declining supply of local labour and some shortages - coupled with an apparent mismatch between training needs and workforce development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not readily controlled by means of spatial policy; need to be addressed in wider economic development context, in liaison with relevant agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing relative decline in wealth creation compared to regional and national average. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide sufficient land to facilitate development of a range of businesses including those which are relatively high in wealth creation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute shortage of quality Strategic and Local Employment Sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide suitable sites in appropriate locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High house prices affecting recruitment and retention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure policies and proposals maximise opportunities for affordable housing to be secured, appropriate to need and viability of development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for town centres to remain attractive and competitive against larger regional centres and out of town developments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect opportunities to improve vitality and viability of market towns and include appropriate policies in emerging plans and policy guidance for Conservation Areas.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to facilitate continued diversification of farm enterprises on an appropriate scale 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure policies enable appropriate forms of farm diversification to take place
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities and challenges arising from a number of ambitious regeneration proposals in the district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure LDF process and policies respond to opportunities of new regeneration schemes – making sure they reflect planning policies, and incorporate opportunities for relevant planning gain

APPENDIX 1 - Plans and Programmes Reviewed

International

- Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)
- Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979)
- EC Council Directive 79/409/EEC, on the Conservation of Wild Birds (1979)
- EC Council Directive 85/337/EEC & 97/11/EC, on the Assessment of the Effects of certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment (1985)
- EC Council Directive 92/43/EEC, on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (1992)
- EC Council Directive 99/31/EC, on the landfill of waste (1999)
- EC Council Directive 2000/60/EC, Water Framework Directive (2000)
- EC Council Directive 2001/42/EC – ‘on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment’
- Kyoto Protocol (1992)
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1971)

National

- Energy White Paper: Our Energy Future: Creating a Low Carbon Economy (DTI, 2003)
- Planning Policy Statement 1 – Delivering Sustainable Development (ODPM, 2005)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 3 - Housing (ODPM, March 2000)
- Planning Policy Statement 6 – Planning for Town Centres (ODPM, June 2005)
- Planning Policy Statement 7 – Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (ODPM, August 2004)
- Planning Policy Statement 9 – Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (ODPM, August 2005)
- Planning Policy Statement 10 – Planning For Sustainable Waste Management (July 2005)
- Planning Policy Statement 12 – Local Development Frameworks (ODPM, Sept 2004)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 13 – Transport (DETR, 2001)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 – Planning and the Historic Environment (DoE, 1994)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 – Archaeology and Planning (DoE, 1990)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 – Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (ODPM, July 2002)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 20 – Coastal Planning (DoE Sept, 1992)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 21 – Tourism (DoE Nov 1992)
- Planning Policy Statement 22 – Renewable Energy (ODPM, August 2004)
- Planning Policy Statement 23 – Planning and Pollution Control (2004)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 24 – Planning and Noise (1994)
- Planning Policy Guidance Note 25 – Development and Flood Risk (ODPM, 2001)
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
- Rural White Paper: Our Countryside: The Future – A Fair Deal for Rural England (DETR, 2000)
- Rural Strategy 2004 (DEFRA, 2004)
- Choosing Health White Paper (DoH, 2004)
- Securing the Future: delivering UK sustainable development strategy (DEFRA, March 2005)

- Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food (DEFRA, 2002)
- Transport Ten-Year Plan (Department of Transport, 2000)
- The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (DEFRA 2003)
- UK Waste Strategy (DEFRA, 2000)
- A Better Quality of Life: a Strategy for Sustainable Development in the UK (HMSO, 1999)
- Working with the Grain of Nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2002)
- Biodiversity – The UK Action Plan (HMSO, 1994)

Regional

- Action for Sustainability: The Programme for Integrating Sustainable Development Across the North West (NWRA 2003)
- Regional Planning Guidance for the North West (RPG 13), (NWRA March 2003) currently under review – Regional Spatial Strategy, Full Review due to be submitted to SoS January 2006
- North West Regional Transport Strategy (NWRA, 2004)
- North West Regional Economic Strategy (RES) – (NWDA, 2003) – currently under review, July 2005
- Everybody has an Impact: Climate Change Impacts in the North West England (NWRA, 1998)
- England's Northwest Regional Economic Strategy (RES)– Consultation Draft, July 2005 (NWDA, July 2005)
- North West Development Agency – A New Vision for North West Coastal Resorts (NWDA, March 2003)
- North West Regional Freight Strategy (North West Freight Advisory, May 2004)
- Lake District Economic Futures, Policy Statement (NWDA March 2005)
- Draft North West Sustainable Energy Strategy (NWRA, November 2004)
- North West Cultural Consortium/North West Development Agency – Cultural Strategy (NWDA)
- Regional Waste Strategy for the North West (NWRA, September 2004)
- North West Regional Housing Strategy (North West Regional Housing Board, 2003)
- The North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004 – 2008 (Sport England North West, 2004)
- The Strategy for Tourism in England's North West (NWDA, June 2003)
- Equality and Diversity in the North West (NWRA)
- Regional Health Investment Plan
- Regional Skills Partnership Priorities
- English Heritage in the North West 2003 – 2005 (English Heritage, 2003), due to be reviewed 2005
- Heritage Counts 2004 – The State of the North West's Historic Environment (English Heritage, 2004)

Sub Regional

- Cumbria Sub-Regional Strategy – (Cumbria Strategic Partnership, 2004)
- Morecambe Bay Primary Care Trust Health Service Development Plan and Local Delivery Plans

County

- Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan 1996 – 2006 (Cumbria County Council, June 2000) – Work has commenced on the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework

- Cumbria Municipal Waste Management Strategy (draft) 2003 – 2028 (jointly produced by Cumbria County Council and Cumbrian districts)
- Replacement Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan 2001 - 2016, Deposit Plan May 2004, Proposed Changes, June 2004, Panel Report Jan 2005, Modifications, September 2005.
- Replacement Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan, Technical Paper 8 – Sustainability Appraisal (2002) and Paper 7 - Monitoring and Implementation (2002) (Cumbria County Council/LDNPA)
- Cultural Strategy for Cumbria (Cumbria County Council, 2003)
- Local Transport Plan 2001/2 2005/6 (Cumbria County Council, July 2000)
- Draft Local Transport Plan 2007 – 2012 (Cumbria County Council Consultation Draft, December 2004)
- Cumbria Sustainability Strategy (Cumbria County Council, January 2004)
- Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) (Cumbria Biodiversity Partnership, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, April 2001)
- The Cumbria/Lake District Destination Management Plan 2005 – 2006 (CTB)
- Cumbria Sustainable Tourism Baseline Survey (CTB, 2000)
- Cumbria Rural Regeneration Cumbria – “Next Steps”, Cumbria Rural Action Zone Strategy
- Cumbria Landscape Strategy (Cumbria County Council and District Councils – Cumbria Landscape Group, produced 1998)

District

- South Lakeland Community Strategy – A Shared Vision for the Future 2004 – 2024 (South Lakeland Strategic Partnership, May 2004)
- South Lakeland Corporate Plan 2005 – 2008 (SLDC, July 2005)
- Crime and Disorder and Drug Reduction Strategy 2005 - 2008 (South Lakeland Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership) (2002)
- Economic Development Strategy for South Lakeland (SLDC, January 2004)
- South Lakeland Waste Management Strategy 2003/4 – 2010/11 (SLDC)
- Cultural Strategy for South Lakeland 2005 – 2010 (SLDC, November 2004)
- Air Quality in South Lakeland – Progress Reports (SLDC, April 2005)
- Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB Management Plan (April 2004)
- South Lakeland District Council Housing Strategy 2002 – 2006 (SLDC)
- South Lakeland’s Young Peoples Housing Strategy 2003 – 2006 (SLDC)
- South Lakeland’s Older Persons Housing Strategy 2003 – 2006 (SLDC)
- South Lakeland Private Sector Housing Strategy 2004 – 2007 (SLDC)
- Arts Strategy for South Lakeland 2005 – 2010 (draft) (SLDC, April 2005)
- South Lakeland Agenda 21 Strategy (SLDC, 1999)
- South Lakeland Woodland Management Policy (SLDC)
- Windermere Lake Management Strategy (LDNPA/SLDC, Feb 2005)
- Sport, Play and Physical Activity Action Plan ‘Created and Delivered in Partnership’ 2005 – 2008 (SLDC, Morecambe Bay NHS Primary Care Trust, South Lakeland Leisure, July 2005)
- South Lakeland District Council – Regeneration Action Plan
- Ulverston and Low Furness and Lakes Market Towns Strategies and Action Plans

APPENDIX 2 – Sustainability Objectives and Appraisal Questions

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives		Appraisal Questions	
SOCIAL PROGRESS WHICH RECOGNISES THE NEEDS OF EVERYONE			
SP1	To increase the level of participation in democratic processes	SP1.1	Will it encourage local people and community groups to become involved?
		SP1.2	Will it identify and help members of society, including hard-to-reach groups, to participate fully in the decision-making process?
		SP1.3	Will it help communities to understand the decision-making process, their opportunity to influence decisions and how decisions may impact on them?
		SP1.4	Will it respect the needs of all communities and future generations?
SP2	To improve access to services and facilities, the countryside and open spaces	SP2.1	Will it improve access affordability for all to services, essential goods and facilities – including education and employment opportunities?
		SP2.2	Will it help retain essential local facilities?
		SP2.3	Will it ensure those with disabilities have physical access to transport, facilities, building and public spaces?
		SP2.4	Will it promote and facilitate access to, and opportunities to enjoy, the countryside and green open space?
SP3	To provide everyone with a decent home	SP3.1	Will it help meet local housing needs, by providing housing for all which is of good and appropriate quality and affordable?
		SP3.2	Will it provide housing which is resource efficient, and has a reduced environmental impact?
SP4	To improve the level of skills, education and training	SP4.1	Will it help deliver education and training to help everyone develop the values, knowledge and skills to enable them to live, act and work in society?
		SP4.2	Will it help adapt to economic change and obtain new skills and training where necessary?
		SP4.3	Will it enable people to live sustainable life styles?

SP5	To improve the health and sense of well-being of people	<p>SP5.1 Will it ensure all members of society have access to the health care they need?</p> <p>SP5.2 Will it contribute to reducing health inequalities associated with income, lifestyle and diet?</p> <p>SP5.3 Will it create a healthy and safe working and living environment with low rates of crime and disorder?</p> <p>SP5.4 Will it help improve the quality of life for all?</p>
SP6	To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense of local history	<p>SP6.1 Will it promote a sense of community identity and a sense of place?</p> <p>SP6.2 Will it encourage social inclusiveness and cohesion, and help continue valued local traditions?</p> <p>SP6.3 Will it promote recreational and cultural activity – embracing the arts, heritage, the environment, dialect and sport?</p> <p>SP6.4 Will it promote multi-cultural understanding, respect for all and equality of opportunity?</p>
EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT		
EN1	To protect and enhance biodiversity	<p>EN 1.1 Will it protect and conserve habitats and species especially where these may be rare, declining, threatened or indigenous?</p> <p>EN 1.2 Will it ensure biodiversity sustainability by enhancing conditions wherever necessary to retain viability of the resource?</p> <p>EN 1.3 Will it minimise adverse impacts on species and habitats through new development and human activity?</p> <p>EN 1.4 Will it ensure continuity of ecological frameworks such as river corridors, coastal habitats, uplands, woodlands and scrub to enable free passage of specific habitat dependent species?</p>

EN2	To preserve and enhance landscape quality and character	<p>EN2.1 Will it protect local landscape quality, distinctiveness and character from unsympathetic development and changes in land management?</p> <p>EN2.2 Will it maintain the remoteness and tranquillity of rural landscapes?</p> <p>EN2.3 Will it protect the character and appearance of world heritage sites, designated archaeological sites, historic parks and gardens, battlefields and their settings?</p> <p>EN2.4 Will it sensitively protect areas of high archaeological and historic landscape?</p> <p>EN2.5 Will it encourage low-input and organic farming, with environmental stewardship styles of land management?</p> <p>EN2.6 Will it sustain and extend tree cover, hedgerows, woodlands, and sustainable forestry?</p>
EN3	To improve the quality of the built environment <u>and promote energy efficiency</u>	<p>EN3.1 Will it protect, conserve and enhance areas, buildings and features of historic or archaeological importance?</p> <p>EN3.2 Will policies ensure that new development is of a high quality, sympathetic to the character of the built environment, strengthen local distinctiveness, enhance the public realm and help create a sense of place?</p> <p>EN3.3 Will policies promote adaptive reuse of buildings, sustainable design, sustainable construction, the use of locally sourced materials and low impact operation?</p> <p>EN3.4 Will policies guide inappropriate development away from flood risk areas?</p> <p>EN3.5 Do Policies ensure that where development in flood risk areas is permitted, the risks to people and property are mitigated?</p> <p>EN3.6 Will it reduce noise levels, light pollution, fly tipping, 'eyesores', and discourage graffiti and litter?</p>

SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NR1	To improve local air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, <u>promote renewable energy and reduce need to travel</u>	<p>NR1.1 Will it ensure local air quality is not adversely affected by pollution and seek to improve it where possible?</p> <p>NR1.2 Will it limit or reduce the emission of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants?</p> <p>NR1.3 Will it encourage the use of clean, low carbon energy efficient technologies?</p> <p>NR1.4 Will it reduce the need to travel by car and promote travelling by alternative means such as public transport, cycling or walking?</p> <p>NR1.5 Will it facilitate switching the transport of goods from road to rail?</p> <p>NR1.6 Will it minimise the risk to people and property from flooding?</p> <p>NR1.7 Will it maximise the use of energy from renewable resources?</p> <p>NR1.8 Will it introduce strategies to adapt to and mitigate other climate impacts and changes?</p>
NR2	To improve water quality and water resources	<p>NR2.1 Will it maintain, and where possible, improve the quality and quantity of water resources?</p> <p>NR2.2 Will it minimise the risk of water pollution from all sources?</p> <p>NR2.3 Will it promote the wide use of sustainable drainage systems?</p> <p>NR2.4 Will it promote measures to reduce demand for water?</p> <p>NR2.5 [Will it help prevent stress on the natural environment?] (What does this mean?)</p> <p>NR2.6 [Will it help water uses adapt to impact of climate change?] (What does this mean? How?)</p>
NR3	To restore and protect land and soil	<p>NR3.1 Will it encourage development on brownfield sites?</p> <p>NR3.2 Will it facilitate or promote sustainable remediation technology to treat contaminated soils?</p> <p>NR3.3 Will it minimise the loss of greenfield sites, areas of open spaces and amenity, and productive land?</p> <p>NR3.4 Will it prevent soil degradation, pollution of soil and use of peat?</p>

NR4	To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste <u>and encourage recycling</u>	NR4.1 Will it minimise the amount of domestic, commercial and industrial waster generated? NR4.2 Will it increase the re-use, recovery and recycling of waste? NR4.3 Will it promote the recovery and use of energy from waste? NR4.4 Will it minimise the extraction, transport and use of primary minerals and encourage the use of recycled material?
BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY IN WHICH ALL CAN PROSPER		
EC1	To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities	EC1.1 Will it increase the number, variety and quality of employment opportunities – including those offered by tourism and social enterprise? EC1.2 Will it support local companies and help local businesses develop export market? EC1.3 Will it help retain a skilled workforce and graduates in Cumbria?
EC2	To improve access to jobs	EC2.1 Will it increase access for all to a range of jobs, through improved training, sustainable transport and communication links? EC2.2 Will it lead to the location of new employment opportunities in areas of greatest need?
EC3	To diversify and strengthen the local economy	EC3.1 Will it help create the right climate and infrastructure provision to encourage private sector investment? EC3.2 Will it stimulate the use of local companies, local products and services and provide other forms of community benefit? EC3.3 Will it encourage indigenou growth of local firms? EC3.4 Will it encourage diversification, innovation and entrepreneurship, partially in rural areas? EC3.5 Will it provide financial assistance? EC3.6 Will it help improve the competitiveness and productivity of the local economy? EC3.7 Will it increase the environmental performance of local companies and their products/services? EC3.8 support research and development into environmental and other technologies, including opportunities to recycle and re-use waste?

APPENDIX 3 - Indicators and Baseline Data

Sustainability Objective	Indicator	LDF Influence High ~ Medium ~ Low	Current Situation		Trends		Overall Assessment	Data Sources	Spatial Area
			SLDC	Comparator	SLDC	Comparator			
SOCIAL PROGRESS WHICH RECOGNISES THE NEEDS OF EVERYONE									
SP1 - To increase the level of participation in democratic processes	% Community groups responding to SLDC LDF document consultation	H	LDF document – Statement of Community Involvement -? % - No data available August 2005. Data available September/October 2005 LDF document - Core Strategy – Issues & Options? % No data available August 2005. Data expected available end October 2005	?	Not Applicable, August 2005	Not Applicable August 2005		SLDC Development Plans & Conservation	District – LDF area, excluding National Parks
	Election turn-out	L	<i>E mailed audit commission 12 09 05 response rec'd</i>	?	?	?	?	Audit Commission, Area Profiles Website, launch autumn 2005, Local Quality of life Indicators SLDC	SLDC district/L SP area level District

SP2 - To improve access to services & facilities, the countryside & open spaces	The number of households within 30 minutes of key service centres by public transport	M	No current baseline data at present.	Cumbria County Council currently (2005) collecting baseline data	Proposed new provisional indicator for LTP 2, no trend data	Proposed new provisional indicator for LTP 2, no trend data	None possible at present August 2005	Cumbria County Council Local Transport Plan 2 (LTP 2) – provisional indicator – progress to achieving targets will be in LTP2 Annual Progress Reports.	District (data possibly extracted from County monitoring)
	Percentage of rural households within set distances (either 4km or 2km) of key services	M	<i>E mailed Countryside Agency for data</i>	Cumbria – 2004, 72.1% households within 4km bank or building society. 76.1% within 4km of Doctor's surgery, 85.1% within 2km of Post Office, 84.8% within 2km of primary school, 67.9% within 4km of secondary school, 70.8% within 4km of Supermarket	<i>Emailed Countryside Agency for data</i>	In 2004, Cumbria as a sub region has the lowest proportion of rural households within set distances (either 4km or 2km depending on key service) from key services. In the North West region, the position in Cumbria is lower than the national average	?	RPG 13 Monitoring, AMR Feb 2005- contextual indicator 5.4, NWRA (source: Countryside Agency, Rural Services Series, December 2004)	Regional – North West, and County – Cumbria <i>SLDC?</i>
	The % of the population within 20 minutes travel time (urban – walking, rural by car) of different sports facility types	M	<i>E mailed audit commission 12 09 05 response rec'd</i>						Audit Commission. Area Profiles Website (launch autumn 2005). Local Quality of Life Indicators autumn 2005

SP3 - To provide everyone with a decent home	Number of affordable homes completed (both by registered social land lords and planning obligation)	H	HIP return 2004/2005 - 40 affordable dwelling units completed/acquired (NB includes, SLDC, LDNPA and YDNPA)	No comparable Data at present for the North West Region for 2004/2005 (HIP Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix) (ODPM)	HIP return 2001/02 – 46 afford dwelling units completed/ Acquired 2002/03 - 54 afford dwelling units completed/acquired 2003/2004 – 62 afford dwelling units completed/acquired	?		SLDC and National Park Monitoring for (HIP returns Sec. N, Qu 6a) RPG 13 AMR Feb 2005 indicator 5.2 (NWRA) – source HIP Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix (ODPM)	SLDC whole District inc. part of district within LDNPA and YDNPA)
	House price/earnings ratio	L	<i>E mailed audit commission 12 09 05, response recvd</i>	?	Escalating house prices, South Lakeland has higher property sale prices than all the other Cumbrian authorities.	Cumbria – (all properties) average house prices have risen considerably. Between June 2002 and June 2003 overall average house price rose by 22.6%, compares to an equivalent figure of just 12.5% for England and Wales.	?	Land Register Audit Commission Area Profiles Website, Launch autumn 2005, Local Quality of Life Indicators	District

SP4 - To improve the level of skills, education and training	The percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local authority achieving five or more GCSE's at grades A* - C or equivalent	L	<i>E mailed audit commission – 12 09 05 response recv'd</i>					Audit Commission Area Profiles Website – Launch autumn 2005 – Local Quality of Life Indicators	District
SP5 - To improve the health and sense of well-being of people	Total number of Notified Offences (by financial year)	L	South Lakeland financial year to date, March 2004 – 5, 311, 2004 rate = 5	Cumbria – financial year to date, March 2004 – 39,541 2004 rate = 8	South Lakeland financial year to date March 2003 – 4,830, March 2004 5311. Change = 481 = 10% change	Cumbria financial year to date, March 2003 – 37,635, March 2004 39,541. Change = 1,906 = 5.1% change.	?	Police recorded crime figures Cumbria County Council Information & Intelligence Unit	District
	Life Expectancy at Birth (male & female in years)	L	M – 77.6yrs, F – 81.8yrs (00/02)	North West Region – M – 74.1yrs, F – 79.1yrs (99/01)	M – 0.5yr increase, F – 0.2yrs increase from 97/99 to 00/02	North West - M – 0.7 yr increase, F – 0.6yr increase between 96/98 and 99/01	Favourable situation.	ONS website, ONS – 2004 NWRA RRP 13 AMR Feb 2005 Indicator 3.2	District

	% Households with 1 or more person with a limiting long term illness	L	33% - 14,688 households out of a total of 44,129 households in S Lakeland (2001 census)	Cumbria – 37% 76,365 households out of a total of 209,027 households (2001 census)	South - Lakeland – 20% - 9,213 households out of a total of 45,715 households (1991 census)	Cumbria 23% - 48,199 households out of a total of 210,311 households (1991 census)	Unfavourable situation. Both in South Lakeland and Cumbria from 1991 – 2001 the % of households with 1 or more person with a limiting long term illness has increased by 13% and 14% respectively.	2001 & 1991 Census of Population & Cumbria County Council Website, Information & Intelligence Unit	District – Local Authority area.
	% Residents feeling 'safe' or 'fairly safe' outside in the local area after dark	L	<i>E mailed audit commission 12 09 05 – response recv'd</i>	?	?	?	?	Audit Commission Area Profiles Website. (Launch autumn 2005) Local Quality of Life Indicators, autumn 2005	District
SP6 - To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense of local history	The number (No. Per /100,000 population) of racial incidents reported to SLDC and subsequently recorded	L	S. Lakeland – 2004/05 outturn 0.00 2003/2004 outturn 0.00	Allerdale District Council 1.07(2003/04) Eden District 0.00 (2003/04)	2002/03 S. Lakeland No data/return	2002/03 outturn Eden 0.00 Allerdale 0.00 Carlisle 0.00 Copeland 0.00 Barrow No data/return	Current position 2004/05 0.00, and 2003/04 0.00 outturn favourable.	SLDC BVPI No.174 monitoring & Audit Commission Website - BVPI data provision 2003/04 & 2002/03	District

	Number of allotments in use	L							SLDC	District
	Children's play spaces	H							SLDC	District
	Provision of community facilities in schemes over 50 dwellings	H							SLDC	District
EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT										
EN1 - To protect and enhance biodiversity	% SSSIs in favourable or recovering condition (ha) (H	88.8% (30632.5Ha (Dec 2004)	Cumbria – 71.4% (Dec 2004) North West Region – 74.5% (Dec 2004)	Net change in SSSI's assessed condition during 2004 - net increase + 1718.22ha improving from unfavourable or declining to favourable or recovering condition.	Cumbria – net change in SSSI's assessed condition during 2004 - net increase +33,602.34ha improving from unfavourable or declining to favourable or recovering condition. NW Region – net increase + 31,316.07ha	Favourable situation. Overall SLDC has the highest % of SSSI's (ha) in favourable or recovering condition in Dec 2004 compared to the other Cumbrian districts	English Nature. The first complete survey of SSSI condition completed in Dec. 2004 (1 st yr of 04/09 monitoring Cycle) NWRA RPG 13 indicator 6.1 (AMR Feb 2005)	SLDC (District)	

Total area designated as SSSI's (ha)	L	34483.23 Ha. (Dec. 2004)	Cumbria – 139087.58ha (Dec. 2004) North West Region – 206948.76 ha	No data available at present	No data available at present	Unable to make an assessment at present	English Nature NWRA RPG 13 indicator 6.1 (AMR Feb 2005)	SLDC District
Habitats and species – progress in achieving priority BAP targets (NW specific)	M	Not monitoring currently, but there are draft GIS inventories showing location 23 Priority BAP habitats across NW. An integrated national system known as the Biodiversity Action Reporting System (BARS) is still under development. This will allow information from local levels to be captured in future national reporting rounds. It is anticipated that the system will go live during 2005.					English Nature/NW Biodiversity Forum	

	Populations of Wild Birds	L	SLDC ?		SLDC ?	North West Region – The population index for all native species in the north west which includes woodland and farmland species increased by 9% between 1994 and 2002 (Source English Nature)		RPG 13 AMR monitoring Feb 2005, contextual indicator 6.2 – Population of wild birds in the north west, source English nature – The Breeding Birds Survey	District?
EN2 - To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character for future generations	% Dwellings built on greenfield land	H						SLDC	District
	Hedges removed (number of hedge removal notices refused)	M						SLDC	District
	Number of Tree Preservation Orders made	M						SLDC	District
EN3 - To improve the quality of the built environment and promote energy efficiency	% Listed buildings at risk (all grades)	M	SLDC survey data for buildings at risk currently not up to date (2005), however, dated to be updated by the end 2007.	No data available at present	No data available at present			SLDC monitoring	SLDC LDF area
	% grade I, II* and statutory ancient monuments at risk	M						SLDC, English Heritage	District

	Number of Conservation Areas reviewed or under review	H	August 2005 – Two conservation areas have been reviewed and two are currently being reviewed as of August 2005.					SLDC BVPI	SLDC LDF area
	Number of Conservation Area Environmental improvement schemes per annum (financial year)	H						SLDC	LDF area
	Number of planning permissions refused on the basis of design	?							
	Measure of Green Space created on schemes over x houses	H							
SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES									
NR1 - To improve local air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote renewable energy and reduce the need to travel	Nitrogen Dioxide NO2 (the annual average concentration levels (ug/m3) for both Kendal and Ulverston)	M	Town Hall, Kendal (2004) Lowther Street Kendal (2004) Fountain Street, Ulverston (2004)	NA	NO2 levels declining on the whole in the district, but in Kendal town centre levels still quite high, hence the Air Quality Management Area on Lowther St. & the action plan aimed at reducing levels	NA	Mixed situation - NO2 levels declining on the whole in the district, but in Kendal town centre levels still quite high, hence the Air Quality Management Area on Lowther St. & the action plan aimed at reducing levels	SLDC Air Quality Progress Report April 2005	Kendal, Ulverston

	Benzene annual average concentration levels (ug/m3)	L	Cavendish Street, Ulverston? Lowther Street, Kendal?	?	Trend - general reduction in levels seen over previous years and continued in 2004. All SLDC monitoring locations remaining below the Govts. Objective for 2010 of 5 ug/m3	?	Favourable situation	SLDC Air Quality Progress Report, April 2005	Kendal, Ulverston
	CO2 Emissions from Environment Agency Regulated Industry	L	contacted Environment Agency, Penrith awaiting response	?	?	?	?	Environment Agency	
NR2 - To improve water quality and water resources	Number of planning applications permitted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency where the objection was made on flood defence grounds	H	? contacted Env't Agency, Penrith Office – awaiting response	2003/04 Environment Agency North West Region = 4 decisions/ Planning applications	?	North West Environment Agency Region The number of planning applications granted contrary to Environment Agency Advice has remained consistently low in all years for which data is available	?	North West Environment Agency NWRA -RPG 13 AMR Feb 2005 Indicator 6.4	

	% of main river water quality classified as good or fair (chemical & biological under the general quality assessment)	M	? – 2004? <i>E mailed awaiting response from Penrith Env't Agency.</i>	Cumbria Chemical 98.2% (2003) Cumbria – Biological 98.6% (2003)	? <i>E mailed Environment Agency</i>	Cumbria – chemical quality decreased by 0.4% over period 2000/2003 (Environment Agency reports factor in part due to acid stress associated with high rainfall in 2000)	?	Environment Agency's annual General Quality Assessment Scheme 2004 NWRA RPG 13 AMR Feb 2005 indicator 7.3	District's main rivers
						Cumbria Biological quality increased by 1.8% 2002 – 2003 (excl. 2001)		Audit Commission - Local Quality of Life Indicators	
	Daily Domestic Water Use (per capita consumption)	M	<i>E mailed audit commission 12 09 05 response rec'vd</i>	?	?	?	?	Audit Commission Area Profiles Website, launch autumn 2005 – Local Quality of Life Indicators	SLDC District

	% new build dwellings completed on previously-developed land or through conversion of existing buildings	H	SLDC 2002/2003 = 58.3% Note: target for Cumbria in Regional Planning Guidance NW (March 2003) = 50%	, Cumbria 2002/03 = 46.5% North West 2002/03 = 71%	SLDC 2001/2002 = 38%	Cumbria 2001/2002 = 18.7% North West 2001/02 = 62.6%	Mixed situation. Difficult to make assessment over 2 years data. SLDC during 02/03 favourable significant increase devt. On prev devt. land over previous year (20.3%). SLDC position better than comparable figure for Cumbria, but, worse than comparable % NW region as a whole.	SLDC HFR returns (ODPM) April 2001 – March 2003 and RPG 13, AMR Feb 2005, NWRA, indicator 3.3	South Lakeland District
NR3 - To restore and protect land and soil	Net density of dwellings completed on major sites by size	H	?	North West, Cumbria?	?	North West, Cumbria?	?	SLDC, NWRA CCC Planning	(Structure Plan Sub-Region)

	Volume of Household waste collected per person per year (kg per head)	L	Financial year 2004/05 506.4 kgs/head	Cumbria County Council – 2003/04 592 kgs/head household waste collected	Trend increasing waste collected per person per year - 2002/03 443kg/head, 2003/04 466 kgs/head collected per person per year	Trend – increasing household waste collected. Cumbria County Council 2002/03 waste collected per person per year 573 kg/head collected per person per year Cumbria County Council 2003/04 592 kg/head waste collected per person per year	SLDC mixed situation lower than for Cumbria, but amount of household waste being collecting has increased.	SLDC monitoring BVPI No. 84, ODPM Local Govt. Performance web site Audit commission website BVPI Outturn 2002/03 and 2003/04 spreadsheet for Cumbria BVPI 84. Audit Commission – Local Quality of Life Indicators	District LA area
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<p>NR4 - To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste and encourage recycling</p>	<p>% Household waste collected which is recycled/composted</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>15% (2003/04)</p>	<p>Cumbria County Council – 18% (03/04) Average North West – 15.1% (03/04)</p>	<p>SLDC % change 2001/02 – 2003/04 = 6.4%</p>	<p>Cumbria County Council % change 2001/02 – 2003/04 = 9.6%</p> <p>Average North West, % change 2001/02 – 2003/04 = 6.5%</p>	<p>SLDC – favourable trend shows improving recycling rates of household waste. However, 2003/04 household waste recycling rates lower than Eden, Carlisle City, and Barrow in Furness Borough Council's.</p>	<p>SLDC BVPI – Jan 2005 NWRA – RPG 13 AMR Feb 2005 Audit Commission – Local Quality of Life Indicators Area Profiles Website, launch Autumn 2005</p>	<p>District SLDC LA area</p>
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BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY IN WHICH ALL CAN PROSPER

<p>EC1 - To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities</p>	<p>Amount of Land (hectares) Supply Available for Employment Use Classes B1, B2 & B8 (of the Town & Country Planning Use Classes Order 1987), by Market Sectors</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>SLDC including sites in LDNP: 12 months ending 31 03 04 supply land available (B1, B2, B8) = Business Park 2.37ha Local Employment = 20.81ha Own Use = 1.18ha Strategic Employment = 9.75ha Total = 34.11ha</p>	<p>Cumbria – 12 months ending, supply land available (B1, B2, B8) = Business Park = 74.69ha, Local Employment = 209.11ha, Own Use = 14.34ha, Regional Investment site = 46.62ha, Port Related 78.12ha, Strategic Employment 180.23ha. Cumbria total = 603.11ha.</p>	<p>SLDC – total land supply (alloc and with Plan Perm.) available for 12 months ending 31 03 03 = 38.69 ha. (Schedule 6). The Comparable figure for 12 months ending 31 03 04 = 34.11ha.</p>	<p>Cumbria – 12 months ending 31 03 03 616.58ha land available allocated and with Plan Perm (schedule 6) Reduced to 603.11ha for 12 months ending 31 03 04. Other Cumbrian Districts less supply land available in 12 months end March 2004 as land is taken up for development. S. Lakes has the least amount of land available allocated and with planning permission.</p>	<p>Not favourable – S. Lakeland compared to other Cumbrian Districts has less total land supply available, both in 12 months ending 31 03 04 & 12 months ending 31 03 03 (ELA schedules 6 refer for both periods)</p>	<p>Cumbria County Council Strategic Planning Team. Employment Land Availability (ELA) Schedules (schedule 6) as at 31st March 2004. Land Supply by Market Sectors & Schedule 6 ELA as at 31 03 03.</p>	<p>SLDC District including sites in LDNPA</p>
	<p>Amount of employment land Use Classes B1, B2 & B8 (Town & Country Planning Use Classes Order 1987) hectares lost to residential development per financial year (12 months ending 31st March)</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>No data at present</p>	<p>No data at present</p>	<p>No data at present</p>	<p>No data at present</p>	<p>Unable to comment at present. To monitor 2005/2006 onwards; Local Development Core Indicator</p>	<p>SLDC, NWRA Local Development Framework Core Output Indicator</p>	<p>SLDC – LDF spatial area, excluding national parks</p>

EC2 - To improve access to jobs	Unemployment rate % (male and female)	M	0.8 (July 2005)	North West, 2.5 (July 2005) Cumbria 1.9 (July 2005)	Over the period Jan 2003 to July 2005 rate has peaked at 1.2 in Jan & Feb 2003, falling to a low of 0.7 in April, May & June 2005.	North West, Over the period Jan 2003 to July 2005 the rate peaked at 3.0 in Jan & Feb 2003, falling to a low of 2.2 in Oct., Nov, and December 2004. Cumbria, Over the period Jan 2003 to July 2005, the rate peaked at 2.5 in Jan and Feb 2003, falling to a low of 1.7 in October 2004	Favourable situation, lower than for Cumbria and the North West Region.	NOMIS, Cumbria County Council Information & Intelligence Unit	District
	The percentage of the resident population travelling over 20 km to work	M	<i>e mailed audit commission 12 09 05 response rec'evd</i>	?	?	?	?	Audit Commission Area Profiles Website launch autumn 2005 – Local Quality of Life Indicators	District
EC3 - To diversify and strengthen the local economy	Economic Activity rate % (male and female) based on working age population 16 to 59/64yrs, expressed as a % of all working age people	M	87.0% (Mar 03 – Feb 2004) (NOMIS)	North West, 76.5% (Mar 03 – Feb 2004) (NOMIS)	Increase of 5.5% from 81.5% in Mar 02 – Feb 03	North West, Increase of 0.9%, from 75.6% in Mar 02 – Feb 03	Favourable situation. Higher than for the North West region and increasing.	2001 Census of Population/ NOMIS	SLDC District area inc Nat Parks)

<p>Amount of land (hectares) developed for employment, (Use Classes B1, B2 & B8 – of the (Town & Country Planning Use Classes Order 1987) by market sectors</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>ELA March 2004 Schedule (8) of Developed Land by Market Sector for 12 months ending 31 03 04 - Business Park – 0ha Local Employment 1.47ha. Own Use 0ha. Strategic Employment 0ha. Total for 12 months end 31 03 04 1.47ha.</p>	<p>Cumbria - March 2004 Schedule (8) of Developed Land by Market Sector for 12 months ending 31 03 04. Business Park 3.29ha, Local Employment 6.95ha, Own Use 0.45ha, Regional Investment 0ha, and Strategic 1.30ha. Total for 12 months end 31 03 04 Cumbria =11.99ha</p>	<p>SLDC – for 5-year period 1st April 1999 to end March 2004. Amount of land developed for each 12-month period fluctuates (Schedule. 8) Most land developed for B1, B2 and B8 in 12 months ending 31 03 2000 (4.94ha) and a second peak in the 12 months ending 31 03 02 (3.19ha)</p>	<p>Cumbria Amount of land developed for B1, B2, & B8 has not been constant from 1st April 1999 to end March 2004. The peak year for amount of land developed = 12 months ending March 2001, 40.95ha.</p>	<p>Mixed Situation – S. Lakeland – The amount of land developed for B1, B2 & B8 has fluctuated like other Cumbria Districts and Cumbria as a whole, In the same 5 year period, Allerdale and Carlisle Districts developed more land than South Lakeland for B1, B2 & B8. Barrow, Copeland & Eden less</p>	<p>Cumbria County Council, Strategic Planning Team. Employment Land Availability Schedules – As at March 31st 2004 (Schedule 8)</p>	<p>SLDC District including sites in LDNPA</p>
<p>Number of Rural Diversification Schemes</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>?</p>		<p>SLDC ? DEFRA/York office? Or Farm Link?</p>	<p>District LDF area, excluding national parks</p>

	GVA £ per head	L	For East Cumbria – (Includes South Lakeland, Eden and Carlisle LA Districts) – GVA = 12140 £ per head (year 2002)	Cumbria GVA = 11267 £ per head (2002) North West Region GVA = 13599 £ per head (2002)	For East Cumbria (includes South Lakeland, Eden and Carlisle LA Districts) between 1995 and 2001, increased from 10444 to 11644 £ per head.	Cumbria GVA in 1995 was 9969 and increased to 11003 £ per head in 2001. North West Region GVA increased from 9790 in 1995 to 12952 £ per head in 2001.	East Cumbria, which includes South Lakeland, generates wealth but at a lower rate than Cumbria as a whole or the NW region.	Cumbria County Council Information & Intelligence Unit	Smallest spatial area that GVA disaggregated into = East Cumbria – includes South Lakeland, Eden and Carlisle
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APPENDIX 4 – Consultees

Consultation on this Draft Scoping Report will include:

- Sending the document by post or email to the consultees listed below.
- Notifying all organisations on South Lakeland Local Development Framework consultee database (including Parish and Town Councils in and adjoining the area) by letter or email that the document is available on the Council's website – www.southlakeland.gov.uk/ldf
- Placing the document for inspection at Council offices and libraries in LDF area.
- Issuing a press release.

Statutory Organisations

Countryside Agency
Environment Agency
English Nature
English Heritage

Internal Consultees

Portfolio Holder Advisory Group
Strategic Director Customer Services
Policy Manager
Community and Housing Manager
Development Control Manager
Building Control Manager
Environmental Protection Manager
Cultural and Economic Prosperity Manager

Other External Organisations

Government Office for North West
North West Regional Assembly
North West Development Agency
Highways Agency
Morecambe Bay Primary Care Trust
Cumbria County Council (Strategic Planning, Highways, Environment, South Lakeland Area)
Lake District & Yorkshire Dales National Park Authorities
Barrow Borough Council
Copeland Borough Council
Allerdale Borough Council
Eden District Council
Lancaster City Council
Craven District Council
Cumbria Wildlife Trust
RSPB
Friends of the Lake District
South Lakeland Local Strategic Partnership (Executive and Environment Task Group)
South Lakeland Chamber of Commerce
Arnside Silverdale AONB
Cumbria Tourist Board
Cumbria Vision
National Trust
Voluntary Action Cumbria
Other Members of Cumbria SA Working Group

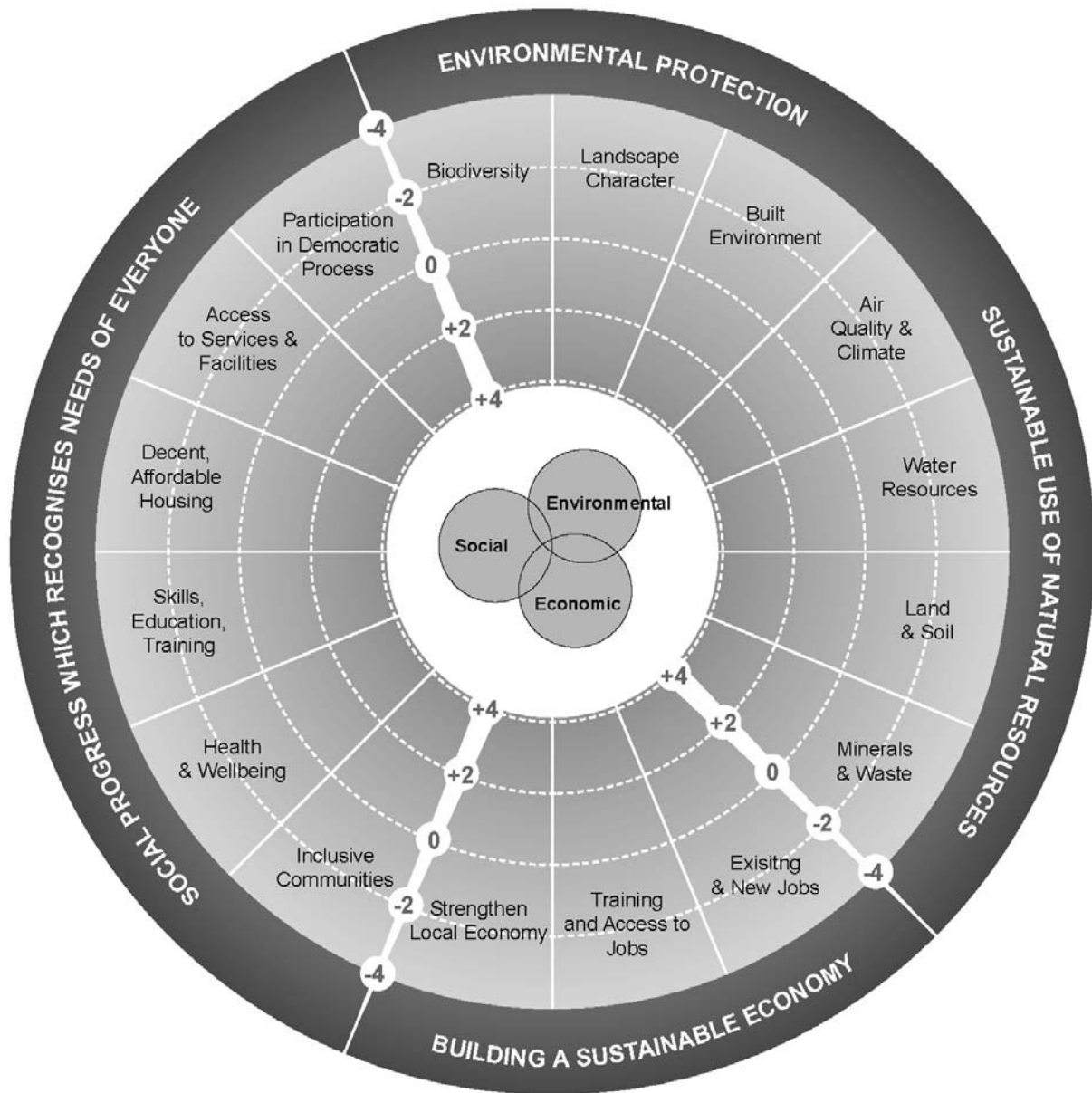
APPENDIX 5 – Appraisal Recording and Scoring

Option A: (e.g. for LDF objective, policy, proposal or site allocation)											
Sustainability Objectives & Appraisal Questions ¹	Baseline Data & Indicators (if any)	Nature of Impact	Geographic Scale			Timescale (years)			Cumulative Impact	Overall Score	Commentary & Justification, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likelihood (high/medium/low) • Temporary/permanent • Mitigation & Improvement's Proposed
			Key	Local	Rural	0 – 5	5 – 10	10+			
SP3 To provide everyone with a decent home. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it meet housing needs.....? • Etc. 			√	√	x	√	√	√	√√	+4	
Option A: Summary											
Social Progress											
Environmental Protection											
Natural Resources											
Sustainable Economy											
Option A: Conclusions & Recommendations											

<u>Impact Key</u>	Major positive	√√	+4
	Positive	√	+2
	No impact	0	0
	Negative	x	-2
	Major negative	xx	-4
	Uncertain	?	-

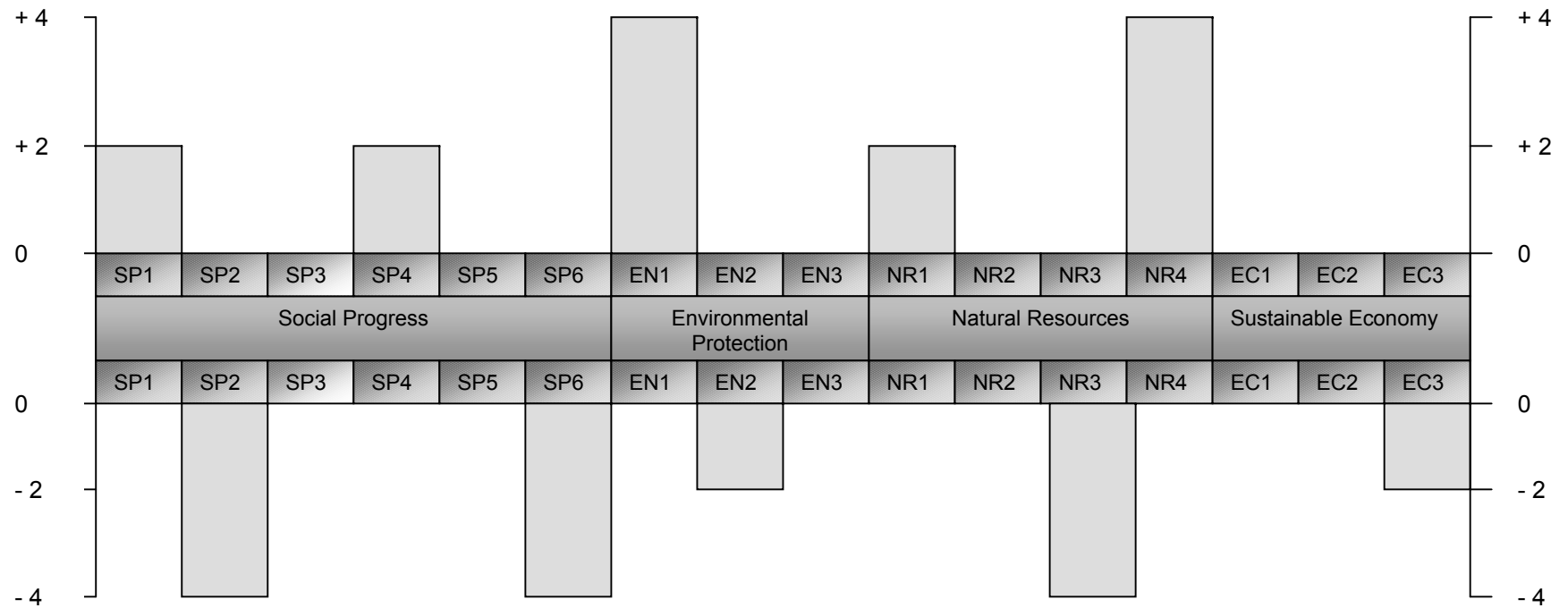
<u>Notes</u>	1	Propose assessing and scoring sustainability objectives only, using appraisal questions to assist.
	2	Geography/Timescale/Cumulative – use the ticks and crosses.
	3	Overall Score – use the number range (for illustration on 'wheel' or bar chart).

Appraisal Score Summary Wheel
 (Based on model by Lancaster City Council)



Appraisal Score Summary Graph

(Based on approach used by Cumbria County Council in appraisal of District Council's Community Strategy)



APPENDIX 6 - Summary of the Requirements of the SEA Directive

Requirements	Where covered in SA process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Report (SAR) – for each DPD • Scoping Report (SR)
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is (Art. 5 and Annex I);	
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes ;	SAR and SR (para 2.4, Table 1 and Appendix 2)
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	SR (Section 3, baseline)
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	SR (Para 3.15)
d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.;	SR (Section 3, baseline)
e) The environmental protection objectives , established at international, community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental, consideration have been taken into account during its preparation;	SR (para 2.4, Table 1 and Appendix 2)
f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape, and the interrelationship between the above factors. (Footnote: These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects);	SAR (methodology in SR, section 2 and Appendix 5)
g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;	SAR
h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with , and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	SAR
i) A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;	SAR and Appendix 3 of SR.

j) A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	SAR
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Requirements	Where covered in SA process (see above)
The report must include the information that may reasonably be required, taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Art. 5.2).	
Consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information, which must be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4). 	SR (Appendix 4)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorities with environmental responsibility and the public shall be given an early and effective opportunity within the appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Art. 6.1, 6.2). 	SR (Appendix 4) Extent of consultation will be determined for each DPD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7). 	N/A
Taking the environmental report and the result of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8).	
Provision of information on the decision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art 7. must be informed and the following made available to those so informed: the plan or programme as adopted. a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report of Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Art. 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Art. 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and the measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9). 	SA SA SA SA
Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan or programme's implementation (Art. 10).	LDF Annual Monitoring Report
Quality Assurance: environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive.	SA

APPENDIX 7 – Criteria for Determination of Likely Significant Environmental Effects

(SEA Directive – Annex II)

1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular to:
 - the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;
 - the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;
 - the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;
 - environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme; and
 - the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).

2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:
 - the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;
 - the cumulative nature of the effects;
 - the trans-boundary nature of the effects;
 - the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents);
 - the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);
 - the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:
 - special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;
 - exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;
 - intensive land-use; and
 - the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.

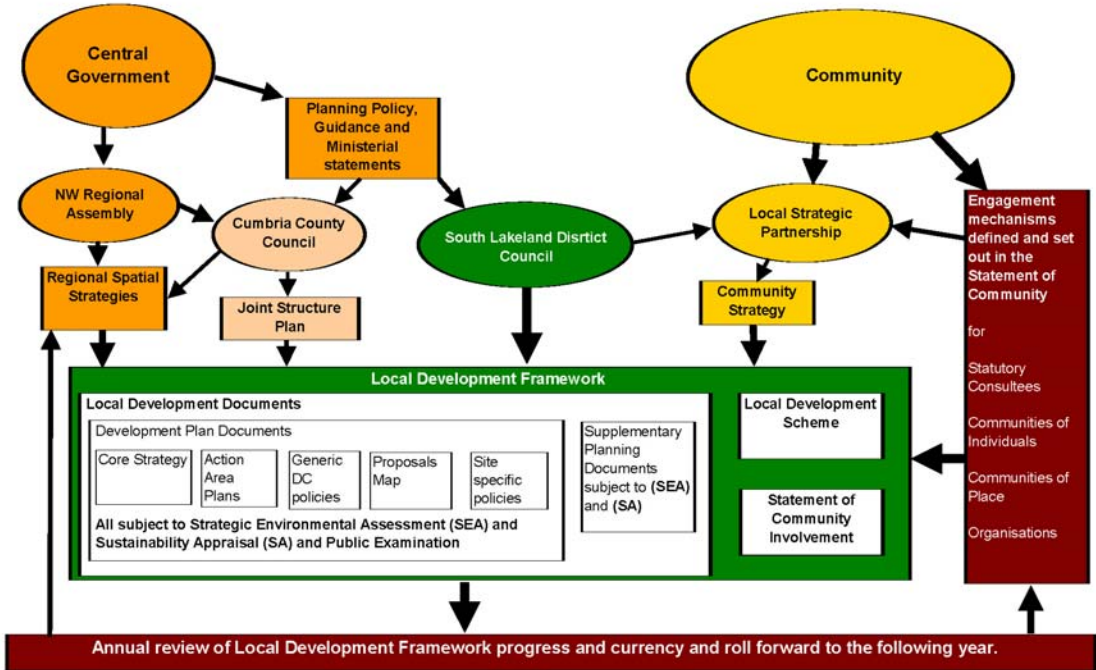
APPENDIX 8– Policy Context for South Lakeland LDF

1. What is the policy context

1.1 A number of documents form a policy context in which Development Plan Documents such as the Core Strategy must be prepared. This will ensure the document is in conformity with national and regional objectives and supports recognised local priorities. The diagram below highlights the main organisations and influences on the LDF.

Diagram 1

Chain of Conformity with other spatial strategies and policy guidance



1.2 Of particular relevance to the LDF are the following local strategies and plans:

Community Strategy (Cumbria Strategic Partnership and Local strategic Partnership)

1.3 The CSP has prepared “Sustainable Cumbria” a strategy for growth and progress in Cumbria. It recognises a number of challenges in the County including serious economic decline, low levels of added value generated by business and an outward migration of young people. The high quality of the areas environment is also identified as a key asset. The potential for Kendal to prosper given its relatively accessible location to markets is identified, as well as scope for tourism development to strengthen the economy of the areas outside the National Parks such as in the market town of Ulverston. The lack of affordable housing in the south and east of the County is highlighted as a priority issue together with improving strategic transport linkages. The 20 year strategy for a “Sustainable Cumbria” is summarised as a County that:

- Celebrates its diversity, creativity and heritage
- Envisages everyone in the mainstream of community life
- Retains and attracts the skilled and talented
- Participates to the full as a competitive sub region
- Strengthens its infrastructure
- Makes a positive contribution to the wealth of the North west

- Marries economic growth with social progress and environmental protection and enhancement.

- 1.4 The South Lakeland LSP has also prepared its own Community Strategy for the District up to 2024 and a series of priority themes. This local community document complements the strategic themes raised in the CSP strategy. (For details see page 10 above)

Regional Spatial Strategy (NWRA/GONW)

- 1.5 The RSS (formerly RPG 13) was adopted in March 2003 and has subsequently undertaken a partial review. This document contains a series of core development principles and advocates an approach to meeting the need for development which uses land and buildings efficiently, enhances quality of life and the standard of development, encourages economic competitiveness and social inclusion, whilst addressing the challenge of climate change.
- 1.6 The spatial framework for development highlights the metropolitan axis of Manchester/Merseyside and the key towns and cities outside this area. In South Lakeland, Ulverston is identified as a focus for regeneration.

Regional Housing Strategy (NWRHB)

- 1.7 The North West Regional Housing Board was set up to deliver the policies set out in the Government's Communities Plan (2003), and specifically to prepare the Regional Housing Strategy (2003). The RHS forms the basis for advice to ministers on the housing investment priorities and the allocation of the "Single Pot" fund for housing.
- 1.8 The RHS vision is to ensure that every part of the region has a choice of good quality housing in successful, secure and sustainable communities. Four priorities are set out in the Strategy including: Urban renaissance and dealing with changing demand; providing affordable homes to maintain balanced communities; delivering decent homes in thriving neighbourhoods and meeting the regions need for specialist and supported housing. Most relevant to the South Lakeland area is the recognition of the problems caused by a combination of low incomes and the relatively high levels of retirement in migration, outward commuting and second homes in the areas in and around the Lake District National Park. The issue of homelessness and a shrinking stock of public/social sector homes is also identified as a problem in the District. Priority is given to ascertain the full impacts of poor access to housing for the local workforce and how this detracts from measures to strengthen the local economy.
- 1.9 Planning policy and mechanisms are identified as a means of maintaining a sustainable mixed community in high housing demand areas. For example, it advocates the preparation of market town action plans and the use of planning conditions and legal agreements to secure affordable housing provision to meet local needs.

Regional Economic Strategy (NWDA)

- 1.10 The RES dating from 2003 is now being reviewed. The latest consultation document (July 2005) contains broadly the same 5 strategic objectives of: business development; skills and employment; regeneration; infrastructure and quality of life. The document highlights such challenges as increasing productivity and competitiveness, improving the size and skills of the regional workforce, investing in transport and communications infrastructure, and creating the conditions for economic activity in rural areas. The lack of affordable housing for workers is highlighted as a constraint on sustainable economic development.

- 1.11 It highlights opportunities for diversifying the rural economy and capitalising on high value local produce, promoting the regions tourism and cultural offer and the value of the natural and built heritage. Education institutions are identified as a key driver for skills development and higher value added business. One of the NWDA's key activities will be to bring forward the development of technology/science parks as part of a regional portfolio of employment opportunity sites. The Strategy recognises the need for rural workspace and the key role of market towns as service centres. The Lake District is recognised as major factor in contributing to the nations quality of life but also its potential to sustain economic recovery in its hinterland areas.

Cumbria & Lake District Joint Structure Plan (CCC/LDNPA)

- 1.12 The Structure Plan has been through extensive local consultation as part of its review and soon will be published as final modifications. The Structure Plan sets out a spatial strategy for Cumbria up to the year 2016 and forms a key basis for the preparation of the new Local Development Framework. It is anticipated that the Structure Plan strategy will be subsumed within the Cumbria sub regional strategy to be incorporated in the new Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).
- 1.13 The Structure Plan identifies South Lakeland District as forming part of 3 separate Sub County Areas; "South and East Cumbria", "The Lake District National Park" and "Furness and West Cumbria". The Lake District National Park Authority will be preparing a LDF for the whole of the Lake District sub county area and South Lakeland District Council will be preparing a LDF for the 2 remaining sub county areas within their boundary. These separate areas have been identified because it is considered they have distinctive social and economic characteristics, although important inter relationships will always be present.
- 1.14 South and East Cumbria is identified as an area where new development should ensure the needs of local communities are met, in particular the need for affordable housing, local facilities and opportunities for business diversification. The development emphasis identified for Furness and West Cumbria is to regenerate and diversify the economic base, improve communications infrastructure, provide housing choice, realise the potential for the tourism economy and promoting the areas coastal heritage.
- 1.15 To ensure accessibility to services and the sustainable use of land, policies are identified in the Structure Plan to focus new development on Key Service Centres and Local Service Centres. Key Service Centres are given a greater development emphasis given the existence of a broader range of services and their greater infrastructure capacity. Each KSC is required to provide an appropriate supply of new housing and employment land, and maintain good access to transport and communications technology. Small-scale development is advocated in Local Service Centres to help sustain local services, met local needs and/or support rural businesses. The strategy indicates it will be the exception for development to be located in the open countryside.

Cumbria Local Transport Plan (CCC)

- 1.16 The County Council together with partners are preparing a second LTP for Cumbria to cover the period 2007-2012. The LTP aims to ensure that programmes for regeneration are informed by realistic expectations about transport improvements and that transport requirements are built into the development process. Shared priorities of reducing congestion, improving accessibility, safety and air quality, as well as locally important quality of life issues such as health are set out.
- 1.17 The land use planning process is identified as playing a key part in securing improvements to the road, cycle, walking and bus networks through the provision made

in the local development plan and via developer agreements. The priority for South Lakeland District is to maintain and where possible improve accessibility to Key Service Centres. Measures for demand responsive public transport services to complement existing services and a new Park and Ride service outside Kendal are advocated as the best approach. Other significant schemes identified include the expansion of the cycle network throughout the district for utility and leisure purposes, construction of a Kendal Northern Relief Road to enable HGV access to existing and new employment areas and continued traffic management measures in Kendal town centre.

- 1.18 **Local service strategies with a spatial emphasis** e.g. South Lakeland Housing Strategy, South Lakeland Economic Development Strategy, South Lakeland Cultural Strategy, Cumbria County Council's education and social services strategies, United Utilities Asset Management Plan. All such service strategies will inform the preparation of the development strategy in the District.
- 1.19 **Adjacent Area Plans and Strategies** e.g. LDFs for Eden, Barrow, Lake District National Park, Yorkshire Dales National Park, Lancaster City. It is important that the South Lakeland LDF is not prepared in isolation and that cross boundary needs are facilitated by recognition of adjacent area plans and strategies.

APPENDIX 9 - Glossary and Abbreviations

Baseline	A description of the present and future state of an area, in the absence of any plan, taking into account changes resulting from natural events and from other human activities.
Indicator	A measure of variables over time, often used to measure achievement of objectives.
Objective	A statement of what is intended, specifically the desired direction of change in trends.
Scoping	The process of deciding the scope and level of detail of an SA, including sustainability effects and options which need to be considered, the assessment methods to be used, and the structure and contents of the SA Report.
SEA Directive	European Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment'.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	Generic term used internationally to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans and programmes. In this guidance, 'SEA' is used to refer to the type of environmental assessment required under the SEA Directive.
Sustainability Appraisal	Generic term used in this guidance to describe the form of assessment that considers social, environmental and economic effects, which fully incorporate the requirements of the SEA Directive.
Sustainability Appraisal Report	A document required to be produced as part of the SA process to describe and appraise the likely significant effects on sustainability of implementing a plan, which also meets the requirements for the Environmental Report under the SEA Directive.
LDF	Local Development Framework
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
LDD	Local Development Document
LDS	Local Development Scheme
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPS	Planning Policy Statements
DPD	Development Plan Document
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, responsible for planning from 2002 onwards