



South Lakeland Local Development Framework

Core Strategy Preferred Options

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report



APRIL 2008

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South Lakeland Local Development Framework

Core Strategy

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Amended March 2008

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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 Core Strategy Preferred Options document – a key part of the South Lakeland Local Development Framework.

Under the new planning system, the Local Development Framework (LDF) for South Lakeland will, in due course, replace the South Lakeland Local Plan. Sustainability Appraisal is intended to help planning authorities ensure that 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 Assessment*. Throughout this document, Sustainability Appraisal (SA) should be read to include Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

This document takes account of the results of consultation in Autumn 2005 and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's (ODPM) final guidance on Sustainability Appraisal.

The Core Strategy Preferred Options document sets out the preferred options for policies that will determine the future spatial development of South Lakeland, taking into account the results of the consultation and SA on the Core Strategy Issues and Options document as well as the outcomes of a range of evidence gathering studies. The results of the SA on the Core Strategy Preferred Options will identify which of the policy options are the most sustainable approaches and will perform a key role in the preparation of the Core Strategy Submission document. The results will be set out and analysed in an SA Report. The SA Report will be consulted upon alongside the Core Strategy Preferred Options report.

This Scoping Report has been amended slightly at each stage of the SA process to ensure it reflects changes to the process adopted as they have been introduced.

Consultation

- 1.2 The Council held a 5-week consultation period on a draft of this document ending on Friday 28 October 2005.
- 1.3 The Scoping Report was posted or emailed, along with a comments form, to all the organisations listed in Appendix 4. Everyone on the LDF consultee database was informed that they could view and comment on the document on the Council's website www.southlakeland.gov.uk/ldf. The document was 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 Comments were invited on the following questions:
- **Relevant plans and programmes** (Para 2.4, Table 1 and Appendix 1):
Are there other documents relevant to the LDF that 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?

All comments received during the consultation period were taken into account in producing the final version of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. The comments and the Council's response can be viewed on the Council's website www.southlakeland.gov.uk/ldf or are available in paper form on request on 01539 733333 or developmentplans@southlakeland.gov.uk. This version of the document has been amended to apply to the Preferred Options stage of Core Strategy production.

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. It's purpose is to set policies and proposals to protect the district's important environmental assets such as landscape, nature conservation and built heritage from inappropriate development 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 is required 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 on the Council's website.

Development Plan Documents (DPDs) – These will form the statutory 'Development Plan', together with the North West Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). In January 2006, the North West Regional Assembly submitted a draft revised Regional Spatial Strategy to the Government Office North West, an Examination in Public has taken place and the final document is expected in early 2008.

The Council will prepare the following DPDs:

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

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) – These will provide more detailed guidance on particular policies. The Council has adopted an SPD on Wind Energy, which was produced jointly with the County Council and other districts in Cumbria. Work on a joint Highway Design Guide SPD is underway. However, work on another joint SPD (Landscape) and on other previously proposed SPDs is presently on hold due to resource limitations.

Other LDF documents that do **not** require SA are:

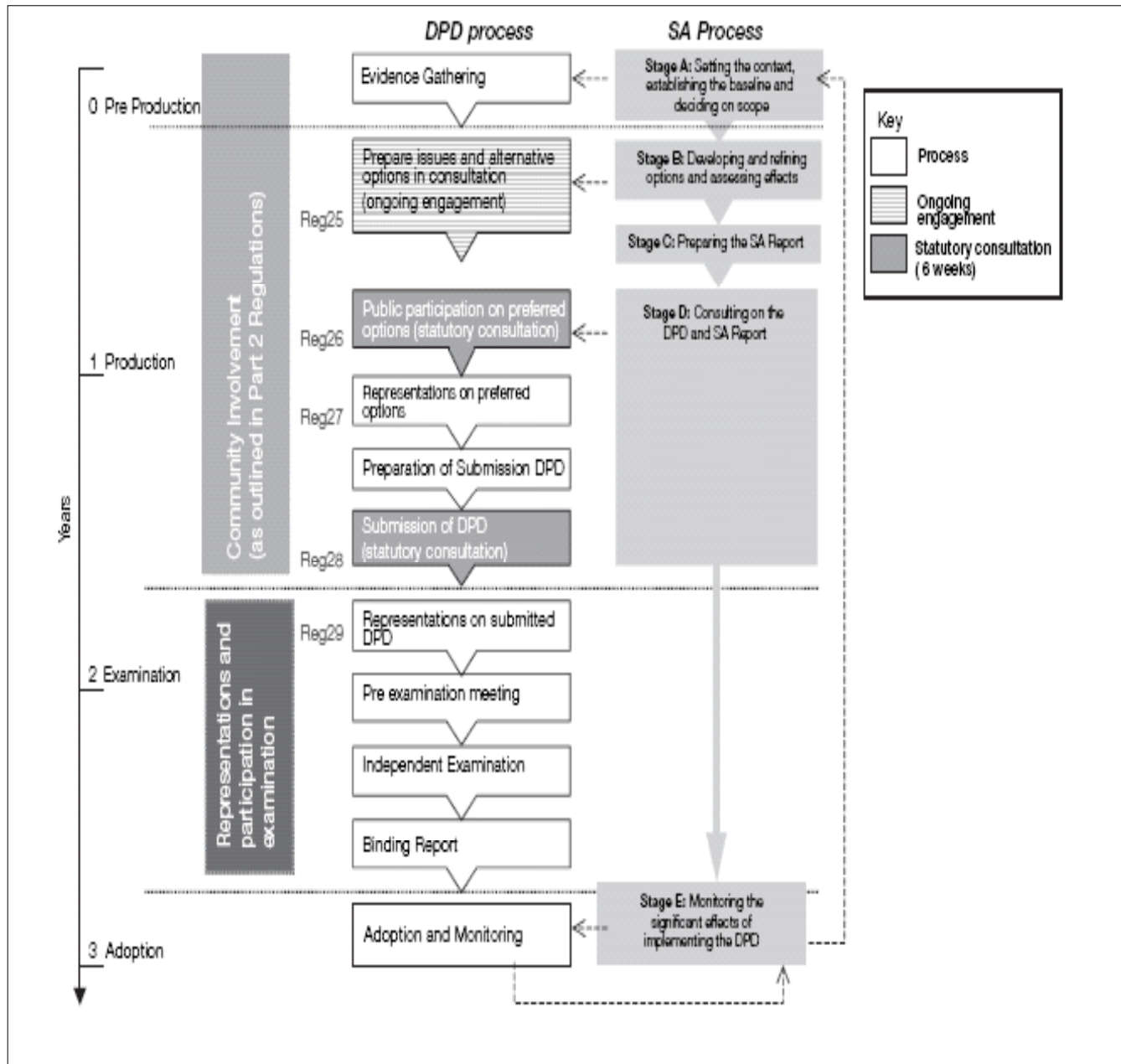
- Statement of Community Involvement
- Local Development Scheme
- Annual Monitoring Reports

We initially intended to prepare a single Scoping Report to provide a common sustainability framework for all four of the forthcoming DPDs, beginning with the Core Strategy Issues and Options report. Further advice from the Government Office North West indicated that separate scoping reports must be prepared and consulted on for each DPD or SPD.

This Scoping Report therefore relates to the Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy Development Plan Document. Separate Scoping Reports will be prepared for each of the subsequent Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents.

1.7 The DPD Preparation Process

The table below (*1) sets out how the Sustainability Appraisal process relates to the stages of development plan preparation. How we intend to carry out the Sustainability Appraisal at each stage of preparing the Core Strategy documents is set out below in section 1.22.



***1 - Table from 'Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (Page 38), (ODPM, November 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 that is 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. It's 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 that draft policies or proposals might have.
- 1.10 The purpose of the SA process is to make sure that the documents that comprise the South Lakeland Local Development Framework make an effective contribution to the overall goal of *sustainable development*. This is commonly defined as "*development that 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's Sustainable Development Strategy 2005 'Securing the Future' incorporates and develops the four aims of sustainable development as set out in the 1999 Sustainable Development Strategy:
 - *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 an integrated approach to Sustainable Development.
- 1.13 To this end, this Scoping Report aims to:
 - i. Set out a framework for undertaking the Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy, including setting
 - *Sustainability objectives and appraisal questions* 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 Core Strategy and to formulate sustainability objectives for the appraisal process.
 - iii. Assess the broad environmental, social and economic characteristics of South Lakeland ('baseline assessment') and how these are changing; and
 - iv. Consider key sustainability issues and problems (in the light of ii. and iii. above) that the LDF should address in pursuing sustainable development.

The Scoping Report will form the basis for carrying out a Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy Preferred Options document, in line with the methodology described. The results of the appraisal will be written up as a Sustainability Report and used to inform the preparation of a Core Strategy Submission document. Both the Preferred Options Report and Sustainability Appraisal report will be subject to formal public consultation.

Details of how Sustainability Appraisal relates to each stage of preparing the Core Strategy DPD is set out in the table at paragraph 1.23.

Relationship to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 1.14 The SEA Directive requires the ‘environmental assessment’ of any plans prepared by public authorities that are likely to have ‘significant effects’ on the environment. The requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) covers relevant plans whose formal preparation began after 21st July 2004. The requirements 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.
- 1.15 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 enabling the exercise to include social, economic and environmental matters.
- 1.16 We propose that the Sustainability 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).

Determination of Documents Requiring SEA

- 1.17 Under the SEA regulations a formal *determination* is required as to whether or not a plan that deals with the use of “small areas at a local level” or that makes “minor modifications” to an existing plan, is likely to have ‘significant environmental effects’ – be they positive or negative. We consider that the Core Strategy **is** 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.

The Council invited **comments** on this proposed determination during consultation on the SA Scoping Report. Respondents supported the view that the Core Strategy (and other Development Plan Documents) is likely to have significant environmental effects.

- 1.18 We intend to make a formal determination on the Core Strategy 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, as part of the accompanying SA Report.

Appropriate Assessment of Natura 2000 Sites

- 1.19 An Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the impacts of land-use plans such as DPDs and SPDs on Natura 2000 sites, which are of European wildlife importance, is required under the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. The area of South Lakeland outside the National Parks contains all or part of the following Natura 2000 sites:

- ❖ **Morecambe Bay**
- ❖ **Morecambe Bay Limestone Pavements**
- ❖ **Duddon Estuary**
- ❖ **Duddon Mosses**
- ❖ **The River Kent and its tributaries**
- ❖ **Roudsea Wood and Mosses**

AA will ascertain whether a land-use plan will adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site and where any negative impacts are identified, will require alternatives to be sought in order to avoid potentially damaging effects. The scope of the AA will depend on the location, size and significance of the proposed plan.

- 1.20 It is our responsibility as Local Planning Authority (LPA) to establish whether an AA of the Core Strategy is necessary and to carry out an AA. If it is decided that an AA is not necessary, the reasoning for this must be clearly evidenced. Current advice from ODPM recommends that the need for an AA be scoped out as part of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping stage, and that (if needed) AA be undertaken alongside the development of options prior to formal consultation on preferred options.
- 1.21 The Core Strategy Preferred Options document sets out preferred options for policies that will determine the future spatial development of South Lakeland. The document identifies settlements and strategic locations where development is likely to take place and at what scale. It is therefore considered that the document does contain matters with the potential to have significant impacts on the network of Nature 2000 sites in the South Lakeland LDF area and thus an AA is necessary. An AA is currently underway for the Core Strategy Preferred Options document.

In considering the need for AA, we have also taken into account that:

- ❖ The current Local Plan has policies, which provide a high degree of protection for Natura 2000 sites. This policy position will continue in the forthcoming LDF documents including the Core Strategy, which contains a proposed development principle that development should avoid loss of or damage to important environmental features
- ❖ Most of the Natura 2000 sites in the Plan area are not in close proximity to the potential Local Service Centres, with the exception of Kirkby in Furness, Arnside and Sandside/Storth, Newbiggin and Baycliff. While Key Service Centres such as Grange over Sands and Kendal are in close proximity to Natura 2000 sites, the designation of these Centres relates to the Structure Plan and forthcoming Regional Spatial Strategy rather than the Local Development Framework. Policy safeguards are also outlined in these documents for Natura 2000 sites.

The need for an AA may also be relevant to the later Development Plan Documents, for example the Site Allocations document.

Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy

- 1.22 South Lakeland's Local Development Scheme was revised in April 2007 and submitted for approval to the Secretary of State. The revision sets out the following timetable for the production of the Core Strategy DPD

Evidence gathering	April to August 2005 (actual)
Issues and Options Consultation	September to December 2005 (actual)
Preferred Options Consultation	March 2008
DPD Submission and Consultation	March 2009
Pre-examination meeting(s)	July 2009
Independent examination	September 2009
Binding report	March 2010
Adoption by Council	April 2010

1.23 How and when the Council intends to undertake and incorporate sustainability appraisal in preparing the Core Strategy document is set out in the following table:

DPD Stage	Action	When?
DPD Stage 1: Pre-Production – Evidence Gathering		
SA Stages and Tasks		
<p>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A1 Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives A2 Collecting baseline information A3 Identifying sustainability issues and problems A4 Developing the SA Framework A5 Consulting on the scope of the SA 	<p>The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Core Strategy, of (this document) sets out how we have undertaken the steps for Stages A1-A5</p> <p>A1 We have researched and identified relevant international, national, regional, sub-regional and district policies, plans, programmes and other documents which have informed the Scoping Report for the Core Strategy</p> <p>A2 We have researched and gathered a range of information and data at district, county and national level which has formed the baseline data and comparators</p> <p>A3 We have taken account of the principles set out in UK Sustainable Development Strategy and have drawn out key sustainability issues for South Lakeland</p> <p>A4 We have developed objectives, indicators, baseline information and a SA Methodology</p> <p>A5 We have undertaken consultation on the SA Scoping Report and have taken comments received into account in adding to and refining the report. We produced a report of the comments received, detailed our response to the comments and indicated what, if any, specific changes we would make to the SA report as a result of comments. The report of comments and consequent changes is available to view on the SLDC website.</p>	<p>Sept 2005 to April 2006.</p>
DPD Stage 2: Production		
SA Stages and Tasks		
<p>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> B1 Testing the DPD objectives against the SA Framework B2 Developing the DPD options 	<p>B1 We used a matrix to test the Core Strategy objectives against the SA Framework. This will be included in the SA Report</p> <p>B2 We undertook an initial appraisal of the 3 emerging options in the Core Strategy Issues and Options report in October 2005. The comments and resulting changes made to the Scoping Report and Core Strategy Issues and Options Report are set out in Appendix 9.</p> <p>Steps B3 – B5: We undertook a full Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy Issues and Options report, using the methodology set out in this report. The results are documented in the SA Report, which</p>	<p>May 2006 - September 2007</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B4 Evaluating the effects of the DPD • B5 Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects • B6 proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPDs 	<p>in turn, informed the preparation of the Core Strategy Preferred Options</p> <p>This was followed by full SA of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Strategic Objectives; • Spatial Strategy Alternatives • Area Strategy Alternatives • Core Policy Alternatives • Preferred Options on Spatial and Area Strategies and Core Policies. <p>Some of the intended effects are reflected in the priority themes and the development principles in the Core Strategy. Prediction, evaluation, mitigation and maximisation of effects will also be discussed and considered during the Sustainability Appraisal itself and the outcomes are set out in the SA Report.</p> <p>B6 We will use the SA indicators and baseline data to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD. The data will be updated and added to as available in order to assess the trends that develop, this should enable the effects of implementing the DPD to be identified.</p>	
<p>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1 Preparing the SA Report 	<p>C1 We will prepare an SA report, detailing the outcome of the SA and which option is preferred as a result. The main elements of the SA report will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a non-technical summary, a summary of the appraisal methodology, • the plan objectives and options to be appraised, a summary of how SEA and AA requirements have been met in the report, • an outline of the sustainability objectives, baseline data and indicators, • the appraisal of the results of the potential environmental, social and economic effects of objectives and options • drawing conclusions on the policy options to be preferred, the changes to objectives and options considered or made, including measures to mitigate against adverse impact, problems encountered when undertaking the appraisal 	<p>November 2006 – February 2008</p>
<p>Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options of the DPD and SA Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D1 Public participation on the preferred options of the DPD and the SA Report • D2(i) Appraising significant changes 	<p>D1 We will undertake consultation on the Core Strategy Preferred Options report and accompanying SA report.</p> <p>D2(i) If the option we propose as the preferred option differs significantly from any of the three options initially suggested as a result of outcomes of the SA, we will conduct additional SA on such changes</p>	<p>March 2008</p>

DPD Stage 3: Examination		
SA Stages and Tasks		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> D2(ii) Appraising significant changes resulting from representations 	D2(ii) If an inspectors report requires significant changes to be made to the SA Report, these will have to be incorporated, the report amended and an additional appraisal of such changes will be undertaken.	July 2009
DPD Stage 4: Adoption and Monitoring		
SA Stages and Tasks		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> D3 Making decisions and providing information 	D3 We will make the SA Report and Core Strategy Preferred Options report available on our website. We will produce a statement of adoption to accompany the adopted Core Strategy Preferred Option report, outlining how we came to that option using the results of the SA and consultation	April 2010
<p>Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects and implementing the DPD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E1 Finalising aims and methods for monitoring E2 Responding to adverse effects 	E1-E2 The aims and methods for monitoring will be finalised on adoption of the Core Strategy DPD. This will be based on the SA indicators set out in this report, which will be assessed each year as part of the Annual Monitoring Report. Monitoring will aim to identify any unforeseen significant effects and measure predicted significant effects. Methods will involve keeping the data up to date, seeking to show trends in effects and adding to the data where appropriate. Any predicted/expected adverse effects will be responded to by seeking to implement mitigation measures proposed during SA. Unforeseen effects will require mitigation measures to be sought and implemented.	May 2010 onwards

2. METHODOLOGY

General Approach

2.1 We have developed the sustainability framework for assessing the documents of the South Lakeland Local Development Framework jointly with other planning authorities in the Cumbria sub-region. In particular we have jointly developed and are continuing to work on:

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

This approach recognises that many sustainability issues are common to all authorities within Cumbria and that there is a need to share resources. The countywide approach benefits from the early, direct involvement of the statutory agencies – Natural England, English Heritage & the Environment Agency.

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

Element	Purpose
• Reviewing relevant plans and programmes	• To assess the context provided by other plans and programmes – in particular, relevant environmental, social and economic objectives.
• Identifying sustainability objectives and appraisal questions	• To assess the emerging policies and proposals and any specific measures required.
• Selecting appropriate indicators	• To provide some key elements of the evidence base as a way of measuring progress towards sustainable development.
• Collection and review of baseline information	• To assess the existing social, economic and environmental characteristics of the area, as a basis for the appraisal.
• Identification of key issues	• To identify priorities for the plan to address

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 done jointly by the Cumbrian planning authorities. We will take account of on-going work and incorporate appropriate improvements.

Setting Objectives and Reviewing Relevant Plans and Documents

2.4 The production of the Core Strategy 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 the Core Strategy.

¹ Final guidance on 'Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks (November 2005)(ODPM).

- They may have used appraisal objectives that have helped shape the sustainability appraisal objectives against which the emerging policies in the Core Strategy will 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 Cumbrian Local Planning Authorities and the 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 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 and geodiversity.
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 people's health and sense of well-being;
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 gas emissions, promote renewable energy and energy efficiency and reduce the need to travel;
Climatic factors	NR1 to improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote renewable energy and energy efficiency and reduce the need to travel;
Material assets	SP3 to provide everyone with a decent home; NR4 to manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste and encourage recycling; EC3 to diversify and strengthen the local economy;
Cultural heritage	EN3 to improve the quality of the built environment.
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 Core Strategy. 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.

- 2.7 The joint working arrangement also helped formulate the 'appraisal questions' or decision-making criteria for use in assessing proposals against objectives.

South Lakeland Community Strategy

- 2.8 The vision and objectives of the Core Strategy 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 and revised in 2007. 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 Community Strategy's objectives have also been subject to Sustainability Appraisal using the same basic sustainability framework set out 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:
- Accessible Transport
 - Affordable Housing
 - Children and young People
 - Community Safety
 - Health and Well-being (including culture)
 - Involving our Communities
 - Jobs, Skills and Regeneration
 - Quality Environment

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 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 developing and refining indicators is ongoing as new sources of data are sought and information becomes available. These include:
- The Audit Commission's Area Profiles website, setting out Local Quality of Life Indicators which was launched in autumn 2005 and is updated as new data is available;
 - Further information and advice arising from the joint approach by the Cumbrian planning authorities and the four statutory agencies – including consultation responses to the draft of this document.

Where there are 'gaps' in the datasets, 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 for South Lakeland (either district wide or the South Lakeland LDF area), together with 'comparator' areas so that local information is seen in context. Comparator data can be for a neighbouring district, the North West Region, Cumbria County or National data. The table also makes provision 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 We propose to undertake the sustainability appraisal of the proposals in the Core Strategy Preferred Options report by means of an independent panel, with knowledge and experience of a cross-section of the social, economic and environmental appraisal objectives that comprise the SA appraisal framework. Those who have agreed to form part of a 'pool' are listed below, from which members can be drawn to form individual panel meetings.

Social

- Morecambe Bay Primary Care Trust
- County Council Neighbourhood Development
- Rural Cumbria
- Cumbria Rural Housing Trust
- South Lakes Housing
- Local Estate Agent
- County Highways

Economic

- SLDC Economic Development Team
- Local Strategic Partnership (Jobs, Skills, Regeneration Task Group)
- South Lakes Chamber of Commerce
- Cumbria Tourism
- Job Centre Plus
- South Lakes Development Trust
- Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency

Environmental

- Statutory agencies: the Environment Agency, Natural England, English Heritage
- Cumbria Wildlife Trust
- SLDC Historic Conservation, Environmental Protection, Waste Management and Recycling
- Cumbria County Archaeologist and Ecologist
- South Lakeland Friends of the Earth

- Friends of the Lake District

General

- SLDC Policy Officer
- Neighbouring Authority LDF Officer
- County Council Sustainability Officer

- 2.16 The panel meeting will discuss the nature and degree of impact of each proposal against each of the 16 SA objectives, assisted by the appraisal questions. Each panel member will then give record a score reflecting his or her view. The average scores resulting from the panel's individual scores will be calculated and amalgamated with other's scores to give an overall score for each proposal.
- 2.17 The panel will be invited to take account of the following factors as part of the appraisal:
- Any relevant baseline information and indicators
 - The nature and extent of impact in terms of:
 - Timescale
 - Geographic scale
 - Cumulative effect
 - Likelihood and 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 should be considered (see Appendix 7).

- Extent of impact - whether positive or negative, based on the following scoring scale:

– Strong positive impact	+4
– Positive impact	+2
– No impact	0
– Negative impact	-2
– Strong negative impact	-4
– Uncertain impact	?

- For adverse impacts, what opportunities may exist by which to minimise impact or suggestions for mitigation or improvements.

A record of the appraisal will be written up in tabular form, as set out in Appendix 5, and will be circulated to the Appraisal Panel for their agreement. These results will form a key part of the subsequent Sustainability Appraisal Report, which will accompany the Core Strategy Preferred Options report at Regulation 26 consultation.

The sustainability 'wheel' used in earlier stages to provide a visual summary of the appraisal results for each option has not been used for the results of the Preferred Options Stage, due to technical issues with displaying the number of alternatives considered. As this is only a presentational aid it is considered that the Tables used at this stage represent an adequate visual summary of the results.

Table 1: Sustainability Appraisal Objectives and Sources

Ref.	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives	Source	Relationship to:				
		ODPM SA Guidance (Nov. 2005)	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 people's health and sense of well-being	+	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 and geodiversity	+	NWRES, AS, CBAP, CSS, CMW, CSRS	17, 19	18	5	3.3
EN2	To preserve and enhance landscape quality and character for future generations	~	LDEF, AS NWRES, CSS, CBAP, CMW, CDMP	3, 18	3, 16	5	3.3
EN3	To improve the quality of the built environment	~	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, promote renewable energy and energy efficiency and reduce the need to travel	~	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 and encourage recycling	~	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)
CBAP Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan (2001)
CMW Cumbria Minerals & Waste Local Plan (2000) [preparation of LDF started]
CSRS Cumbria Sub-Regional Strategy - Sustainable Cumbria 2004 – 2024 (2004)
CSS Cumbria Sustainability Strategy (2004)
CDMP Cumbria Destination Management Plan 2005 – 06

ED SLDC Economic Development Strategy (2004)
HS SLDC Housing Strategy (2004)
LDEF Lake District Economic Futures, Policy Statement (March 2005)
NWRES North West Regional Economic Strategy (2003) [under review July 2005]
NWRHS North West Regional Housing Strategy (2003)
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 at 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.

SOCIAL PROGRESS

Population

- 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 104,800, with a population density of 67.8 people per square kilometre, compared with an average of 492 for the North West. It has 5 market towns - Kendal (28,397), Ulverston (11,670), Grange-over-Sands (4,098)¹, Milnthorpe (2,149) and Kirkby Lonsdale (1,783)² – which are identified as key service centres in the Cumbria Structure Plan. Of the large number of smaller settlements and villages, a significant number are defined as Local Service Centres.
- 3.3 Population growth of 5.6% since 1991 reflects natural growth and in-migration, resulting from the area's attractiveness as a place to live, work and retire. Recent population growth has exceeded predictions. 99% of the population were classed as 'white' in the 2001 Census compared to 91% for England and Wales.
- 3.4 About 31% of the population are over 60, compared to 26% for Cumbria and 21% for the United Kingdom. This represents an increasing trend. Consequently, the proportion of the population that are of "working age" or younger in the district is smaller than elsewhere.

Housing

- 3.5 In 2007, there were 46,026 households in South Lakeland District, of which 91.9% were owner occupied, compared to 69% for the North West in 2001. The cost of owner occupied houses has risen steadily since 1998. Average house prices in the district for example have increased from £162,867 in 2003 to £219,230 in March 2006.
- 3.6 The growing need for affordable housing is documented in the 2006 Housing Needs and Market Assessment and local parish-based surveys. The 2006 survey estimated about 3,425 households would be in need of affordable housing over the next 5 years. The District Council adopted an Interim Planning Approach to Housing (IPATH) in November 2005 (revised in March 2007) to assist the implementation of the Structure Plan's housing policies. IPATH requires 100% of new houses in the east of the district to be for local occupancy and 50% of dwellings must be affordable on developments of 4 or more units.

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 258th, out of 354

¹ Populations of Kendal, Ulverston and Grange are 2006 figures

² Populations of Milnthorpe and Kirkby Lonsdale are 2003 figures

Council areas - with 1 being the most deprived and 354 the least deprived area. 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

- 3.8 The district has a range of local authority schools, including 6 secondary schools. The standard of education provision is high. The population of school-aged children is predicted to fall, which may have implications for some rural primary schools.
- 3.9 Amongst the working age population, 31.9% has a qualification of NVQ4 or above. This is higher than the average for the North West of 24.8%. Only 4.6% of the district's working age population have no qualifications, whilst this figure for the North West is 15.8%.

Community Safety

- 3.10 South Lakeland is generally a safe place to live, with only 54.4 incidents of recorded crime per 1000 population in 2006/07 compared to 77.4 in Cumbria as a whole and 110 in the North West. Although the level of crime in the district is low, 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.

Health

- 3.11 Overall the health of South Lakeland's residents is good. Life expectancy is 78.6 years for men and 82.7 for women, which is higher than the average for the North West of 75.4 years for men and 79.9 years for women. Despite this, in South Lakeland, 33% of households have 1 or more persons with a limiting long-term illness, though this compares to 37% for Cumbria.
- 3.12 Although levels of health are relatively good, there is significant pressure and demand on health services provided within the district, including GP surgeries and this is emphasised by the aging population. There are no Category A acute hospital services in South Lakeland; Westmorland General Hospital provides Category C acute services which cover emergency treatment for only minor injuries, so many patients have to travel to hospitals in Lancaster, Barrow or elsewhere.

Leisure & Recreation

- 3.13 The District Council has recently undertaken 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 this exercise indicate the overall quantity, quality and accessibility of sites and where there are any shortfalls or deficiencies. The main findings of this work demonstrate a lack of informal facilities for teenagers and a need to focus on improving the quality of open spaces rather than increasing the number of spaces. South Lakeland benefits from an extensive network of footpaths and bridleways, these are of particular significance due to the numbers of people that visit the area to partake in recreational walking.

Transport

- 3.14 Most households in South Lakeland own a car, with 34.3% of households owning two or more compared to 29.5% in the UK. In 2001, only 17% of households in South Lakeland did not have access to a car compared to 27% in the UK. The district benefits from rail services including the West Coast Main Line, 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 there is less provision in rural areas, resulting in problems for some households in accessing jobs, service and education – notably amongst the elderly and the young.

Arts and Culture

- 3.15 South Lakeland has a particularly rich fund of cultural assets. Realising their potential is important to the future economic, social and political vitality of the area. Key aspects of culture include arts, heritage, entertainment, sport, recreation and learning. More information on culture and art in South Lakeland is set out in the District Council's Cultural Strategy and Arts Strategy.

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 and local occupancy 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 needs of businesses likely to employ young people with qualifications (also see affordable housing above)
<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 incidences and 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 regeneration agencies how LDF documents can improve social and economic opportunities in more deprived areas – eg employment, services, transport, arts and culture.
<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.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential contribution of arts, culture and heritage to the well being of the district is not adequately recognised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure policies and developments take seek to maximise the contribution of arts, culture and heritage to the social, economic and environmental well being of the district.

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Cultural Heritage

- 3.16 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 designed by recognised 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.
 - Four parks and gardens registered as being of Special Historic Interest by English Heritage

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

- 3.17 South Lakeland has a wide variety of wildlife and a wealth of geological and geomorphological sites of interest, including impressive areas of limestone pavement. The district encompasses 23 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), which are areas of national nature conservation or geological importance. South Lakeland also contains over 200 County Wildlife sites designated by the Cumbria Wildlife Trust. 80.1% of SSSIs in South Lakeland are in a favourable or recovering condition compared to 77% for Cumbria and 75%. The district's coastline, comprising Morecambe Bay and the Duddon Estuary, is of international nature conservation importance and has been designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for wild birds and also as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), designated under the EU Habitat and Species Directive. The whole of the River Kent and its tributaries are also a designated SAC.
- 3.18 Outside the designated sites, the District supports a wide variety of important habitats and species. Key habitats include moorland, woodland (including ancient broadleaved woodland), lowland wet grasslands and saltmarsh. We have been working closely with Natural England, the Cumbria Wildlife Trust and Cumbria County Council's Ecologist to identify appropriate sustainability indicators for selected habitats and species and to provide more baseline information.

Landscape

- 3.19 All of the landscape of South Lakeland (including 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 Council's area. Most of the rest of district is designated as County Landscape. The extent of these designations means that they are often subject to development pressure, not just in low-lying areas adjoining settlements but also in upland areas, for example, in the search for suitable sites for wind energy developments.

Built Environment and Design

- 3.20 Many parts of towns and villages have significant townscape character and interest, both inside and outside designated Conservation Areas. Protecting and enhancing the district's built environment - old and new – demands good design, whether to respect the best of past styles or to create quality contemporary design that 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 and continue to implement and support this within the Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall long term decline in wider characteristic habitats and species, including that resulting from changing farming or land management practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure development proposals recognise need for habitat, species, landscape and geological conservation and enhancement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vulnerability of landscape to erosion of character - also loss of tranquillity and impact of lights on night sky 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure development seeks to protect, enhance and where possible restore landscape character throughout the district
<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 that promote good quality design

NATURAL RESOURCES

Air

- 3.21 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 (Lowther Street, Kirkland, Blackhall Road, Highgate, New Road) and at other sites in the town (Longpool, Parkside Road, Beezon Road). Recent changes to traffic management in Kendal have reduced air pollutants in the pedestrianised area of the town centre, but the problem has increased in the roads to which traffic has been displaced.

Water

- 3.22 The water quality of rivers in South Lakeland is high. 91.4% of the river length in the district is classified as good for chemical quality and 95.96% is classified as good for biological quality. Threats to water quality include spillage from industrial areas, run off from roads and drains, agricultural fertilisers and waste.
- 3.23 The use of water nationally continues to rise with customers of United Utilities using around 155 litres of water per day (2005/06), an increase of seven litres per day on 2002/03 figures (148ltrs). Unfortunately, figures are not currently available on a district level.
- 3.24 A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has recently been undertaken in the South Lakeland LDF area. The SFRA shows that flood risk is a significant 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 provide data on the number of planning applications permitted contrary to the advice of the Agency, where an objection was made on flood defence or water quality grounds. South Lakeland has

performed very well on this indicator, permitting no applications that the Environment Agency objected to since April 2004 unless satisfactory measures were taken by the applicant to rectify the issue of concern prior to consent being given. 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 and due to concern over the potential effects of climate change.

Land and Soil

- 3.25 South Lakeland has significant areas of undeveloped land, mainly agricultural, which it is important to conserve both in the interests of efficient land use and for agriculture. A large proportion of South Lakeland comprises 'freely draining slightly acid loamy soils'. Government policy requires 'brownfield' land (i.e. land that has been previously developed) to be considered for development in preference to 'greenfield' land. In 2006/07 57% of new dwellings were completed on brownfield land or through conversion of existing buildings, compared to the Cumbrian target of 50%.

Waste and Recycling

- 3.26 Most of South Lakeland's waste goes to land fill sites outside the district. The amount of waste collected continues to rise, standing at 515 kg per person for 2006/07, a rise from 466kg per person in 2003/4. This compared with 596kg per person for Cumbria as a whole in 2006/07. Recycling of waste can help reduce the need for raw resources and landfill/waste disposal sites. In 2006/07 31% of South Lakeland's waste was recycled or composted compared to 34.22% across Cumbria. This represents a 14% increase in recycling in the district from the previous year.

Climate

- 3.27 South Lakeland shares in the global challenge of being at risk from the effects of climate change and taking action to mitigate against and adapt to them. In particular, currently, the issues of flooding and flood risk are perhaps most evident in the district. 1.2% of the district's total housing stock falls within an area that has a 1% (1 in 100 year) flood risk in relation to river flooding. A lesser, yet still significant number are at risk from tidal flooding and flooding from minor watercourses. Flood depths and flood frequency are expected to increase as a result of climate change.
- 3.28 Other negative impacts of climate change in the district may include effects on biodiversity, agriculture and our lifestyles and homes due to changes in weather patterns and weather extremes.
- 3.29 Also relating to climate change are waste generation and car journeys. South Lakeland has levels of waste production and car use higher than the UK averages.

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 that conserves water and reduces or removes risk of pollution to water sources.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing opportunities to develop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guide new development to maximise

brown field sites in preference to greenfield sites.	use of brown field sites and minimise use of greenfield sites.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of flooding 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 improvements in recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure new developments minimise waste and 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 green house gas emissions; require new developments to be energy efficient in their design, construction and use.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Structure

3.30 South Lakeland's economic structure (2006) is set out in the table below:

Employment Type	Percentage
Agriculture, fishing, mining and quarrying	2.1%
Gas, water and electricity	0.5%
Manufacturing	10.6%
Construction	5.2%
Distribution/Retailing/Hotels/Catering	37.7%
Transport/Communications	4.0%
Banking/Finance/Insurance	1.2%
Business Activities	10.5%
Public and Other Services	28.3%

South Lakeland is 'over represented' in distribution, retailing hotels and catering (37.7%) compared to the national average of 23.5%, reflecting the importance of the tourism industry in the area. The financial and business sectors are 'under represented', employing a total of 11.7% of the workforce in South Lakeland compared to 21.2% working in these sectors in England and Wales. South Lakeland's economic activity rate stood at 82.6% in 2006, comparing favourably with 76.5% for the North West and the national average of 78.2%. The challenges facing the agricultural industry have increased in recent years – not just from the 'foot and mouth crisis'. Farm diversification related development has increased as a result.

Wealth Creation

- 3.31 The technical measure of wealth creation is 'Gross Value Added' (GVA) – the amount of value that the economy collectively adds to the value of goods and services that 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) was, until recently, consistently one or two percentage points below that for West Cumbria and the county average. In 2004 East Cumbria's GVA was 83% of the UK average, an increase of 3% on 2003's figures and in 2005 had risen to 85% of the UK average. GVA for the East of the county is now rising more quickly than that of West Cumbria.

Land Supply

- 3.32 A key challenge of the forthcoming LDF will be to provide sufficient new employment land of the right quality and right locations to meet the requirements and needs of local industry. An Employment Land Study commissioned by the District Council in 2006 has confirmed the extent of need for employment land in South Lakeland and the undersupply of unconstrained sites.

Unemployment

- 3.33 Overall unemployment in South Lakeland is very low. In March 2007 the district's unemployment rate stood at 0.6%, based on residents claiming benefit. This compared to 2.6% for the North West and 2.4% for the UK.

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

Income

- 3.34 Based on mean weekly resident based earnings, South Lakeland has income levels above both the regional and national averages. However, when it comes to mean weekly workplace earnings, South Lakeland has income levels well below the regional and national averages. This reflects the fact that many people who live in the district work in higher paid jobs outside the district and many who work in the district cannot afford to live in the district due to low average wages.

Town Centres and Regeneration

- 3.35 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, now Kendal Futures Board, has put together the Kendal Economic Regeneration Action Plan to attract external funding to improve the town's assets and competitiveness. SLDC, with partners, are exploring several ambitious regeneration projects aiming towards 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 a range of types and locations 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 well-paid work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide adequate land for employment development of range of types and locations to meet various business needs, including knowledge-based industry. Enable development of small units in suitable locations, working with relevant agencies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism, arts and culture are important but have potential to make a greater contribution to the local economy through higher value outputs and higher wages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop policies which promote higher value outputs and higher wages from tourism, arts and culture
<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 that 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, heritage, culture and tourism.
<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 2001/42EC – ‘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)
- The European Landscape Convention – Florence Convention (2002)
- Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised) – Valetta Convention (1992)
- Convention for the Protection of Architectural Heritage of Europe – Granada (1985)
- The European Spatial Development Perspective – Brussels (1999)

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 3: Housing (CLG, November 2006)
- 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 (CLG, December 2006)
- 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)
- The First Soil Action Plan for England 2004-2006 (DEFRA, 2004)
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- The Government statement 'The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future' (DCMS, 2001)

Regional

- North West Regional Spatial Strategy
- 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)
- Regional Spatial Strategy for North West of England, Submitted Draft (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)
- The Agenda for Growth – The Regional Forestry Framework for England’s Northwest (Northwest Regional Forestry Framework Partnership, 2005)
- Streets for All, North West (English Heritage, 2005)

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; adopted April 2006.
- Replacement Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan, Technical Paper 8 – Sustainability Appraisal (2002), Paper 7 - Monitoring and Implementation (2002), Paper 5 – Landscape Character (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)
- Cumbria Historic Landscape Characterisation programme (Cumbria County Council, LDNPA, English Heritage) (incomplete)

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
- Employment Land and Premises Study, December 2005 (SLDC)
- Ulverston Conservation Area Appraisal, South Lakeland Conservation Officer (Adopted May 2006)
- Kendal Conservation Area Appraisal, South Lakeland Conservation Officer (Adopted December 2007)
- Grange-over-Sands Conservation Area Appraisal, South Lakeland Conservation Officer (Adopted August 2006)

APPENDIX 2 – Sustainability Objectives and Appraisal Questions

Underlining indicates Changes resulting from consultation on the Draft Scoping Report

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 the affordability of access 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 help ensure those with disabilities have physical access to transport, facilities, buildings and public spaces?
		SP2.4	Will it promote and facilitate access to, and opportunities to enjoy, the countryside, historic environment and green open space?
SP3	To provide everyone with a decent home	SP3.1	Will it help meet local housing needs, by providing housing that is of 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 the district residents adapt to economic change and obtain new skills and training where necessary?
		SP4.3	Will it enable people to live sustainable lifestyles?

SP5	To improve people's health and sense of well-being	<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 everyone in South Lakeland?</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, a sense of place and sense of local history?</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 and geodiversity	<p>EN 1.1 Will it protect and conserve habitats, species, geological and geomorphological sites, especially where these may be rare, declining, threatened or indigenous?</p> <p>EN 1.2 Will it help 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 for future generations	<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>
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EN3	To improve the quality of the built environment	<p>EN3.1 Will it protect, conserve and enhance areas, buildings and features of historic, heritage 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 repair, maintenance and adaptive reuse of buildings, incorporating 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> <p>EN3.7 Will it improve people's satisfaction with their neighbourhoods as places to live?</p>
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SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NR1	To improve local air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote renewable energy and energy efficiency and reduce need to travel	<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 or water?</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 and encourage methods of adapting to and mitigating climatic 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 reduce pressure on watercourses/water bodies from diffuse pollution such as agricultural waste, fertilizer and run-off from drains and concrete surfaces?</p> <p>NR2.6 Will it encourage prudent water usage to reduce pressure on water resources?</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 and encourage recycling	NR4.1 Will it minimise the amount of domestic, commercial and industrial waste 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, social enterprise and inward investment? 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 economic conditions and infrastructure provision to encourage private sector investment? EC3.2 Will it stimulate the use of local companies, local products, services, heritage and culture and provide other forms of community benefit? EC3.3 Will it encourage indigenous growth of local firms? EC3.4 Will it encourage diversification, innovation and entrepreneurship, particularly in rural areas? EC3.5 Will it help to facilitate the provision of financial assistance to local businesses? EC3.6 Will it help improve the competitiveness and productivity of the local economy, increasing GVA? EC3.7 Will it increase the environmental performance of local companies and their products/services? EC3.8 Will it support research and development into environmental and other technologies, including opportunities to recycle and re-use waste?

APPENDIX 3 - Indicators and Baseline Data

		LDF Influence High/ Medium/ Low				Comments	
SP1 - To increase the level of participation in democratic processes	% Community groups consulted responding to SLDC LDF consultation*	H	SLDC Statement of Community Involvement July/August 2005 3.8% SLDC Core Strategy – Issues & Options December 2005 8%	None	None available at present		Aim to consult as effectively as possible but can not directly control actual numbers of respondents
			Source: SLDC Development Plans Team * The percentage of those community groups consulted who responded to consultation				
	Election turn-out	L	SLDC 2005 69.1% (County - Also General Election on the same day)	Eden District 2005 64.5% (County - Also General Election on the same day)	SLDC 2000 42.1% 2001 66.0% (County - Also General Election on the same day) 2002 40.9% 2003 44.1% 2004 55.0%	Eden District 1999 37.0% 2001 63.9% (County - Also General Election on the same day) 2003 33.6%	Figures are skewed where county and general elections were held on the same day as people could have been counted twice, hence the high figures
			Source: Audit Commission Area Profiles Website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk ; UK Elections Centre, Plymouth - elections@plymouth.ac.uk				

SP2 - To improve access to services & facilities, the countryside & open spaces	Amount of new residential development within 30 mins. public transport travel time of a GP, hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment and major retail centre(s)	H	SLDC 06/07 GP (219) 91% Hospital (175) 73% Primary (219) 91% Secondary (219) 91% Employment (219) 91% Retail Centre (219) 91%	Cumbria Average 2006/07 (excluding YDNPA area) GP 88% Hospital 64% Primary 91% Secondary 81% Employment 83% Retail 86% Cumbria Average 2005/06 (excludes Barrow and YDNPA areas) GP 86% Hospital 63% Primary 90% Secondary 89% Employment 83% Retail 85%	SLDC 2005/06 GP 89% Hospital 76% Primary 95% Secondary 94% Employment 93% Retail Centre 94%	South Lakeland has a greater percentage of new residential development within 30 mins. public transport time of all the identified facilities or services compared to the Cumbrian averages. However, the percentage of completed dwellings falling within the 30 minutes public transport time threshold is lower than last year's figure for all services except GP's. When compared to other districts the district fares best in respect of hospital, secondary school, employment and retail access
	Percentage of rural households within set distances (either 4km or 2km) of key services	H	Data not currently available at district level	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	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	
	The % of the population within 20 mins. travel time (urban walking, rural by car) of different sports facility types, one of which has achieved a quality mark.	M	SLDC 2006 49.97% Source: Audit Commission Area Profiles Website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk	Eden 2006 1.33% Eden 2005 2.1%	SLDC 2005 46.6%	Favourable and apparently improving position in comparison to neighbouring district

SP3 - To provide everyone with a decent home	Number of affordable homes completed (both by registered social land lords and planning obligation) and as a % of all dwelling completions	H	SLDC 2006/07 39 affordable dwellings completed (16%)		SLDC 05/06 99 gross and net 31% of total net housing completions 04/05 14 Gross and Net 6% of total net annual housing completions Target 50%	Number of affordable units was increasing year on year from 2001-2004 but dropped to below 2001/02 levels in 2004/05. This is not a favourable trend.
	House price/earnings ratio based on average gross household income	M	SLDC 2005 5.85	UK 2005 4.36 UK 2004 4.13 Cumbria 2005 4.05 Cumbria 2004 3.43	SLDC 2004 5.32 2003 5.79	Escalating house prices, South Lakeland has higher property prices than all other Cumbrian authorities. Heavy reliance on low paid jobs. Figure based on two people's earnings – increase in single person households – ratio based on one person's earnings would be a lot more.
			Source: Audit Commission Area Profiles Website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk Joseph Rowntree Federation http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/housing/024.asp			
	% residents who think that for their local area over the past three years, affordable, decent housing has got better or stayed the same	H	SLDC 2003/04 38.31%	Cumbria 2003/04 42.46% Eden District 2003/04 35.24 %	None possible at present	Slightly lower in comparison to Cumbria as a whole, but favourable in comparison to a neighbouring district.
	Source: Audit Commission Area Profiles website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk					
SP4 - To improve the level of skills, education and training	% Working Population with NVQ4 or higher	M	SLDC 2006 31.9%	UK 2006 27.4% NW 2006 24.8%	SLDC 2005 30.2%	A higher than average proportion of the working age population have good qualifications whilst a lower than average proportion have no
	% working age	M	SLDC 2006 4.6%	UK 2006 13.8%	SLDC 2005 9.9%	
			Source: www.nomisweb.co.uk			

	population with no qualifications		Source: www.nomisweb.co.uk			qualifications. Ensuring provision for higher quality employment and training is made will be a key aim for the LDF.
SP5 - To improve the health and sense of well-being of people	Crime rate: Incidences of crime per 1000 population per year	L	SLDC 2006/07 54.5	Cumbria 2006/07 77.4	SLDC 2004/05 59.13 2002/03 47	Levels of crime in the district are lower than the Cumbrian average and appear to be reducing. This is a favourable position
			Source: Cumbria Police			
	Life Expectancy at Birth (male & female in years)	L	SLDC 2003/05 78.6 M 82.7 F	England 2003/05 76.9 M England 2003/05 81.1 F NW 2003/05 75.4 M NW 2003/05 79.9 F	SLDC 2002/04 78.1 M 82.1 F	South Lakeland has a higher than average and gradually increasing life expectancy. This is a positive situation but also has implications for service provision in terms of an aging population
			Source: (www.nwpho.org.uk/life-expectancy) J.P.Hooper@ljmu.ac.uk www.communityhealthprofiles.info			
	% Households with 1 or more person with a limiting long term illness	L	SLDC 2001 census 33% 14,688 households out of a total of 44,129 households in South Lakeland	Cumbria 2001 census 37% 76,365 households out of a total of 209,027 households Cumbria 1991 census 23% 48,199 households out of a total of 210,311 households	SLDC 1991 census 20% 9,213 households out of a total of 45,715 households in South Lakeland	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.
Source: 2001 & 1991 Census of Population & Cumbria County Council Website, Information & Intelligence Unit http://www.cumbriacc.gov.uk/ ; Audit Commission Area Profiles website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk						

	% Residents feeling 'safe' or 'fairly safe' outside in the local area after dark	L	SLDC 2005 78%	2004/05 Cumbria 84% Eden District 75.7% Copeland Borough 71.3% Allerdale District 76.9% Barrow Borough 65.7% Carlisle City 67.4%	None possible at present	Cumbria figure has minimally reduced. South Lakeland is in the most favourable position of all Cumbrian districts with regards to this indicator
Source: Audit Commission Area Profiles Website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk ; Cumbria Police Authority - Rachel.Norman@cumbria.police.uk						
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	SLDC 2004/05 0	Cumbria 2004/05 34.70 2002/03 44 2003/04 36	SLDC 2002/03 0 SLDC 2003/04 0	Position throughout Cumbria favourable – levels of racial incidents decreasing. However, should be aware that the '0' outturns may exist due to a low population of people from origins outside the UK. This population is now increasing and this situation may therefore change in the coming years.
	Source: SLDC BVPI No.174 monitoring; Audit Commission Website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk ; BVPI data provision 2003/04 & 2002/03					
	Percentage of residents who think for their local area over the past three years, that race relations have got better or stayed the same	L	SLDC 2003/04 90.78%	Cumbria 2003/04 85.08%	None possible at present	Favourable situation in comparison to Cumbria and neighbouring district, though, as above, this may change as the population of those from non-UK origins increases
Source: Audit commission Area Profiles website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk						

	% of residents who think that over the past three years, that cultural facilities (e.g. cinemas, museums) have got better or stayed the same	M	SLDC 2003/04 95.69%	Cumbria 2003/04 79.56%	No trend data currently available	Favourable situation in comparison to Cumbrian average
	Source: Audit Commission Area Profiles Website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk					
			Source:			
EN1 - To protect and enhance biodiversity	% SSSIs in favourable or recovering condition (ha)	L	SLDC 2006/07 80.1%	Cumbria 2006 77% Cumbria 2004 71.4%	SLDC 2005 83% 2004 88.8%	
	Source: Natural England					
	Total area designated as SSSI's (ha)	L	SLDC 2006/07 16,116.84ha		SLDC 2005 34,579.64ha 2003 34,483.23ha	There has been an apparent reduction in the area designated as SSSI, however, changes to Natural England's monitoring of SSSIs mean that the data given this year accounts only for SSSI area within South Lakeland whereas previous year's figures included areas in neighbouring districts where part of a site fell within South Lakeland. English Nature has assured SLDC that there has been no actual loss or increase.
			Source: English Nature			

	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. The system went live during 2005. District level data will not be available until later in 2006.	None possible at present March 2006	None possible at present March 2006	None possible at present March 2006	None possible at present March 2006
Source: BARS website: http://www.uk-bap-reporting.org.uk/							
	Breeding woodland birds: species per km²	M	25.7/km² 2004	National average 22.9/km² 2004 (from a report published by Reading University on the DEFRA website)	None available at present March 2006	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	Quality of Life headline indicator. DEFRA have developed an indicator for this, e-mailed 10/3/06. Regular data only available at a regional level.
Source: 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, SL data from a report published by Reading University on the DEFRA website							
EN2 - To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character for future	% Dwellings built on greenfield land	H	SLDC 2006/07 43%		SLDC 04/05 41.82% 03/04 50% 02/03 46.5% 01/02 56% 00/01 64%		
			Source: SLDC monitoring				
	Number of Tree	L	SLDC 2006/07 4		SLDC		

generations	Preservation Orders made		Source: SLDC Planning Services		05/06 7 04/05 5	
	No. of stewardship schemes	L	To research (added March 06)	To research	None possible at present	To research (new indicator added March 06)
	Source: www.magic.gov.uk					
	A woodland indicator such as no. woodland grant schemes		To research (added March 06)	To research	None possible at present	To research (new indicator added March 06)
	Source: www.magic.gov.uk					
EN3 - To improve the quality of the built environment	% Listed buildings at risk (all grades)	M	SLDC 2007 5 in LDF area 0.17% of 2834 listed buildings in whole district	Eden 2006 5 Listed Buildings at Risk: 0.25% of 1962 listed buildings Eden 2007 5 Listed buildings at risk 0.25% of 1962 listed buildings	SLDC 2006 5 in LDF area 0.18% of 2835 listed buildings in whole district	
			Source: English Heritage Buildings at risk list http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1424			
	% Grade I and II Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) at risk	M	SLDC 2007 5 8.3% of 60 SAMs	Eden District 2006 9 Scheduled Ancient Monuments at risk: 3% of 298 scheduled ancient monuments	SLDC 2006 9 Scheduled Ancient Monuments at risk: 15% of 60 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (this figure included SAMs that are not GI or GII listed)	
			Source: SLDC, English Heritage Buildings at Risk List http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1424			
	Number of Conservation Area appraisals undertaken	M	SLDC March 2007 3 reviewed 2 under review		SLDC March 2006 2 Reviewed 3 Under review	Reviews of conservation areas are ongoing successfully
			Source: SLDC BVPIs			
	Number and % of eligible residential development	H	SLDC 2006/07 1 development 100%		None possible at present March 2006	

	completions meeting Local Plan open space provision standards		Source: SLDC Monitoring				
NR1 - To improve local air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote renewable energy and energy efficiency and reduce the need to travel	Nitrogen Dioxide NO ₂ (the annual average concentration levels (ug/m3) for both Kendal and Ulverston)	M	2006/07 Lowther Street, Kendal 44.4µg/m ³ Fountain Street, Ulverston 26µg/m ³		2005 Lowther Street Kendal 52µg/m ³ Fountain Street, Ulverston 24µg/m ³		NO ₂ levels are declining across the district as a whole, however, there are still pockets of higher levels of NO ₂ in the town centres. 40µg/m ³ is the nationally accepted maximum.
			Source: SLDC Environmental Protection diffusion tube data r.shaw@southlakeland.gov.uk				
	Total CO ₂ Emissions (tonnes per capita)	H	SLDC 2003 13.9	Eden 2003 24.7	No trend data currently available		In Cumbria, only Eden district has a greater tonnage of CO ₂ emissions per capita than South Lakeland; this is not a favourable position. South Lakeland is in the worst quarter nationally.
			Source: Audit Commission				
	Renewable energy capacity installed by type (MW)	H	SLDC 2006/07 Micro wind 0.017MW Solar 0.00441 GSHP 0.01MW Total 0.0314 MW		No trend data currently available		
			Source: SLDC Monitoring				
No. businesses gaining energy efficiency standards awards	M	None yet available, seeking data source	None yet available, seeking data source	None possible at March 06	None possible at March 06	None possible at March 06	

	No. businesses working towards Bronze, Silver or Gold of the Cumbria Business Environment Network (CBEN) Environmental Awards Scheme	M	LDF area March 2006 14 Whole district March 2006 32	Seeking data for comparator area	None possible at March 06	
	Source: CREA, Cumbria Business Environment Network					

NR2 - To improve water quality and water resources	No. of planning applications permitted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency where the objection was made on flood defence or water quality grounds	H	SLDC 2006/07 0		SLDC 05/06 0 04/05 0 03/04 10	
			Source: Environment Agency			
	% River length where water quality is considered good (Chem. and Bio.)	M	SLDC 2006 91.4% Chem. 95.96% Bio.	NW 2006 63.2 % Chem. 55.99% Bio. NW 2005 62.6% Chem. 55.02% Bio.	SLDC 2005 90.9% Chem. 88.14% Bio. SLDC 2004 91.10 % Chem. 88.15% Bio	There has been an encouraging increase river quality in the district in relation to biological water quality. Whilst there has been an improvement in chemical water quality since 2005, levels still fall short of those identified in 2004. The quality of South Lakeland rivers remains well above the average for the region.
	Daily Domestic Water Use per capita	M	Data not available at district level	2004/05 – 144 (UU) 154 National		1997/98 - 141 (UU); 150 (national) 1998/99 - 138; 148 1999/00 - 140; 151 2000/01 - 141; 152 2001/02 - 142; 153 2002/03 - 149; 153 2003/04 - 150; 158
Source: United Utilities contact david.hardman@uuplc.co.uk						

	Number and percentage of homes and/or businesses with water saving measures	M	To research	To research	None possible at March 06	None possible at March 06
	Source: Not yet known					
NR3 - To restore and protect land and soil	% new and converted dwellings on previously-developed land (PDL)	H	SLDC 2006/07 57%	Targets 60% National 50% Cumbria	SLDC 05/06 57.62% 04/05 58.18%	
			Source: SLDC Monitoring			
NR4 - To manage mineral resources sustainably, minimise waste and encourage recycling	Proportion of housing provision built at a) <30 dwellings per ha. (net) b) 30 and 50 dwellings per ha. (net) c) >50 dwellings per ha. (net)	H	SLDC 2006/07 a) 32.93% b) 33.33% c) 33.74%	NW 04/05 a) 21.3% b) 31.2% c) 46.6% 05/06 a) 15.1% b) 31.5% c) 53.4%	SLDC 05/06 a) 36.1% b) 15.6% c) 48.3%	
			Source: SLDC Monitoring/NW Monitoring			
	Volume of Household waste collected per person per year (kg per head)	L	SLDC 2006/07 515.6kg	Eden 06/07 560kg 05/06 485kg 03/04 496kg Cumbria 06/07 596.41kg 05/06 635.88kg National Average 03/04 438.84kg	SLDC 05/06 493.9kg 04/05 506.4kg 03/04 466.0kg	
			Source: SLDC Monitoring/CCC			

	% Household waste collected which is recycled or composted	L	SLDC 2006/07 16.83% (Recycled) 14.11% (Composted)	Eden 06/07 22.11% (R) 18.81% (C) 05/06 21.08% (R) 15.88% (C) 04/05 18.93% (R) 14% (C) Cumbria 06/07 19.43% (R) 14.79% (C) 05/06 16.12% (R) 13.81% (C)	SLDC 05/06 14.50% (R) 12.20% (C) 04/05 13.02% (R) 9.61% (C) 03/04 11.59% (R) 3.29% (C)	
			Source: SLDC Monitoring/CCC			

EC1 - To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities.	Employment land available by type	H	SLDC 2006/07 By Employment Market Sector: Business Park 2.20 Ha Local Employment 15.26 Ha Strategic 5.05 Ha Own use 1.11 Ha Total excluding own use: 22.51	Structure Plan minimum Requirement/supply for the Plan Period 2006 – 2011 (Ha) JSP Policy EM 13 – Business Park: 6 Ha Local Employment: 8 Ha Strategic: 10 Ha Total target 24 Ha	SLDC 05/06 Employment Market Sector: Business Park 2.20 ha Local Employment 16.26 ha Own Use 0.13 ha Strategic 5.05 ha Total: 23.64 ha	
	Amount of employment land lost to residential development	H	SLDC 2006/07 0 ha		SLDC 05/06 0 ha	
			Source: SLDC Monitoring			
EC2 - To improve access to jobs	% of the working age population that are JSA claimants	M	SLDC March 2007 0.6%	NW March 2007 2.6%	SLDC March 2006 0.85%	
			Source: Invest in Cumbria			

	The percentage of the resident population travelling over 20 km to work	M	13.4% 2001	2001 Cumbria 12.8% Eden District 16.6% National average 14.16%			
Source: Audit Commission Area Profiles Website http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk							
	Percentage and total number of employed residents who work outside Cumbria	L	4,459 2004 10.5% of employed residents	None available at present	None available at present	None available at present	None available at present
Source: Cumbria County Council Information & Intelligence Unit http://www.cumbriacc.gov.uk/							
EC3 - To diversify and strengthen the local economy	Economic Activity rate expressed as a % of all working age people	M	SLDC 2006 82.6%	National Average 2006 78.2% NW 2006 76.5%	SLDC 2005 84.5%		
			Source: Invest in Cumbria				
	Amount of floor space developed for employment by type	L	SLDC 2006/07 B1a 0 m ² B1b 0 m ² B1c 1453 m ² B2 0 m ² B8 0 m ² Total : 1453 m ²		SLDC 05/06 B1a 2630 m ² B1b 0 m ² B1c 0 m ² B2 200 m ² B8 0 m ² Total : 2830 m ²		
			Source: CCC				
	Number of Rural Diversification Schemes	L	SLDC 2005/06 25		None available at present		
Source: Rural Development Service North West – John Redgate john.redgate@defra.gsi.gov.uk							

	GVA £ per head	M	East Cumbria 2005 (Includes South Lakeland, Eden and Carlisle LA Districts) £15,187 per head	NW 2005 £15,571	East Cumbria 2004 (includes South Lakeland, Eden and Carlisle LA Districts) £14,262 per head	East Cumbria is currently growing more than twice as fast as West Cumbria in terms of GVA
			Source: Invest in Cumbria/CCC			

APPENDIX 4 – Consultees

Consultation on the Draft Scoping Report included:

- 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

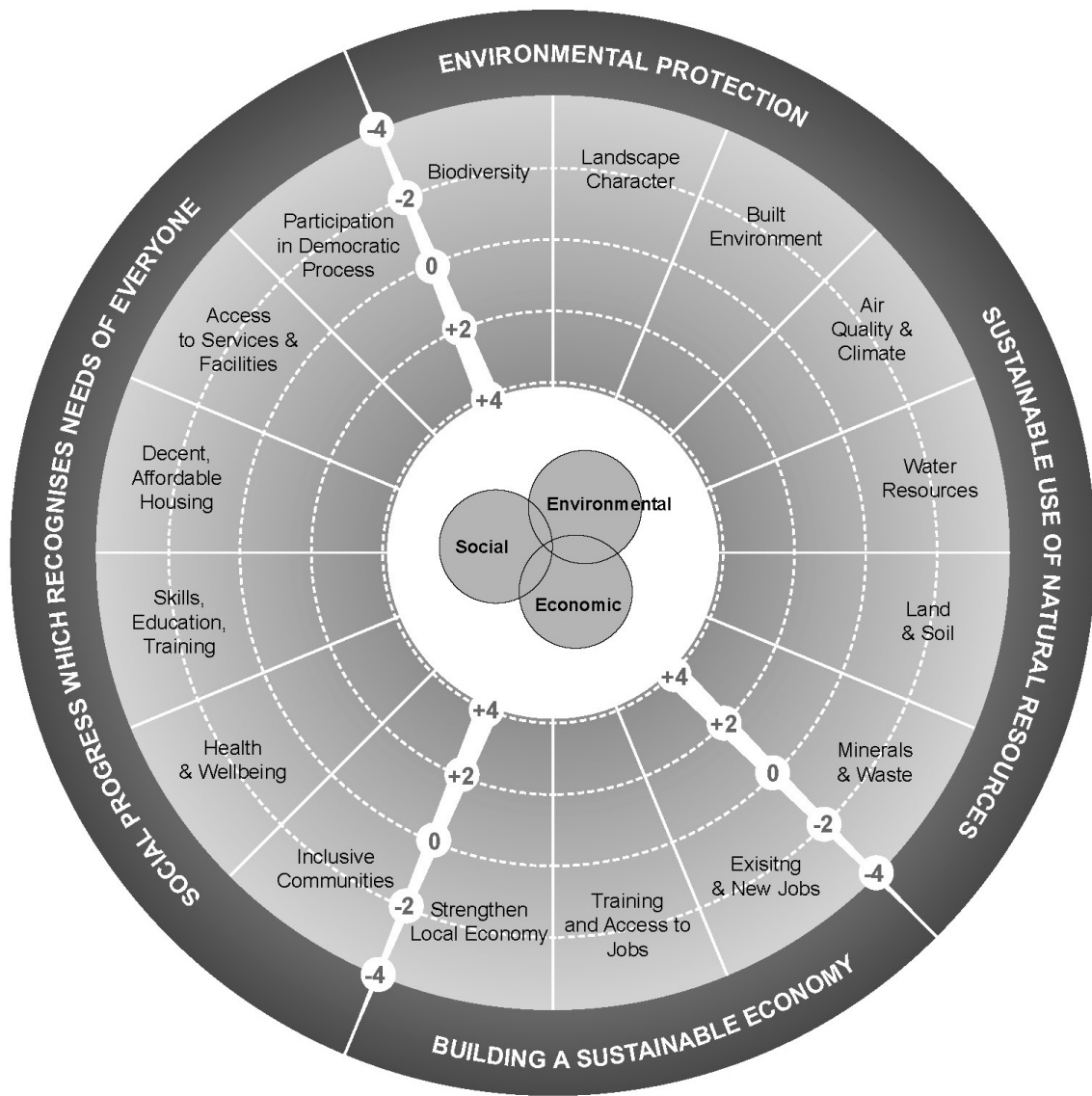
Other External Organisations

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

Sustainability Appraisal of Core Strategy – Issues and Options					
<u>Key</u>					
Impact		Timeframe		Geographic Scale	
Major Positive	+4	Short Term	S	Local	L
Positive	+2	Medium Term	M	District Wide	D
No Impact	0	Long Term	L	Urban	U
Negative	-2			Rural	R
Major Negative	-4				
Uncertain	?				
Comments and Mitigation: (describe nature of impact; reasons for impact assessment and score; and suggestions for mitigation)					
E.G. <u>DEVELOPMENT OPTION 1: FOCUSSED DISTRIBUTION</u>					
SOCIAL PROGRESS					
Sustainability Objective SP1: To increase the level of participation in democratic processes					
Timeframe		e.g. S/M			
Geographic Scale		e.g. D			
Cumulative Impact?		e.g. No			
Impact Score		e.g. +2			
Comments and Mitigation					
Sustainability Objective SP2: To improve access to services & facilities, the countryside & open spaces					
Timeframe					
Geographic Scale					
Cumulative Impact?					
Impact Score					
Comments and Mitigation					
Sustainability Objective SP3... etc					

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



See paragraph 2.17 for description of use of Scoring Wheel.

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.

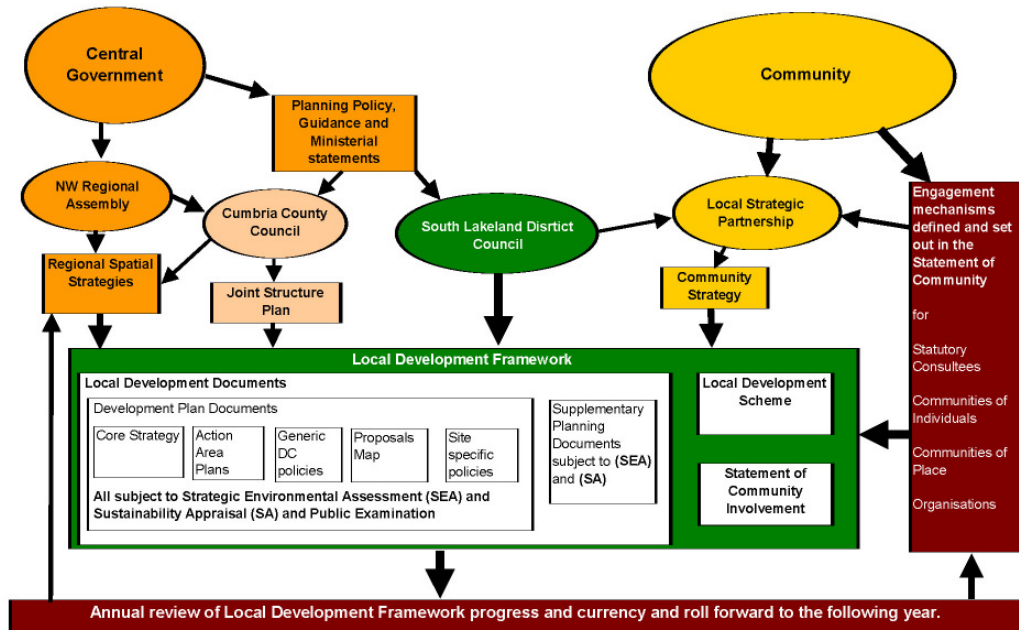
APPENDIX 8– Policy Context for South Lakeland LDF

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 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 area’s 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, Kendal and Ulverston are identified as sub-area development priorities.

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 the revised document was published in April 2006. The Structure Plan sets out a spatial strategy for Cumbria up to the year 2016 and forms part of the basis for the preparation of the Local Development Framework. The Structure Plan will be subsumed within the Cumbria sub regional strategy section of the new Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).
- 1.13 The Structure Plan identifies that South Lakeland District covers 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, meet 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 have prepared 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 – Preliminary Appraisal of Core Strategy Issues and Options and Proposed Changes

1. Note of Sustainability Appraisal Panel Preliminary Meeting 17 October 2005

1.1 Apologies: Erica Donnison (English Nature)
Debbie Binch (Cumbria CC Neighbourhood Forums)
Steve Richards (SLDC Policy Group)

Present: Audrey Taylor (Economic Development Officer SLDC)
Jeremy Pickup (Environment Agency)
Scott Burns (Environmental Protection SLDC)
Alex McKenzie (Cumbria CC's Sustainability Manager)
Lorayne Woodend (Development Plans Assistant)
Alastair McNeill (Development Plans Officer, SLDC)

1.1 Introduction

- Folders containing the agenda for the meeting, list of panel and 'pool' members, Principles and Options, Core Strategy and Scoping Report were handed out to each panel member present
- Each person present introduced themselves
- A summary and background of the LDF was given including information on the new planning system, SA, SEA, the various documents, how it is all to fit together, how the appraisal process and methodology will proceed as a result
- Brief given on the contents of the folders so that the panel were aware of the extent of the information they had before them

1.2 Appraisal Panel and Pool Members

- The membership of the Appraisal Panel and 'pool' members was discussed and the following suggestions for additional members noted:
 - Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency (Bob Clarke or Terry Jarvis)
 - Nick Raymond (or other) from highways/transport background
 - Job Centre Plus
 - Sustrans
 - Friends of the lake District.

1.3 Objectives and Appraisal Questions

- Objectives and Appraisal Questions were considered; the background to these was given, along with details on the structure of the table and how the questions would assist in appraisal
- This led to an explanation of the appraisal process, whilst looking through the questions and objectives to familiarise the panel with them

1.4 Scoring Methods and the Appraisal Wheel

- The scoring methods and explanation of the 'appraisal wheel' were summarised
- Panel members were asked for their initial views on the objectives, questions, scoring methods and wheel. It was pointed out that:
 - this is a very subjective method
 - the objectives are very broad (wording)

1.6 Sustainability Indicators

- The indicators and their role were brought forward, and the background to the source and reasoning of these given

- It was suggested that additional or alternative indicators might be considered in some cases as some indicators did not fully account for monitoring of the relevant objective
- It was explained that the current list of indicators is not necessarily comprehensive or exhaustive and that the list is likely to evolve over the process of the LDF
- Scott Burns offered further advice on air quality indicators and is to draft some information for us regarding such advice (concerned that only long term air quality baseline is able to achieve meaningful results due to climatic circumstances and therefore our indicators might not provide this for a few years)
- Alex McKenzie also offered general assistance with monitoring issues
- It was suggested that:

NR3 indicator re: PDL was extended to include all new build not just dwellings

NR3 indicator re: waste was extended to include business waste not just domestic (Contact Nigel Christian Cumbria CC re: data on commercial waste, also EA)

EC1 : extend to 'loss of employment premises' as well as employment land also member asked why 'loss to residential' in particular. This was explained, partly due to pressure to provide housing.

EC2 Unemployment rates: could this include job vacancy rates to take into account number of jobs

available to those unemployed i.e. x number of people unemployed compared top x jobs available (this data can be provided by the job centre)

EC2: commuting data poss. available on last census

EC3 No. of Rural Diversification Schemes: ideas as to where to obtain the data: DEFRA, RES, CREA.

NR1 Suggested that CO2 has limited value for monitoring as data relates to big industrial sites

NR2 It should be considered in the water related indicators that there are a significant number of private water supplies in the district which will have bearing on the data and monitoring

NR3 indicator regarding contaminated land suggested

EN3 Should there be an indicator regarding the % of (new) buildings that meet BREEM requirements (Building Ctrl. Dept.)

1.7 Draft Core Strategy Review

- Discussion on the Core Strategy Issues and Options report was initiated
- An explanation was given as to how principles and options will be applied in appraisal and how they link to each other
- Comments on these were invited
- Discussion on the scope and interpretation of the principles followed
- It was suggested that P5 (and other guiding principles) may not allow for scope or balance to also reflect economic/social objectives
- P7, and others, could include utilising opportunities for enhancements coming about during development
- Mitigation of problems arising during development could be considered in some principles
- With regard to options, it was suggested that:

- Consideration should be taken of what is going on in terms of development patterns in surrounding areas.
- whether or not any of the 3 options share similarities/ links/integration possibilities with current/proposed development patterns in neighbouring districts/areas such as LDNP
- The panel offered no definite initial ideas on which option is 'best'. The panel were happy to see what comes of the appraisal.
- The meeting concluded with a reminder of the meeting in November for the appraisal to begin and information that more pool members would hopefully attend. No date set as yet.
- Members expressed interest in continued involvement in the panel/pool and general appraisal process, and thanked DP team members.

2. Proposed changes to SA Scoping Report and Core Strategy – Issues and Options in response to Preliminary Appraisal meeting held 17th October 2005

2.1 Appraisal Panel

- Four additions have been made to the list of members of the Sustainability Appraisal Panel pool; these are Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency, County Spatial Planning and Transport Team, Job Centre Plus, Friends of the Lake District.

2.2 Appraisal Methodology

- The original scoring table was replaced with a simpler table prior to the Issues and Option stage appraisal. This table was used to record the results of both appraisal exercises to date. It was suggested that each member of the panel could give a score verbally, rather than filling in a table for each appraisal question and that a majority vote could be taken to decide an overall score, which would then be fed into the interactive appraisal wheel. However, as the Issues and Options appraisal got underway it was agreed that the average of the scores given would be used to feed into the appraisal wheel so as not to discount the views of those who did not give the same score as the majority. For the Preferred Options stage appraisal, this methodology changed slightly again (see Section 2 of this report).

2.3 Indicators

- The sustainability indicators have been revised to take account more fully of the relevant objectives, however, there may still be some evolution of the indicators as new data sources become active.
- The baseline data has been further researched and new and more up-to-date data added.
- An indicator on the amount of employment floorspace provided on PDL will be added to complement the existing indicator on new dwellings provided on PDL or through the conversion of existing buildings.
- An indicator on job vacancy rates will be included to complement the existing indicator on unemployment rates.
- Advice was sought on including an indicator on commercial waste in addition to domestic. The Waste Management team at South Lakeland advised that as business waste is collected by a number of private companies as well as the district council, figures for this would be inaccurate.
- Indicators on commuting have been added.
- An indicator on the number of Rural Development Schemes in the district has been added. Data is currently pending from RDSNW.
- The indicator and data on CO₂, which related to large industrial sites only has been revised to include the carbon footprint of the district, encompassing the effects of

many day to day activities of the general public and industry in terms of production and consumption.

- Some small changes have been made to the sustainability appraisal objectives SP1 to EC3; these were suggested at the preliminary meeting to be too broad. Additions and alterations have also been made to the appraisal questions, these 'narrow down' and add clarification to the sustainability appraisal objectives.

2.4 Changes to Core Strategy – Issues and Options

- Development principle P8 has been expanded to include realising “Opportunities to make improvements to services, infrastructure and environmental quality” where feasible.
- A new development principle, P9 has been added to highlight that “Where development has adverse impacts, mitigation measures should be sought”.
- The wording of paragraph 6.6 has been altered to complement section 8 of the document and include that consideration should be taken of whether any option particularly complements the pattern of development in adjacent areas and if so, whether there is potential to develop beneficial linkages between South Lakeland and such neighbouring areas.

APPENDIX 10 - 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.
Appropriate Assessment (AA)	An Appropriate Assessment (AA) is required under the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. It involves assessing the impact of land-use plans, including Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents on Natura 2000 sites, which are of European wildlife importance,
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