

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL REPORT

WISTOW

Village Design Statement Supplementary Planning Document

**Selby District Council
Local Development Framework
May 2009**

Contents

1. Summary	Page 1
2. Introduction and Background	Page 2
3. Baseline and Context	Page 5
4. Sustainability Appraisal Framework	Page 10
5. Appraisal	Page 11
6. Mitigation	Page 14
7. Monitoring	Page 14

Appendices

1. Requirements of the SEA Directive	Page 15
2. Stages of the SA	Page 17
3. Appraisal of Local Plan Policy ENV1 Against Sustainability Criteria	Page 18
4. Appraisal of VDS SPD Options against Sustainability Objectives	Page 19
5. Appraisal of VDS SPD Objectives against SPD Objectives	Page 23
6. Appraisal of VDS SPD Options Against Sustainability Objectives	Page 24
7. Appraisal of VDS SPD Objectives Against Sustainability Objectives	Page 25

1. Summary

- 1.1** The Village Design Statement (VDS) Supplementary Planning Document is being produced to ensure that good quality design is applied throughout Wistow, including principles of sustainable design.
- 1.2** A sustainability appraisal is required for all Supplementary Planning Document produced under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. This must also incorporate the requirements for Strategic Environmental Assessments.
- 1.3** The Sustainability Appraisal has shown that the VDS Supplementary Planning Document will largely have a positive contribution towards meeting sustainability objectives, particularly in respect of conserving and enhancing the historic environment and landscape, and also in respect of promoting sustainable design.
- 1.4 Consultation**
This report has been produced to accompany the consultation on the Wistow VDS Supplementary Planning Document and is available as part of the consultation. The report is intended to show the extent to which the Supplementary Planning Document will contribute towards meeting sustainability objectives.

2. Introduction and Background

Village Design Statements

- 2.1 The Authority is working in partnership with various Parish Councils and local people in the production of Village Design Statements (VDS), which are to be adopted as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) in the Local Development Framework (LDF). The partnership ensures that local groups have a meaningful input into the preparation while the Council ensures that they comply with the regulations for producing a Supplementary Planning Document.
- 2.2 The VDS will analyse the layout, form, architecture, materials, land use and other such issues that collectively define the local "character". The VDS can then be used to inform the preparation of development proposals to ensure that the essential local character is not lost through inappropriately designed development. Further, the VDS will be used by the Council's Development Services section in making planning decisions.
- 2.3 Throughout the production process, each VDS prepared by the partnerships must be subject to several appraisals:
- SA: Sustainability Appraisal — Required under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Ensures that consideration of the document's to and impact upon sustainability objectives is integral to its production.
 - SEA: Strategic Environmental Assessment — Required under European Directive 2001/42/EC. Ensures that consideration of the document's effect on wildlife is integral to its production.
 - HRA: Habitat Regulations Assessment — Required under European Directive 92/43/EEC. Ensures that the document will not harm the integrity of Natura2000 sites
- 2.4 Although different processes, it is possible to satisfy both SA and SEA in a single appraisal, and therefore the Authority proposes a combined SA/SEA assessment. For the purposes of this document, the use of "SA" will therefore refer to both SA and SEA, although Appendix 1 shows specifically how the requirements of the SEA Directive will be met. HRA however follows different principles and therefore a separate assessment has been undertaken. One HRA Screening Assessment has been produced to cover all VDS SPDs in Selby District.

Guidance

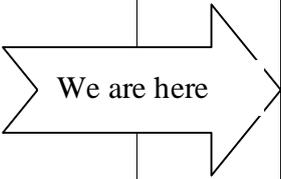
- 2.5 The SA has been undertaken in accordance with Government's guidance provided in *"Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents"*.

Methodology

2.6 SA should be incorporated into the production of a Supplementary Planning Document as set out in Table 1 below. Appendix 2 contains a more detailed table of the requirements of SA at each stage.

Table 1: Steps in production of SPD

STEP	SPD	SA/SEA	HRA
Step 1	Pre-production and Evidence gathering	Stage A: Scoping Report: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	Evidence gathering
Step 2	Prepare draft SPD and consultation	Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Report Stage D (1 and 2):	Establish likely significant effects Undertake the Appropriate Assessment and ascertain the effect on site integrity Identify mitigation measures and alternative solutions Revisit HRA if any substantial changes to SPD
Step 3	Adoption	Stage D (3): Making decisions and providing information Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the SPD	Publish final HRA



Sustainability Appraisal

- 2.7 This Sustainability Appraisal is the second phase in undertaking SA, covering Task B, C, D in Table 1. A Scoping Report was published for consultation with the three statutory bodies (Environment Agency, English Heritage and English nature) in November 2008. Their comments have been taken in to account in undertaking the Sustainability Appraisal.
- 2.8 This document therefore uses the framework established in the Scoping Report to assess the extent to which the draft Village Design Statement SPD will contribute towards meeting the objectives of sustainable development.

3. Baseline and context

- 3.1 The Scoping Report sets out the baseline information and the sustainability framework and objectives which will be used in undertaking the assessment. The final Scoping Report, which takes into account the consultation responses, is available upon request.
- 3.2 As part of the scoping stage other policies plans and programmes which are relevant to Selby District Council have been reviewed to ensure that the objectives are compatible. The review is contained in the Scoping Report.
- 3.3 The detailed baseline information for the Selby District is contained in the Scoping Report. A summary of the baseline is set out below:

The Baseline Position

Economic

- Agriculture has traditionally been important to the local economy and whilst it is declining, agriculture remains an important use of land and source of opportunities for rural diversification. Other employment in the District is concentrated in service villages in the form of shops and other local services, although since 2005 there has been an increasing decline in those rural services, particularly with the closure of more than 20 Post Offices in 2008.
- Although mainly rural, industry is well developed, with major industrial locations including the Drax and Eggborough power stations, the three breweries at Tadcaster and the Saint-Gobain Glass manufacturing plant.
- In 2001, 43.5% of the District population was in full-time employment, compared to 39% in Yorkshire and the Humber and 40.5% in England and Wales. In 2004 the Selby coal mining industry ended with the loss of 2200 jobs, leading to a localised downturn in the economic fortunes.
- According to 2006 ABI there were 28,174 jobs in District — 2,989 workplaces and 86.1'70 of workplaces employed 1-10 employees
- The largest employment sectors in the district are Business Services (26.5%), Wholesale/Retail (22.5%), Construction (11.9%) and Hotel/Restaurants (7.2%). Major industries include the brewing trade in Tadcaster and the power industry in Selby. Sherburn Industrial Park also accommodates a high number of employers within the District.
- Approximately 25% of Selby's residents are employed on a part-time basis, compared to 22% in Yorkshire and the Humber and just over 20% in England and Wales. Of the District population, over 2.5% were unemployed, compared to under 4% in Yorkshire and the Humber and under 3.5 % in England and Wales.
- In terms of skills, 26.3% of the working age population have NVQ4 or equivalent and above. This is above the region but lower than national figures. 11.2% of the working age population have no qualifications. This compares favourably with the region and national proportions.
- Unemployment figures in October 2008 show 1.9% for Selby, 1.7% in North Yorkshire, 3.0% in the Region, and 2.6% in Great Britain.

- In September 2004, just under 11.5% of people claiming work-related benefits in the District had been doing so for more than 12 months. This has fallen considerably since September 1999, when the figure stood at almost 25%.
- Between September 1999 and September 2004, the number of young people aged between 18 and 24 years, who were claiming work-related benefits, had declined by over 30% in the District. This was equal to the percentage reduction in Great Britain overall.
- Considerable out-commuting to Leeds, York and other employment centers, takes place from the District. In 2004 49% of commuting journeys originating within the District terminated outside the District. 16% of commuting journeys terminated in Leeds, 12% in York and 8% in Wakefield. This level of out-commuting is the highest in the Region.
- In general, the district is relatively wealthy, having the highest average annual income in both York and North Yorkshire (£32,794 in 2007) and is above the national average of £30,211. There are around 31,700 people employed in the district (excluding self-employed), a decrease of 5.9% from 2004/05. As of April 2008, claimant unemployment stood at 1.6%. This equates to a rate slightly higher than the North Yorkshire average of 1.3% and lower than both the Yorkshire and Humber (2.5%) and national GB averages (2.2%). There are relatively fewer full-time workers in Selby district on low pay compared with North Yorkshire. The district also has some of the highest earners nationally.

Social

- The District has a population of approximately 79,800 and contains the principal settlements of Selby (13,012), Tadcaster (6,059) and Sherburn in Elmet (6,221). The remainder of the population is dispersed throughout the District in the many significant villages and remote hamlets.
- The District is ranked 257th least-deprived out of 354 local authorities, according to the English Indices of Multiple Deprivation. Selby district has 8 Super Output Areas (SOAs) in the 10% *least* deprived areas. These include two SOAs in Brayton ward, two SOAs in Riccall with Escrick ward and one SOA in Tadcaster East ward, one in Monk Fryston, one in South Milford, and two in Sherburn in Elmet.
- Selby district also has only one SOA in the IMD's 25% *most* deprived areas: Selby North ward. This ward is in the most deprived 15%, but not the most deprived 10%.
- At the 2007 mid-year estimates, 4% of the district's population was aged over 45. Whilst the numbers of those aged 0-19 in the district is expected to remain around 18/19% to the year 2020, the percentages of those over 55 is expected to rise from 22% in 2005 to 28% in 2020.
- The population from the 2001 Census stands at 76,468 with an average household size of 2.48 Persons per dwelling. Residential dwellings completed between 1/4/2001 to 31/3/2008 stand at 3355 so 3355×2.48 (persons per dwelling) = approximately 8320 additional population. Therefore the approximate population as at 31/3/2008 is 84,788.
- The 2001 Census showed Selby District resident population was split 48.8% male and 51.2% female.

- Selby district's population is predominantly of white (99.3%) ethnic origin; the tenth highest percentage out of all 376 districts in England and Wales. The most prevalent ethnic minority group was Chinese (at 0.2% or 115 people). The small ethnic minority population is scattered across the district's towns, villages and hamlets. The percentage split is not expected to rise significantly to 2030. However, over the last 18 months the number of Eastern European migrant workers has increased considerably with a top estimate of 1,500 migrant workers and their families now living in the district.
- Most homes in the district (78%) are lived in by the owner, higher than the national average of 68%. Around 13% live in the social rented sector.
- The average house price in Selby district was £188,540 in the period July — September 2008 compared with £173,988 in the same period 2006, and £54,419 in 1996.
- The average gross annual household income in the district stands at £32,794 in March 2007, meaning that the average property now costs over five times the average household income.
- According to the mid-2003 Census estimates, 5.6% of houses in the District were without central heating. 0.1% had no bath/shower and toilet. In the same year, 3% of the District's houses were overcrowded.
- During 2007/08, Selby District Council was responsible for housing 256 households. The main reason people became homeless was that their parents asked them to leave the family home (34 cases in 2007/08) and the second most common reason was relationship breakdown (16 cases in 2007/08). The Council is currently working to address these issues with its partners.
- The district of Selby has 43 primary schools, and nearly 200 early-years settings including 161 registered childminders. Throughout the district there are 6 local education authority secondary schools. Two of the schools, Tadcaster Grammar and Sherburn High School, have sixth forms. There are two independent secondary schools in the area. Selby College, rated 'Outstanding' by OFSTED, offers further education for 16 to 19 year olds, and learning opportunities for adults are provided by a range of public and privately funded training providers, including Selby College and the North Yorkshire County Council Continuing Education Unit's Community Education Service.
- 62% of pupils achieved 5 or more GCSE's A* - C (DfES 2007), compared with 57.8% in the region, compared with 60.7% and 53.7% respectively in academic year 2003/04.
- This year from the 1 April 2007 to the 31 March 2008 Selby district has seen a reduction in overall crime of 4 %. This means there have been 207 recorded crimes less than in 2006/7.
- Domestic burglary has seen an increase of 8%, 19 more burglaries than last year
- Violent crime is down by 9%, 96 less offences than in 2006/7.
- There were 582 vehicle crimes last year; this is down 10%.
- BVPI General Satisfaction Surveys of 2003/4 and 2006/7:
- In 2003/4, 72% of respondents placed a low level of crime as the most important element contributing to a good quality of life; in 2006/7 this figure had fallen to 61 %.

- Residents were asked how safe they felt whilst out and about in the district. In 2003/4, 33.5% stated that they felt unsafe after dark; in 2006/7 this figure had improved to 31 %.
- In 2003/4, 53% of respondents felt that crime levels had worsened in the three years, only 49% felt that they had worsened in the three years prior to 2006/7.
- Residents were asked to identify which aspects of life in their local areas most needed improving. In 2003/4, lowering crime levels ranked first out of a list of 23 aspects but in 2006/7 lowering crime levels had fallen to third place out of a list of 20 elements that most needed improving.

In total there were 1,153 fewer BCS comparator crime committed in 2007/8 than in 2003/4, an overall reduction of 29.5%.

- There are currently a total of thirteen doctors' surgeries, nine dentists' surgeries, six ophthalmic surgeries and eight pharmacies serving the Plan area, mainly concentrated in and around Selby and Tadcaster.
- In 2001 8% of the Districts population considered their health to be 'not good'.
- In the district 16% of people have a limiting long-term illness, which is around the national average. People who claim Incapacity Benefit mainly live in the central and southern areas of the district. Life expectancy for residents is better than that for both the Yorkshire and Humber region and for England overall. Female life expectancy is 82.70 years and male life expectancy is 77.90 years.
- In 2008 2,800 people were claiming Disability Living Allowance in Selby (3.5% of population), 281,150 in Y&H (5.4%) and 2,646,120 in E&W (4.9% of population). This is higher in number than the 2003 figure of 2320, but as a percentage of the population is slightly lower at 3.6%.
- In 2003, 1,340 people in Selby received Attendance Allowance, which represented 11.6% of all those people aged 65 and over living in the area; this compared with 14.4% in England and Wales.

Environmental

- ® The District has a rich and diverse rural habitat. Selby contains notable 'Natural Areas', namely the Humberhead Levels, the Southern Magnesian Limestone Area and the Vale of York and Mowbray Natural Area. These contain a particular geology, wildlife, land use or cultural heritage distinguishing them from other natural areas in the UK.
- The District contains 14 SSSIs
- There are 144 Sites of Importance for nature conservation (SINCs).
- There are 3 Regional Character Areas which affect the District: The Vale of York; Southern Magnesian Limestone and The Humberhead Levels.
- The District benefits from well-developed transportation links. It is crossed by a number of railway lines and major roads, including the M62, A1, A19, A63 and A64.
- The A1 corridor within Selby District has Green Belt status.
- Selby Bypass opened in March 2004 with an investment of approximately £28 million, which has led to a significant reduction in traffic queueing in the town.

- There are six railway stations which, whilst primarily catering for commuter traffic, also provide access to other main line stations. There is a direct train service to London as well as access to the East Coast main line at York, Leeds and Doncaster.
- Notwithstanding the above, public transport connections to Leeds and York are good but public transport between the three towns and connections to surrounding villages could be improved. The remoteness of some areas and variable bus services has led to more people depending on cars. As a result, Selby district has the highest percentage of people who travel to work by car or van in North Yorkshire, and there is also a high percentage of households with two cars.
- Because of the transport issues from rural areas, 39% said they had difficulty using cultural and recreational facilities and 31% had difficulty getting to a local hospital. These are significant percentages and affect the most vulnerable groups such as the elderly, those with disabilities and those with young children in particular.
- As the area is largely flat cycling is a realistic and convenient form of transport.
- Within the District, there are 52 Scheduled Monuments, 631 Listed Buildings and 23 Conservation Areas (which cover a total of approximately 449 hectares -0.75% of the plan area).
- The District is also rich in archaeological remains and contains 52 scheduled sites of archaeological importance which includes upstanding monuments such as Cawood Castle and ruins such as Kyme Castle.
 - The District is characterised by open sparsely wooded arable landscapes. Substantial areas are classed by DEFRA as Grade 1, 2 and 3a quality.
- 1143 potential sites have been identified within Selby with contaminated land. In 2001 it was estimated that around 200-250 potential sites would be identified. This represents a 360% increase in sites (Contaminated Land Strategy Review, Selby District Council, 2004).
- The District contains several major watercourses including the rivers Ouse, Wharfe, Aire and Derwent. The Aire and Calder Navigation and the Selby Canal also pass through the District.
- Almost a quarter of the District falls within the 1 00yr flood level.
- The urban area of Selby situated in the flood plain benefits from existing flood defences.

4. Sustainability Appraisal Framework

4.1 The SA framework sets out the template for describing, analysing and comparing sustainability implications of the VDS. This should be done through the identification of Sustainability Objectives.

4.2 The Sustainability Objectives identified in the Core Strategy SA were informed by the baseline information, the review of other plans and strategies, and Regional Sustainable Development framework. They remain suitable for use in the VDS SPD, as there has been no significant change since they were established. These have been agreed with the Environment Agency, English heritage and Natural England through consultation on the Scoping Report.

4.3 The Sustainability Objectives are as follows:

Economic

1. Good quality employment opportunities available to all
2. Conditions which enable business success, economic growth and investment

Social

3. Education and training opportunities to build skill and capacities
4. Conditions and services to engender good health
5. Safety and security for people and property
6. Vibrant communities to participate in decision-making
7. Culture, leisure and recreation activities available to all
8. Quality housing available to everyone
9. Local needs met locally

Environmental

10. A transport network which maximises access whilst minimising detrimental impacts
11. A quality build environment and efficient land use patterns that make good use of previously developed sites, minimise travel and promote balanced development.
12. Preserve, enhance and manage the character and appearance of archaeological sites, historic buildings, Conservation Areas, historic parks and gardens, battlefields and other architectural and historically important features and areas and their settings
13. A bio-diverse and attractive natural environment
14. Minimal pollution levels
15. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and a managed response to the effects of climate change
16. Reduce the risk of flooding to people and property
17. Prudent and efficient use of resources

5. Appraisal

- 5.1 The sustainability objectives have been used to assess the sustainability of the draft VDS SPD. This report documents the appraisal and will be used along with other consultation responses, to help to inform further development of the SPD.

Local Plan Policy

- 5.2 As the SPD will relate initially to a policy in the Adopted Local Plan which has not undergone Sustainability Appraisal, the relevant existing Local Plan policies also need to be appraised. The results of this appraisal are set out in Appendix 3.

This assessment concluded that:

- Local plan Policy ENV1 is consistent with sustainability objectives which seek to conserve the character, landscape and natural and historic environment of the village, whilst also seeking to reduce energy use, and protect the natural environment.
- The impact of the Policy on minimising flood risk is unclear as some traditional designs or surfacing may not help to reduce flood risk. However the emerging Strategic Flood Risk Assessment together with PPS25 addresses this issue.

Developing the Supplementary Planning Document Options

- 5.3 A requirement of the Sustainability Appraisal process is the testing of alternative options against the sustainability objectives. The purpose of this task is to ensure that the SPD is achieving its aim of improving on the current situation and is doing this in a sustainable way. As an SPD should set out to improve the current situation the inclusion of a "no SPD" option is advised. All options must be reasonable, realistic and relevant. Each option will be tested against each sustainability objective. Due to the specific remit of a Village Design Guide, there are a limited number of options that could usefully be appraised.

The options are:

- 1) Do not prepare VDS SPD and rely on existing Local Plan policies (including saved Local Plan)
- 2) Produce VDS SPD

- 5.4 The detailed assessment of the options is contained in Appendix 4. the assessment concluded that:

- Option 1: would not lead to any negative effects upon sustainability objectives
- Option 2: would provide the opportunity to provide guidance, which, from the provision of further detail, will help to ensure development both complies with the Local Plan and contributes to meeting the sustainability objectives. This is therefore the preferred option.

From this assessment it can be concluded that Option 2 is the one which is most consistent with meeting the sustainability objectives and therefore this option has been progressed.

Predicting and evaluating the effects of the SPD

- 5.5 Objectives have been established for the draft VDS SPD. The objectives have firstly been tested against each other to ensure they are consistent. This process will highlight any conflicts which can then be addressed during the production of the SPD. This assessment is contained in Appendix 5. The objectives were found to be compatible with each other.

The SPD objectives have then also been appraised against the sustainability objectives. This assessment is set out in appendix 6. The main conclusions drawn from this assessment are:

- The VDS objectives are compatible with the sustainability objectives which seek to preserve or enhance the character of the built environment.
- As a whole, the objectives are consistent with the sustainability objectives to reduce resource use and greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce flood risk.

- 5.6 Following the testing of the objectives the SPD has been drafted and

has been assessed against the sustainability objectives. This is contained in appendix 7. The assessment examines those parts of the SPD that could have an impact upon the ground and not those parts that will not influence development. The majority of the VDS SPD is descriptive and factual, however Appendix C provides advice for use in decision-making and therefore has been assessed. The main conclusions that can be drawn from this are:

- The guidance in the SPD will help to ensure that the character of Wistow is respected, preserved and enhanced in new development.
- The guidance focuses on meeting further sustainability objectives around reducing energy and resource use, reducing flood risk and promoting safety and security.
- However, presumption in bullet point 1 "maintaining" character could hinder renewable energy developments or sustainable design, or ensuring flood risk is minimised. Further paragraphs do not reflect this presumption as strongly.

- 5.7 The cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects of the SPD must also be considered. Examining the table in Appendix 7 the following effects are considered to fall within these categories:

- Cumulative positive impacts upon Wistow village of promoting good quality design in individual developments.

- Secondary effects relate to creating attractive environments which could help to attract investment to the District, thus having a secondary positive effect on objectives.

Evaluating the effects of the Supplementary Planning Document To evaluate the effects of the SPD the assessment must ascertain whether or not the effects are significant. The following effects are considered to be potentially significant:

- Significant positive impacts upon the built environment from providing detailed guidance on good design and materials
- Potentially significant negative effect arising from bullet point 1 which places presumption on "always maintaining" the village character. This could hinder such development as renewable energy.

6 Mitigation

6.1 To mitigate the possible significant effects identified, the following measures are recommended:

Significant effect	Recommended Mitigation
Potentially significant negative effect arising from bullet point 1 which places presumption on "always maintaining" the village character. This could hinder such development as renewable energy.	Reword to state that village character should always be "respected"

7 Monitoring

7.1 Due to the subjective nature of design, there is a very limited amount of qualitative data available, and where it is available it generally relates to the District as a whole. There are therefore no additional indicators that are considered to add value to the monitoring process as those used to monitor the Core Strategy will provide data on design across the district.

Appendix 1: Requirements of the SEA Directive

SEA Requirements	Location
Where an environmental assessment is required an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is	Sustainability Report
An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	Scoping Report
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	Sustainability Report
The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	Scoping Report
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;	Scoping Report
The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;	Scoping Report
The likely significant effects (1) 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;	Sustainability Report
The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.	Sustainability Report/Sustainability Statement
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;	Sustainability Report
A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10.	Sustainability Report/Sustainability Statement
A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	Sustainability Report
The report shall 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.	Sustainability Report

Consultation Requirements

- Authorities with specific environmental responsibilities; shall be consulted when deciding on the scope and level of detail of information which must be included in the environmental report (Article 5.4); Authorities with environmental responsibility and the public shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and accompanying environmental report before adoption of the plan or programme or its submission to the legislative procedure. (Article 6.2) Other Member states, where implementation of the Plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment in another Member State (Article 7)

Provision of information on decision

When a plan or programme is adopted the Authorities with environmental responsibilities and the public are informed and the following items [shall be] made available to those so informed;

- a) The plan or programme as adopted;
- b) A statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme... including reasons for choosing the plan or programme....or programme as adopted, in light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with...and
- c) The measures decided concerning monitoring (Article 9 (1)).

Monitoring the significant environmental effects of the plans implementation (Article 10).

Appendix 2: Stages of the SA

Source: Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (ODPM, 2005)

<p>SPD Stage 1: Pre-production — Evidence Gathering</p> <p>SA stages and tasks</p> <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 sustainable development 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>SPD Stage 2: Production — Prepare draft SPD</p> <p>SA stages and tasks</p> <p>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• B1: Testing the SPD objectives against the SA framework• B2: Developing the SPD options.• B3: Predicting the effects of the draft SPD• B4: Evaluating the effects of the draft SPD• B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects• B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the SPD <p>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• C1: Preparing the SA Report <p>Stage D: Consulting on the draft SPD and Sustainability Appraisal Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• D1: Public participation on the SA Report and draft SPD• D2: Assessing significant changes
<p>SPD Stage 3: Adoption</p> <p>SA stages and tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• D3: Making decisions and providing information <p>Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the SPD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring• E2: Responding to adverse effects

Appendix 3: Appraisal of Local Plan Policy ENV1 Against Sustainability Criteria

Note: Sustainability Objectives can be found on page 10 of this report

		Sustainability Objectives																
		Economic		Social						Environmental								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Positive Impact	✓																	
Negative Impact	X																	
Uncertain Impact	U																	
No Link	0																	
Local Plan policy ENV1		0	✓	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	0	✓

Policy ENV1: *Proposals for new development will be permitted provided a good quality of development would be achieved. In considering proposals the District Council will take account of:*

- 1) *The effect upon the character of the area or the amenity of the adjoining occupiers;*
- 2) *The relationship of the proposal to the highway network, the proposed means of access, the need for road/junction improvements in the vicinity of the site, and the arrangements to be made for car parking;*
- 3) *The capacity of local set-vice and infrastructure to serve the proposal, or the arrangements to be made for upgrading, or providing services and infrastructure;*
- 4) *The standard of layout, design and materials in relation to the site and its surroundings and associated landscaping;*
- 5) *The potential loss, or adverse effect upon, significant buildings, related spaces, trees, wildlife habitats, archaeological or other features important to the character of the area;*
- 6) *The extent to which the needs of disabled and other inconvenienced persons have been taken into account;*
- 7) *The need to maximise opportunities for energy conservation through design, orientation and construction; and*
- 8) *Any other material consideration."*

Appendix 4: Assessment of VDS SPD Options Against Sustainability Objectives.

Impact upon sustainability objective		
Neutral	N	
Positive Impact	✓	
Negative Impact	X	
Uncertain Impact	U	
No Link	0	
Preferred Option	P	
Option 1: do not prepare VDS SPD and rely on existing Local Plan policies (including saved Local Plan)		
Option 2: Produce VDS SPD		
Economic		
1. Good quality employment opportunities available to all	0	0
2. Conditions which enable business success, economic growth and investment	✓ Current policies promote good quality design and therefore seek to provide the physical conditions which contribute to business success and investment in the District	✓ By providing further guidance on creating good quality places the SPD will provide further support for this Objective.
Social		
3. Education and training opportunities to build skill and capacities	0	0
4. Conditions and services to engender good health	0	0
5. Safety and security for people and property	✓ local Plan policy ENV1 provides consideration for safe access	✓ The SPD provides an opportunity to address this objective further by considering the potential for crime prevention through design

6. Vibrant communities to participate in decision-making	N Whilst communities have had the opportunity to participate in the production of Local Plan policies, and within the consideration of planning applications, this option would not provide for any additional input.	P provides an opportunity to identify important characteristics of their village to be taken in to account in planning decisions
7. Culture, leisure and recreation activities available to all	0	0
8. Quality housing available to everyone	0	0
9. Local needs met locally	0	0
Environmental 10. A transport network which maximises access whilst minimising detrimental impacts	0	0
11. A quality build environment and efficient land use patterns that make good use of previously developed sites, minimise travel and promote balanced development.	✓ Local Plan Policy ENV1 requires development to be of a high quality	✓ An SPD would enable the provision of details on how to achieve a high quality of environment
12. Preserve, enhance and manage the character and appearance of archaeological sites, historic buildings, Conservation Areas, historic parks and gardens, battlefields	✓ Local Plan Policy ENV1 requires the consideration of new development in relation to its surroundings	✓ An SPD would provide the opportunity to set out how many specific important areas, buildings and features can be presented and enhanced.

and other architectural and historically important features and areas and their settings		
13. A bio-diverse and attractive natural environment	✓ Local Plan Policy ENV1 requires the consideration of impacts upon the natural environment	✓ An SPD would enable the provision of details on how to achieve a bio-diverse and attractive natural environment in relation to that village.
14. Minimal pollution levels	0	0
15. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and a managed response to the effects of climate change	✓ Local Plan Policy ENV1 requires the consideration of the need for energy conservation	✓ An SPD could provide details on what types of energy conservation methods may be appropriate in a specific village.
16. Reduce the risk of flooding to people and property	U Local Plan Policy ENV1 doesn't address flooding and the need to respect traditional character may not always minimise flood risk, although the emerging SFRA addresses this issue.	✓ P An SPD could contain detail of how flood risk could be minimised through design within the context of that location.
17. Prudent and efficient use of resources	✓ Local Plan Policy ENV1 promotes energy efficient design	✓ An SPD could provide further guidance on the type of energy efficiency measures that might be appropriate in that location
SUMMARY AND SELECTION		
	Option 1: would not lead to any negative effects upon sustainability objectives	Option 2: would provide the opportunity to provide guidance which, from the provision of further detail, will help to ensure development both complies with the Local Plan and contributes to meeting the sustainability objectives. This is therefore the preferred option.

Appendix 5: Assessment of SPD Objectives Against SPD Objectives

A					
B	✓				
C	✓	✓			
D	✓	✓	✓		
E	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	A	B	C	D	E

Appendix 6: Appraisal of SPD Objectives Against Sustainability Objectives

Positive Impact ✓
 Negative Impact X
 Uncertain Impact U
 No Link 0

Sustainability Objectives																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0
C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	U	U	0
D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	✓
E	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Appendix 7: Appraisal of SPD Against Sustainability Objectives.

As most of the SPD is descriptive and factual, it is only possible to appraise Appendix C which provides advice for prospective developers and will help to influence decision making through cross-referral to the descriptive elements of the SPD. When reading the table below, you will need to refer to Appendix C of the draft SPD. Note: Sustainability Objectives can be found on page 10 of this report

		Sustainability Objectives																	
		Economic		Social						Environmental									
Positive Impact	✓	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
Negative Impact	X																		
Uncertain Impact	U																		
No Link	O																		
General Good Design																			
Bullet Point 1		0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	U	U	U	
Bullet Point 2		0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	0	✓	
Bullet Point 3		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	
Bullet Point 4		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	
Bullet Point 5		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	
The Planning Process																			
Bullet Point 1		0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Bullet Point 2		0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Bullet Point 3		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0	
Repairs and Maintenance																			

Bullet Point 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0
Bullet Point 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	✓
Bullet Point 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	✓
Highways and Parking																	
Bullet Point 1	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0
Bullet Point 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	0	0
Bullet Point 3	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	0	0	0
Environment and sustainable development																	
Bullet Point 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0	✓	0	✓
Bullet Point 2	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	✓
Bullet Point 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	0	✓	0
Bullet Point 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0
Flooding																	
Bullet Point 1	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0
Bullet Point 2	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0
Bullet Point 3	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0
Bullet Point 4	0	0	0		✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0
Crime Prevention																	
Bullet Point 1	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bullet Point 2	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bullet Point 3	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0