

Sustainability Appraisal of the Nature Conservation and Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Documents

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The SPDs, Sustainability Appraisal and related documents can also be found on the Council's website as www.dudley.gov.uk/environment--planning/planning/local-development-framework

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Under the new planning system, set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, local planning authorities need to promote sustainable development and to apply sustainability considerations to planning documents. As part of any Development Planning Document (DPD) or Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) a Sustainability Appraisal will need to be undertaken. This is a technique used to help local authorities assess the sustainability implications of their development plans.
- 1.2 The Government's recent strategy for sustainable development "Securing the Future – delivering UK sustainable development strategy" (2005) contains five guiding principles. These are:-
 - i) Living within environmental limits;
 - ii) Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;
 - iii) Achieving a sustainable economy;
 - iv) Promoting good governance
 - v) Using sound science responsibly.
- 1.3 The framework strategy identifies four priority areas for immediate action, shared across the UK, namely :
 - Sustainable consumption and production – achieving more with less;
 - Climate change and energy – securing a profound change in energy generation and use, preparing for climate change and setting a good example;
 - Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement through a better understanding of environmental limits, environmental enhancement and recovery, and a more integrated policy framework;
 - Sustainable communities that embody the principles of sustainable development on the local level.
- 1.4 Planning policy Statement 12 "Local Development Frameworks" (2004) states that *"the purpose of sustainability appraisal is to appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of the*

strategies and policies in a local development document from the outset of the preparation process. This will ensure that decisions are made that accord with sustainable development”.

- 1.5 Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development (2005) states *“Planning authorities should ensure that sustainable development is treated in an integrated way in their development plans. In particular, they should carefully consider the interrelationship between social inclusion, protecting and enhancing the environment, the prudent use of natural resources and economic development.”* (paragraph 24).
- 1.6 The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) published detailed guidance in “Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks” in November 2005 setting out how sustainability appraisals should be undertaken. A Sustainability Appraisal framework should consist of objectives which should, where possible, be expressed in the form of targets, the achievement of which should be measurable using identified indicators. The aim should be to predict the effects of the draft SPD in social, environmental and economic terms. Potential effects should be quantified where possible, or subjective judgement made where this is not possible.
- 1.7 Recent guidance set out in “A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive” (2005) applies the European Directive 2001/42/EC on the *“assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment”*. The objective of the SEA Directive is to “provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development”.
- 1.8 Sustainability appraisal should be fully integrated into the plan process and should provide input at each stage when decision taken on a local development document. It should also be used in developing the arrangements for monitoring the implementation of the plan.

2. Context of the Supplementary Planning Documents

- 2.1 This Sustainability Appraisal report accompanies the Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) on Nature Conservation and on the Historic Environment which are being published for public consultation. It is the intention of these SPDs to give support to the policies in the Adopted Unitary Development Plan. The UDP sets out the Council's policies on biodiversity, geology, designated sites and protected species, trees and watercourses as well as for the preservation and enhancement of the historic environment, including sites of archaeological interest and their settings. It is the aim of the two SPDs to provide guidance as to how nature conservation and the historic environment issues should be addressed in the development control process.
- 2.2 The Borough has a wealth of historic environment assets, partly as a result of its rich industrial heritage, which date from the Palaeolithic Era to the Industrial Revolution and beyond. They include not only buildings and archaeological sites and remains but areas of townscape and landscape interest. The historic environment is a finite resource – once it has been lost it cannot be replaced.
- 2.3 The aim of the UDP is to guide land use development to 2011 and beyond and, in doing so, embracing the principles of social inclusion, equal opportunities and social wellbeing and of sustainable development. Policy S2 "Creating a more Sustainable Borough" states

"All development will be expected to contribute to the creation of a more sustainable Borough. The policies contained in this plan will promote key objectives of sustainability and specifically:

- promote the regeneration and reuse of derelict, underused and vacant land and property for beneficial use;
- encourage the efficient use of resources, including water, energy and construction materials;

- provide sufficient land to meet the needs of the Borough to facilitate economic growth and provide adequate housing without compromising sustainability, including urban drainage;
- encourage appropriate mixed use development within the Borough and in the enhancement of town centres;
- promote quality design;
- minimise the need to travel and exploit more fully locations which have high accessibility by a range of travel modes;
- protect, conserve and where possible enhance the Borough's green and heritage assets;
- encourage the need to reduce waste; and
- respect, maintain and enhance the distinctive communities and character of the Borough's settlements and landscape

2.4 In addition, policy S3 "Green Assets" aims to protect and to enhance

the Borough's environmental assets. This states

"The Borough's green assets and access to them will be protected,

conserved and, where possible, enhanced, through the direct action of

the Council and through the support of the local community and environmental agencies. The Borough's green assets include:

- air quality;
- wildlife and geology;
- streams, rivers, their floodplains, canals, open water, wetlands and aquifers;
- the green belt;
- the country side and landscape;
- linear open space;
- urban green space including parks;
- agriculture; and
- urban forestry."

2.5 The Adopted UDP has a number of policies which are specifically related to the historic environment. The policies were written in line with national and regional planning guidance and sets out the Council's strategy regarding the historic

environment and archaeology. The SPD relates specifically to policies HE1 Local Character and Distinctiveness, HE2 Landscape Heritage Areas and HE5 Buildings of Local Historic Importance. It also provides the context for the application of other associated policies. These include policy S4 Heritage Assets which states

“The Borough’s heritage assets will be protected, conserved and where possible, enhanced through the direct action of the Council and through the support of the local community and environmental agencies. The Borough’s heritage assets include:

- conservation areas and statutorily listed buildings;
- canals;
- locally important buildings and structures;
- archaeological sites and remains; and
- public art,”

In addition policy S5 Local Distinctiveness states:

“The diversity and individual character of the many settlements and areas which comprise the Borough of Dudley will be respected, protected and enhanced.”

2.6 The SPD is not being prepared in isolation but in the context of a range of existing plans, policies and programmes. Reference has already been made to the Dudley UDP but the SPD is also in conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). The RSS recognises that the regeneration of the Black Country is of paramount importance both for the region’s economy and to provide a pattern of sustainable development to promote the area’s well being. Maintaining and enhancing the environment, and the significance of the network of green wedges and open space, is recognised as an important aspect of the well being of the community. It includes policies to protect and enhance priority habitats and species, and to make wider provision for wildlife.

2.7 In addition, it acknowledges that whilst the region’s most valued historic heritage is protected by statutory designations it is “also important to consider historic landscapes and townscapes as a whole to understand what gives an area its sense of place and identity.” This is backed up by Policy QE5 on the “Protection and

Enhancement of the Historic Environment”. This is the basis of the SPD whereby areas of local character and distinctiveness are identified in Policy HE1. In addition, sites of particular ecological, historic and scenic importance have been designated as Landscape Heritage Areas in Policy HE2 in the UDP. This will supplement the ongoing Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation project.

- 2.8 National planning policy guidance in the form of Planning Policy Statement 1 “Delivering Sustainable Development” states that protecting and enhancing the historic environment and landscape and townscape character is a fundamental objective in delivering sustainable development and that “a high level of protection should be given to most valued townscapes and landscapes”.
- 2.9 Planning Policy Statement 9 “Biodiversity and Geological Conservation” sets out planning policies on the protection of biodiversity and geological conservation through the planning system. The Government’s objective is to promote sustainable development by ensuring that biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development. It states that the planning system has “a significant part to play in meeting the Government’s international commitments and domestic policies for habitats, species and ecosystems”.
- 2.10 Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 “Planning and the Historic Environment” is a statement of Government policies for the identification and protection of historic buildings, conservation areas and other elements of the historic environment and the planning system’s role in their protection. It complements the guidance on archaeology and planning in PPG16 “Archaeology and Planning” which states that archaeological remains should be seen as a finite and non-renewable resource. The SPD on the Historic Environment is in accord with this national guidance.
- 2.11 In considering the SPD on Nature Conservation account needs to be taken on the various biodiversity plans and strategies already carried out and to put the SPD into context of national, regional and sub-regional biodiversity action plans (BAPs). The West Midlands Biodiversity Audit, published in 2001, was

prepared to support Regional Planning Guidance formulation. Whilst it took a broad brush approach it identified priority habitats and species in the region and summarised their status. These priority habitats and species were defined in the UK BAP. In Dudley 8 UK priority habitats and 14 species were identified. At sub-regional level, the Birmingham and Black Country Biodiversity Action Plan (BBCBAP), published in 2000, set priorities for conservation and selected priority habitats and species.

3. Consultation

3.1 Consultation on the draft SPDs, together with the draft Sustainability Appraisal and draft Statement of Community Involvement, was carried out in February 2006 in order to ascertain the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment. The following statutory consultees were invited to comment on the documents:

- English Heritage
- English Nature
- Environment Agency
- The Countryside Agency

In addition the Government Office for the West Midlands was also consulted.

3.2 English Nature responded stating that they did not believe that the two SPDs were unlikely to have significant adverse effects on the environment at a strategic level and accordingly did not consider that a Strategic Environmental Assessment would be necessary in relation to biodiversity.

3.3 The Countryside Agency replied stating that the identified impacts of the Screening Statement were unlikely to result in them seeking further involvement in the SEA process for the two SPDs.

- 3.4 The Environment Agency agreed that a SEA was not required for the two SPDs.

4. Appraisal Methodology

- 4.1 As stated earlier, a Sustainability Appraisal needs to investigate the social, economic and environmental implications of the SPDs. A set of objectives is required against which each SPD can be tested. Guidance has been provided in the SEA Directive and the ODPM document on Sustainability Appraisals, both of which require a systematic method to comprehensively and impartially identify and assess these implications.
- 4.2 Guidance recommends that strategic alternatives need to be considered in order to identify the preferred option. However, in this instance, it is the aim of the SPDs to supplement and support the policies on nature conservation and the historic environment in the Adopted UDP. It is not considered appropriate, therefore, to put forward options apart from the “do nothing” alternative i.e., the “SPD option” or the “no SPD option”.
- 4.3 The “no SPD” option will apply the UDP policies as they stand. However, the Council believes that there is a need for further guidance as to how these policies will be interpreted and applied, in particular the level of information required as part of a planning application. Evidence for this opinion is the large number of requests from applicants for guidance on incorporating policy requirements into development proposals. The “SPD option” will support the policy framework in the UDP against which any planning application will be considered. The SPDs will include detail that is not appropriate for a strategic document like a UDP and is the most effective and efficient method of providing this guidance. The Council does not consider that there are any other realistic alternative approaches.
- 3.4 As part of the process, the planning authority has to consult the bodies designated as “authorities with environmental responsibilities”, namely, the Environment Agency, the Countryside Agency, English Nature and English Heritage. Other agencies and organisations will also be consulted on the

SPD and the accompanying SA. A list of these consultees is included in the joint Nature Conservation SPD and the Historic Environment SPD Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This consultation may result in amendments to the SA and should ensure a robust and comprehensive Sustainability Appraisal process in order to appraise the SPD in subsequent stages.

5. The Sustainability Framework on the Nature Conservation SPD

- 5.1 The aim of this document is to produce sustainability objectives that aim to conserve and enhance the biodiversity and geology of the area. As stated earlier, a Sustainability Appraisal requires the social, economic and environmental implications to be evaluated. Guidance states that a set of objectives are required against which any planning document, in this case a SPD, can be tested. As the SPD is concerned with nature conservation the environmental objectives will take prominence. It is anticipated that the SPD will not have a dramatic effect on social and economic objectives.
- 5.2 The 2005 Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive gives examples of objectives and indicators for local authorities to use in their Sustainability Appraisals and these have been adapted to take account of local circumstances. These are shown in Table 1 below. The objectives set out in the SPD regarding nature conservation will be assessed against these objectives.

Table 1 : Sustainability Objectives and Indicators for the Nature Conservation SPD.

Effective protection of the environment

	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
<u>Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora</u>		
1	Protect and enhance biodiversity	Ensure contribution to targets of relevant Biodiversity Action Plans is made

	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
		through the development control process
2	Ensure the sustainable management of wildlife sites and species affected by development	Management and resources secured through the development control process
3	Preservation of protected species	Ecological surveys and assessment resulting in protection of population and their habitats
4	Avoid damage to designated wildlife and geological sites	Reported levels of damage to sites due to development control decisions
<u>Water and Soil</u>		
5	Limit water pollution to levels that do not damage natural systems	Quality of rivers, canals and freshwater bodies protected through the development control process
6	Control water run-off to avoid flood risks	Percentage of developments where increased run-off is identified as an issue where SUDS has been applied
7	Reduce levels of contamination	Ensure that nature conservation requirements are included in land remediation
<u>Air Quality</u>		
8	Limit air pollution to levels that do not damage natural systems	Number of days of air pollution; levels of key air pollution
<u>Climate Factors</u>		
9	Maintain/enhance carbon dioxide uptake by natural vegetation	Retention of natural ecosystems that absorb CO ₂ e.g., woodlands and tree cover, through development
10	Reduce vulnerability of wildlife species to the effects of climate change	Retention of wildlife corridors and stepping stones allowing species migration with changing climate

Social Progress and Inclusion

	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
11	Promote healthy living through promoting contact with the natural environment	Wildlife habitat incorporated into public open space or landscape areas provided by development
12	Provide opportunities for people to come into contact with and appreciate wildlife and nature conservation	Ensure that footpaths are maintained and accessible to all
13	Raise public awareness and promote nature conservation and wildlife	Incorporation of SPD into development

Economic Objectives

	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
14	Maintain stable (and high) levels of growth	Percentage of applications where nature constraints are resolved through design and layout, conditions and agreement following approval
15	Encourage the creation of a sustainable and prosperous environment	Protection of natural habitats and features in development
16	Create a pleasant environment for workers and companies to operate in	Landscaped and natural areas in business parks/employment areas

6. Relationship between the Nature Conservation SPD and SA Objectives.

6.1 The primary objectives of the SPD are set out as follows:-

- To provide guidance for planning proposals that might affect designated nature conservation sites.
- To provide planning guidance for wildlife species and habitats protected by law.
- To provide guidance and requirements concerning geology.
- To provide guidance on how development can take account of nature conservation interest.

6.2 The above have been assessed against the objectives of the Sustainability Appraisal to see whether they make a positive or negative contribution and to what extent. This is shown in the form of a matrix in Matrix 1 on page 18 at the end of this document. The SPD can be seen to make a positive contribution to the objectives Identified in the appraisal framework and particularly performs well in relation to environmental objectives of sustainable development. A brief resume of the findings are as follows

Environmental Objectives

Biodiversity, fauna and flora

6.3 Not surprisingly the objectives set out in the SPD were considered to make a positive contribution to protecting and enhancing biodiversity, with most of them thought to make a significant contribution. Those concerning designated ecological and geological sites and protected species set out detailed guidance on the way that the Council expects issues regarding nature conservation and geology to be taken into account in the planning process.

Water and Soil

- 6.4 Protecting the designated sites will go some way to safeguarding the quality of watercourses and wetland areas. They are of value for wildlife as well as general amenity and the quality of the borough's rivers and canals is improving. The aim should be to further improve both the chemical and the biological quality of watercourses as improved water quality will lead to improved biodiversity.
- 6.5 There is insufficient information on soil quality to assess whether the objectives of the SPD are likely to be effective. Due to its industrial heritage, Dudley still has areas subject to land contamination. Where there are health and / or ecological implications the SPD can be used to inform sensitive remediation of contaminated land and applies where designated sites and protected species may be affected.

Air

- 6.6 Regarding air quality, Dudley has two Air Quality Management Areas (at Brierley Hill and Sedgley) where NO₂ is monitored as a result of traffic pollution. Improving air quality is mainly beyond the policies on nature conservation although maintaining and enhancing areas of open natural habitat can make a small positive contribution to this objective. The presence of trees and woodlands can make a positive contribution and the SPD encourages retention and enhanced planting in development, where appropriate. Where nature conservation sites are close to and easily accessible to residential areas this should reduce the need to travel by car. Many sites have self guided trails to encourage the public to leave their cars and to experience the area on foot.

Climate Factors

- 6.7 Natural habitat areas can have a positive effect by sequestering carbon and thereby reducing global warming. Whilst Dudley's designated ecological sites in themselves will not make a significant contribution they nevertheless are of importance locally and as a component of national carbon uptake. In

safeguarding such sites, especially along watercourses, flood risk should also be minimised.

Social progress and inclusion

- 6.8 It can be seen that the SPD can make a positive contribution to healthy living and feeling of well being through protecting the borough's green spaces and natural areas. Such areas are particularly important in a built-up area with a traditional industrial base. The correlation between public health and mental well being and a clean safe environment are well documented and the essence of the SPD is to ensure that this connection continues.
- 6.9 The SPD encourages the inclusion of natural habitat in development and aims to be pro-active as well as protective. In doing so, people are given the opportunity to come into contact with nature and should be encouraged to make use of such areas as there are numerous health benefits to be gained.

Economic Objectives

- 6.10 Green spaces can be made an intrinsic element of future development sites, in particular in business parks where they can be of amenity value and of nature conservation value. The SPD gives guidance on this. A healthy green environment rich in wildlife need not be detrimental to the economic prosperity of the borough. The latter is one of the overarching priorities in regenerating the Black Country and in reducing out migration from the region. The Study also aims to protect and enhance the environment and the SPD is intended to help achieve this.
- 6.11 A green environment is of benefit in that it will attract investment and help to create the quality of life which those who are currently moving out of the Black Country are seeking. The SPD is therefore in accord with the primary objectives of the Black Country Study.

7. The Sustainability Appraisal Framework for the Historic Environment SPD

- 7.1 The aim of this document is to produce sustainability objectives against which the SPD on “Historic Environment – Borough Landscape and Townscape Character Study” can be assessed. The SPD seeks to provide detailed supplementary information to support the policies in the Adopted UDP, in particular policies HE1, HE2 and HE5. These relate to the local character and distinctiveness of areas and buildings and of areas designated as landscape heritage areas.
- 7.2 The SPD will provide guidance on how the local authority expects the policies on the historic environment to be taken into account in the development control process and to inform decision-making. The character areas identified and described in the SPD are a result of analysis of the natural and socio-economic landscapes. Proposals for future development and land uses will need to take account of areas of local distinctiveness.
- 7.3 In order to do this, a series of objectives and indicators need to be set out and the 2005 Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive gives examples for local authorities to use in their Sustainability Appraisals. Some of these have been adapted to take account of local circumstances. The objectives are looked at under the three topics of environment, social and economic implications. These are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Sustainability Objectives and Indicators for the Historic Environment SPD.

Effective protection of the environment

	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
1	Preserve historic buildings, archaeological sites and other culturally	Percentage of locally listed buildings reused rather than lost in development proposals. If loss is unavoidable, percentage lost

	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
	important features	without adequate recording.
2	Protect and enhance the built landscape, particularly in designated areas	Percentage of listed buildings and archaeological sites “at risk” rescued through the development control process. Percentage of consents that incorporate conservation area and LHA requirements.
4	Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space	Percentage of new and enhanced open space provision that includes local distinctiveness and heritage in design.
5	Maintaining biodiversity	Ensure that enhancement of the historic environment takes account of legal provisions, UDP Nature Conservation policy and site nature conservation value through the development control process.

Social progress and Inclusion

	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
6	Promote healthy living through promoting contact with the built environment	Historic buildings, structures and landscapes protected and enhanced through development control process.
7	Raise public awareness and promote the historic environment	Number of developers and consultants using SPD.
8	Encourage a sense of community identity and improve quality of where people live	Planning applications, including mitigation measures, monitored against HER data. Percentage of consents incorporating historic environment enhancement.

Economic Objectives

	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
9	Maintain stable (and high) levels of growth	Percentage of planning applications where issues concerning heritage and conservation are resolved through design

		and layout or by planning conditions, allowing proposal to be implemented.
10	Encourage the creation of a sustainable and prosperous environment	Percentage of locally listed buildings brought back into commercial use through the development control process.
11	Create pleasant environment for workers and companies to operate in	Number of developments incorporating landscaped areas which contribute to the local historical character and reflect local distinctiveness.

8. Relationship between the Historic Environment SPD and SA Objectives

- 8.1 The primary objectives of the Historic Environment SPD are :-
- To provide guidance and background for planning proposals that might affect historic environment assets of the borough.
 - To provide guidance and requirements concerning local distinctiveness.
 - To provide guidance on how development can take account of local distinctiveness.
- 8.2 These objectives have been assessed against the objectives of the Sustainability Appraisal set out in Table.2. Each was considered to see whether it made a positive or negative effect and this is shown in matrix form in Matrix 2 on page 19. Overall it can be seen that the objectives of the SPD make a positive contribution to the objectives identified in the appraisal framework.

Environmental Objectives

- 8.3 From the findings in matrix 2 it can be seen that the SPD meets the environmental objectives of the Sustainability Appraisal in a significantly positive way. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment will improve the environment in general. Leaving

buildings to deteriorate will have environmental consequences which in turn could have a “knock-on” effect on social and economic issues.

Social progress and inclusion

- 8.4 It is evident that the SPD can meet the objective of promoting healthy living. An attractive built environment with people enjoying a sense of local identity will lead to a feeling of well being which in turn will create a more vibrant community. People can take a sense of pride in being associated with such areas, achieving the objective of social inclusion. The SPD is aimed at creating a local distinctiveness for the different areas of the borough which will create beneficial effects upon the community.

Economic Objectives

- 8.5 It is evident that conserving and enhancing the historic environment should not be seen as being contrary to sustainable economic growth. It is possible to utilise historic buildings for commercial or residential use which in turn will contribute to the prosperity of the local economy. The conservation of the built environment and the positive encouragement of local distinctiveness can lead to more attractive living and working conditions and this is becoming an increasingly important factor in many commercial decisions. This will encourage inward investment and therefore promote economic prosperity.
- 8.6 The historic environment is becoming a key player in the leisure and tourism industry, itself a growth sector of the economy. This will accrue further economic benefits. In return economic prosperity can secure the continued use and maintenance of historic buildings and conservation areas.

9. Monitoring the SPDs

- 9.1 In order to see whether the Supplementary Planning Documents on Nature Conservation and the Historic Environment are operating successfully, it will be necessary to monitor planning applications and their outcomes.
- 9.2 There is currently limited monitoring of nature conservation sites and protected wildlife due to resources and the complexity and specialist expertise necessary to undertake such an exercise. This is presently a requirement when monitoring Local Plans and needs to form part of the Annual Monitoring Report for the Dudley UDP. This problem will need to be addressed in order to meet these requirements of annual monitoring.
- 9.3 A monitoring system needs to be in place in order to assess whether the objectives of the policies supported by the SPDs and the Sustainability Appraisal are being met. It may be that unforeseen adverse effects will be identified calling for remedial action. It may be that the assessments predictions of sustainable effects were inaccurate. Monitoring the application of the SPDs should ensure that future predictions can be made more confidently.

Matrix 1:

Compatibility of Nature Conservation SPD Objectives with SA Objectives

			Nature Conservation SPD Objectives			
			A	B	C	D
Sustainability Appraisal Objectives	Environmental	1	++	++	+	++
		2	++	++	+	+
		3	++	++	?	++
		4	++	++	++	+
		5	+	++	+	++
		6	?	0	?	+
		7	?	?	+	+
		8	+	0	0	+
		9	+	0	+	+
		10	++	+	+	++
	Social	11	+	++	+	+
		12	++	+	+	+
		13	+	++	+	++
	Economic	14	+	+	?	+
		15	+	+	+	+
		16	?	?	0	+

Matrix 2:

Compatibility of Historic Environment SPD objectives with SA objectives

			Historic Environment SPD Objectives		
			A	B	C
Sustainability Appraisal Objectives	Environmental	1	++	++	++
		2	++	++	++
		3	++	++	++
		4	++	++	+
		5	+	+	+
	Social	6	+	+	+
		7	++	+	+
		8	+	++	++
	Economic	9	+	+	+
		10	+	+	+
		11	?	?	?

Possible alignments between the Objectives of the Nature Conservation and Historic Environment SPDs and the Sustainable Appraisal Objectives.

Key to Matrices

++	Significantly positive contribution	SPD contributes significantly to achievement of objective.
+	Marginally positive	SPD contributes to achievement of objective, but not significantly.
?	Indeterminate	neither a positive or negative relationship / insufficient information for assessment to be made.
—	Marginally negative	SPD detracts from achievement of objective but not significantly.
— —	Significantly negative	SPD detracts significantly from achievement of objective.
0	No relationship	no clear relationship or is negligible.

Nature Conservation SPD Objectives

- A. To provide guidance for planning proposals that might affect designated nature conservation sites.
- B. To provide planning guidance for wildlife species and habitats protected by law.
- C. To provide guidance and requirements concerning geology.
- D. To provide guidance on how development can take account of nature conservation interest.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

- 1. Protect and enhance biodiversity.
- 2. Ensure the sustainable management of wildlife sites and species affected by development.
- 3. Preservation of protected species.
- 4. Avoid damage to designated wildlife and geological sites.
- 5. Limit water pollution to levels that do not damage natural systems.

6. Control water run-off to avoid flood risks.
7. Reduce levels of contamination.
8. Limit air pollution to levels that do not damage natural systems.
9. Maintain / enhance carbon dioxide intake by natural vegetation.
10. Reduce vulnerability of wildlife species to the effects of climate change.
11. Promote healthy living through promoting contact with the natural environment,
12. Provide opportunities for people to come into contact with, and appreciate, wildlife and nature conservation.
13. Raise public awareness and promote nature conservation and wildlife,
14. Maintain stable (and high) levels of growth.
15. Encourage the creation of a sustainable and prosperous environment.
16. Create a pleasant environment for workers and companies to operate in.

Historic Environment SPD Objectives

- A To provide guidance and background for planning proposals that might affect historic environment assets of the borough
- B, To provide guidance and requirements concerning local distinctiveness..
- C. To provide guidance on how development can take account of local distinctiveness.

Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

1. Preserve historic buildings, archaeological sites and other culturally important features.
2. Protect and enhance the built landscape, particularly in designated areas.
3. Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness.
4. Improve the quantity and quality of publically accessible open space.
5. Maintaining biodiversity.
6. Promote healthy living through promoting contact with the built environment.
7. Raise public awareness and promote the historic environment.
8. Encourage a sense of community identity and improve quality of where people live.
9. Maintain stable (and high) levels of growth.
10. Encourage the creation of a sustainable and prosperous environment.
11. Create pleasant environment for workers and companies to operate in.

