



# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

For the Core Strategy and  
Land Allocations & Designations DPDs

November 2008





<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
Sustainability Appraisal	3
The Core Strategy Development Plan Document	3
The Land Allocations & Designations Development Plan Document	3
Sustainable Development	4
Strategic Environmental Assessment	4
The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report	6
The Generic Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report	7
Appropriate Assessment	7
<b>2 Other Relevant Plans, Policies &amp; Programmes - Task A1</b>	<b>8</b>
International	8
National	8
Regional	8
Local and Sub Region	9
Summary	9
<b>3 Baseline Data - Task A2</b>	<b>11</b>
Calderdale Baseline Profile	11
<b>4 Identifying the Sustainability Issues - Task A3</b>	<b>12</b>
Summary of Issues	12
<b>5 Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4</b>	<b>14</b>
Sustainability Objectives	14
Compatibility of Sustainability Objectives	16
The SA Framework	16
<b>6 Next Steps</b>	<b>27</b>
Consultation Arrangements	27

## Appendix

<b>1 Other Relevant Plans, and Programmes</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>2 Baseline Data</b>	<b>29</b>

3 Key Sustainability Issues ..... 30

# 1 Introduction

## Sustainability Appraisal

**1.1** The following document is the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations Development Plan Documents (DPDs). The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) placed a requirement on Local Planning Authorities (LPA) to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through their Local Development Framework (LDF).

**1.2** Undertaking Sustainability Appraisals during the preparation of the LDF ensures that sustainability considerations inform the development of the relevant plans. The purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal is to identify and report on the likely significant social, economic, and environmental impacts of a plan throughout its preparation, so that decisions can be made that accord with the objectives of sustainable development.

## The Core Strategy Development Plan Document

**1.3** The Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) is a strategic level document and will look at the needs of the whole district, balancing the potential for growth with the sustainability and climate change agendas. It will guide the direction of future growth or restraint on development over the next 15 years.

**1.4** The Core Strategy DPD will comprise:

- a spatial vision;
- a spatial strategy;
- strategic objectives;
- core policies for development management (formerly known as development control);
- strategic site allocations (including those for waste disposal);
- review of the Green Belt; and
- a monitoring and implementation scheme.

**1.5** The Core Strategy will not however specify all future allocations and designations. This is the primary purpose of the Land Allocations and Designations DPD.

## The Land Allocations & Designations Development Plan Document

**1.6** This DPD will provide land allocations and designations for the use and protection of land, including allocations for:

- Housing;
- Employment;
- Retailing;
- Waste Management;
- Open Space;
- Community Uses;
- Site / Area based protection for:
  - Green Belt;
  - Biodiversity / Ecology;
  - Environmental Protection;

**1.7** The Land Allocations and Designations will be reflected in the new style LDF Proposals Map.

**1.8** In the interests of efficiency The Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs will be prepared in parallel with each other until the Core Strategy goes forward for submission and examination, as the Land Allocations and Designations DPD is required to be in conformity with the Core Strategy DPD.

# 1 . Introduction

## Sustainable Development

**1.9** The most commonly used definition of the concept of ‘Sustainable Development’ emerged from the Bruntland Report <sup>(1)</sup> in 1987, which described sustainable development as being ‘development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’. It is about ensuring a better quality of life for everyone now and for future generations.

**1.10** The UK Government updated its sustainable development strategy <sup>(2)</sup>, which set out 5 principles that aim to achieve sustainable development. These are:

- Living within environmental limits;
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society;
- Achieving a sustainable economy;
- Promoting good governance; and
- Using sound science responsibly.

**1.11** In order to ensure consistency with the UK strategy, these principles were followed in developing Calderdale’s sustainability objectives, ensuring the sustainability appraisal will adequately test the policies and objectives of the LDF for their possible social, economic, and environmental impact.

## Strategic Environmental Assessment

**1.12** The EU Directive 2001/42/EC <sup>(3)</sup> requires any plan or programme that may have significant effects on the environment to be formally assessed by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). However, in order to reduce duplication, the Government recommends that sustainability appraisal and SEA are carried out in one single appraisal process.

**1.13** For the purposes of this report therefore, the term Sustainability Appraisal includes the environmental requirements of the SEA.

**1.14** The table below is included to demonstrate the sections in the Sustainability Appraisal where the SEA requirements have been met and documented accordingly.

**Table 1 Incorporating the SEA requirements into the Sustainability Appraisal**

SEA directive requirements	Where covered in the SA process
<b>Preparation of Environmental Report (Art. 5 and Annex I)</b>	
An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationships with other relevant plans and programmes	Introduction & Task A1 - Other Relevant Plans, Strategies, Policies & Programmes
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme	Task A2 Baseline Data & the Final SA Report
The environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected.	Task A2 - Baseline Data
Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including, in particular those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance.	Task A3 - Identifying the Sustainability Issues

1 Our Common Future: The World Commission on Environment and Development, WCED, 1987.

2 Securing the Future – Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, HM Government, March 2005

3 European Union Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

SEA directive requirements	Where covered in the SA process
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 considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	Task A1 - Other Relevant Plans, Strategies, Policies & Programmes
The likely significant effects on the environment, including 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.	To be included in the Final SA 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	To be included in the Final SA Report
An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties.	To be included in the Final SA Report
A description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10.	To be included in the Final SA Report
The report shall include the information that may be reasonably 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	To be included in Final SA Report.
<b>Consultation</b>	
Authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and the level of details of the information to be included in the environmental report	Paragraph 1.18 & Section 6
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 and the accompanying environmental report before adoption of the plan or programme	Section 6
<b>Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision making</b>	
<b>Provision of information on the decision</b> When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries under Article 7 shall be informed and the following made available to those so informed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The plan or programme as adopted</li> <li>• A statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report, the opinions of the public and statutory consultees, have been taken into account in accordance with Article 8 and the reasons for choosing the</li> </ul>	To be included in Final SA Report

# 1 . Introduction

SEA directive requirements	Where covered in the SA process
plans adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The measures decided concerning monitoring.</li> </ul>	
<b>Monitoring</b> of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation	To be included in Final SA Report
<b>Quality assurance:</b> environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive	To be included in Final SA Report

## The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

**1.15** The Sustainability Appraisal process includes various stages, which are summarised in Table 2. The Scoping Report documents Stage A of the overall process, and is intended to establish the extent of the social, economic, and environmental information required to inform the development of the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs.

**Table 2 Summary of the Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal Process**

Stage A	Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.
Stage B	Developing and defining options, and assessing effects.
Stage C	Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report.
Stage D	Consulting on the preferred options of the DPD and Sustainability Appraisal Report.
Stage E	Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD.

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

**1.16** Through consulting on the Scoping Report, organisations and individuals can help ensure the relevant sustainability information is included to produce a robust and comprehensive final Sustainability Appraisal Report that will be consulted on alongside the Core Strategy Preferred Options, and subsequently the Land Allocations and Designations Preferred Options.

**1.17** The Scoping Report stage has a series of individual tasks, and these are as follows:

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

## The Generic Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

**1.18** The Council produced a Generic Scoping Report in early 2007 to support the Sustainability Appraisals of all the Development Plan Documents (DPD) or Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD), to be prepared as part of the Local Development Framework. The Generic Scoping Report was subject to consultation from the following organisations:

- The Environment Agency;
- English Heritage;
- Natural England;
- West Yorkshire Ecology
- Calderdale Sustainability Forum;
- Calderdale Friends of the Earth;
- Calderdale Forward

**1.19** However, in order to ensure the scoping report is as up to date as possible, it has been reviewed to take into account new national policies, indicators, data, and amendments / additions to the sustainability objectives.

## Appropriate Assessment

**1.20** Appropriate Assessment (AA) is a requirement under the Regulation 48 of the Habitat Regulations 1994.<sup>4</sup> The purpose of an AA is to assess the impacts an emerging land use plan would have on the conservation objectives of a Nature Site of European importance,<sup>5</sup> and if significant negative impacts are identified, alternative options should then be explored. For Calderdale Council, AA could potentially be relevant to all DPDs and SPDs, and assessment of effects would not necessarily be restricted to designated sites within Calderdale, but also sites beyond the District's borders.

**1.21** The AA itself is a separate process to that of the SA, although it is considered good practice to consider the emerging options during the early stages of plan preparation. It is a matter for the Council to establish whether the AA is required, although government guidance recommends that where there is insufficient data or doubts exist, then AA should be carried out, in order to avoid a potentially larger piece of work in attempting to prove the absence of any significant impacts. Therefore the Council will consult on the AA report at the preferred options consultation stage.

4 Directive 92/43/EEC (the Habitats Directive) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora .

5 Referred to as Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation

## 2 . Other Relevant Plans, Policies & Programmes - Task A1

### 2 Other Relevant Plans, Policies & Programmes - Task A1

**2.1** The first stage of the Scoping report is to review other relevant policies, plans, and programmes. The purpose of this exercise is to establish and take account of any external social, economic, or environmental objectives at international, national, regional, sub-regional, or local levels that will inform the SA and therefore the development of the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs.

**2.2** A review of documents at the international, national, regional, sub-regional and local level was undertaken based on those suggested in the Government's guidance.<sup>(6)</sup> The key objectives relating to sustainability were noted, along with the implications for the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs and the SA.

**2.3** However, for the two DPDs, it is assumed that most of the international level plans have already been fed into national plans and strategies. Therefore, only the most relevant international policy documents will be reviewed, with the more detailed implications and links to policies and programmes beginning at the national level.

#### International

**2.4** At an international level, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, the European Spatial Development Perspective, the EU directive on SEA and various EU Directives concerned with the environment will drive key sustainability issues.

#### National

**2.5** Nationally, those relevant Planning Policy Guidance (PPG), Planning Policy Statements (PPS), Mineral Planning Guidance (MPG), or Mineral Planning Statements (MPS) relevant to Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs are listed in full in Appendix 1 'Other Relevant Plans, and Programmes'.

**2.6** Other national level documents reviewed include the UK Government's Sustainable Development Strategy 'Securing the Future', which outlines the government's main sustainability principles to be accounted for in developing policies. Reports and plans on transport, biodiversity, sustainable communities are also included, alongside the urban, rural, and energy white papers.

#### Regional

**2.7** The recently adopted Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) provides the main policy framework at the regional level and forms part of the LDF. Other regional strategies on housing, economy, waste, freight and public health are also of importance. Additional Yorkshire and Humber level documents reviewed include the Government's strategic view for the North, - 'Making it Happen – The Northern Way', the 2nd West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan, the Regional Economic Strategy, the Regional Waste Strategy and the Yorkshire and Humber climate change study 'Warming up the Region'.

**2.8** The region has also recently adopted an Integrated Regional Framework (IRF), which merges 'Advancing Together' with the Regional Sustainable Development Framework. The IRF sets out 10 specific challenges facing the region in delivering sustainable development, including transport, climate change, the economy, and sustainable growth.

**2.9** The North West region's RSS has been reviewed, with consideration of any cross border implications, especially those regeneration programmes in East Lancashire that may have impacts on the west of the Calderdale.

### Local and Sub Region

**2.10** The Replacement Calderdale UDP was adopted in 2006. Under the transitional arrangements contained within the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004), policies in the plan will be saved for up to three years and therefore be of relevance for several years. The Community Strategy, 'The Futures Plan 2006-16' sets out six priorities, which together with Corporate Plan 2006-9 and the new Local Area Agreement (2008) also informed the development of the sustainability objectives.

**2.11** A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) undertaken jointly by Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield will inform the spatial strategy in order to prevent development in unsuitable locations.

**2.12** The Calderdale NHS Primary and Acute strategies will feed into matters affecting the health of the population, whilst the Calderdale Crime and Disorder Strategy will influence public safety and design issues.

**2.13** The Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations will also be informed by the regeneration and renaissance proposals of both the Upper Calder Valley Renaissance Strategy and Halifax Streets Ahead.

**2.14** Calderdale's Housing Strategy 2006 –2011 contains information on the current housing situation in the District, and together with the Housing For the Ageing Population Strategy will inform both the policies of the DPDs and the sustainability objectives, indicators and targets.

**2.15** Other local level documents that will inform the sustainable development of the District include the Community Services Plan, the Children and Young People's Services Plan, the Air Quality Review and Assessment, the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study, the Draft Waste Management Strategy, the Contaminated Land Strategy and the Biodiversity Action Plan.

**2.16** Neighbouring authorities' UDPs, Local Plans, and emerging LDF documents will need to be reviewed in order to take account of the potential sub-regional impacts of policies.

### Summary

**2.17** The full listing of documents reviewed, together with a summary of the objectives and implications relevant to the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs and sustainability appraisal framework is included in Appendix 1 'Other Relevant Plans, and Programmes'. A summary of the main issues arising from the document review is given below:

- Ensure issues on climate change influence policies in all plans;
- Growing disparities across the district in relation to health, income levels and social inclusion;
- Plan to direct most development towards brownfield land and compare the plan target to the regional and national targets;
- Avoid dispersal from where people live, work, and access services;
- Ensure accessibility is a key consideration in planning for new development together with reducing the need to travel and reducing dependence on the private car;
- Include policies to protect and regenerate the vitality and viability of town and district centres;
- Protect and enhance Calderdale's built heritage and features of historical importance;
- Include policies to protect and enhance biodiversity;
- Devise policies to reduce the amount of waste produced and methods to deal with waste;
- Increase access and availability of open space and other recreational and sports facilities;
- Respond to the need to increase the proportion of energy derived from renewable sources and from decentralised sources;
- Consider what policies are required to prevent pollution of air, water and land, and clean up areas that are polluted together with measures to reduce nuisance such as noise and light pollution;
- Consider policies on water demand and capacity;

## 2 . Other Relevant Plans, Policies & Programmes - Task A1

- Plan to provide quality housing to meet the requirements of the whole community including the ageing population, providing a mix of housing including size, type, tenure and ensure there is a good supply of affordable housing;
  - Develop policies that lead to an increase in skilled jobs in the District and a skilled workforce to complement regional economic prosperity;
  - Protection and enhancement of the landscape character of the countryside of Calderdale;
  - Promotion and improvement of access to the countryside around the urban fringe, towns and villages for walking, cycling and horse riding;
  - The need to increase energy efficiency of homes.
-

## 3 Baseline Data - Task A2

### Calderdale Baseline Profile

**3.1** The purpose of baseline data is to record and describe data as the basis for predicting and monitoring effects of plans, alongside identifying sustainability problems and alternative ways of dealing with them. Baseline data establishes the current environmental, economic, and social conditions in the District. Trends can then be identified over time through the use of indicators and monitored to determine whether conditions are improving or deteriorating. The data provides a snapshot of the District as at November 2008 and will be constantly updated upon the production of subsequent plans and strategies.

#### Collecting the baseline data

**3.2** A review of a wide range of data sources was undertaken based on Appendix 7 of 'Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents' (ODPM, 2005) together with other relevant sources of information. Much of the baseline information is generic to the District to cover the strategic requirements of the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs, although the final SA report of the Land Allocations and Designations DPD is likely to reflect more specific issues related to the locations and designations of the allocated land. Future baseline exercises will complete data gaps identified in undertaking this first scoping report, and over time, the intention is to achieve consistency with the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) indicators, where relevant. This may take place between the scoping report and the final SA report. Consistency between the LAA, AMR, and the SA Indicators will also ensure that monitoring the impacts of the plan will be made easier as the data will be regularly updated.

**3.3** Appendix 2 'Baseline Data' provides a full listing of the entire baseline data collected for the purpose of this scoping report, including indicators, and targets (where established). Summary of Issues (section 4.2) is a summary of the sustainability issues that emerge as a result of the baseline data collection and Task A1, sub divided into economic, social and environmental information.

## 4 . Identifying the Sustainability Issues - Task A3

### 4 Identifying the Sustainability Issues - Task A3

**4.1** The local authority is already aware of many sustainability issues affecting the district from previous plan work, particularly from the preparation of the recently adopted RCUDP. Others have emerged through the document review (Task A1) and collection of baseline data (Task A2). Consultation on this scoping document may give rise to the identification of other issues. As more information is fed into the baseline data, (for example the employment land review and the open space study) and fewer data gaps exist, other issues may start to emerge.

#### Summary of Issues

**4.2** Appendix 3 'Key Sustainability Issues' provides a breakdown of the issues, the following is a summary, split into Social, Environmental, and Economic Themes:

##### Social

- There is a shortage of Affordable Housing;
- There is a higher level of fuel poverty compared to either the region or nationally;
- Nearly 1/5 of households are without central heating;
- Number of vacant dwellings;
- Crime is an issue, both against the person and theft of a vehicle;
- Life expectancy is lower than the UK;
- The infant mortality rates is slightly higher than the national figure;
- The district is within the top 1/3 of the most deprived English Districts;
- There is a shortage of sports facilities;
- Accessibility to facilities and employment is an issue, although this varies across the district;
- The numbers of 16-24 year olds in full time education or employment is lower than the national figure;
- The percentage of 16-74 year olds with no formal qualifications is higher than the national figure.

##### Environmental

- The district needs to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change;
- Greenspace needs to be accessible;
- The identity and distinctiveness of villages and towns needs protecting;
- The district's features of historic significance need conserving;
- Flooding is an issue throughout the district;
- Compared to neighbouring authorities or the national figures, car use for commuting is higher in Calderdale;
- Cycling to work numbers are lower than nationally;
- Green Infrastructure needs strengthening in the district to enhance walking, cycling and other sustainable transport links between both urban and rural communities;
- The LDF must identify the infrastructure required to make non car travel a realistic alternative;
- Nature conservation sites must be protected and enhanced;
- Much of the district is covered by Green Belt or Special Landscape Areas;
- Achieving a balance between protection and development is a general issue;
- There is a need to secure greater energy efficient development;
- The amount of energy generated from renewable and decentralised sources needs increasing;
- There are 6 Air Quality Management Areas in the district;
- The district has a low percentage of woodland cover;
- In order to use land efficiently, brownfield land should be preferred to greenfield, however, care is needed to avoid an unattractive residential environment;
- The amount of waste sent to landfill needs to be reduced and recycling and composting rates need to be increased;
- Future development needs to adhere to the principles of sustainable construction.

### Economic

- A large proportion of the working population commutes out of the district;
- There is a need to increase the number of skilled employment opportunities;
- Wage levels are lower than the national average;
- The numbers of job seekers allowance claimants is slightly higher than the region and the national figure;
- The percentage of working age population who are economically active is slightly lower than the region or the national figures;
- Data needs collecting for the rate of new businesses that survive 3 years;
- The businesses registration rate is slightly lower than either the region or the national rate;
- The business deregistration rate is higher than either the region or the national rate;
- The district needs to attract both blue chip and smaller start up businesses to boost the economy;
- Retail vacancy rates in Halifax Town Centre indicate that attracting and retaining well established retailers is an issue;
- Todmorden Town Centre suffers from the highest vacancy rates.

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

### 5 Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

**5.1** The purpose of the SA framework is to analyse the sustainability effects of the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs, thereby assisting in determining the most sustainable options. The SA objectives provide a yardstick against which the social, environmental and economic effects of the plan can be tested.

#### Sustainability Objectives

**5.2** The sustainability objectives proposed are high level and focus on outcomes rather than the means of achieving the desired state, which is the purpose of policies and objectives in Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs. Government guidance recommends that in order to keep the sustainability appraisal process manageable, the number of objectives should be between 12 and 25. Through the review of plans, programmes, strategies and initiatives, internal discussion within Planning Services, baseline information, the Community Strategy and with reference to the Yorkshire and Humber Integrated Regional Framework, 19 initial sustainability objectives were selected. These are listed in Table 3 below:

**Table 3 Initial List of Sustainability Objectives**

Initial List of Sustainability Objectives	
1	Meeting housing need for all
2	Protect and enhance human health
3	Safety and security for people and property
4	Vibrant communities
5	Culture, leisure and recreation activities available to all
6	Improving accessibility to essential services, facilities and employment
7	Improving educational attainment and promoting lifelong learning
8	A quality built environment
9	Reducing the effect of traffic on the environment
10	Cultural heritage conserved
11	Protect and enhance biodiversity
12	Reducing pollution levels
13	Protect and enhance the natural landscape
14	Prudent and efficient use of natural resources and energy
15	Efficient land use patterns
16	Reducing waste
17	Good quality employment opportunities for all
18	Achieving business success, economic growth and continued investment
19	A highly skilled and knowledgeable workforce

**5.3** Having arrived at a suitable number of sustainability objectives, it was agreed that some objectives were unclear as to their exact meaning. Revisions to the initial list of sustainability objectives were therefore undertaken with initial objectives 1, 7, 13 and 17 re-worded and initial objectives 2, 10 and 19 deleted, and a specific objective concerning flooding was included. This exercise resulted in a list of 18 more precise and clearer objectives as listed in Table 4 (Please note that some of the numbering has changed compared with the initial list in the previous table). These sustainability objectives have been linked to indicators and targets identified in the baseline data and included in the SA Framework presented in Table 5 . Following further consultation with the environmental bodies and other relevant stakeholders, these objectives may be refined. The table below gives a list of the final proposed sustainability objectives for consultation:

**Table 4 Final List of Proposed Sustainability Objectives**

Final list of Proposed Sustainability Objectives
SA Objective 1 – To ensure quality housing is available to everyone
SA Objective 2 – To improve safety and security for people and property
SA Objective 3 – To create and retain vibrant communities that promote good health and social inclusion
SA Objective 4 – To ensure that cultural, leisure, and recreation activities are available to all.
SA Objective 5 – To improve accessibility to essential services, facilities and employment.
SA Objective 6 – To provide the education and training opportunities to build skills and capacities.
SA Objective 7 – To retain, protect and create a quality, locally distinctive built environment
SA Objective 8 – To reduce the risk of flooding and resulting detrimental effects on people and property
SA Objective 9 – To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
SA Objective 10 – To protect and enhance biodiversity
SA Objective 11 – To reduce pollution levels including the carbon footprint of the District
SA Objective 12 – To protect and enhance the natural, semi natural and manmade landscape.
SA Objective 13 – To ensure prudent and efficient use of natural resources and energy.
SA Objective 14 - To ensure efficient use of land
SA Objective 15 – To reduce the amount of waste produced
SA Objective 16 – To provide good employment opportunities for all
SA Objective 17 – To achieve business success, economic growth, and continued investment
SA Objective 18 – Enhance the Viability and Vitality of the Town Centres

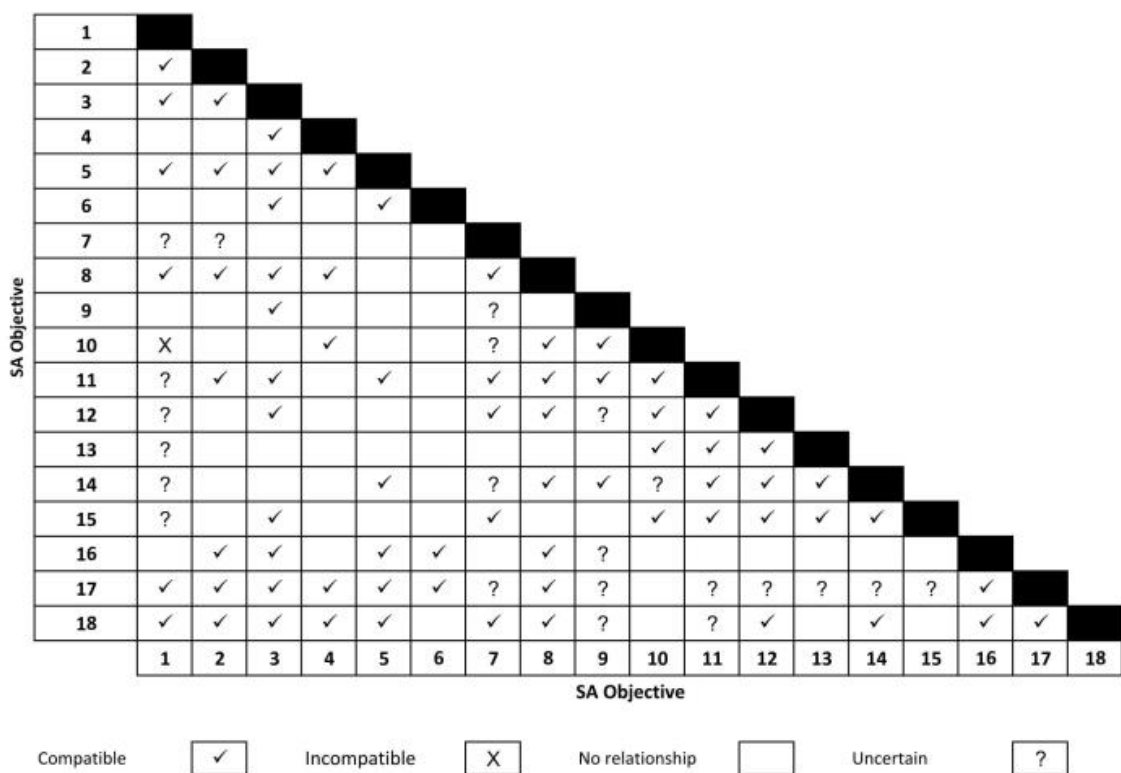
**5.4** Although there is no specific objective concerned with climate change, the theme behind a number of objectives will ensure that this is taken into account in a strategic manner.

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

### Compatibility of Sustainability Objectives

**5.5** Government guidance recommends that testing the internal compatibility of the sustainability appraisal objectives may be useful as there may be tensions between objectives that cannot be resolved. Examining the compatibility of objectives through a matrix approach showed the degree of compatibility or incompatibility between objectives as well as highlighting those where there was no relationship at all. The following diagram illustrates the outcomes of this exercise.

**Figure 5.1 Internal Compatibility of Proposed Sustainability Objectives**



**5.6** The majority of the objectives are either compatible or have no strong relationship. There are some instances where an uncertain relationship exists, although this will become easier to determine once specific policies and options are appraised. The one area where tension exists at present is between SA objective 1, 'To ensure quality housing is available to everyone' and SA objective 10, 'To protect and enhance biodiversity'. The tension between these objectives will be considered when appraising the emerging options of the Core Strategy, and, perhaps more specifically, the Land Allocations and Designations DPD.

### The SA Framework

**5.7** The following table is the proposed SA Framework for testing the sustainability of the options of the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD. Each of the sustainability objectives has a group of relevant indicators, which will be used as the plan progresses to monitor the plan's impact(s) across the district. The indicators have been identified during the gathering of baseline information and regional and national guidance. Alongside the indicators, each of the objectives has a series of decision making criteria, and targets (where available) which make up the SA Framework.

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

**Table 5 Proposed SA Framework**

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
1. To ensure quality housing is available to everyone	Will it reduce homelessness?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of households on Housing Register</li> <li>Number of Households designated homeless (per 1000 households)</li> </ul>	
	Will it increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of household's owner occupied. (Owned outright, with mortgage/loan, shared ownership)</li> <li>% of private rented</li> <li>% of social housing</li> <li>Mean average house price</li> <li>Gross Affordable Housing Completions</li> <li>House price to income ratio (Based on Householders Aged 20-39 &amp; 2-3 Bedroom House).</li> <li>Number of housing completions 2006/2007</li> <li>Number of net additional Gypsy and traveller pitches</li> </ul>	155 Affordable housing completions pa by 2010/11. (Calderdale AMR 2006/7)
	Will it reduce the number of unfit homes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of households with no central heating</li> <li>% of households experiencing fuel poverty 2005 (i.e. spend more than 10% of income to heat their homes adequately and affordably)</li> <li>Number of unfit homes per 1000 dwellings (Private Sector Survey results due in the autumn will relate to the new 'decency' indicator)</li> <li>Housing Quality – Number and proportion of new build completions reaching Very Good, Good, Average or Poor ratings against the building for life (CABE) indicator.</li> </ul>	Improve all RSL Property to the decent homes standard by 2010, achieve a 4.7% reduction in the proportion of unfit private housing per year. (Calderdale Affordable Warmth Strategy (2008). The government seeks an end to vulnerable households experiencing fuel poverty by 2010 and in all households by 2016.

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
2. To improve safety and security for people and property	Will it reduce levels of crime?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offences per 1000 population</li> <li>Violence against the person per 1000 population</li> <li>Burglary offences per 1000 population</li> <li>Theft of a vehicle per 1000 population</li> <li>Theft from a vehicle per 1000 population</li> </ul>	
	Will it reduce the fear of crime?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Levels of perceived anti social behaviour</li> </ul>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of cyclist road accident casualties per 100,000 population</li> <li>Number of pedestrian road accident casualties per 100,000 population</li> <li>Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents</li> </ul>	Reduce the figure of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents to 79 by 2010/2011
3. To create and retain vibrant communities that promote good health and social inclusion	Will it foster inclusive communities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population Growth / Change</li> <li>% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality</li> <li>% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area</li> <li>% of people satisfied with the area as a place to live</li> </ul>	<p>5% increase from the baseline 2008 place survey by 2010/11</p> <p>4% increase by 2010/11</p>
	Will it reduce death rates?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infant mortality rate: deaths up to 1 year per 1,000 live births</li> <li>All age all cause mortality rate (per 100,000 population)</li> </ul>	Reduce the Male figures to 709 and the female figures to 477 by 2010/11
	Will it encourage healthier lifestyles?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of incapacity benefit claimants</li> <li>% of population with limiting long term illness</li> <li>Life expectancy at birth</li> </ul>	By 2010, increase the life expectancy of men to 78.6 years and to 82.5 years for women. By 2010 reduce mortality rates among people under 75 from heart

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
			disease and strokes by at least 40% and cancer by 20%
	Will it reduce health inequalities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of population in general good health</li> <li>Indices of deprivation indicator</li> </ul>	
4. To ensure that cultural, leisure, and recreation activities are available to all.	Will it improve the accessibility and affordability of cultural, leisure and recreation facilities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conditions of Rights Of Way</li> <li>Local supply and demand of swimming pools (% of demand met)</li> <li>Local supply and demand of sports halls (% demand met)</li> <li>Personal share of swimming pool facilities (m2)</li> <li>Total number of synthetic pitches (Per 1000 population)</li> <li>Health &amp; Fitness Facilities (Number of Stations per 10000 population)</li> <li>Sports Hall Area (m2 per 1000 population)</li> <li>% of households within 400m of open space</li> <li>% of adults doing 3 x 30 mins of sport per week</li> <li>% of adults doing 1 x 30 mins of moderate intensity physical activity per week from Mixenden, Ovenden and Park Wards</li> </ul>	<p>To meet 100% of demand of local sports halls</p> <p>Increase provision to at least 1m2 per person of personal share of swimming pool facilities.</p> <p>Increase by 1% per year the % of adults doing 3 x 30 mins of sport per week</p> <p>Increase of 4% over 3 years the % of adults doing 1 x 30 mins of moderate intensity physical activity per week from Mixenden, Ovenden and Park Wards.</p>
	Will it provide access to the countryside or green space for recreation and enjoyment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achievement of Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards</li> </ul>	
5. To improve accessibility to essential services, facilities and employment	Will it ensure good quality accessibility to all the facilities and opportunities needed to support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of homes within 400m of a bus stop</li> <li>% of residents within 500m of a Primary School</li> </ul>	Target of average journey time per mile during the morning peak is 3min 57 sec in 2010/2011

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

20

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
	life and the quality of life?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of residents within 500m of a Secondary School</li> <li>• % of the resident population travelling over 20km to work</li> <li>• Congestion – average journey time per mile during the morning peak</li> <li>• % of the population within 20 minutes (Urban: Walking, Rural - Driving) of a range of 3 different sports facility types</li> <li>• % of residents within 500m of a Post Office</li> <li>• Total properties per doctors surgery</li> </ul>	
6. To provide the education and training opportunities to build skills and capacities	Will it improve qualifications and skills of the workforce?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs A*-C</li> <li>• % of 16-17 year olds remaining in further education</li> <li>• % of population of working age with Level 4 NVQ or higher</li> <li>• % of young people aged 16 to 24 in full time education or employment.</li> <li>• % of population of working age with Level 1 NVQ or higher qualifications</li> <li>• % of population aged 16 -74 with no formal qualifications.</li> <li>• % of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment</li> </ul>	<p>60% of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs A*-C by 2010</p> <p>Reduce the % of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment to 6.4% by 2010/11</p>
7. To retain, protect and create a quality, locally distinctive built environment.	Will it lead to a high quality built environment and public realm?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter)</li> </ul>	Reduce levels of litter to 12% by 2010/11
	Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of historic parks and gardens</li> <li>• Number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments</li> </ul>	

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
	archaeological and cultural value?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of Conservation Areas</li> <li>Number of listed buildings</li> <li>% of Grade I and Grade II* listed buildings at risk</li> <li>Number of listed buildings demolished</li> </ul>	
	Will the built environment's effect on the planet be reduced through sustainable construction?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of new development meeting Level 3 of the Code for Sustainable Homes</li> </ul>	
	Will it lead to improved levels of green space?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of parks awarded the Green Flag Award</li> <li>% of population satisfied with local parks and open spaces</li> </ul>	
	Will it reduce the amount of derelict and degraded land?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area of derelict and degraded land</li> </ul>	
8. To reduce the risk of flooding and resulting detrimental effects on people and property.	Will it reduce the risk of flooding?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Properties at risk of flooding</li> <li>New development with Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems</li> </ul>	
	Will it prevent inappropriate development in flood risk areas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds</li> </ul>	
9. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	Will it reduce traffic volumes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estimated increase in traffic flows for cars (1995-2005, Million Vehicle KM)</li> </ul>	Traffic growth in Halifax in the morning peak period (0700 to 1000hrs) from 2003/4 to 2010/11 to be restricted to 3%
	Will it increase the proportion of journeys using modes other than the car?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distances (miles) travelled per person per year by mode of transport: Car or other private</li> </ul>	10% increase in cycling trips, with a 20% increase in cycling trips in the morning peak period in Halifax. Also increase %

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

22

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>road vehicle (C) Walk (W), Public transport (PT)</li> <li>Travel to work mode Car / M'bike (C/M), Train (T), Bus (B), Walk (W), Cycle (Cy).</li> </ul>	of children cycling to school from 0.7% in 03/04, to 2% in 2011.
	Will it lead to attractive public transport?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bus passenger journeys (Millions / % change from 2004 base year = 199.1m W/Y</li> <li>Rail passenger journeys (Millions) both within (West Yorks) and cross border</li> </ul>	<p>17% increase by 2015/16.</p> <p>12% increase in peak time rail patronage by 2010/11.</p>
	Will it result in greater provision of safe cycle ways and footpaths?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link to SA Objective 2 indicators concerned with number of cyclists and pedestrians involved in road accidents.</li> </ul>	
	Will it lead to an increase of sustainable freight transport?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Levels of Rail Freight in the District</li> </ul>	
10. To protect and enhance biodiversity.	Will it protect, enhance and create diverse habitats for plants and animals to thrive in, including International, national and locally protected sites?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of designated SSSI</li> <li>Condition of SSSI</li> <li>Number of designated Sites of ecological or geological importance (SEGI)</li> <li>Number and area of Local Nature Reserves (LNR)</li> <li>Change in areas of biodiversity importance</li> <li>Condition of SEGI</li> </ul>	<p>95% of SSSI's to be in a favourable or recovering condition by 2010.</p> <p>Increase to 10 designated LNR by 2010, or 1ha of LNR per 1000 population.</p>
11. To reduce pollution levels including the carbon footprint of the District	Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total CO2 emissions per capita (2003)</li> <li>Monitored NO2 levels (urban areas)</li> <li>PM10 levels thousand tonnes</li> </ul>	<p>Cut by 6.14% by 2010/11.</p> <p>To remain below the national standards.</p>
	Will it improve air quality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of AQMA designated</li> <li>Average number of days air pollution is moderate or high Urban (U) and Rural (R) sites</li> </ul>	Air Quality Action Plan Targets to be met.

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
	Will it improve water quality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of river / canal length that is of good quality (Chemical)</li> <li>% of river / canal length that is of good quality (Biological)</li> </ul>	Maintain the classification of the River Calder and its tributaries as 'Good'.
12. To protect and enhance the natural, semi natural and manmade landscape.	Will it protect and enhance the Green Belt?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Belt Land Cover</li> </ul>	
	Will it protect hedgerows?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area of species rich hedgerows</li> </ul>	Plant 10km of species rich hedgerows by 2010.
	Will it protect woodlands?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ancient Woodland Cover</li> <li>Area of Woodland Cover</li> </ul>	Ensure all native woodland wildlife sites are maintained in an ecologically favourable condition. Restore 5ha of upland oakwood , 150ha of lowland mixed deciduous woodland, and 5ha of wet woodland by 2010. Create 20ha of upland oakwood , 40ha of lowland mixed deciduous woodland and 5ha of wet woodland by 2010.
	Will it protect upland heath?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upland Heathland</li> </ul>	Create or restore 200ha of Upland Heathland by 2011
	Will it protect blanket bog?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blanket Bog</li> </ul>	Create or restore 100ha of blanket bog by 2010
	Will it protect agricultural land?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality of agricultural Land</li> </ul>	
	Will it protect unimproved grassland?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area of unimproved grassland</li> </ul>	Restore 20ha and create 100ha of unimproved grassland by 2010.
13. To ensure prudent and efficient use of natural resources and energy.	Will it ensure increased use of renewable energy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generation of electricity from renewable sources</li> </ul>	Nationally, 10% by 2010, 20% by 2020. The RSS calls for 19MW by 2010, and 53MW by 2021.

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

24

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
	Will it reduce energy consumption and lead to energy efficient developments?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Average annual domestic consumption of electricity</li> <li>Average annual domestic sales of gas</li> <li>Average energy efficiency (SAP# rating) of housing stock</li> <li>Total CHP Generation Heat (H) &amp; Electricity (E)</li> </ul>	
	Will it reduce water consumption?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daily domestic water consumption per head per day in litres</li> </ul>	
	Will it ensure a reduction in water leakage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Leakage - Household supply (Million litres per day M/ld))</li> </ul>	
	Will it lead to a reduction for primary aggregates and lead to recycling of materials?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of mineral extraction sites</li> </ul>	
14. To ensure efficient use of land.	Will it lead to the re-use of previously developed sites?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of new housing completions built on brownfield land</li> <li>Amount of employment floor space developed on brownfield land</li> </ul>	RSS calls for at least 65%.
	Will it lead to higher density and/or mixed-use developments?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of new dwellings completed at less than 30 dwellings per hectare</li> <li>% of new dwellings completed at between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare</li> <li>% of new dwellings completed at above 50 dwellings per hectare</li> <li>% of dwellings vacant</li> </ul>	
15. To reduce the amount of waste produced.	Will it lead to reduced consumption of materials and resources through	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kg of Household waste collected per head</li> </ul>	Increase proportion of household waste recycled / composted to at least 30% by 2010.

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

25

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
	increased prevention?		
	Will it reduce waste through recovery and recycling?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of household waste recycled</li> <li>• % household waste composted</li> <li>• % of municipal waste landfilled</li> </ul>	As above As above
16. To provide good employment opportunities for all.	Will it help to provide good employment opportunities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of Job Seeker's allowance claimants as a % of working population</li> <li>• % of working age population who are economically active</li> <li>• % of jobs by type (M = manufacturing, S = service, C = construction)</li> </ul>	
	Will it offer employment opportunities to disadvantaged groups?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods</li> </ul>	Reduce to 27% by 2010/11
	Will it help to reduce commuting out of the district	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job density (Number of jobs per head of working population, e.g. a job density of '1' would mean there is one job per person)</li> </ul>	
	Will it help to improve earnings?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average Gross weekly pay (all workers living in Calderdale)</li> </ul>	
17. To achieve business success, economic growth, and continued investment.	Will it allow the growth of existing firms? Will it encourage inward investment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of new businesses surviving at least 1 year</li> <li>• Employment Land available – by type</li> <li>• Total amount of additional employment floor space – by type</li> </ul>	
	Will it improve the resilience of businesses and the economy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New businesses which survive 3 years</li> <li>• Business registration rate</li> <li>• Business deregistration rate</li> </ul>	Local Area Agreement to set targets.

## 5 . Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework - Task A4

26

SA Objective	Decision Making Criteria For Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPD	Indicators	Targets (where available)
18. Enhance the Viability and Vitality of the Town Centres.	Will it attract new retailers and other town centre users to the major centres within Calderdale?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shopping Floor space per sector</li><li>• Retail Vacancy Rates in the Town and District Centres</li></ul>	
	Will it allow current retailers to remain trading in the major centres within Calderdale?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Footfall rates in the town centres</li></ul>	

## 6 Next Steps

### Consultation Arrangements

**6.1** The Government requires the three statutory environmental bodies to be consulted on individual scoping reports (as required by the SEA process) alongside any other social, economic, or environmental organisations that the Council considers appropriate. The consultation period on the scoping report content will take place over 5 weeks in November and December 2008, and be subject to consultation from the following organisations:

- The Environment Agency
- Natural England
- English Heritage
- West Yorkshire Ecology
- Calderdale Sustainability Forum
- Calderdale Friends of the Earth
- Calderdale Forward

**6.2** In addition to the consultees above, the Council will place the scoping report on the consultation portal, should members of the public wish to comment. Once the consultation period is complete, the Council will consider all representations and amend the report where necessary. The Sustainability Appraisal will then proceed to test the sustainability of the emerging options within the Core Strategy and Land Allocations and Designations DPDs.

**6.3** The findings of the Sustainability Appraisal will then be made available for public consultation in a 'Sustainability Appraisal Report' alongside the second round of consultation on the DPDs.

**6.4** Comments on the scoping report can be made online via the Council's website, at [www.calderdale.gov.uk](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk), or should this not be possible please contact the Planning Policy Team at the following address for a consultation response form:

Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council  
Planning Policy Team  
Planning Services  
Northgate House  
Halifax  
HX1 1UN

Tel:01422 392206

[www.planning.policy@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:www.planning.policy@calderdale.gov.uk)

Appendix 1 Other Relevant Plans, and Programmes

See Appendix 1 attachment.

### Appendix 2 Baseline Data

See Appendix 2 attachment.

Appendix 3 Key Sustainability Issues

See Appendix 3 attachment.