

Appendix 4: Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Sustainability Appraisal theme	Sustainability Appraisal Objective	Detailed Decision-Making Criteria. Will the policy...	Indicators (to be used in monitoring the implementation of the plan)
Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	1- Maintain and enhance biodiversity and avoid irreversible losses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect and enhance habitats and species? ▪ Protect and enhance international, national and locally designated wildlife sites? ▪ Avoid habitat fragmentation? ▪ Ensure all new developments protect and enhance local biodiversity? ▪ Contribute to the achievement of targets within the LBAP? ▪ Prevent the loss of ancient woodland? ▪ Result in the need for Appropriate Assessment? ▪ Incorporate a network of multifunctional Green Infrastructure within new developments, where appropriate? ▪ Result in a net gain for the natural environment with each new development? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of SSSIs in 'favourable' or 'unfavourable recovering' condition. ▪ Change in area of designated biodiversity sites (Ha). ▪ % change in Community Forest planted area. ▪ Changes in habitats identified in the Swindon BAP. ▪ Quantity and proportion of new development designated as new strategic green corridor (Ha and % of area). ▪ Area of habitat created as a benefit of new development (NOT including compensatory or translocated habitat) ▪ Area of degraded habitat restored and sensitively managed as a benefit of new development.
Land and Water resources	2- Use land and existing buildings efficiently and prioritise development on Previously Developed Land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maximise densities in sustainable locations? ▪ Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land? ▪ Maintain and enhance soil quality? ▪ Maximise reuse of Previously Developed Land? ▪ Encourage remediation of contaminated land? ▪ Maximise efficient use of land within Swindon's Central Area? ▪ Avoid the loss of natural floodplain? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % dwellings and/or development completed on previously developed land. ▪ Average density of new housing per ha (all sites). ▪ Housing density of new developments in Swindon's Central Area. ▪ Amount of best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development (Ha).

	3- Promote sustainable waste management solutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the amount of waste produced? ▪ Maximise recovery, re-use and recycling of waste? ▪ Promote 'on-site' sustainable waste management facilities within new developments? ▪ Deal with waste in a sustainable manner? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % household waste landfilled. ▪ % household waste recycled. ▪ % household waste composted. ▪ Amount of waste produced per person/household. ▪ Amounts of industrial, commercial, demolition and agricultural waste produced in the Borough. ▪ % new developments with 'on-site' sustainable waste management facilities. ▪ % households with kerbside recycling collection schemes. ▪ % households living within 300 metres of a local "bring site" for recycling or Household Recycling Centre.
	4. Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage sustainable management of water resources? ▪ Maximise efficient use of water resources? ▪ Take into account predicted future impacts of climate change, including water scarcity? ▪ Minimise the environmental effects of water abstraction, both inside and outside the Borough? ▪ Ensure that essential water infrastructure is co-ordinated with all new development? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Daily domestic water consumption per capita. ▪ % of new developments with water efficiency measures, including use of grey water and rainwater reuse. ▪ Groundwater quality/quantity.
Pollution, Air and Climatic Factors	5- Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable forms of transport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote mixed-use developments that reduce reliance on the private car? ▪ Provide for suitable alternatives to the private car ie public transport, walking, cycling? ▪ Promote car-share schemes and/or working from home? ▪ Promote the development of Park & Ride Schemes? ▪ Improve the jobs/homes balance? ▪ Reduce traffic volumes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of residents who travel to work by public transport/private motor vehicle/walking/cycling. ▪ No. of vehicles entering the urban centre in the morning peak. ▪ % of schools with Travel Plans. ▪ No. of employees working for businesses with Green Travel Plans. ▪ % of people travelling to work in private car involved in car-share schemes. ▪ Number and patronage of Park & Ride Schemes. ▪ % of housing development completed within or adjacent to Swindon settlement boundary. ▪ Length of dedicated bus lanes/cycleways. ▪ % of new residential developments in the Central Area that include mixed uses. ▪ % change in parking spaces in the Central Area. ▪ No. of parking spaces per dwelling in new major developments in the Central Area. ▪ No. of parking spaces per dwelling in new major developments in the Southern Development Area. ▪ No. of bicycle parking spaces within new major developments.

	<p>6- Reduce impacts on climate change (mitigation), through promotion of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy solutions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce emissions of Greenhouse gases and ozone depleting substances? ▪ Consider the likely impacts of future development on climate change? ▪ Promote the development of renewable energy resources? ▪ Promote energy efficiency in buildings and new development? ▪ Promote energy from waste schemes? ▪ Reduce contributions to climate change through sustainable building practices? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % household waste used to recover heat, power and other energy sources. ▪ % energy production met by renewable sources. ▪ % renewable energy use within the Borough. ▪ Number of renewable energy schemes approved. ▪ Number and/or output of energy from waste schemes. ▪ Number of schemes using Combined Heat & Power (CHP). ▪ % buildings meeting Code 3 of the Code for Sustainable Homes and/or 'excellent' BREEAM Eco-Homes standards.
	<p>7- Reduce environmental pollution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain and improve local air quality? ▪ Minimise and, where possible, improve on unacceptable levels of noise, light pollution, odour and vibration? ▪ Maintain and improve the quality of all water bodies in the Borough? ▪ Minimise all forms of contamination to soils? ▪ Maintain and enhance soil quality? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concentrations of selected local air quality indicators as set out in the Local Air Quality Management Progress Report. ▪ No. of Air Quality Management Areas. ▪ % new residential developments meeting set standards in accordance with WHO Environmental Health Criteria 12 (Noise). ▪ No. of complaints received/resolved with regard to lighting, noise and odour. ▪ % of residential developments permitted against the advice of Environmental Health. ▪ % river length of good/fair chemical quality. ▪ % river length of good/fair biological quality. ▪ No. of incidents of major significant water pollution occurring in a year in the Borough.
<p>Inclusive Communities</p>	<p>8- Reduce social exclusion and poverty.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the availability and accessibility of key local facilities, including healthcare, education, retail and leisure? ▪ Encourage active involvement of local people in community activities? ▪ Maximise opportunities for all members of society? ▪ Maximise opportunities within the most deprived areas? ▪ Increase the ability of 'Hard-to-Reach' groups, as defined in the Statement of Community Involvement, to influence decisions? ▪ Reduce fuel poverty? ▪ Maintain and enhance rural facilities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of population living within 400m walking distance of a bus stop. ▪ % of population living within 300m walk or 20 mins bus travel (15 mins frequency) of a Primary School. ▪ % of households living within 1 mile of a static public library. ▪ % of rural villages with a General Store/Post Office. ▪ % of rural villages with a Level 1 Journey to Work Public Transport Service. ▪ % of representations received to LDD consultation from 'Hard-to-Reach' groups, as defined in the Statement of Community Involvement. ▪ IMD Rank ▪ Ward unemployment levels. ▪ Employment by gender. ▪ Average earnings. ▪ Unemployment rate. ▪ BVPI156 - % Local Authority buildings suitable for and accessible by disabled people.

	9. Provide decent and affordable housing for everyone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide an adequate supply of affordable housing? ▪ Support the provision of a range of house types and sizes to meet the needs of all sectors of the community? ▪ Reduce homelessness? ▪ Provide a decent home for all by 2010? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'Affordable' housing completed as % of all new completions. ▪ Average house price/ household gross earned income ratio. ▪ No. of households classified as homeless. ▪ BV184a - LA homes which are non-decent. ▪ % of private sector homes judged unfit to live in. ▪ % of dwellings in new developments designed for disabled access. ▪ No. of households in overcrowded dwellings.
Healthy Communities	10. Provide a safe and healthy environment in which to live.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote design of buildings and spaces to reduce crime and the fear of crime? ▪ Encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities? ▪ Provide for high quality healthcare facilities? ▪ Incorporate a network of multifunctional Green Infrastructure within new developments, where appropriate? ▪ Promote recreational and leisure opportunities in the countryside? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % change in crime levels (various categories). ▪ % of residents feeling 'safe' or 'fairly safe' outside in the local authority area after dark. ▪ Standard Mortality Rates (all causes). ▪ % of SOAs in lowest 20% IMD Health Domain. ▪ No. of GPs per 1000 population. ▪ % of population suffering from fuel poverty. ▪ % of population living within 600m walk or 30mins bus travel (15mins frequency) of a GP surgery/Health clinic. ▪ BVPI 178 - % length of rights of way easy to use by the public
	11. Protect people and property from the risk of flooding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the risk of flooding to people and property (new and existing development)? ▪ Take climate change into account in the location and design of development, ensuring that development can adapt to any future flood risk scenarios? ▪ Protect and enhance the natural function of floodplains? ▪ Promote the use of sustainable drainage systems, in appropriate circumstances? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of new development incorporating Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS). ▪ No. of applications subject to objection by the EA on flood risk grounds. ▪ New development situated in Flood Zones 2 & 3. ▪ No. of properties considered at risk of flooding.

Development and Growth	12. Provide a high quality built environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure the highest possible standards of sustainable design and construction in all new developments? ▪ Ensure that the design and construction of buildings minimises impacts on climate change, and that buildings can adapt to the future impacts of climate change? ▪ Improve people's satisfaction with their neighbourhoods as places to live? ▪ Ensure new development is co-ordinated with essential infrastructure to support future sustainable growth? ▪ Improve the public realm? ▪ Improve the amenity of residential areas? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Value of Public Art provision. ▪ Value of developer contributions to the public realm from new developments.
	13. Maintain the identity and function of individual settlements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prevent coalescence of individual settlements? ▪ Maintain and enhance the character and distinctiveness of settlements? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No. of Parish Plans in place. ▪ Quantity (ha & % of area) of development permitted within Rural Buffers. ▪ Loss of essential rural facilities.
Conservation and Heritage	14. Conserve and enhance the historic built environment and archaeological assets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conserve and enhance features and areas of historical and cultural value, including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Historic Parks and Gardens? ▪ Conserve and enhance archaeological sites and features? ▪ Ensure appropriate archaeological assessment prior to development of Greenfield land? ▪ Promote sensitive re-use of listed buildings and buildings of significant local interest where appropriate? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of grade I and II* listed buildings considered 'at risk'. ▪ No. of listed buildings or listed features lost or damaged through development. ▪ No. and % of Scheduled Ancient Monuments considered at risk. ▪ No. of historic parks and gardens lost or damaged through development. ▪ BVPI % Conservation Areas with published management proposals. ▪ BVPI % Conservation Areas with an up-to-date character appraisal. ▪ % of applications where further archaeological evaluation was recommended.

	15. Conserve and enhance rural and urban landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect and enhance the landscape character and scenic quality of the countryside? ▪ Protect and enhance natural landscapes within the urban area, including recreational open space and strategic green corridors? ▪ Incorporate a network of multifunctional Green Infrastructure within new developments, where appropriate? ▪ Contribute to the conservation and enhancement of the North Wessex Downs AONB? ▪ Contribute to the objectives of the Great Western Community Forest? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 106 agreements contributing to Great Western Community Forest landscape enhancement and new and/or existing areas of Open Space. ▪ % of Open Space provision in strategic development areas which meets local plan standards. ▪ % and area of existing strategic green corridors developed for alternative uses. ▪ No. of applications that make a positive contribution to the achievement of the North Wessex Downs AONB Management Plan. ▪ No. of approved applications that provide for the restoration of degraded landscape features. ▪ Quantity of the countryside developed for alternative uses (Ha and % of area).
Economic Development and Employment	16. Promote a sustainable, diverse and vibrant sub-regional economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide employment opportunities for all? ▪ Improve business development and enhance competitiveness? ▪ Assist businesses in finding appropriate land and premises? ▪ Support the rural economy and farm diversification? ▪ Recognise the importance of the environment to the Borough's economy? ▪ Promote sustainable tourism opportunities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gross Value Added (GVA) ▪ Business premises vacancy rates ▪ Business premises rental values ▪ Jobs density ▪ Economic Activity ▪ % change in VAT registrations ▪ Employment land availability ▪ Average earnings ▪ Unemployment rate ▪ Business registrations and de-registrations ▪ Loss and gain of major employers ▪ % registered working age disabled people in employment ▪ % working age BME people in employment
	17. Provide opportunities for a highly skilled and educated workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide high quality educational facilities? ▪ Improve the skills and qualifications of young people? ▪ Promote life-long learning that is accessible to all? ▪ Provide an increased supply of skilled workers to the local economy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of 16 year olds achieving 5+ GCSEs Grade A*-C. ▪ % of people with NVQ level 3 or 4 (or equivalent) or a trade apprenticeship. ▪ Business surveys of staff/skills shortages. ▪ % of adults on a registered further education course. ▪ No. of companies experiencing skills shortages. ▪ No. of residents attending University. ▪ % of employees undertaking job related training.

	<p>18. Enhance the image and role of Swindon's Central Area as a sub-regional centre and destination.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote Swindon's Central Area as a business location? ▪ Make land and property available for a range of different business needs within the Central Area? ▪ Allow the realisation of the New Swindon Company's objectives? ▪ Improve the quality of the public realm in Swindon's Central Area? ▪ Promote Swindon as a destination of choice for shopping? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Footfall in Central Area. ▪ % change in office floorspace within Central Area. ▪ Value of public realm improvements within the Central Area. ▪ Unit vacancy rate within the Central Area. ▪ % change in floorspace of Class A1 retail frontages in the Central Area. ▪ Shopping centre yields
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