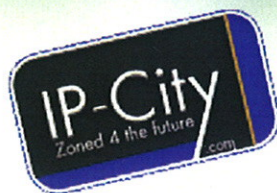
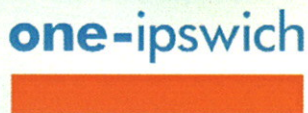


IPSWICH BOROUGH COUNCIL

# Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultation

## Draft objectives and indicators

May 2005



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## Foreword

Strategic Environmental Assessment is an important step forward in European environmental law. The European Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment sets national, regional and local authorities many challenges in considering environmental effects when developing policies, proposals, plans and strategies.

The Directive requires that the environmental effects of a broad range of plans and strategies are assessed, so that they can be taken into account while plans are actually being developed, and in due course adopted. The public must also be consulted on the draft plans and on the environmental assessment and their views must be taken into account.

Whilst the concept of Strategic Environmental Assessment is relatively straightforward, implementation of the Directive sets policy and plan makers a considerable challenge. It goes to the heart of much public sector decision-making. In many cases, it will require more structured planning and consultation procedures. Proposals will have to be more systematically assessed against environmental criteria to determine their likely effects, and those of viable alternatives. There will be difficult questions of interpretation, but when properly applied, these assessments will help to produce policies that are better informed. This in turn will result in better quality of life and a more sustainable environment, now and for future generations.

This document has been produced to enable people and organisations to provide comments on how it is intended to undertake the process in Ipswich. If you have any comments please complete the questionnaire at Appendix B and return it to the Council by 24 June 2005.

# 1 Introduction

- 1.1 As of 21 July 2004, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) or Sustainability Appraisal (SA) has been required for certain plans and programmes in all European Member States under Directive 2001/42/EC "*on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment*" (the 'SEA Directive').
- 1.2 Strategic Planning and Regeneration has undertaken to lead Ipswich Borough Council in the development of its SEA Strategy, defining, through consultation with stakeholders, a list of objectives and indicators which can be used corporately to assess the environmental impact of all relevant plans and strategies to be produced.
- 1.3 It is proposed to put forward a corporate approach to developing an appraisal framework for SEA that will apply to every relevant document that is produced by Ipswich Borough Council.
- 1.4 This consultation document sets out the requirements of the SEA Directive, the progress made towards developing an appraisal framework and the next steps in the process. The document seeks the views of all those with an interest in SEA. Views on possible SEA objectives are also being sought.

## 2. Background

### **Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

- 2.1 The Sustainability Appraisal process is a key aspect of plan preparation. From a planning policy perspective, a range of planning policy documents under the Local Development Framework will need to be assessed as to how they comply with the principles of sustainable development. The core principle of sustainable development is to balance the environmental, social and economic needs of the community.
- 2.2 The new sustainable development strategy 'Moving It Forward' (March 2005) has set five objectives for sustainable development. These are:
  - Living with environmental limits
  - Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society
  - Achieving a sustainable economy
  - Promoting good governance
  - Using sound science responsibly
- 2.3 The distinction between Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal is that SEA is focused on environmental effects and impacts whilst the wider sustainability appraisal agenda also embraces social and economic aspects of plan development and strategies.

## **Implications For Current and Future IBC Documents**

- 2.4 All relevant documents produced by Ipswich Borough Council and that have significant environmental effects will be required to complete a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Therefore, SEA is an important element to consider in the preparation of the vast majority of plans and strategies which the Council implements.
- 2.5 As part of the revised planning system, all development plan documents and supplementary planning documents in the Local Development Framework will be required to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment as part of the Sustainability Appraisal process. In addition to this, other documents produced by the Borough Council that have significant environmental effects may also require SEA. This could include:
- Ipswich Community Plan
  - Landscape and Wildlife Strategy
  - Cultural Strategy
  - Community Safety Strategy
  - Environment Strategy
  - Local Transport Plan

## **3. What Is Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?**

- 3.1 SEA is a generic tool which can be used in a variety of situations. A particular form of SEA has been introduced by the European Directive. This requires national, regional and local authorities to carry out strategic environmental assessment on certain plans and programmes that they promote.
- 3.2 The SEA Directive is intended to help protect the environment and promote sustainable development. SEA involves predicting, evaluating and mitigating the environmental impacts of plans and programmes thereby integrating environmental considerations into strategic decision-making.
- 3.3 The process of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is derived from the European Directive 2001/42/EC\* and was incorporated into UK law in 2004. The purpose of this new process is to provide a more effective and meaningful way in which plans are appraised in terms of their potential environmental effects. Such effects may arise from policies, plans and strategies. These effects are then identified, assessed, mitigated, communicated to decision-makers, monitored and opportunities for public involvement are provided.
- 3.4 In the UK, various approaches to conducting strategic assessments and appraisals are already well developed including environmental appraisal of local authority land-use plans and sustainability appraisal of regional planning guidance. These existing approaches are being strengthened through implementation of the SEA Directive.
- 3.5 By employing the SEA process (outlined in Section 4 below) and updating it regularly, the environmental impacts of particular plans, programmes and strategies can be identified, adapted and assessed.

- 3.6 The requirements of the SEA Directive will be incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal for the Local Development Framework for Ipswich so as to provide for a well-rounded assessment which also looks at the social and economic needs of Ipswich. This new type of Sustainability Appraisal will be carried out alongside the plan preparation process of the Local Development Framework and therefore will have the opportunity to inform and influence planning policy preparation more effectively.
- 3.7 SEA has become an important instrument to help to achieve sustainable development in public planning and policy making. The importance of SEA is widely recognised

#### **Why Do We Have To Do SEA?**

- 3.8 The SEA Directive applies to a wide range of plans and programmes including, among others, those for town and country planning and land use. However, all plans, programmes and strategies which have an environmental impact will be subject to SEA. Figure 1 on page 4 outlines when SEA is required.

\* The SEA Directive can be viewed at:

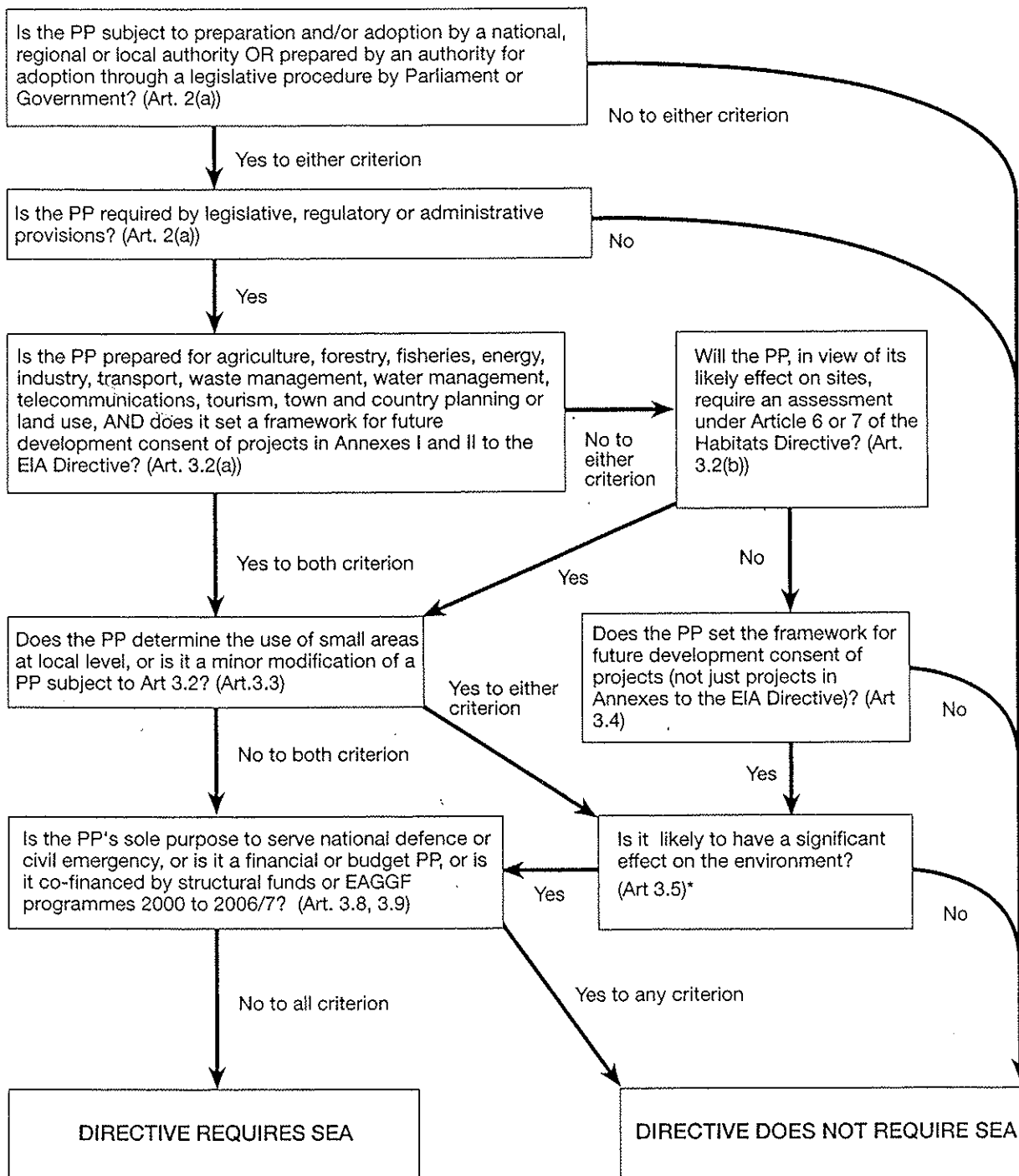
[http://europa.eu.int/smartapi/cgi/sga\\_doc?smartapi!celexapi!prod!CELEXnumdoc&lg=EN&numdoc=32001L0042&model=guichett](http://europa.eu.int/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexapi!prod!CELEXnumdoc&lg=EN&numdoc=32001L0042&model=guichett)

Figure 1: When is SEA Required?

## The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive

### Criteria for Application to Plans and Programmes

This diagram is intended as a guide to the criteria for application of the Directive to plans and programmes (PPs). It has no legal status.



\*The Directive requires Member States to determine whether plans or programmes in this category are likely to have significant environmental effects. These determinations may be made on a case by case basis and/or by specifying types of plan or programme.



## 4. The SEA Process

- 4.1 In practice, SEAs, regardless of the subject under scrutiny, follow a similar route from start to completion. Local authorities are responsible for establishing processes that are more specific to their requirements and expectations.
- 4.2 The five stages in the SEA process are summarised in Figure 2 below:

**Figure 2: Stages of the SEA Process**

	Tasks	Relevant Part of Directive 2001/42/EC
<b>A: Setting the context and establishing the baseline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Identifying other relevant plans, programmes and other environmental protection objectives.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Collecting other baseline information</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Identifying environmental problems</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developing SEA objectives.</li> </ul>	Annex 1
<b>B: Deciding the scope of the SEA and developing strategic alternatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Testing the plan or programme objectives against the SEA objectives.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Appraising strategic alternatives.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Consulting on the scope of the SEA.</li> </ul>	Article 5.1
<b>C: Assessing the effects of the plan or programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Predicting the effects of the plan or programme including alternatives.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Evaluating the effects of the plan or programme including alternatives.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mitigating adverse effects.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Proposing measures to monitor the environmental effects of plan or programme implementation.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Preparing the Environmental Report.</li> </ul>	Annex 1 Article 5.1
<b>D: Consulting and decision making</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Consulting on the draft plan or programme and the Environmental Report.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Assessment of significant changes.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Decision making and provision of information.</li> </ul>	Annex 1 Article 6.2 Article 8
<b>E: Monitoring implementation of the plan or programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developing aims and methods for monitoring.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Responding to adverse effects.</li> </ul>	Article 10.1

- 4.3 Currently, the Borough Council is at Stage A of the SEA process. This consultation document outlines the process proposed for SEA and the progress made to date.
- 4.4 SEA is an ongoing process which will be updated through regular assessment and review of both baseline data and the relevance of SEA objectives and indicators.

- 4.5 Steps in a detailed assessment include: scoping, identifying options, determining environmental effects, evaluating impacts, considering mitigation/enhancement options, determining follow-up requirements, and reporting. Throughout the process, it is important to inform and consult with the public and stakeholders.

**Stage B: Scoping, Identifying Options, Determining Environmental Effects**

- 4.6 Scoping involves putting together information about the policy, proposal, plan or strategy such as objectives and criteria, geographical boundaries, timescales etc. Developing a list of activities that are likely to happen as a result of the policy, plan, proposal or strategy options is also very important. Also, identifying the activities and results with greatest potential for causing change in the environment will be involved.

- 4.7 It is important to consider, when undertaking this exercise any existing scientific, technical and local knowledge (quantitative and qualitative) that may be appropriate.

- 4.8 An "environmental effect" is defined as any change, positive or negative, in the environment that occurs as a result of the policy, proposal, plan or strategy. There are typically three kinds of effects:

- **direct effects** (such as local/regional air quality improvements from policies to promote alternatives to the car);
- **indirect effects** (such as health improvements from promoting alternative forms of transport such as walking, cycling etc); and
- **cumulative effects** (changes to the environment caused by an action in combination with other past, present or future human actions, which may occur over a certain period of time and distance).

- 4.9 Determining whether a policy or proposal has important environmental effects involves considering environmental effects at the earliest stages of policy, proposal, plan or strategy development. It is necessary to consider any direct and indirect outcomes, and assess whether or not those outcomes might have any impacts on the environment.

- 4.10 Generally, criteria for determining any environmental effects can include: frequency and duration, location and scale, timing, risk to the environment and humans, irreversibility, and potential to increase.

**Stage C: Evaluating Impacts, Considering Mitigating / Enhancement Measures**

- 4.11 The amount of detailed assessment depends on the complexity of the policy, proposal, plan or strategy and the importance of the identified potential environmental effects.

- 4.12 Things to consider when determining the level of detail required include:

- geographical or political coverage of the proposal;
- policy areas being addressed; number and variety of stakeholders; and
- the level of concern on the part of decision makers, stakeholders and the public.

- 4.13 The assessment may also identify actions for reducing, eliminating or controlling undesirable changes and for enhancing beneficial effects. Mitigation and enhancement could include changes to the proposal, conditions that may need to be placed on projects or activities arising from the proposal, or, in some cases, compensation for damage. Any residual effects should be summarised, for example to identify the potential for occurrence and areas needing further assessment.
- 4.14 Follow-up work is required when SEA indicates a high probability of significant negative environmental effects when uncertainty is high, and when new and untested tools, strategies and technologies are being use. Follow-up should monitor environmental effects of policies, plans and programs to ensure performance measures are applied, mitigation or enhancement are effective and that environmental objectives are being met.

#### **Stage D: Reporting (The Environmental Report)**

- 4.15 The Environmental Report should describe the findings identifying likely significant environmental changes prior to SEA and prevention and control measures. It will summarise the potential negative and positive outcomes remaining after the application of prevention and control measures. The Report will comment on the policy, proposal, plan or strategy's contribution to sustainable development and summarise findings of any public/stakeholder consultation, describing follow-up and monitoring plans.

#### **Stage E: Monitoring**

- 4.16 This stage will need to identify aims and methods for monitoring SEA objectives and indicators and the implementation of the policies, proposals, plans and strategies assessed.

#### **Consultation**

- 4.17 A key component of an SEA is public and stakeholder consultation. Stakeholders may include relevant government agencies, other levels of government, industrial/sectoral organisations, and non-governmental organisations, as well as others. Public consultation is not always necessary, but it is very important for proposals that are likely to be contentious. The consultation process should be well-documented and the information gathered needs to be included in the SEA Environmental Report.
- 4.18 This document forms an important part of the consultation process and views are requested on the SEA process by completing the attached consultation questionnaire in Appendix B.

## **Tips For Success**

4.19 A logical, informed, systematic, documented assessment based on the principles of transparency, honesty, sound methodology and inclusiveness will meet most SEA requirements. People involved in policy development should familiarise themselves with the SEA requirements. Above all, consider environmental implications from the initial policy development stage. Some other tips for success include:

- Use clear, everyday language. Avoid jargon.
- Use the language of management when presenting SEA conclusions to senior decision makers.
- When necessary, involve a team with appropriate areas of expertise.
- Anticipate levels of public interest early on.
- Clearly identify knowledge gaps.
- Use SEA as a tool to support sound policy development and effective policy implementation.

## **5. SEA Theme Areas**

5.1 The topic areas selected at this stage are designed to be holistic in nature, covering the broad range of issues which have an environmental impact in Ipswich and its environs. As a first step and to make some logical links to the 'one-ipswich' programme, the five theme areas have been taken from the current Ipswich Community Plan and are as follows:

- Environment & Transport
- Health & Well Being
- Economy & Regeneration
- Culture & Learning
- Crime & Disorder

## **6. SEA Objectives & Indicators**

- 6.1 The EU Directive does not specifically require the use of objectives or indicators for the SEA but they are a recognised way in which environmental and sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared. They can be revised as baseline data is collected and environmental and sustainability problems are identified, and can be used in monitoring the implementation of a plan.
- 6.2 Targets associated with the objectives or indicators can be identified as part of the analysis of relevant plans, programmes and strategies or they can be devised specifically for the SEA or sustainability appraisal.
- 6.3 A draft set of SEA objectives and indicators have been devised drawing on a review of existing relevant plans, programmes and strategies at national, regional and local levels. They are intended to be a holistic approach to the wide range of issues that have an impact on the environment.
- 6.4 The draft SEA objectives are based broadly on the five core themes of the Ipswich Community Plan (see Section 5 above).

6.5 The draft indicators are based on a combination of existing national Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) used by Ipswich Borough Council, other local indicators, indicators produced by the Sustainable Suffolk Advisory Group (SSAG)\* and other relevant measured sources of data.

\* *Sustainable Suffolk Advisory Group* is a group of planning officers from all seven local authorities in Suffolk and also the County Council who monitor, through a series of indicators, sustainability issues across Suffolk and produce an annual monitoring report.

6.6 The SEA objectives & indicators are set out in Table 1 (Appendix A). It is important to get consensus on these as they should relate, at least in part, to all policies, plans, programmes and strategies which will have significant environmental impacts.

**Compatibility**

6.7 It is useful to test the compatibility of the SEA objectives using a 'compatibility matrix' (see example in Figure 3 below). There may be conflicts between objectives that cannot be resolved. The compatibility assessment should clarify these so that subsequent decisions are well based, and mitigation or alternatives can be considered. Where appropriate, conflicting objectives can be modified to make them more compatible.

**NB:** The SEA Working Group has already undertaken an initially exercise in identifying duplication and compatibility of SEA Indicators and these comments have been incorporated into this draft document.

6.8 Some objectives may be considered more important than others. Perhaps it may be worthwhile ranking objectives or highlight those which are particularly important – for instance because current conditions are problematic – to help focus the later stages of the SEA.

6.9 It is possible that some objectives might conflict with others. The Compatibility Matrix is a useful way of graphically identifying where objectives may conflict with each other and therefore where degrees of compromise and discussion will need to take place.

**Figure 3: Compatibility Matrix**

<b>Objective 1</b>					<i>Y = Compatible (green)</i> <i>N = Incompatible (red)</i> <i>O = No links (yellow)</i>
<b>Objective 2</b>	O				
<b>Objective 3</b>	Y	N			
<b>Objective 4</b>	N	Y	O		
	<b>Objective 1</b>	<b>Objective 2</b>	<b>Objective 3</b>	<b>Objective 4</b>	
Notes on changes where objectives are found to be incompatible:					



## 7. Baseline Data

- 7.1 Baseline data provides the basis for prediction and monitoring of environmental or other sustainability effects and helps to identify problems and alternative ways of dealing with them. Sufficient data about the current and likely future state of the environment should be collected to allow a plan's effects to be adequately predicted.
- 7.2 Collection of baseline data could go on indefinitely. A practical approach is essential. All relevant data cannot be obtained in an initial SEA document. Therefore it is acknowledged that arrangements must be put in place to fill in any major gaps for future reviews.
- 7.3 Table 1 in Appendix A identifies many existing indicators which provide relevant data for each SEA objective. Some indicators are BVPIs, some are local indicators (IBC).
- 7.4 The majority of the indicators identified in Table 1 are existing indicators taken from Best Value Performance Indicators and existing documents which can easily and quickly provide baseline data for the SEA Framework.

## 8. SEA Appraisal Framework

- 8.1 The SEA Directive requires that the plan or strategy being assessed addresses and contributes towards each relevant SEA Objective. This can be ascertained through a series of questions to which a score can be assigned.
- 8.2 The SEA Appraisal Framework, set out in Table 2 of Appendix A, follows the broad format described in SEA Guidance and that has been used in the development of the Regional Spatial Strategy (East of England Plan). Through a series of scoring and comments, an assessment of the environmental impact of each policy of the plan or strategy in question can be made.

## 9. Consultation and Timetable

- 9.1 The public consultation period will last for six weeks, concluding on 24 June 2005. Following this, the SEA Framework will be amended in light of any comments received and be employed in the environmental assessment of new and revised plans, programme and strategies.

## 10. Your Views

- 10.1 Your views on the SEA Directive, SEA Objectives and Indicators, the SEA process and the SEA appraisal framework are welcomed. A consultation questionnaire has been designed for you to complete and return with your comments (see Appendix B).
- 10.2 The period of consultation on this document has been set as **six weeks** from 13<sup>th</sup> May 2005. The closing date for receipt of comments will be **24<sup>th</sup> June 2005**.

## **11. Next Steps**

- 11.1 Following the consultation on this document a final list of SEA Objectives and Indicators will be agreed and the collection of baseline data undertaken to inform the corporate SEA document.

## APPENDIX A

**Table 1: Draft SEA Objectives, Indicators & Sub-Indicators**

SEA Theme	SEA Objective	SEA Indicator	SEA Sub-Indicators (SSAG)
Environment & Transport	1. To improve water and air quality.	1.1 Levels of impact on air and water quality	1(a) Water quality in rivers 1(b) Groundwater quality 1(c) No. of days of air pollution 1(d) No. of Air Quality Management Areas and dwellings affected 1(e) Achievement of Emission Limit Values
	2. To conserve soil resources and quality	2.1 Area or contaminated land returned to beneficial use	
	3. To reduce waste	3.1 Tonnage of household waste produced and recycled	3(a) Tonnage of household waste produced 3(b) Tonnage / proportion of household waste recycled
	4. To reduce the effects of traffic on the environment	4.1 Traffic volumes, access to local services and journeys taken by sustainable modes	4(a) Level of traffic volumes in key locations 4(b) Percentage of journeys to work undertaken by sustainable modes 4(c) Percentage of children travelling to school by sustainable modes 4(d) Car Parking Standards
	5. To improve access to key services for all sectors of the population	5.1 Proportion of population with access to key local services (eg. GP, post office)	
	6. To reduce contributions to climate change	6.1 Level of energy efficiency in homes and energy consumption	6(a) Level of per capita consumption of electricity 6(b) Level of energy efficiency of homes
	7. To reduce vulnerability to climatic events	7.1 Developments and land at risk of flooding	7(a) Number of developments refused because of flood risk 7(b) Number of properties at risk of flooding 7(c) Incidence of fluvial flooding (properties affected)

	<p>8. To conserve and where appropriate enhance areas of historical importance</p>	<p>8.1 Risks to Listed Buildings, conservation and historic parks and gardens</p> <p>8.2 Planning permissions affecting known or potential archaeological sites</p>	<p>8(a) Number of Listed Buildings and Buildings At Risk  8(b) Area (hectares) of historic parks and gardens  8(c) Number and area (hectares) of Conservation Areas and Article 4 Directions  8(d) Number of Conservation Area Appraisals completed and enhancement schemes implemented</p>
	<p>9. To conserve and enhance the quality and local distinctiveness of landscapes and townscapes</p>	<p>11.2 Percentage/ Number of new dwellings completed / committed on Brownfield land</p> <p>11.3 Area (hectares) of designated landscapes – Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)</p>	<p>9(a) Number / Percentage of new dwellings completed on previously developed land  9(b) Number / Percentage of existing housing commitments on previously developed land  9(c) Number of vacant dwellings</p>

Health & Well Being	10. To improve the health of the population overall.	<p>10.1 All SEA indicators should comply and be in line with the local health impact assessment</p> <p>10.2 Proportion of population with access to hospital / GP / dentist surgery</p> <p>10.3 Dr Foster" indicators including hospital waiting lists and doctor / bed ratios</p> <p>10.4 Incidence of death (rates) by cause</p> <p>10.5 Number of people killed and seriously injured in road traffic accidents per 100,000 population</p> <p>10.6 Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births</p> <p>10.7 Life expectancy</p> <p>10.8 Proportion of journeys to work on foot or by bicycle</p> <p>10.9 How children travel to school</p> <p>10.10 Level of obesity in the population</p>	<p>10(a) Overall death rates by cause</p> <p>10(b) Cancer deaths under 75 per 100,000 population</p> <p>10(c) Coronary Heart Disease deaths (all ages) per 100,000 population</p> <p>10(d) Respiratory Disease deaths (all ages) per 100,000 population</p> <p>10(e) Suicides (all ages) per 100,000 population</p>
	11. To improve the quality of life where people live and encourage community participation	<p>11.1 Play and open space quality, quantity and accessibility</p> <p>11.2 Percentage of residents who are happy with their neighbourhood as a place to live</p>	<p>11(a) Change in existing outdoor play space provision</p> <p>11(b) Change in existing provision of children's play space</p> <p>11(c) Change in provision of open space</p>



Economy & Regeneration	12. To reduce poverty and social exclusion	12.1 Proportion of population who live in wards that rank within the most deprived 10% of wards in the country	
	13. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	13.1 Data relating to employment and economic activity in the area	13(a) Number of people receiving Housing Benefit 13(b) Unemployment rate 13(c) Census, labour market trends 13(d) Proportion lone parents / long term ill who are economically active 13(e) Average Earnings
	14. To meet the housing requirements for the whole community	14.1 Data relating to housing including stock type, land availability and affordability  14.2 Percentage / Number of new dwellings completed / committed on Greenfield land	14(a) Homelessness 14(b) Housing Stock 14(c) Housing Land Availability 14(d) Affordable Housing 14(e) Housing Types & Sizes 14(f) Dwellings per hectare of net developable land 14(g) Average property price to income ratio 14(h) Number of unfit houses per 1,000 dwellings 14(i) Number/percentage of new dwellings on Greenfield 14(j) Number/percentage of new housing commitments on Greenfield 14(k) Dwellings per hectare of net developable area

	<p>15. To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth throughout the plan area</p>	<p>15.1 Planning consents for employment uses and take up of employment floorspace</p> <p>15.2 Data relating to business and employment issues</p>	<p>15(a) Take up of employment floorspace  15(b) Employment permissions and completions  15(c) Planning consents for B1, B2 and B8 uses  15(d) Percentage change in no. of VAT registered businesses  15(e) Percentage change in no. of businesses paying rates  15(f) Number / Percentage employed by employment division  15(g) Number / Percentage employed by main industry type  15(h) Number / Percentage employed by size (no. of employees)  15(i) Number / Percentage employed by industry type in key sectors  15(j) Comparative industrial / office rental costs</p>
	<p>16. To revitalise town centres</p>	<p>16.1 Number / Percentage of vacant retail units in town centres</p>	
	<p>17. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth</p>	<p>17.1 Number / Percentage of people working from home</p> <p>17.2 Proportion of port freight carried by rail</p>	
	<p>18. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment</p>	<p>18.1 Number of enquiries to business advice services</p> <p>18.2 Business start ups and closures</p> <p>18.3 Number of business enquiries to SDA /LA/SCC</p> <p>18.4 Employment and accessibility, permissions and allocations</p>	<p>18(a) Employment Land Availability  18(b) Employment Permissions and Allocations</p>

Culture & Learning	19. To maintain and improve levels of education and skills in the population overall	19.1 GCSE Attainment Levels (Grades A*-C) 19.2 A and A/S Attainment Levels (Grades A-C) 19.3 Proportion of the population with no qualifications 19.4 NVQ Attainment Levels (Levels 1 – 4)	
Crime & Disorder	20. To reduce crime and anti-social activity	20.1 Recorded Crime per 1,000 population MAY REQUIRE MORE INDICATORS TO MEASURE THIS OBJECTIVE	20(a) Burglary Rate 20(b) Violent Crime Rate 20(c) Fear of Crime 20(d) Number of noise complaints

**Table 2: The SEA Appraisal Framework**

The following framework shows the SEA Objectives and detailed questions which can be used to appraise policies, proposals, plans and strategies. The objectives used are derived from the work of the Suffolk Sustainability Appraisal Group (SSAG).

**Policy Being Assessed:** \_\_\_\_\_

SEA Objective	Question: Will this policy / proposal / plan / strategy help to.....		Comment
1. To improve water and air quality	1.1 improve the quality of inland waters / rivers?		
	1.2 reduce the number of days of air pollution?		
	1.3 improve air quality?		
2. To conserve soil resources and quality	2.1 minimise the loss of Greenfield land to development?		
	2.2 minimise the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land to development?		
	2.3 maintain and enhance soil quality?		
3. To reduce waste	3.1 reduce household waste?		
	3.2 increase waste recovery and recycling?		
	3.3 reduce hazardous waste?		
4. To reduce the effects of traffic on the environment	4.1 reduce the volume of traffic?		
	4.2 reduce the need for local travel?		
	4.3 increase the proportion of journeys made using modes other than the private car?		
5. To improve access to key services for all sectors of the population	5.1 improve accessibility to key local services?		
	5.2 improve accessibility to shopping facilities?		
	5.3 improve accessibility to childcare?		
6. To reduce contributions to climate change	6.1 reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy consumption?		
	6.2 increase the proportion of energy needs being met by renewable resources?		
	6.3 reduce the risk of damage to people and property from storm events?		
7. To reduce vulnerability to climatic events	7.1 minimise the risk of flooding to people and property from rivers and watercourses?		
	7.2 minimise the risk of flooding to people and property on the coast?		
	7.3 reduce the risk of coastal erosion?		
8. To conserve and enhance areas of historical importance.	8.1 protect and enhance sites, features and areas of archaeological value?		
	8.2 protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical and cultural value?		
	8.3 protect and enhance sites, features and areas of geological value?		
9. To conserve and enhance the	9.1 reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land?		

quality and local distinctiveness of landscapes and townscapes.	9.2 improve the landscape and character of the surrounding environment?		
10. To improve the health of the population overall	10.1 improve access to high quality health facilities?		
	10.2 reduce death rates?		
	10.3 encourage healthy lifestyles?		
11. To improve the quality of life where people live and encourage community participation	11.1 improve the satisfaction of people with their neighbourhood as a place to live?		
	11.2 encourage engagement in decision –making?		
	11.3 improve ethnic relations?		
	11.4 improve existing outdoor play space provision?		
12. To reduce poverty and social exclusion	12.1 reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas most affected?		
13. To offer everybody the opportunity for rewarding and satisfying employment	13.1 reduce overall unemployment?		
	13.2 reduce long term unemployment?		
	13.3 provide job opportunities for those most in need of employment?		
	13.4 improve earnings?		
14. To meet the housing requirements for the whole community	14.1 reduce homelessness?		
	14.2 provide enough housing for all?		
	14.3 increase the range and affordability of housing for all social groups?		
	14.4 reduce the number of non decent homes?		
	14.5 reduce the number of new dwellings on Greenfield land?		
15. To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth throughout the plan area.	15.1 improve business development and enhance competitiveness?		
	15.2 improve the resilience of business and the economy?		
	15.3 promote growth in key areas?		
	15.4 improve economic performance in advantaged and disadvantaged areas?		
16. To revitalise the town centre	16.1 increase the range of employment opportunities, shops and services available in the town centre?		
	16.2 decrease the number of vacant units in the town centre?		
17. To encourage efficient patterns of movement in support of economic growth	17.1 reduce commuting journeys?		
	17.2 improve accessibility to work by public transport, walking and cycling?		
	17.3 reduce journey times between key employment areas and key transport interchanges?		
	17.4 increase the proportion of freight transported by rail or other sustainable modes?		
	17.5 increase the consumption of locally produced food and goods?		
18. To encourage	18.1 encourage indigenous business?		



and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment	18.2 encourage inward investment?		
	18.3 make land available for business development?		
19. To maintain and improve levels of education and skills in the population overall	19.1 improve qualifications and skills of young people?		
	19.2 improve qualifications and skills of adults?		
20. To reduce crime and anti - social activity	20.1 reduce actual levels of crime?		
	20.2 reduce the fear of crime?		
	20.3 reduce noise concerns?		

### Key To Scores

- ++ Strong / important positive effects**
- + Positive effects**
- ? Mixed and / or uncertain effect**
- O No significant effect**
- Negative effect**
- Strong / important negative effect**

**Significant Positive Effects:**

**Significant Negative Effects:**

**Timescale:**

**Likelihood:**

**Recommendation for mitigation of adverse effects and/or enhancement or positive effects:**

**ASSESSMENT CARRIED OUT BY: \_\_\_\_\_**

**DATE: \_\_\_\_\_**



## APPENDIX B: SEA CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Please answer the following questions and return this sheet to the address overleaf.

Please continue on a separate sheet if required.

1. Are the five SEA Topic Areas the most suitable and appropriate? If not, what other suggestions could you give for consideration?
  
2. Do you agree with the SEA Objectives set out in Table 1 of the consultation document? Are there others which you think should be included? Are there any which you think should be removed?
  
3. Is the wording of the SEA Objectives appropriate? For example, where an objective suggests something should be improved, do you think our aim should instead be to 'maintain' at current levels. Does this tie in with any monitoring work being undertaken by you?
  
4. Should each SEA Objective have a specific target against which to monitor progress?
  
5. Do you agree with the SEA Indicators and Sub-Indicators identified in Table 1 of the consultation document? Are there others which you think should be included? Are there any which you think should be removed? Do you think there are any that should be worded differently?
  
6. Do you have any information that might help with the collection of baseline data? If so, can you supply it?
  
7. In your opinion, what are the THREE most important SEA Objectives listed in Table 1?

Please insert numbers:

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**General Comments on the SEA Process & Consultation Document**

Please answer the following questions and return this sheet to the address overhead. Please continue on a separate sheet if required.

1. Are the five SEA Topic Areas the most subjects and appropriate? If not, what other suggestions could you give for consultation?

2. Do you agree with the SEA Objectives set out in Table 1 of the consultation document? Are there others which you think should be included? Are there any which you think should be removed?

3. Is the wording of the SEA Objectives appropriate? For example, where an objective suggests something should be improved, do you think our aim should instead be to maintain it at current levels? Does this fit in with any monitoring work being undertaken by you?

**Contact Details:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Service Area / Organisation:</b>
<b>Address:</b>	<b>Tel No:</b>
	<b>Email:</b>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ANSWERS AND COMMENTS**

**Please return this response sheet and any additional sheets to:**

**SEA Consultation  
Strategic Planning & Regeneration  
Room 602  
Civic Centre  
Civic Drive  
Ipswich  
IP1 2EE**

**Email: [planningandregeneration@ipswich.gov.uk](mailto:planningandregeneration@ipswich.gov.uk)**

**Please return by 24<sup>th</sup> June 2005**





This information can be  
made available on audio  
tape, braille or alternative formats  
upon request 01473 432933

উপরুক্ত অনুসন্ধানের অনুবাদ (ট্রান্সলেশান)  
প্রয়োজন হলে অনুগ্রহপূর্বক উপরের ঠিকানায়  
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您如需要以上信息的  
翻譯稿，請聯系：01473 432933

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