

SCOPING REPORT

**SA AND SEA OF THE LOCAL
DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
FOR CRAVEN DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

ALLOCATIONS DPD

**Prepared for
Craven District Council**

**by
Land Use Consultants**

**Revised
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ADDENDUM

This document is an updated version of the Revised October 2005 Scoping Report in relation to the Core Strategy, which was issued for public consultation in August 2005 and which was then revised to take account of comments in October. Revisions made in this document primarily focus on Site Allocations and take into account more recent publications, including the Consultation Draft PPS3 on Housing and the Yorkshire and Humber's Draft Regional Spatial Strategy and SA.

This document takes on board comments made by statutory environmental consultees, particularly the Environment Agency.

Please note that revised text has been emboldened.

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I. INTRODUCTION

I.1. Land Use Consultants was appointed by Craven District Council to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)/Sustainability Appraisal (SA) at each appropriate stage in the formulation of policy and proposals to be contained within the Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD), which will form the Local Development Framework for Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Development Plan and Supplementary Planning Documents will be produced on a rolling basis and will gradually replace the currently adopted Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan, which was adopted in July 1999. The DPDs and SPDs programmed to be produced up to 2007 are set out below. A SEA/SA will be undertaken for each of these documents.

- Core Strategy;
- Affordable Housing SPD;
- Planning Obligations SPD, and
- Stage A (Scoping) of the Allocations DPD.

This Scoping Report on **Allocations DPD** forms an amended version of the Scoping Report in relation to the Core Strategy, published in August 2005 for consultation and subsequently revised. Where revisions have been made, the text is emboldened.

BACKGROUND

I.2. The UK planning system is undergoing major reforms at present in response to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004¹. These changes are paralleled by equally rapid advances in the application of SEA, under the EU Directive and the mounting interest in Sustainability Appraisal. As such an increasing number of development plans have been subjected to some form of SEA or environmental/sustainability appraisal.

I.3. The objective of the SEA, as defined in the Government guidance² on SEA (“SEA Guidance”) is ‘to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans... with a view to promoting sustainable development’. Whilst these aims are broadly consistent with a range of national and more local policies, and have been reflected for a number of years in planning policy formulation, the SEA Directive emphasises the need to:

- (i) collect and present baseline environmental information;
- (ii) predict ‘significant environmental effects’ of the plan and address them during its preparation;

¹ Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, House of Commons, May 2004.

² The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities, ODPM, October 2003.

- (iii) identify strategic alternatives and their effects;
 - (iv) consult the public and authorities with environmental responsibilities; and
 - (v) monitor the actual effects of the plan during its implementation.
- I.4. In July 2004 the SEA Directive was incorporated into UK legislation through the *Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004)*. The regulations require authorities to conduct environmental assessment of plans and programmes across a range of sectors, including the land use planning sector and the transport planning sector. The Directive will apply to plans whose formal preparation begins after July 2004, but also those that are already in preparation by that date but would not be adopted by July 2006. LDFs will be subject to SEA as they are prepared by a public body and set the framework for development consent, as confirmed by the ODPM's recent guide to SEA (July 2004).
- I.5. The latest ODPM guidance³ on sustainability appraisal (which supersedes ODPM's SEA Guidance) explains the difference between environmental assessments required under the SEA Directive and sustainability appraisal of development plans as required by the UK Government. Whilst there are many parallels, there are also clear differences. Whilst the SEA Directive requires an environmental assessment of plans and programmes that fall within its scope, the Town and Country Planning (England) Regulations 1999 impose a more general duty to have regard to economic, environmental and social considerations, the three cornerstones of sustainability. This approach is supported in planning policy guidance, notably PPS 11 and PPS 12, which recommend an integrated approach towards sustainability appraisal and the requirements of the SEA Directive when appraising Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks.
- I.6. Key outputs of the SEA/SA report are to ensure that the LDF complies with both the Directive and the English Regulations, achieves a framework for delivering more sustainable patterns of development and is a genuine aid to the planning process.

AIM AND STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

- I.7. This report constitutes the Scoping Report for the Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) **Allocations DPD** and has been published for formal consultation to statutory environmental consultees (English Heritage, the Environment Agency, English Nature and the Countryside Agency). The report has been prepared to guide the SEA/SA process in the District and summarises the method of approach taken and details the initial findings from the scoping exercise or "Stage A" of a Sustainability Appraisal outlined in ODPM's SA Guidance (see Chapter 2 of this document).
- I.8. The report is divided into the following chapters:

³ Sustainability of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks, Consultation Paper, ODPM, September 2004.

Chapter 2:	Method of approach.
Chapter 3 – Task A1:	Review of other plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives.
Chapter 4 – Task A2:	Review of baseline information and key issues
Chapter 5 – Task A4:	Sustainability appraisal framework.
Chapter 6 – Task A5:	Testing the Plan.

PROGRAMME

- I.9. A Scoping Workshop was held on the 1st August 2005, during which attendees were invited to review the the Community Strategy objectives against a set of draft Sustainability Objectives. Comments received during this meeting and from Council Officers resulted in amendments to this document which will now be circulated to statutory consultees.
- I.10. Following receipt of comments from statutory consultees, the Scoping Report will be revised and the Sustainability Objectives used to appraise the emerging Issues and Options.
- I.11. The Local Development Scheme is currently under revision with regards to timescales for production of the Core Strategy and future LDF documents. The following dates therefore represent proposed timescales only and have not yet been agreed with the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber.**
- I.11 It is proposed that a draft final SA report will accompany the Core Strategy Preferred Option Report which will be circulated for consultation in June 2006. After this period of consultation, it is proposed that the final Core Strategy will be submitted to the Secretary of State in October 2006, with an anticipated date for examination of April 2007. It is expected that the Core Strategy DPD will be adopted in December 2007 and will look forward to 2021.**
- I.12. Alterations arising from the objections to the SEA/SA and Suggested Changes will be considered in parallel. Key issues relating to significant sustainability effects arising from objections to the Core Strategy will be considered in the SEA/SA.**
- I.13. At the time of writing this scoping report, public participation on the Issues and Options document for the Site Allocations DPD is proposed to commence in October 2006, public consultation on the Preferred Options is proposed to commence April 2007, and the estimated date of adoption is November 2008. This timetable may however be amended in light of comments from the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber on the revised Local Development Scheme.**

2. METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

- 2.1. The Scoping Report of the emerging LDF has been undertaken in line with ODPM's SA Guidance⁴ for planning authorities which seeks to meet the requirement of both the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004 and the SEA Directive (European Directive 2001/42/EC). This report therefore considers both the required elements of an "Environmental Report" (in accordance with the SEA Directive) as well as Regulations covering a wider approach, responding to social and economic issues.

METHOD OF APPROACH

- 2.2. The methodology used for Craven District covers the following stages outlined in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1 Method of Approach
Stage A: Establish context, baseline and determine the scope
Task A1: Identify and review other plans, objectives and guidance
Task A2: Collect and analyse relevant baseline information
Task A3: Identify key sustainability issues and problems
Task A4: Develop sustainability appraisal framework
Task A5: Test plan objectives against sustainability objectives
Task A6: Produce and consult on scoping report
Stage B: Developing & refining options
Task B1: Carry out appraisal of alternative options
Task B2: Consult on SA and emerging options (initial SA report)*
Stage C: Appraise the effects of the preferred options
Task C1: Predict the effects of the draft plan
Task C2: Assess the effects of the draft plan
Task C3: Propose mitigation measures
Task C4: Develop proposals for monitoring
Task C5: Prepare the Sustainability Report
Stage D: Consultation on Plan and SEA/SA
Task D1: Submit and consult on SA report and plan
Task D2: Appraise significant changes arising from Examination
Task D3: Provide Information
Stage E: Monitoring the implementation of the plan
Task E1: Monitor significant effects of the plan
Task E2: Respond to adverse effects

⁴ Sustainability Appraisals of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks, Consultation Paper, ODPM, September 2004.

* Please note that following recent Government Guidance, Stage B, relating to the preparation of an Initial Sustainability Appraisal report as outlined in ODPM's SA Guidance⁵ does not imply an “*an early draft of the final SA report.*”⁶ A review of options will be completed on receipt of consultation responses to the Scoping Report and presented for public consultation alongside an Issues and Options report on the Core Strategy.

- 2.3. This report covers Task A1 to A6, culminating in the completion of a Scoping Report. The relevant tasks are detailed below:

Stage A: Establishing context and baseline

- 2.4. The first part of the SA/SEA process was to set the context and objectives, establish the baseline and decide on the scope of the SA/SEA. This stage covers six iterative tasks as outlined below, and will be used to inform the SA/SEA of the DPDs and SPDs.

Task A1: Identifying and reviewing other plans, objectives and guidance that will affect or influence the DPDs and SPDs

- 2.5. The first part of the SA/SEA process was to set the context and objectives, establish the baseline and decide on the scope of the SA/SEA. This stage covers six iterative tasks as outlined below, and will be used to inform the SA/SEA of the DPDs and SPDs.
- 2.6. As part of this stage a half-day scoping meeting was held, led by the consultancy team, to which Authority staff, Yorkshire and Humber Regional Assembly, North Yorkshire County Council, statutory ‘environmental consultees’ (Countryside Agency, English Nature, Environment Agency and English Heritage) and other relevant bodies (including community groups and NGOs) selected by the authority were invited. The meeting aimed to:
- confirm the Authority’s commitment to an independent, objective and transparent appraisal of its Core Strategy policies;
 - encourage lively discussion about sustainability issues within the context of the District;
 - ensure the support of key national, regional and local agencies, partners and stakeholders; and
 - confirm the content and focus of the Scoping Report.

The findings of the workshop informed changes to the SA objectives, and is discussed in further detail in Chapter 7.

⁵ Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks, Consultation Paper, ODPM, September 2004.

⁶ Interim advice note on frequently asked questions, Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks, ODPM, April 2005.

Task A2: Collecting and analysing relevant baseline information to establish an evidence base

- 2.7. The requirement at this stage was to provide an evidence base for sustainability issues, the prediction of effects and monitoring informed by Task A1. Collection of baseline information to support the SA/SEA will overlap substantially with the collection of information from which the plan itself is developed. Baseline data for the SA/SEA included the collation of existing data rather than collection of new data.

Task A3: Identifying key sustainability issues and problems

- 2.8. Key issues which the DPDs and SPDs will have to address were drawn out from Tasks A1 and A2. The key issues are used to focus the SA/SEA and streamline subsequent stages, including baseline information analysis, setting the SA framework, predicting effects and monitoring. ODPM's SA Guidance states "evidence – led expert judgment is likely to play an important role in the identification of such problems and opportunities".

Task A4: Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 2.9. Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework is a critical stage of the SA/SEA and entailed identifying appropriate objectives and indicators. Each objective is accompanied by an appropriate indicator to measure the performance of options against the indicator, plus criteria to articulate the key sustainability questions specific to the local area under each objective.
- 2.10. As a starting point, sustainability objectives were drawn from the list of objectives defined by the Regional Assembly and the Community Strategy and then tailored to accord with the local context excluding irrelevant generic objectives and ensure that locally defined aims are incorporated.

Task A5: Test the plan's objectives against sustainability objectives

- 2.11. An important test of the effectiveness of the SA/SEA process is its capacity to identify any inconsistencies between the DPDs and SPDs objectives and the sustainability objectives defined in the SA/SEA framework. In an ideal situation the two sets of objectives will converge, but where incompatibilities arise these will need to be referred to decision-makers responsible for DPDs and SPDs preparation. Any disagreements should preferably be resolved before reaching later consultation and adoption stages, but where this cannot be done political judgements and priorities will prevail, and this will be confirmed in the SA Report.
- 2.12. The draft SA Objectives were reviewed against the District's Community Strategy Objectives with stakeholders at the workshop held on the 1st August. A simple scoring system or performance measure was used; symbol **XX** as strongly unsustainable whilst ✓✓ was strongly sustainable. The SA objectives were then revised to reflect stakeholders' comments.

Task A6: Produce, and consult on, Scoping Report

- 2.13. The scoping report summarises the outputs of Stage A and forms the basis for consultation with the SEA/SA Consultation Bodies (Countryside Agency, English Nature, English Heritage and Environment Agency) and representatives of social and

economic interests and local business. The aim of the consultation is to ensure that all relevant issues and uncertainties are identified sufficiently early in the appraisal process. A five week period of consultation should be allowed for as stipulated in SEA Regulations 2004.

3. A REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANS AND PROGRAMMES

INTRODUCTION

- 3.1. A review has been undertaken of other plans, programmes and objectives relevant to the LDF at an international, national, regional and local level. A detailed breakdown of the objectives and their likely implications for the LDF is summarised in **Appendix 2**.
- 3.2. There is a wide range of international and EU legislation, Directives and Action Plans relating to commitments to sustainable development and environmental standards. These, when transposed into national legislation set mandatory standards and place obligations on Member States and, in particular, the requirement for the integration of strategic policies and programmes at local authority level.
- 3.3. National and regional documents provide additional mandatory requirements and guidance for local authorities. Sub regionally and locally the LDF must integrate with a multitude of established policy documents.
- 3.4. Documents which were reviewed included the following:

INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Title	Author	Date
Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (Directive 92/43/EC) (The Habitats Directive)	European Commission	1994
Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change	United Nations	1999/1997
Directive on Conservation of Wild Birds	European Commission	1979
The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro	United Nations	1992
Directive for establishing a framework for the Community Action in the field of Water Policy (The Water Framework Directive)	European Commission	2000
Directive on Ambient Air Quality and Management	European Commission	1966
The Johannesburg Declaration of Sustainability Development	United Nations	2002
European Spatial Development Perspective, Towards Balanced and Spatial Development of the Territory of the European Union	European Commission	1999
Waste Framework Directive	European Commission	1991
European Regional Development Fund	Government Office for Yorks & Humber	Set up in 1975
Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice, EU Sixth Environment Action Programme, 2001-2010	European Commission	2001
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of	Ramsar Convention	1971

International importance, especially waterfowl habitats		
Bonn Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species	United Nations	1979
Directive to promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (Directive 2001/77/EC)	European Commission	2001
European Biodiversity Strategy (COM (98) 42)	European Commission	1998
The EU Groundwater Directive (80/68)	European Commission	1991

NATIONAL LEVEL

Title	Author	Date
PPS1: Creating Sustainable Communities	ODPM	2004
PPG3: Housing	ODPM	2000
PPG3 Housing Update: Supporting the Delivery of New Housing	ODPM	2005
PPG3: Housing Update: Planning for Sustainable Communities in Rural Areas	ODPM	2005
Consultation Paper on a New Planning Policy Statement 3 (PPS3) Housing	ODPM	2005
PPS6: Planning for Town Centres	ODPM	2005
PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas	ODPM	2004
PPG9: Nature Conservation	DTLR	1994
PPS 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation	ODPM	2005
PPS11: Regional Spatial Strategies	ODPM	2004
PPS12: Local Development Frameworks	ODPM	2004
PPG13: Transport	DTLR	2001
PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment	ODPM	1994
PPG16: Archaeology and Planning	DTLR	1990
PPG17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation	ODPM	2002
PPG 20: Coastal Planning	DTLR	1992
PPG 21: Tourism	DTLR	1992
PPS22: Renewable Energy	ODPM	2003
PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control	ODPM	2004
PPG24: Planning and Noise	DTLR	1994
PPG 25: Development and Flood Risk	ODPM	2001
Draft PPS 25:Development and Flood Risks	ODPM	2005
Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended)	UK Government	1981
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW)	UK Government	2000
UK Biodiversity Action Plan	UK Biodiversity Partnership and UK Government	1994
England Forestry Strategy	Forestry Commission	1999
“Working with the Grain of Nature:” A Biodiversity Strategy for England	DEFRA	2002
Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon	DTI	2002

Economy		
Climate Change: The UK Programme	DEFRA	2000
Air Quality Strategy: Working Together for Clean Air	DETR	2000
The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future	ODPM	2001
Sustainable Communities Plan (Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future)	ODPM	2003
Road Traffic Reduction Act	HMSO	1997
Securing the Future – Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy	HM Government	2005
The Future of Transport – A Network for 2030. White Paper	DfT	2004
Government Urban White Paper. Our Towns and Cities; the Future – Delivering an Urban Renaissance	DETR	2000
Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside: The Future – A Fair Deal for Rural England	DETR	2000
Water Resources for the Future – A Strategy for England and Wales	Environment Agency	2001
Making space for water: Developing a new Government strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England. A consultation exercise	DEFRA	2004
The First Soil Action Plan for England: 2004-2006	DEFRA	2004
Strategic Environmental assessment and Biodiversity: Guidance for Practitioners	CCC, EN,EA, and RSPB	2004
UK Foresight Programme – Foresight Report: Future Flooding	DTI	2004
Making the Connections: Final Report on Transport and Social Exclusion	Social Exclusion Unit	2003
Cleaner, Safer, Greener Communities Programme	ODPM, Home Office, DfT, DCMS, DoH, DoE, DTI and HMT	2005
Strategic Environmental Assessment and Biodiversity: Guidance for Practitioners	CCW, EN , EA, RSPB	2004
Success For All, Reforming Further Education and Training – Our Vision for the Future	Dept. of Education & Skills	2002
The NHS – A Plan for Investment, A Plan for Reform	Dept. of Health	200
Rural Strategy	Defra	2004
The Future of Transport, White Paper, Cm 6234	DfT	2004

REGIONAL LEVEL

Title	Author	Date
Regional Economic Strategy	Yorkshire Forward	2003
Advancing Together – Regional Policy Framework	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly, Yorkshire	2004

	Forward & GOYH	
Regional Planning Guidance (RPG12) and Draft Revised RPG to 2016	Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber	2001 and 2003
RPG12 Selective Review	Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber	2004
Yorkshire and The Humber Plan: Draft Regional Spatial Strategy	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly	2005
SA/SEA of the Yorkshire and The Humber Draft Regional Spatial Strategy	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly	2005
The Regional Housing Strategy	Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber	2003
Draft Regional Housing Strategy 2005-2021	Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber	May 2005
Regional Sustainable Development Framework Update	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly	2003
Regional Waste Strategy – Let’s Take it From the Tip	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly	2003
A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire & Humber	Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber	2005
The State of Yorkshire’s Historic Environment	English Heritage	2004
Regional Cultural Strategy: Deep Roots, Real Achievements, Lofty Ambitions	Yorkshire Cultural Consortium	2001
The Regional Environmental Enhancement Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber, The Yorkshire & Humber Regional Environmental Forum	The Yorkshire & Humber Regional Environmental Forum	2003
Sustainable Communities in Yorkshire and Humber	ODPM	2003
Moving Forward: the Northern Way Growth Strategy	One NorthEast, Yorkshire Forward and Northwest Development Agency	2004
Countryside Character Area Volume 3 : Yorkshire & The Humber	Countryside Commission	1999

COUNTY LEVEL

North Yorkshire County Structure Plan 1991 – 2006, Alteration No 3.	North Yorkshire County Council	1995
Waste Local Plan Revised Deposit Draft	North Yorkshire County Council	2001
North Yorkshire Minerals Local Plan	North Yorkshire County Council	1997
Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Core Strategies – Sustainability Appraisal, Consultation Draft Scoping Report	North Yorkshire County Council	2005
Local Transport Plan 2001 – 2006	North Yorkshire County Council	2000
Draft Local Transport Plan 2006 - 2016	North Yorkshire County Council	2005
Transport and Sustainable Tourism Measures, Consultation Draft	North Yorkshire County Council	2005

Yorkshire Dales Local Plan Second Deposit Version	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	2003
North Yorkshire Sub Regional Investment Plan 2004-2009	York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit	Draft April 2005

ADJACENT LOCAL AUTHORITIES/AONB OFFICE RELEVANT PLANS

Adopted Unitary Development Plan for the Bradford District and First Deposit Replacement UDP and Modifications to replacement UDP	Bradford Metropolitan District Council	1998, 2001 and 2004
Harrogate District Local Plan, Harrogate Local Plan Selective Alteration and Draft Statement of Community Involvement	Harrogate Borough Council	2001, 2004 and 2005
Lancaster District Local Plan 1996-2006, adopted 2004; Lancaster District LDF Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper	Lancaster District Council	2004
Pendle Borough Local Plan 1 st State Deposit Written Statement; Pendle Local Development Scheme 2004-2009	Pendle Borough Council	2003 and 2005
Ribble Valley District Wide Local Plan, Ribble Valley Local Development Scheme	Ribble Valley District Council	1998 and 2005
Yorkshire Dales Local Plan Second Deposit	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	2003
Forest of Bowland AONB Management Plan, Achieving Aspirations Through Partnership 2004-2009	Forest of Bowland AONB Joint Advisory Committee	2004

LOCAL LEVEL

Craven Community Strategy: Your Community Plan 2003-2013, booklet	Craven Local Strategic Partnership	2003
Aiming High 2005-2008 Performance Indicators for Best Value Performance	Craven District Council	2005
Corporate Plan 2005-2008	Craven District Council	2005
Draft Craven Economic Strategy, Appendix I	Craven District Council	
Craven Integrated Development Plan for Objective 2, Priority 4	Craven Economic & Development Group	2003
Craven District Local Plan 1991 – 2006 (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority)	Craven District Council	1999
Local Development Framework for Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park 2004-2007	Craven District Council	2005
Contaminated Land Strategy	Craven District Council	2001
Urban Housing Potential Study for Craven District (Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park)	Craven District Council	2003
Craven Housing Needs Survey	Craven District Council	2001
Draft Housing Strategy 2004-2007	Craven District Council	2004

Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB – Landscape Appraisal	Craven District Council	2002
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3.5. From the brief review of other plans and programmes, some of the main issues which Craven District Council officers should consider in **identifying site allocations are as follows:**

- **The Consultation Draft for PPS3 proposes that local authorities identify a rolling supply of at least 5 years developable land for housing, and a further 10 years for future development.**
- **The Draft Regional Spatial Strategy⁷ for Yorkshire and The Humber (Draft RSS) proposes that Local Authorities critically review existing employment sites on a 3-year rolling basis, and identify and protect a portfolio of the best sites representing at least a 5 year supply of market-ready sites for employment purposes.**
- **The Draft RSS sets out housing allocations for each of the Districts and targets for development on previously developed land. Craven District will be expected to deliver 250 dwellings per annum in the period from 2004-2011, 200 dwellings per annum in the period from 2011-1016 and 180 dwellings per annum in the period 2016-2021. This low building rate is designed to restrain growth in rural areas and market towns. 70% of development in Craven is to be on previously developed land.**
- **Across the Yorkshire and Humber region, on all developments of more than 15 homes (or sites more than 0.5ha) authorities should seek (i) over 40% affordable housing in areas of high need (ii) 30-39% affordable housing in area of medium need (iii) less than 29% in areas of low need. In rural areas, Local Planning Authorities should identify exceptions sites in their Deveopment Plan Documents.**
- **The Draft RSS places most of the Craven District within the Remote Rural sub-area in which Settle and Bentham are identified as Local Service Centres that serve rural hinterlands. Policy supports development that contributes to sustaining the roles of these centres, addressing affordable local housing needs and providing opportunities to promote economic diversification.**
- **Southern parts of the District are placed in the Leeds sub-area in which Skipton is identified as a Principle Service Centre with main links to Leeds (the Regional Centre), Bradford (a Sub-Regional Service Centre) and Keighley (a Principle Service Centre). Policy in this sub-area seeks to capitalise on the strengths of all these centres. There is an emphasis on delivering affordable housing in this area and there are also policies restraining development north of Leeds to Skipton through to the eastern part of Harrogate District.**

⁷ Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, Draft Yorkshire and Humber Plan (Dec 2005)

- There is an identified need to build a new economic base in rural areas to encourage the start up and growth of high value business, taking advantage of the market proximity to Leeds and Bradford. The York and North Yorkshire Investment Plan (2004/2009) identifies Settle and Skipton as the two main settlements for growth.
- The land use and environmental implications for future waste processing sites and mineral working reserves will need to be carefully considered; identified through the forthcoming North Yorkshire County Council Minerals and Waste Framework Core Strategies.
- The draft Local Transport Plan (LTP2) for North Yorkshire County Council puts accessibility as its first objective with the aim of ensuring that access to key services is a major priority for communities, followed by improved safety for all highway users. Safeguarding of land for potential future transport schemes will also need to be considered.
- Cross boundary issues in the emerging Yorkshire Dales Local Plan review such as housing need, transport and accessibility, as well as service provision will be important, particularly for those wards that are split between the two authorities. This will be a particular issue since development pressure in the Park is high and its capacity to accommodate development without damaging its special qualities is diminishing.
- Bradford Metropolitan District Council is expecting to develop an Airedale Master Plan and this may propose changes to the rural hinterland with implications for transport improvements.
- Clitheroe and Longridge, are identified as the main market towns in Ribbles Valley District which will accommodate the bulk of new development in the Core Strategy settlement strategy.
- Both the Craven Community Strategy and Performance Indicators for the District have the same five aims. These identify that a prosperous economy followed by education and skills are the two top priorities.
- Current studies through a Partnership of local authorities are underway to consider the potential for renewable energy capacity across North Yorkshire.
- The Housing Needs Survey 2005 and the Housing Strategy currently being reviewed by the District will provide a more up-to-date picture of the local housing needs and requirements.
- **The draft PPS25 introduces a new approach to flood risk assessment, encouraging LDD policies to set out requirements for site specific Flood Risk Assessments to be submitted alongside planning applications in areas of flood risk identified in the plan. Proposals in the RSS place greater pressure on development in Craven. Flooding problems experienced on the River Aire and other main watercourses in the area, making it essential that a SFRA is carried out in order to ensure that development is accommodated in safe locations and inform**

the future allocation of land for development using a sequential approach on all development proposals.

4. BASELINE

INTRODUCTION

- 4.1. The objective of this chapter is “to provide an evidence base for sustainability issues, effects, prediction and monitoring”. This chapter splits into four headings covering social/quality of life, the environment, material assets and the economic characteristics of Craven, following the requirements of the SEA Directive and the recent new Government Sustainable Development Guidance⁸. While data has been prepared under these headings, it is recognised that many issues will be cross-cutting.
- 4.2. The review has drawn on information from existing adopted Council documents including The Craven Community Strategy, Craven District Council’s Corporate Plan, Best Value Performance Plan, the Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan, Craven District Housing Strategy and the draft Economic Development Strategy. This report will be revised to take into account the findings of the Housing Needs Survey, yet to be published By Craven District Council and the results of this study will also be integrated into the draft final SEA/SA report.

BASELINE DATA AND INDICATORS

Data Sources

- 4.3. Data for this Chapter has been drawn from plans and programmes that have been reviewed in Chapter 3 and documents listed in **Table 4.1** below.

Table 4.1: Additional sources of baseline data

Documents		
Craven Business and Employment Needs Study	Craven District Council	2004
Overview of Social Exclusion in Craven	York & North Yorkshire Social Inclusion Network	2004
Looking Ahead, Strategic Framework for 2003-2006	Craven, Harrogate & Rural District NHS Care Trust	2003
Proposal for Capital Investment in the Craven Locality, Outline Summary Case	Craven, Harrogate & Rural District NHS Care Trust	2004
Annual Report for 2003-2004	Craven, Harrogate & Rural District NHS Care Trust	2004
Crime Reduction and Detection in Craven District 2005/6, presentation	North Yorkshire Police	2005
Craven in Brief	Yorkshire Forward	2003
Landscape Appraisal, Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park & Forest of Bowland AONB	Craven District Council	2002
Best Value Performance Indicators, second amended version June 2005	Craven District Council	2005

⁸ HM Government (2005) *Securing the Future on Sustainable Development*, The Stationery Office

Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation Assessment Report: Executive Summary	Craven District Council	2004
Census 2001 and Access to Services – Focus on Rural Areas	North Yorkshire County Council	2003
A Cultrual Strategy for Craven 2002 - 2010	Craven District Council	2001
Issues Raised from the Shaping Places and Spaces Conference	Craven District Council	2005
Yorkshire and Humber Region: A Long Term Policy Perspective for Sustainable Agriculture: Environmental Impacts	Institute for European Environmental Policy, GFA RACE	2003
Ingleborough Community Investment Prospectus and review update	York & North Yorkshire Partnership Unit	2001 and 2005
Wharfedale Community Investment Prospectus	York & North Yorkshire Partnership Unit	2001
Settle District Community Investment Prospectus and Update	York & North Yorkshire Partnership Unit	2001 and 2004
Bentham Retail Analysis and Health Check	Craven District Council	2004
Cross Hills Retail Analysis and Health Check	Craven District Council	2004
Ingleton Retail Analysis and Health Check	Craven District Council	2004
Settle Retail Analysis and Health Check	Craven District Council	2004
Skipton Retail Analysis and Health Check	Craven District Council	2004
Air Quality Progress Report 2003: Air Quality in Craven District Council Area	Environment Health Dept. Craven District Council	2003
National Employers Skills Survey 2003: Key Findings in Craven Local Authority District	Learning & Skills Council North Yorkshire	2004

Data Gaps

- 4.4. **Appendix 3** and **Appendix 4** sets out potential sustainability objectives and baseline information. The former, outlines objectives drawn from the SEA/SA of the Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber Regional Assembly and the latter details potential objectives with information on baseline conditions and indicators. Although there is a wealth of information, there are some gaps; these relate to current levels of community involvement and areas where traffic or background noise is a concern. Baseline information collection is an on-going process.

OVERVIEW

- 4.5. Craven is a rural District and the eighth most sparsely populated in the whole of the UK⁹. Craven lies on western edge of North Yorkshire, covering 117,876 ha (15% of North Yorkshire). It borders the Forest of Bowland AONB to the south and the Yorkshire Dales National Park to the east; managed by a separate planning authority, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee, and encompasses parts of Craven, Richmondshire and South Lakeland Districts. In several locations¹⁰ the boundary of the National Park bisects settlements and the population ratio is reflected in **Table**

⁹ Craven District Council (2005) *Aiming High*, Priorities for Improvement Performance Indicators for Best Value Performance.

¹⁰ Craven District Council (1999) *Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan*, adopted 2 July 1999.

4.1. resulting in a split in planning control between Craven District and the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Table 4.1 Parishes with split boundaries

Parish	All people	% Outside YDNP	Pop Outside YDNP
Long Preston	679	16%	109
Austwick	476	22%	105
Langcliffe	347	26%	90
Bolton Abbey	113	34%	38
Thornton in Lonsdale	308	35%	108
Stirton with Thorlby	173	41%	71
Embsay with Eastby	1758	58%	1020
Clapham cum Newby	659	70%	461
Giggleswick	1407	80%	1126
Ingleton	2045	82%	1677
Lawkland	237	83%	197
Settle	2421	95%	2300
Hellifield	1063	98%	1042
Otterburn	43	0%	0
Gargrave	1764	100%	1764

- 4.6. In 2001, the total population for the District was 53,620¹¹ compared to 41,091 in 1991. The total population of the District excluding the area within the Yorkshire Dales National Park is 44,006 as shown in **Table 4.2**. Figures also show that the resident population of the Yorkshire Dales National Park within Craven has risen from 8,800 in 1991 to 9,614 in 2001¹². The gender breakdown indicates that there are 21,103 males and 22,903 females within the District, outside the National Park boundaries.
- 4.7. Around 31% of the population live in the town of Skipton, which is the District centre, and the remainder within the larger villages situated along the main transport routes, including Settle, Ingleton, Hellifield, Glusburn and Sutton-in-Craven. There are also a large number of dispersed villages and hamlets particularly in the north and west of the District.

Table 4.2 Population breakdown for Craven District showing split with Yorkshire Dales National Park

Population Profile	
Total population	53,620
% Outside YDNP	82%
Pop Outside YDNP	44,006

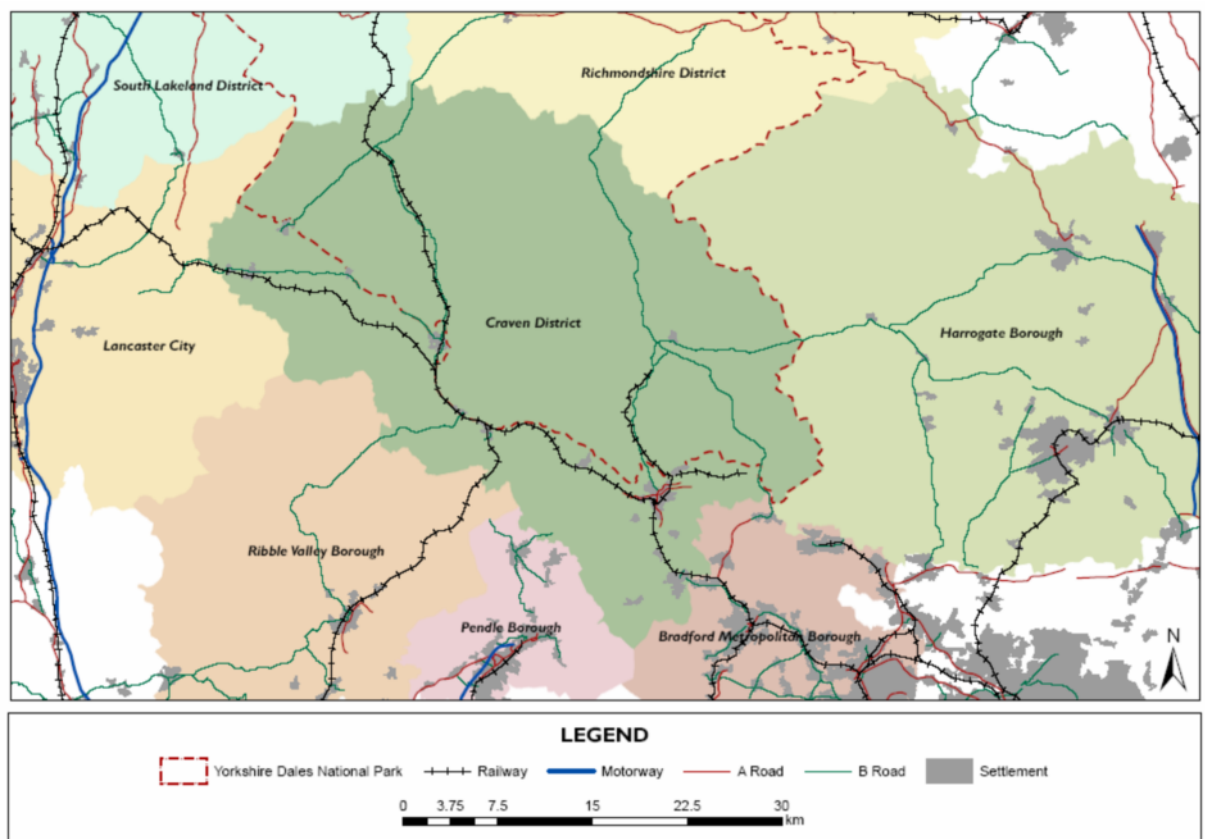
Note: This table excludes data for Bank Newton, Nappa and Swinden, which is not available.

¹¹ Source Census 2001, ONS

¹² Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (revised April 2005) *Headline Census Data 2001*

- 4.8. The landscape character of Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park is of high value and includes the upper reaches of Wharfedale, Ribblesdale, Airedale and part of Lonsdale with the famous limestone ridges and caverns. The importance of the landscape is recognised by the designation of the Forest of Bowland as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and much of the remainder of the District as a Special Landscape Area.
- 4.9. Craven adjoins Bradford Metropolitan District to the south east, Harrogate Borough to the east, Lancaster District to the north west, Ribble Valley District to the west, and Pendle District to the south/south-west. The local authority boundaries to the District are set out in **Figure 4.1**.

Figure 4.1 Context Map



- 4.10. The District has good connections to the national road network via three principal trunk roads; the A65 key trunk route linking the conurbations of West Yorkshire to the Dales and the Lake District, the A59 and the A629. The District is also well served by the mainline rail network, and Skipton is the terminus for the Airedale line from West Yorkshire. The nearest airports are situated in Leeds/Bradford to the south-east and Manchester to the south-west.
- 4.11. The economy of Craven is very diverse although it is predominantly rural District¹³, with agriculture and quarrying the traditional sectors. Craven has maintained high

¹³ Craven Local Strategic Partnership (2003) *Craven Community Strategy, Your Community Plan 2003-2013*

levels of employment through diversification and a growth in new micro businesses¹⁴. The service sector is very important for Skipton and Settle, and accounts for 80% of the businesses in these areas. Manufacturing of food and beverages, textiles, publishing, and printing are also significant, together with tourism.

- 4.12. The District has nearly full employment. In 2000 employment rates stood at 80% compared with the national average of 74%. Rates have subsequently risen to 82.7% in 2002/2003¹⁵. Claimant unemployment is also low, at 1.1%, which represents around 350 people who were requiring assistance in finding employment. Whilst the level of employment is high, many jobs are part-time, seasonal and low paid reflecting the dominance of the tourism sector. The Uplands to the north, including Ribblesdale in mid-Craven qualify for European funding under Objective 2 criteria.

SOCIAL/QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES

- 4.13. One of the issues facing the District is an ageing population¹⁶, with approximately 20% of the population being over 65 years, and around one third being over 55 years of age see **Table 4.3** below. The gender breakdown shows there are 21,103 males and 22,903 females within the District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park boundaries).
- 4.14. Together with increasing life expectancy, it is likely that health care facilities and housing needs will be under additional pressure in future years. Changes in the population structure, combined with a lack of local employment opportunities and affordable housing may threaten the vibrancy of local communities. One of the aims of the Craven Community Strategy¹² is therefore to maintain balanced communities in terms of age structure, households and occupation types.

Table 4.3 Population breakdown by age for Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park)

Age	Number of People	% of Population
0-4	2236	5.1%
5-15	6170	14.0%
16-24	3741	8.5%
25-44	11255	25.6%
45-64	11765	26.7%
65-74	4331	9.8%
76 and over	4420	10.0%

Note: This excludes data for Bank Newton, Nappa and Swinden which is not available

- 4.15. **Table 4.4** illustrates the number of people within the District with limiting long-term illnesses, and the number providing unpaid care and support.

Table 4.4 Health profile and unpaid care within Craven

¹⁴ Craven District Council (2004) *Craven Business and Employment Needs Study*, Draft Final Report by ECOTEC Research & Consulting, Birmingham

¹⁵ York & North Yorkshire Social Inclusion Network (2004) Overview of Social Exclusion in Craven

¹⁶ Craven District Council (June 2005) *Local Development Scheme 2004-2007*, for Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park, amendment to submitted version.

Health Profile and Unpaid Care	No. of People
All people with a limiting long-term illness	7,644
All people whose health was good	30,598
All people providing unpaid care	4,642

Source: Census 2001, ONS

- 4.16. There is only a small ethnic minority population, concentrated mainly in the Broughton Road area of Skipton.
- 4.17. Household composition is illustrated in **Figure 4.5** below, and will influence future demands for accommodation type and housing needs.

Table 4.5 Household composition in Craven District

Household Type	No. of People
All aged 16 and over living in households	34,672
Living in a couple	22,993
Single	8,240
Married	20,699
Divorced or widowed	6,574

Note: This excludes data for Bank Newton, Nappa and Swinden which is not available

- 4.18. Some areas of Craven suffer deprivation due to poor geographical access to essential local facilities and services. This reflects the very rural nature of the District with 59.8% of the population living in the outlying rural areas, compared to an average of 29% across Yorkshire and Humber¹⁷. The Indices of Deprivation (ODPM, 2004) measures deprivation at the Super Output Area (SOA) level. Two wards (Glusburn and Skipton North) fall within the top 10% of SOAs nationally.

Access to Service

- 4.19. The Community Strategy seeks to improve access to key local services by local residents and one approach will be to provide flexible rural transport services to serve very isolated communities, since public transport provision is poor. Craven District Council also belongs to the Sparsity Partnership¹⁸ representing fifty-five authorities facing challenges of delivering a full range of services and lobbying for further Government support. Craven is one of four Districts where there are no local job centres within a 2km radius in the outlying rural areas¹⁹.
- 4.20. A recent public consultation ('Shaping Places and Spaces Conference', June 2005) held by Craven District Council to discuss key issues to inform the LDF process, identified

¹⁷ York & North Yorkshire Social Inclusion Network (Winter 2004) *Overview of Social Exclusion in Craven*, based on Defra Rural Evidence Hub.

¹⁸ SPARSE (May 2005) *Sparsity Partnership for Authorities Delivering Rural Services, Rural Manifesto 2005/06*

¹⁹ Government Office for Yorkshire & Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and the Humber*

that access to services and employment by sustainable modes of transport was one of the three top priorities. Attendees suggested that villages could share facilities if there were improved transport links.

Health Services

- 4.21. Although the nearest main acute hospital lies outside the District in Airedale and the services of the general hospital in Skipton are being reduced, the District is quite well served by six GP surgeries, with two offering a range of other clinics at High Bentham and Settle. There are also 12 registered dental practices, 11 opticians and three pharmacies located in the settlements of Ingleton, Settle and High Bentham.
- 4.22. Craven, Harrogate and Rural District NHS Primary Care Trust²⁰ also emphasises that the rural geography is a key influencing factor when implementing health improvement programmes within Craven. New proposals to modernise the delivery of and access to primary and secondary care services within the rural communities covered by the Primary Care Trust is being considered²¹. Proposals seek to develop a “hub and spoke” approach, with Settle acting as the “hub” for communities across the north of Craven and Skipton providing the hub in the south. This will involve a major programme of investment to bring ageing facilities up-to-date.
- 4.23. Life expectancy for Craven residents compares well to the other districts in the sub-regions, and exceeds regional and national averages. For women life expectancy stands at 81.6 (compared to 80.57 nationally) whilst male life expectancy is 78 (compared to 75.88 nationally). Whilst mortality rates for coronary heart disease are significantly less than the English average, as are incidences of most cancers, 9,241 people in the District have limiting long-term illness (17.23% of the population, compared to 17.9% for England) and the second highest percentage across the sub-region.

District Centres

- 4.24. The market town of Skipton is the primary retail and commercial centre for the District, and Cross Hills and Settle the secondary centres as defined within the current Local Plan. The major regional and sub-regional centres of Leeds, Bradford, Manchester, Lancaster, Burnley and Keighley are all within the catchment area of the District. Two other identified service settlements within Craven are Ingleton and Bentham, with local shopping needs also served by Hellifield, Gargrave, Cowling and Sutton-in-Craven. Various studies for the Council have been completed assessing the ‘health’ of the District’s smaller centres, and identifying areas for improvement.

Crime and Safety

- 4.25. Although crime remains a key concern of local residents (identified in the Community Strategy, Aim 4) alongside issues of alcohol and drugs misuse particularly amongst

²⁰ Craven, Harrogate & Rural District NHS Primary Care Trust (2003) *Looking Ahead, Strategic Framework for 2003-2006*

²¹ Craven, Harrogate & Rural District NHS Primary Care Trust (September 2004) *Proposal for Capital Investment in the Craven Locality, Outline Summary Case*.

young people, figures are comparatively low in the District²² and show improvements since 2004. In 2003/04 Craven had 65.9 offences per 1,000 inhabitants, which is one of the lowest crime rates across the sub-region and considered to reflect the rurality of the District²³. The Council works in partnership with the Craven Crime Reduction Partnership, North Yorkshire Police and Craven Housing to address antisocial behaviour. The current Strategy for 2002-2005 identifies Skipton, South Craven, Wharfedale, Settle and Ingleton as areas where crime related issues are being targeted.

Education

- 4.26. Craven College is the main adult and community training and education provider. There are various outreach centres and the College of the Dales with centres in a variety of communities. The District also provides a mobile ICT facility and Learndirect computer access points across a range of locations.
- 4.27. Educational attainment is high in Craven although there are pockets of low attainment, which are prioritised within the Community Strategy vision (Aim 2) in addition to increasing the number of young people entering full-time education or structured learning. Although Skipton North ward has been identified as being in the top 1% of SOAs in the Education domain nationally (Index of Multiple Deprivation, ODPM, 2004), the District also has a high percentage of the population (23%) educated to NVQ level 4/5 or higher, above both the sub-regional and regional averages.
- 4.28. Poor levels of literacy and numeracy among the adult population (25.5% of the adult population compared to 24% for England) have also been identified²⁴ and resulting in skills shortages discussed below under the economy.

Rights of Way

- 4.29. Three major long distance routes cross the District; the Pennine Way, the Ribble Way and the Pennine Bridleway. The total length of Public Rights of Way in Craven (and outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) is approximately 720km. The District lies within one of the first two regions mapped by the Countryside Agency in order to identify areas of open country and common land within the new rights of access under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
- 4.30. Recreation initiatives include the development of a multi-user route from Earby to Barnoldswick by the County Council which would make use of the former Colne to Skipton railway track. The County is also developing various cycleway links including one from Skipton to link with the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the wider National Cycle Network.
- 4.31. A potential increase in public access opportunities to new areas of open country could result in an increase in traffic and roadside parking, particularly by visitors to

²² North Yorkshire Police (2005) *Crime Reduction and Detection in the Craven District 2005/6*, presentation by Chief Inspector

²³ Yorkshire Futures, York & North Yorkshire Social Inclusion Network (2004) *Overview of Social Exclusion in Craven*

²⁴ *Yorkshire Forward (December 2003) Craven in Brief*

the area. The draft North Yorkshire County Council Local Transport Plan (2005) indicates that 80% of residents in the area use their local rights of way, with 84% walking from their local area.

Leisure and Culture

- 4.32. Although Craven is a sparsely populated it has a good range of leisure and cultural provision. An assessment of open space, sport and recreation facilities²⁵ has found a deficiency of formal provision in children's and young people's play provision in north and south Craven, and a surplus of informal provision which is to be protected to help meet potential outdoor recreation opportunities and tourism needs. There is a latent demand for sports pitches generally and a need for a four-court sports hall facility in the north of Craven. One of the aims of the Corporate Plan is to increase participation rates in active healthy sports and leisure activities amongst all sections of the population. The provision of a new swimming pool for Skipton is a key priority within the Plan timescale.²⁶

Housing

- 4.33. There are 22,530 privately owned dwellings within the District and 2,239 properties under the management of a registered social landlord, in addition to 34 other public sector properties. Around 4% of households live in flats, maisonettes or bedsits, 30% in terraced houses or bungalows, and 61% in semi-detached houses or bungalows²⁷.
- 4.34. **Capacity:** An urban potential study completed by Craven District Council in September 2003 was produced in response to the requirement set out within Planning Policy Guidance Note 3 on Housing (ODPM, 2000).²⁸ The purpose of the study was to establish the potential contribution of previously developed land. The study's findings estimated that Craven's urban capacity is 1,871 dwellings between 2002 and 2016. This figure includes an expected contribution of windfall sites of between 720 dwellings, and 238 dwellings through small sites in existing settlements.
- 4.35. A key aim of the Corporate Plan is to ensure that sufficient land is made available in the most appropriate locations to meet local housing and employment needs via enabling planning policies. Housing affordability is a key issue; the popularity of the District due to its high quality of life, low crime rates and attractive natural environment has driven up house prices. Craven was one of three authorities that managed to build a higher percentage (around 82%) of new houses on brownfield sites in 2003/4, compared to the national average was 70.2%
- 4.36. **Affordability:** Research into rural housing in the Yorkshire and Humber²⁹ region highlights that the average affordability ratio for the region, for both urban and rural areas is 5.7:1, rising to 6.6:1 in rural areas. These figures mean that the average house price was 5.7 times greater than the average household income. The

²⁵ Craven District Council (August 2004) *Open Spaces Sport & Recreation Assessment Report: Executive Summary* report by Knight, Kavanagh & Page, Leisure Management Consultancy

²⁶ Craven District Council (2005) *Corporate Plan 2005 - 2008*

²⁷ Craven District Council (2001) *Craven Housing Needs Survey 2001*

²⁹ University of York Centre for Housing Policy (October 2004) *Rural Housing in the Yorkshire and Humber Region* report for Housing Corporation and The Countryside Agency

affordability ratio for a terraced house in Craven is 3.17 compared with regional average of 2.32 (the average price of a terraced house compared to the average gross weekly income for a manual worker). However, in some rural wards of Craven the figure is much higher. For example in Upper Wharfedale ward, the mean annual income is £22,113 and the mean property price was £236,881 (2001) giving an affordability ratio of 10.7:1. In Ingleton and Clapham wards the affordability ratio is 9.6:1. Craven has seen an increase of 116% in house prices between 1999 and 2004. Figures in December 2004 indicate that the average house price was £175,371.

- 4.37. Of the 20 wards with the most affordability need, over half were in Richmondshire and Craven Districts. The 20 wards with the most severe affordability ratios were all located in Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate, Richmondshire and Ryedale with affordability ranging from 9.0:1 to 11.5:1.
- 4.38. Craven District Council transferred its housing stock of around 2,239 properties to a registered social landlord ; “Craven Housing” in 2003, enabling £15 million to be invested in these dwellings, as well as providing for new homes. Research by Craven’s Rural Housing Enabler and analysis of the local housing market illustrates that the demand for local needs housing far exceeds the current provision. The Housing Needs Survey undertaken in 2001³⁰ identified that 503 units per year were required, and that the type of dwellings varied with 44% requiring terrace houses, 35% requiring flats or bedsits, and 84% having a preference for small one and two bedroom units. The locational preferences were primarily for Skipton, South Craven and North Craven.

ENVIRONMENT

Landscape character

- 4.39. A large number of landscape character assessments and strategies have been undertaken covering the District which form part of wider studies at County level. These studies highlight the District’s predominantly rural landscape which is split across three separate landscape areas, the Yorkshire Dales to the north east, the Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hills to the west and the Southern Pennines to the south east. The distinctive topography of south Craven is due to the underlying millstone grit of the South Pennines, and the formation of the undulating lowlands and corridors of the Ribble Valley which divide the dales from the upland fells of the Forest of Bowland.
- 4.40. The most recent³¹ characterisation adopts the Countryside Agency Landscape Character Assessment methodology to identify twenty-two landscape character types encompassing valley pastures, semi-enclosed lowland, open uplands and moorlands. The report notes that the main pressures on the landscape are from urbanisation, increased mobility and leisure pursuits, as well as changes in agricultural land management. In some areas, including the open uplands, there is the potential for mineral extraction at some disused quarries and former mineral workings. These

³⁰ Craven District Council (2001) *Craven Housing Needs Survey*

³¹ Craven District Council (October 2002) *Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB, Landscape Appraisal* report by Landscape Design Associates

elevated pastures are also considered to be suitable sites for wind turbines, although such development would be visually intrusive in the surrounding landscape.

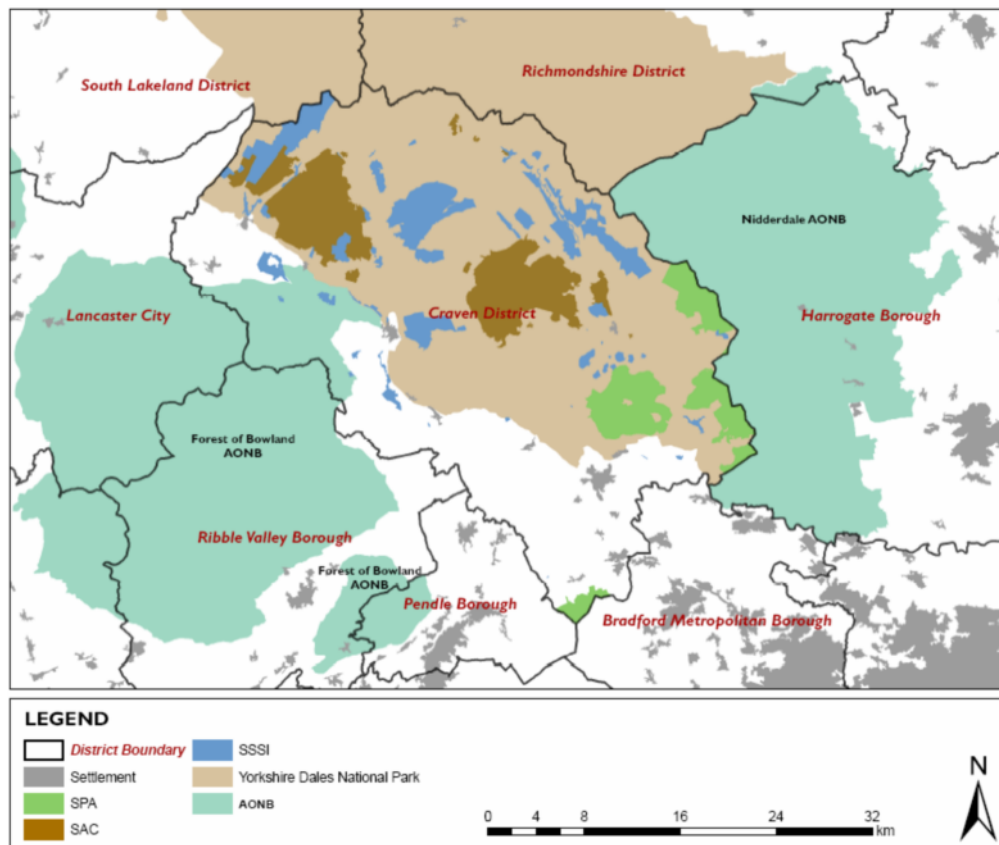
Biodiversity

- 4.41. Most of the Forest of Bowland AONB is designated as Special Protection Area (SPA) or Special Area of Conservation (SAC), important for its moorland habitat and a major breeding ground for upland birds. A large proportion of the Bowland Fells is designated a SPA under the European Birds Directive, as well as 13% of the AONB being designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).³² In Craven there are no European designated sites outside the AONB, but there are 12 designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and a three further SSSIs that border the Plan Area with the National Park (see **Figure 4.2.**) These are all covered by Policy ENV.6 in the existing Local Plan.
- 4.42. In terms of the DPD relating to site allocations there are no formal guidelines for determining whether or not such development could have an adverse effect on any particular Natura 2000 site. This will depend upon the underlying reasons for designation of the nature conservation site and the nature and magnitude of the development.
- 4.43. On the basis of current knowledge, no sites are likely to be identified within these plans which would give rise to any significant adverse environmental effect on a Natura 2000 site. However a further examination will need to be undertaken of sites identified through the consultation process.
- 4.44. The Craven Biodiversity Action Plan is currently being drafted and should be completed by the end of 2005. This will reflect the existing national and regional designations and highlight important and native species to the area.
- 4.45. There are currently no statutory Local Nature Reserves within the District, but English Nature's Ancient Woodland Inventory and Habitat Survey identifies sites of nature conservation value, covered by Craven Local Plan Policy ENV.7. These include traditionally managed hay meadows, which are important for biodiversity and wildlife, as well as a range of heathland and bogs, and ancient woodlands. These meadows are nationally important³³; there are only 610ha meadows of good quality upland hay meadows in England, with many being within North Yorkshire. There is significant potential to encourage farmers to manage land for wildlife particularly through new grant structures offered by Defra, such as Countryside Stewardship.

³² Forest of Bowland AONB Joint Advisory Committee (2004) *Forest of Bowland AONB Management Plan, Achieving Aspirations Through Partnership*, April 2004-March 2009.

³³ Institute for European Environmental Policy, GFA RACE (August 2003) *Yorkshire & Humber Region: A Long Term Policy Perspective for Sustainable Agriculture: Environmental Impacts*

Figure 4.2 Location of Environmental Designations



Geology

- 4.46. Limestone related scenery such as Malham is the dominant overall landscape character of the Craven area, exposed as pavements and dry valleys³⁴ reflecting the underlying limestone rock to the north and west of the District (lying mainly within the Yorkshire Dales National Park), and sedimentary millstone grit towards the east and south of the District.

Archaeology and Conservation

- 4.47. There are many historic market towns and villages and traditional buildings within Craven which reflect the area's varied economic and social history. In total there are 881 listed buildings including 12 designated as Grade I, as well as 32 Scheduled Ancient Monuments recorded within the Local Plan (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) and 31 Conservation Areas outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Craven Landscape Character Assessment records two Registered Parks and Gardens of Special and Historic Interest at Broughton Hall and Gledstone Hall.
- 4.48. The Sites and Monuments Record contains a record of all known archaeological sites in the District. Some of these areas, although not Scheduled, may nonetheless, be of national importance. An historic Landscape Characterisation has been developed for

³⁴ Craven District Council (2001) *Contaminated Land Strategy*

the Forest of Bowland AONB and used to inform the AONB Management Plan³⁵. The Plan highlights the need for further study and recording within the AONB and elsewhere throughout the District.

- 4.49. Mineral extraction can also pose threats to archaeological sites and historic monuments.

Climate Change

- 4.50. Climate conditions for the Yorkshire and Humber region³⁶ indicate that the Pennines and North York Moors have the coolest and wettest climate in the region. Average rainfall ranged between 929 mm and 2179 mm (1989 figures) to the west of the region. Changes in climate will result in mean annual temperatures rising leading to wetter winters and drier summers. Data provided by the UK Climate Impacts Programme indicates that the region could be between 1° C and 2.5°C warmer by 2050s and between 1.5° to 4° C warmer by 2080s. The 2002 scenarios suggest that summers will be drier throughout the region, and together with drier springs and autumns leading to a reduction in average annual rainfall of up to 10%.
- 4.51. The Environment Agency introduced flood control measures for sections of the River Aire and River Ribble through localised artificial channels and flood banks. Areas at most risk from flooding³⁷ are sections of the Rivers Ribble, Aire, Wenning, Wharf and their tributaries, as well as a small section of the River Greta. The Craven District Council (2002) landscape appraisal concluded that surrounding distinctive landscapes could be easily damaged by development, drainage or flood control measures. There is one reservoir within the District at Chelker. There are no further proposals for additional reservoirs.
- 4.52. A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) is being undertaken by the District Council and will be used as a tool to inform the Spatial Strategy and Allocations documents. The SFRA is being undertaken in joint partnership with Harrogate, Richmondshire and the Yorkshire Dales National Park and is due to be finalised in April/May this year. The Environment Agency have stated that in developing Policies development should be sited away from areas at risk from flooding using the sequential test and any development should be encouraged to incorporate Sustainable Drainage System techniques which might have wider benefits in respect of flooding. The Agency emphasised that it was important that SFRA plays an integral role to informing the location of development.**

³⁵ Forest of Bowland AONB Joint Advisory Committee (2004) *Forest of Bowland AONB Management Plan, Achieving Aspirations Through Partnership April 2004 – March 2009*

³⁶ Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (June 2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*

³⁷ Environment Agency cd supplied to Craven District Council (June 2005)

Air Quality

- 4.53. The results of air quality monitoring for Craven District in 2003³⁸ were good and revealed that air quality meets national objectives. The report notes that no new industrial processes, quarrying and landfill operations occurred during the monitoring period, nor were there any major new developments that could have increased traffic flows. Work is underway to complete the 2004 Progress Report and this should help inform the LDF of any changes in air quality.
- 4.54. Regionally air quality monitoring³⁹ provided evidence that the hot summer of 2003 contributed to a decline in air quality overall, but this was not the case for Craven highlighting the lower levels of air pollution across the District. Regional air quality monitoring estimates for 2004 suggest that there were lower pollution levels following the peaks in 2003, however in rural areas these fluctuations reflect the variability in the levels of ozone.

Noise Pollution

- 4.55. Noise levels in the District will be largely associated with trunk road traffic movements, and mineral working movements from sites in the the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

MATERIAL ASSETS

Land and soils

- 4.56. There is little high quality agricultural land within the District, with most being classified as Grade 4 (poor). There is a small proportion of Grade 3 land (good to moderate) to the west³⁵.
- 4.57. Information on land contamination is currently being reviewed by the Council. It is likely that there may be a considerable number of very small sites where remediation would be dealt with as, and when planning applications come forward. Larger scale brownfield sites, such as old mills and redundant petrol stations are generally proving suitable for housing developments.

Woodland

- 4.58. There are significant woodland areas within the privately owned Bolton Abbey estate near Skipton, including Strid Wood SSSI which has the largest remnant of acidic woodland in Yorkshire, and is important for its flora, particularly lichens. The Forest of Bowland is an English Nature 'Natural Area' with slightly different boundaries to the AONB, and there are many coniferous plantations.

Renewables

- 4.59. Craven has the potential to exploit renewable energy generation, but its own landscape character and proximity to the protected landscapes of the Yorkshire

³⁸ Craven District Council (April 2004) *Air Quality Progress Report 2003, Air Quality in Craven District Council Area between January and December 2003*, Environment Health Department

³⁹ Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*, Ch.5,p56 (source: Defra UK National Air Quality Information Archive)

Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB may limit such opportunities. There is currently one small existing wind farm adjacent to the Chelker Reservoir supporting four wind turbines.

- 4.60. **The Draft RSS gives priority to improving energy efficiency and maximising the efficiency of power sources and then to maximising renewable energy capacity. It adopts a regional target for renewable energy capacity of at least 708MW by 2010 and 1862MW by 2021 and sub-regional targets which for North Yorkshire are 209MW by 2010 and 350 MW by 2021.**
- 4.61. A renewable energy study has been commissioned by a partnership of local authorities in North Yorkshire (including Craven District Council)⁴⁰. The study is made up of four interrelated elements including:
- a review of the technical constraints and opportunities for renewable energy development in North Yorkshire;
 - the preparation of planning guidance on sustainable energy for local planning authorities;
 - an assessment of the sensitivity of the landscape to accommodate renewable energy developments; and
 - the preparation of guidance for local authorities on delivering renewable energy as part of their corporate strategies.

Minerals and Waste

- 4.62. Development Plan Documents relating to minerals and waste are currently being prepared by North Yorkshire County Council (alongside an SEA/SA of which the scoping report has been completed). The DPD will consist of Minerals and Waste Development Framework outlining policies to cover the period up to 2021. The draft vision for minerals seeks to maintain a balance between the contribution the industry makes to the local economy, against the need to protect and enhance the environment and quality of life.
- 4.63. Within Craven there is evidence of earlier lead mining/quarrying and lime production, and small scale coal mining around the village of Ingletton. The former Skipton Rock limestone quarry located just outside Skipton is currently dormant and unlikely to become active due to environmental concerns, but the remainder of the large complex is still used for removal and storage of other materials.
- 4.64. There are reserves of crushed rock identified in the Craven Lowlands, but there are no current mineral workings in this area. These allocations will be reviewed again for the new Minerals and Waste Framework Core Strategies being developed by North Yorkshire County Council and will take account of sub-regional guidance.
- 4.65. The Draft Local Transport Plan for North Yorkshire (2005) indicates that the movement of aggregates can cause significant local problems in some areas, and is

⁴⁰ North Yorkshire Partnership, Renewable Energy Study for North Yorkshire, 2005, LUC

particularly an issue in Settle from quarries at Horton in Ribblesdale and Helwith Bridge (both of which are situated in the Yorkshire Dales National Park).

- 4.66. The Council is responsible for the collection of waste, and already has in place a garden waste scheme and kerbside paper, glass and tin collection for residents, as well as providing over 70 mini-recycling sites across the District. The Corporate Plan estimates that 90% of residents live within 1km of a recycling site. The Council is also aiming to provide a brown cardboard collection service for commercial waste at various industrial sites during 2005/06. There is currently one major landfill site outside Skipton at Skibeden. The regional average of total household waste collected during 2003/4 was 439kg per person; Craven was just slightly above this figure.⁴¹ The latest figures indicate that this has risen to 489.26kgs per head.⁴²
- 4.67. The draft vision for the North Yorkshire Waste³⁴ Core strategy aims to seek a balance between providing essential facilities to manage waste, while recognising the need to protect and enhance where possible to environment and quality of life, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development. Currently no waste is incinerated in the Plan area.

Water

- 4.68. There are four principal watercourses that originate within or flow through the District. They include the Rivers Aire, Wharfe, Ribble and Wenning. Water quality within the District was categorised as 'good or 'very good' in 2001⁴³ and this is supported by data from the Environment Agency showing that the percentage of rivers in the region with either good or fair chemical water quality had increased from 76.2% to 90.4% between 1990 and 2002. In contrast regionally biological water quality had declined.
- 4.69. There are around 2,300 properties⁴⁴ in the District that are not connected to the mains water supply, and around 750 sites providing private water supplies.
- 4.70. The protection of the community and environment from flooding was identified as the fourth highest priority for the District Council to address over the next three years within the Corporate Plan.

ECONOMY

Employment Characteristics

- 4.71. Craven is characterised as having an entrepreneurial spirit with the largest number of businesses per head of population within Yorkshire. However, many of these businesses are quite small and employ under eight employees⁴⁵. The 2001 Census records 25,005 of the population (aged between 16 and 74) of Craven being employed, out of a total population of approximately 54,000. Of this figure 14.88%

⁴¹ Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*, Ch.5

⁴² Craven District Council (June 2005) *Best Value Performance Indicator 2004-2005*, 2nd amended version

⁴³ Craven District Council (June 2001) *Contaminated Land Strategy*

⁴⁴ Craven Local Strategic Partnership (2003) *Craven Community Strategy, Your Community Plan 2003-2013*

⁴⁵ Craven District Council (2005) *'Aiming High' – Performance Indicators for Best Value Performance & Craven's Corporate Plan*

were self-employed⁴⁶, the second highest self-employment rate throughout the York and North Yorkshire area, while unemployment was fairly low and recorded at 2.49%.

4.72. Sectors contributing the largest number of jobs are:

- Distribution, hotels and restaurants (30%);
- Public administration, education and health (20%);
- Manufacturing(16%).

4.73. 61% of jobs were full time in 2002, with men accounting for 47% of the employment workforce. The most significant change since 2000 has been the decline in the number of people employed in agriculture, fishing, transport and communications sectors. The impact of the foot and mouth epidemic on the region in 2001, followed by recent CAP reforms have also resulted in a number of farm diversification initiatives. Within Craven, agriculture accounts for 2,153 workers which is 5.2% of the total employed within Yorkshire and the Humber⁴⁷.

4.74. One in five employers reported that there is a significant skills gap²³ despite the majority offering training to existing employees. This is thought to relate to high staff turnover and external competition, as well as unwillingness by staff to undertake courses. Despite this, a third of employers in Craven expect their workforce to grow during 2005, but a quarter (24%) of employers have vacancies.

Land Allocation for Employment Needs

4.75. A study on the needs of businesses and employers⁴⁸ in Craven sets out the planning context for the development of the Craven economy. This acknowledges the concerns expressed in the Community Strategy that there is a shortage of significant employment land within the District. In addition, the lack of broadband connectivity is acting as a constraint for some businesses.

4.76. **The Draft RSS states that a key message for Craven in relation to employment land is to make additional provision of small-medium, high quality sites, particularly those suited to accommodate small businesses.** The Craven Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for Objective 2⁴⁹ has focused upon capital investment for the development of such high quality business units, particularly within the markets towns and key service areas. One of the suggestions of the report is that Craven has the potential to develop a new economic base in high growth sectors and clusters. Its proximity to the regional growth centres of Leeds and Bradford could mean that Craven is well placed to exploit such opportunities.

⁴⁶ Learning & Skills Council North Yorkshire (November 2004) *National Employers Skills Survey 2003: Key Findings in Craven Local Authority District* report by NOP Social and Political, London

⁴⁷ Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*

⁴⁸ Craven District Council (2004) *Craven Business and Employment Needs Study*, Draft Final Report by ECOTEC Research & Consulting Ltd, Birmingham

⁴⁹ Craven Economic & Development Group (August 2003) *Craven Integrated Development Plan for Objective 2 Priority 4*

- 4.77. **An identified lack of employment land is however a key constraint in meeting future demands and the LDF will need to find suitable sites in areas of key demand. A recent study on business and employment needs for the Council⁵⁰ states that the majority of key sites identified in the current Local Plan have already been brought forward and that the LDF will need to allocate in the region of 20ha of employment land, mainly within the areas of key demand – Skipton, South Craven and parts of Settle.**
- 4.78. Discussions with planning officers indicate that there are also issues relating to ownership constraints relating land to the north of Skipton.

Agriculture

- 4.79. The impact of the 2001 foot and mouth disease outbreak in Craven District was severe and had a major effect on tourism and business cash flows. The crisis underlined the vulnerability of the rural economy and emphasised how closely related agriculture is to rural tourism and to the provision of local services.
- 4.80. There are a total of 990 registered agricultural holdings in the District covering some 85,616ha, of which 42% are less than 5ha in size. Of these the largest number (507) are classified as less favoured area grazing, mainly of sheep and cattle, while 183 are dairy holdings, and 96 holdings are classified as lowland grazing. 1,145 people are employed in agriculture in the District, 854 full time.
- 4.81. Data from the Regional Econometric Model⁵¹ illustrates the steady decline in the importance of agriculture to the economy of Yorkshire and the Humber, from 3.4% in 1986 to 2.3% in 2001 and this is forecast to continue. This decline will have an adverse effect on the region's more remote rural communities who are reliant on this sector for employment and income, as well as potentially adverse effects for landscape, biodiversity and rural tourism.

Tourism and Recreation

- 4.82. The District attracts many tourists who visit the spectacular limestone landscapes and the heather moorland in this southern part of the Yorkshire Dales and the Forest of Bowland AONB. There are also many attractive historic market towns and villages, natural attractions such as the Ingleton Waterfalls, Malham Cove, and historic buildings such as Skipton Castle and Bolton Abbey, and the world famous Settle to Carlisle steam railway.
- 4.83. Craven is marketed through leaflets such as 'Discover the Southern Dales' by the Yorkshire Dales Joint Promotions Initiative. In 2001/02 the District received 3.3 million visitors staying an average of 1.25 days, and spending £22 per head. The tourism industry is considered to be worth approximately £180,000 per annum to the local economy. The Community Strategy seeks to increase the value of tourism to the local economy, but recognises the importance of respecting the needs of local

⁵⁰ Craven District Council (2004) *Craven Business and Employment Needs Study*, Draft Final Report by ECOTEC, Birmingham

⁵¹ Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*, Ch. 2, p15

communities. Delegates to the 'Shaping Places and Spaces Conference', June 2005⁵² run by Craven District Council highlighted the need to encourage some forms of rural employment to ensure sustainable rural communities.

- 4.84. Although the District has not been subject to major tourism and recreation pressures (apart from the honeypot areas close to the fringes of the Yorkshire Dales National Park), there is potential to exploit 'green' tourism initiatives. Examples include the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, the towpaths and network of cycle routes which are seen to have the potential to accommodate small scale schemes that would not have adverse impacts on the landscape and environment⁵³.
- 4.85. One of the key areas identified in the Craven Economic Strategy is to develop active recreation by offering high quality walking, cycling, climbing and caving opportunities, and promoting local heritage sites. Leisure travel is one of the fastest areas of car traffic growth and this will need to be considered in the context of any future proposals. North Yorkshire County Council⁵⁴ is currently developing transport measures that are intended to support the growth of tourism in a sustainable way.

Transport and Access

- 4.86. Commuting statistics for 2001⁴⁷ indicate that a higher percentage of people living in the urban areas travel to work by train (3.3%) compared to 2.7% in the rural parts of the District. Figures for travel to work in urban areas are higher than the region generally and possibly account for a high percentage of households who do not have access to a car (25.7% in urban areas). There is also cross-boundary commuting from South Craven to the main urban conurbations of Leeds and Bradford which has implications for self containment.
- 4.87. The main urban centre of Skipton has good transport links with three main railway services including:
- the Skipton-Leeds service (which is electrified and provides a commuter service into West Yorkshire);
 - the Leeds-Lancaster line (which is an important trans-pennine links for West Yorkshire and North Yorkshire residents); and
 - the Leeds-Carlisle line (which is an important tourist attraction, as well as being an essential route for the communities within the Dales).
- 4.88. There are no firm proposals in the draft Local Transport Plan (2006-2016, North Yorkshire County Council) but mention is made of a new station at Cross Hills. Investment in road and rail was the top priority from the community consultation at the 'Shaping Places and Spaces Conference' organised by the District Council.

⁵² Craven District Council (June 2005) Feedback LDF Conference, *Issues Raised from the Shaping Places and Spaces Conference*

⁵³ Craven District Council (October 2002) *Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB, Landscape Appraisal* report by Landscape Design Associates

⁵⁴ North Yorkshire County Council (March 2005) *Transport and Sustainable Tourism Measures, Consultation Draft*

- 4.89. Although there is a greater reliance on cars in the rural areas, 14% of households do not own a car or van. Many people are therefore isolated and find access to services difficult. North Yorkshire County Council is involved with the Craven Rural Transport Partnership⁵⁵ in developing community transport services in the more remote parts of the area.
- 4.90. Road traffic accidents, particularly in towns and villages, are a cause for concern, despite traffic calming and road safety schemes being implemented. This is a particular issue for villages situated along the A65. Across the Yorkshire and Humber region there were significantly more road traffic accidents in rural districts compared with urban districts. Road accidents figures in 2002⁵⁶ indicate that Craven District was one of five highest districts regionally with 7.6 accidents per 1,000 population compared to the English average of 5.8 .

The Market Towns and Villages

- 4.91. **Skipton** with a population of 14,313 (2001) is considered to be a healthy and vibrant town which performs several distinctive roles including:
- acting as the administrative centre of the District;
 - providing essential shopping facilities for its resident population and a relatively large catchment area;
 - a centre for leisure and evening entertainment and sports facilities; and
 - an historic centre providing a strategic gateway to 'The Dales'.

The retail analysis and health check carried out⁵⁷ in 2004 identified that traffic management was a problem area with conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles especially during market days.

- 4.92. **Settle** has a population of 3,390 (2001). The retail service centre is concentrated around the historic market place. It is therefore a very attractive location for visitors and local residents. It benefits from a wide range of services and fulfils the role of a town centre as defined in PPS 6. The health check made some recommendations for environmental improvements, actions for retailers and the promotion of local products.
- 4.93. Three other smaller centres (Bentham, Ingleton and Cross Hills) have been the subject of retail health checks to assist the preparation of the LDF⁵⁸. **Bentham**, which is described in the Local Plan as a local service centre is also considered as a small market town split into two parts, High and Low Bentham. The village has a population of 3,573 (2001). The railway station is a key link for Bentham and draws people in from the surrounding catchment, it also has a monthly Farmers' market and

⁵⁵ North Yorkshire County Council (2000) Local Transport Plan 200-2006

⁵⁶ Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*, Ch. 7 Quality of Life

⁵⁷ Craven District Council (March 2004) *Retail Analysis and Health Check – Skipton*, prepared by Donaldsons, Leeds

⁵⁸ Craven District Council (2004) *The Smaller Centres – Cross Hills Health Check, Settle Health Check, Bentham Health Check, Ingleton Health Check*, reports for Craven District Council by Donaldsons, Leeds

cattle market. Some townscape improvements have been identified through the health check, but overall Bentham is considered to be a relatively robust centre.

- 4.94. **Ingleton** has a population of 3,725 (2001) and benefits greatly from tourism, including the nearby attractions such as the Waterfalls Walk, the viaduct and the limestone caves. It is considered to be an attractive village centre that is unlikely to expand, but could benefit from some townscape and public realm improvements, and promotional marketing as a tourism destination.
- 4.95. **Cross Hills**, located in Glusburn Ward, has a population of around 3,902 and is a small service centre catering mainly for local residents. It does not offer a wide range of outlets and goods and is therefore not considered to have significant potential for retail growth because of its proximity to Skipton and Keighley. Some suggestions from the health check were proposed for traffic calming, gateway features and shop front improvements.
- 4.96. In addition, a Community Investment Prospectus have been developed for around thirty areas of North Yorkshire in 1999 as a result of Objective 2 and SRB programmes. Part of Craven District was designated as an Objective 2 area covering Ingleborough, Wharfedale and Settle. All three towns were subjected to surveys in 2001 to help develop action plans to address local needs and to develop funding packages to carry out this work.

5. IDENTIFYING KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

- 5.1. From a review of baseline information, responses to the District Council's "Shaping Places and Spaces Conference" held in June 2005 and a discussion of the key issues at a scoping workshop held on the 1st of August 2005 the following key issues were identified for particular consideration within the SA/SEA. Most of the issues outlined below are interrelated and many relate to the sparsity of population throughout the District.

Key Issues

- 5.2. The key issues highlighted from the review include the following:
- **Health facilities:** Craven faces a number of issues associated with health. It suffers from out migration of younger workforce and has an ageing population which when combined with increasing life expectancy will place increasing pressure on health facilities and particular types of housing needs in the future. In addition, the availability of care homes and staff in the future to respond to the needs of the elderly will become an area of key concern, especially as such employment opportunities offer low salary levels, demanding and unsociable working hours.
 - **Affordable housing:** The gap between house prices and income levels is significant and particularly high in rural areas. Craven is one of the 20 wards with the most severe affordability ratios in the region. This issue is interlinked with the need to improve employment opportunities, income levels, skills and training.
 - **Access to services and facilities:** Rural parts of the District are suffering from poor geographical access to essential local facilities and services, low car ownership and limited access to public transport. People in such locations are facing increasing isolation especially in areas experiencing a decline in local services and facilities. The LDF needs to take innovative steps towards improving service delivery.
 - **Open space and recreational facilities:** There is a deficiency in formal provision for children and young people's play space. This is an issue throughout the District.
 - **Education/ skills and training:** Although educational attainment is high overall, areas of the district have low levels of literacy and numeracy, especially amongst the adult population. In addition there is a significant skills gap identified by local employers, as well as high staff turnover and an unwillingness to undertake training. Many of these issues are associated with difficulties in accessing educational facilities and the sparsity of the population. The LDF will need to improve education and

training provision in the district in order to attract and retain higher income employees concentrating on meeting demand and serving remoter areas through improvements in IT and broadband facilities.

- **Environment:** Craven district has a high quality natural and built environment, which is a key asset to the tourism industry in the district as well as the quality of life of residents. Future development must be sensitive to the district's high environmental quality and ensure that its character is not eroded but enhanced and improved. New development should strive to achieve high quality design, meet sustainable design principles, and support the use of local materials and local labour. Care also needs to be taken to ensure that an increase in mobility, leisure and tourism pressures, and changes in agricultural land management do not have a negative effect on the natural and built landscape, nature conservation, heritage and archaeology of the district.
- **Sustainable Transport:** Whilst Craven district has a high proportion of people who travel to work by train in the principle settlements, lower public transport levels are evident in rural areas, which is not surprising given the district's low population density, and scattered settlements. Although encouraging a modal switch in more rural locations will be difficult to achieve, the LDF needs to encourage and promote alternative more sustainable modes of transport where possible such as community bus schemes and support new infrastructure works for walking and cycling in order to improve links within existing communities. In addition, links to the countryside from towns, via green Infrastructure corridors or areas of improvement relating to degraded land on the urban/town fringe need to be improved.
- Two other key issues associated with transport which the LDF should also seek to address are reducing the impact of HGVs transporting aggregates through the district, mainly from quarries within the North Yorkshire Dales National Park, and reducing the number of road traffic accidents particularly in the towns and villages.
- **Employment growth and increased quality of employment:** The district has a strong entrepreneurial spirit with a high percentage of small businesses, typical of other districts in North Yorkshire and reflective of a low population density.
- Although employment levels are high, with a significant number of people self employed, the quality of employment on offer is often at a low salary level, is low skilled and seasonal (orientated towards the tourism sector). It is critical for the LDF to encourage higher income levels and thereby retain many of the key workers aged 20 to 40 who tend to migrate out of the district in search of more prosperous job opportunities.
- **In parts of the District, there is an intention to support employment predominately in high growth sectors and business**

clusters that take advantage of the District's proximity to Leeds and Bradford for future development.

- Employment in rural locations should be sustained, recognising the continuing decline in the agricultural sector, exacerbated by foot and mouth disease and CAP reforms. Whilst farm diversification schemes provide one mechanism of supporting the rural economy, other opportunities need to be explored. Care needs to be taken to ensure higher value added development can be achieved overcoming market forces.
- **A key issue in the District is a lack of quality employment sites in the areas with highest demand. The main areas of demand are Skipton, South Craven and parts of Settle.**
- **Climate change:** Climate change will be a key issue for the LDF. Predictions of the future climate in Craven indicate increasingly wetter winters and drier summers. The LDF will need to address the following issues:
 - reducing impacts on climate change by minimising the level of greenhouse gas emissions;
 - vehicular movements;
 - more sustainable designs; and
 - protecting communities, the environment and economy from change in weather patterns, including fluvial flooding.
- **Resource Use:** Various concerns exist, arising from current and potential future activities, and again these need to be considered in more detail in the SA/SEA. Lifestyle and consumption trends in the UK and more widely have generally resulted in increased demands on energy and material resources. While many of the driving factors are outside the influence of the Council, others can be influenced in the direction of sustainability. Waste minimisation and recycling, water use efficiency and energy efficiency will require particular consideration being areas where planning can have a direct role. Craven in particular has the potential to promote renewable wind technologies, but its landscape character and the proximity to the protected landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB may limit such opportunities.

6. SA/SEA FRAMEWORK

PROPOSED FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

- 6.1. The development of SEA/SA objectives is a recognised way in which environmental and sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared.⁵⁹ ODPM's SA guidance recommends that objectives are developed with an input from key stakeholders.
- 6.2. In August 2005, LUC facilitated on behalf of Craven District Council, a stakeholder workshop to agree and test the sustainability objectives that will be used for the SEA/SA of the Local Development Framework. Stakeholders were invited from the following organisations see **Table 6.1**.

Table 6.1 Organisations invited to attend stakeholder workshop on SEA/SA objectives

Statutory/ Regional Government	
Countryside Agency	English Heritage
Environment Agency	English Nature
Yorkshire and Humber Regional Assembly	
Craven District Council:	
Human Resources and Performance	
Partnership Coordinator/Policy/performance	Sports Development
Operational Services	Asset and Property Services
Strategic Development	Housing Strategy
Environmental Services	
North Yorkshire County Council: and Yorkshire Dales National Park	
Countryside section	Minerals and Waste
Policy Development	Sustainable Development
Heritage Services	Transportation and Land Use Strategy
Social / Partnerships:	
Yorkshire Rural Community Council	
South Craven Community Action	Craven, Harrogate and Rural District PCT
North Yorkshire Police	Craven Housing, Homelessness
Natural Environment:	
Sutton in Craven Conservation Group	
Economic:	
Yorkshire Forward	Bentham Trader's Association
Settle and District Chamber of Trade	Bentham Market Town Initiative
Skipton Chamber of Trade and Commerce	Skipton Renaissance Market Town Initiative

⁵⁹ Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks. Consultation Paper. ODPM, September 2004.

Ingleton and District Tradepeople's Association	Ingleton Regeneration Association
Centre for Management Creativity	StART

- 6.3. Eleven stakeholders representing a wide variety of interests attended the workshop. Interests ranged from the Environment Agency, Craven, Harrogate and Rural District PCT to officers representing North Yorkshire County Council and Craven District Council. Chapter 7 covers a more detailed discussion of the events.
- 6.4. Before the workshop, LUC developed a set of draft sustainable development objectives drawing from the SEA/SA of the Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber, Craven's Community Strategy and the review of other plans and programmes and baseline information (see **Appendix 2, 3 and 4**). The draft headline objectives, sub objectives, criteria and indicators were then agreed and refined at the workshop. The final set of objectives are outlined below, see **Table 6.2**. The Table has three main components:
- **Sustainability headline and sub objectives:** The objectives are the outcomes that the LDF should be seeking to achieve in relation to the various aspects of sustainable development.
 - **Indicators:** The indicators are the yardsticks used to measure success in meeting the sustainability objectives. In some cases the data for the indicator is readily available, while in other cases the data may not be available for the current appraisal but it may be possible to put monitoring programmes in place for the duration of the LDF to assess progress against the indicator and feed into subsequent reviews of the LDF.
 - **SEA Directive:** Indicates how the SA objectives comply with the criteria listed in Annex I of the SEA Directive and covering *“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”*.
- 6.5. The SA/SEA will aim to develop a concise core set of indicators that can be used as far as possible across components of the LDF supported where necessary by more specific indicators. The indicators in **Table 6.2** should be viewed therefore as a starting point rather than the proposed final set of indicators. Indicators include Best Value Performance Indicators from Craven District Council⁶⁰ and elsewhere have been adapted from ODPMs Guidance on SA⁶¹.

⁶⁰ Aiming High, Craven District Council, 2004?

⁶¹ ODPM, 2004, Consultation Paper, Sustainability Appraisal of the Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Framework

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
Environment				
To maintain and enhance the natural and built environment	To protect, enhance and improve local distinctiveness and landscape and townscape quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it promote and maintain an attractive and diverse landscape/townscape? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in countryside quality based on Countryside Quality Counts data used to inform Countryside Character Areas • % of loss in hedgerows and trees throughout the District • % of hedgerows and trees planted to improve the natural environment and biodiversity habitats 	Landscape
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it protect areas of highest landscape/townscape quality? 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve areas of lower landscape/townscape quality? • Does it value and protect diverse and locally distinctive settlement character? 		
	To protect, enhance and improve biodiversity, flora and fauna and geological interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it protect sites and habitats of nature conservation value? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of BAP priority habitats • Number and type of internationally/nationally designated sites • % of SSSIs in a favourable condition* 	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it avoid damage to designated sites and protected species through sustainable and appropriate land management techniques? 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it protect nature conservation interests outside designated areas? 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve the number and diversity of sites and habitats of nature conservation value in the District? 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it avoid damage to geological interests? 		
	To conserve and enhance the District's historic and cultural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it safeguard sites of archaeological importance (scheduled and unscheduled)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of sites subject to development where archaeology is preserved <i>in situ</i> compared with those 	Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological landscape
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it preserve and enhance buildings which contribute to the District's heritage? 		

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it result in the loss/erosion to registered parks and gardens? Will it avoid damage or erosion of conservation areas? Will it protect the District's historic and cultural environment? 	scientifically recorded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of listed buildings on the "Historic Buildings At Risk" register Loss or damage to SAMs, listed buildings, conservation areas and historic parks and gardens *** % of conservation areas in District with published management proposals* (BVPI 219A) 	
Prudent Use of Resources				
To protect and improve air, water and soil quality and minimise noise pollution	To reduce air pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve air quality? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO₂ emissions per head (kg) – Not currently available at sub regional level. Regional comparator 4700** Days when air pollution is moderate or higher not currently available – regional comparator Urban 43, Rural 23** 	Air

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework

Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	To maintain and improve water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it use water efficiently and with care? Will it improve water quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures of chemical and biological water quality of inland watercourses “good” and “fair” Incidents of major pollution Number of developments incorporating water efficiency measures through the provision of a Sustainability Statement submitted with every planning application**** 	Water
	To maintain and improve soil quality***	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve soil quality? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of high grade agricultural land to development Area of contaminated land remediated**** 	Soil
	To reduce noise levels particular in major trunks roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce noise levels? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of noise complaints relating to major roads 	Human health
To minimise the consumption of natural resources	To safeguard mineral reserves for future generations and promote the reuse of secondary materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it prevent sterilisation of mineral resources? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % primary won aggregates 	Material assets

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	To reduce waste generation and disposal, and increase recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it result in a reduction in the amount of waste requiring treatment and disposal? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District target for 2007/8 tonnage of household waste recycled 20%* District target for 2007/8 household waste composted 9%* No of Kgms of waste per head collected target 2007/8 472.1 kgms* (BVPI 82ai, 82bi, 91,91a) 	Material assets
	To reduce water consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce water consumption? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Percentage of new development with water efficiency measures (i.e. water metres) through the provision of a Sustainability Statement submitted with every planning application</i> ***** 	Water
To develop a managed response	To reduce greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emissions of greenhouse gases 	Air

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
to the effects of climate change	To promote the use of renewable energy exploring innovative techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it promote the use of alternative renewable energy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Yorkshire target of 129MW renewable energy from wind by 2010 with Craven providing 17MW* District target for 2010 hydro energy is 0.46MW and 0.12 MW for photovoltaics* <i>Number of developments incorporating renewable energy generation through the provision of a Sustainability Statement submitted with every planning application</i> ***** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material assets
	To achieve efficient use of energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve energy efficiency? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average energy efficiency of housing stock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material assets

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	To ensure that development is not at risk of flooding and will not increase flooding elsewhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce the vulnerability to fluvial flooding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Number of new applications approved in the floodplain*****</i> % of developments approved/allocated in Flood Zones 2 and 3 which incorporate appropriate flood proofing measures <i>Number of developments incorporating Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SuDS) through the provision of a Sustainability Statement submitted with every planning application</i> ***** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climatic factors

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
To achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development	To maximise the use of previously developed land and buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it enable development to re-use brownfield land and convert existing buildings? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of greenfield land to development % of new homes built on previously developed land* (BVPI 106) No of private sector vacant dwellings returned to occupation or demolished as a result of actions by district target 2007/8 – 8.00* This indicator incorporates both BVPI 62 & 64, which both have a target of 8% of 2007/08) Area of contaminated lan remediated. <i>Planning permission conditions could be monitored to determine whether conditions have been fulfilled*****</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework

Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	To ensure that development is not at risk of flooding and will not increase flooding elsewhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce the vulnerability to fluvial flooding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Number of new applications approved in the floodplain*****</i> Number of developments approved/allocated in Flood Zones 2 and 3 % of developments approved/allocated in Flood Zones 2 and 3 which incorporate appropriate flood proofing measures <i>Number of developments incorporating Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SuDS) through the provision of a Sustainability Statement submitted with every planning application *****</i> <i>Number of developments incorporating water efficiency measures through the provision of a Sustainability Statement submitted with every planning application *****</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climatic factors
		54		

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	To ensure that new development is located in the most sustainable locations that are appropriate to settlement character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it direct new development towards those settlements best able to accommodate it? • Will it achieve high quality design? • Will it avoid excessive intensification in built up areas, loss of open space and disruption of locally distinctive settlement form? • Will it minimise the need to travel? • Will it reduce car use and encourage the use of integrated and public transport? • Will it increase noise pollution near residential populations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density of development proposals • Proposed indicator for housing quality (standard of decent homes) 	
Economy				
To develop a strong, diverse economic base	To focus sustainable economic development and growth particularly of key business sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve the number of new, competitive businesses that last? • Will it help retain existing businesses? • Will it provide for business support services? • Will it ensure that tourism and culture continues to contribute to the local economy? • Will it support the changing needs of agriculture including diversification? • Will it encourage the growth of indigenous businesses? • Will it encourage micro and small businesses? • Will it provide employment sites in accessible locations i.e. reduce need to travel to work in cars? • Will it encourage sustainable tourism activities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment levered into district target 2007/8 £32.5m* (BVPI CSI) • % increase or decrease in the total number of VAT registered businesses in the area and type of business • No of tourist days and visitor spend (BVPI CS3-5) • <i>No of rural diversification applications which have received permission</i> 	

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework

Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	To provide a range of high quality employment opportunities	• Will it provide high quality employment opportunities?	• Employment rates • Average earnings against high quality employment opportunities	
		• Will it support high levels of self employment?		
		• Will it encourage new employment that is consistent with local needs?		
		• Will it encourage higher skilled economic sectors in the District?		
	To provide a range of premises suitable to support the economy and utilise employment land effectively and efficiently	• Will it provide employment land in areas of short supply?	• Land availability and annual take up on a yearly basis	
		• Will it encourage more efficient and higher value added of existing premises (e.g. over shops, mews, behind high streets, etc.)?		
		• Will it provide attractive sites for modern businesses?		
	To encourage sustainable distribution and communication systems	• Will it encourage an increase in the provision and use of e-business/broadband?	• % of green travel plans submitted for large firms • No of businesses using broadband within rural locations	
		• Will it encourage local supply chains?		
		• Will it encourage business to use more sustainable forms of transport (e.g. Green Travel Plans)?		
		• Will it encourage distribution and warehousing to be close to main transport networks?		
	Social			
To improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	To improve access and availability of health care facilities	• To improve the availability of healthcare, particularly for the elderly?	• No of people with a limiting long term illness • IMD measures of heath deprivation	Human health, Air
	To reduce levels and	• Will it encourage crime-sensitive design?	• Number of violent	

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it reduce the likelihood of violence and anti-social behaviour? 	crimes, vehicle crimes and domestic burglaries per 1000 population* (BVPI 127a)	
To provide sufficient good quality housing to meet all local needs	To meet the demand for affordable housing both in quantity and type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide housing that meets the needs of the young, elderly, local people, those on limited incomes and/or in rural areas? Will it provide safe, secure, accessible and decent housing? Will it provide levels of housing consistent with local employment opportunities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household on the housing register Supply of affordable housing IMD housing deprivation 	
	To promote the adoption of sustainable design and construction practices in housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it seek to support sustainable design and construction techniques? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of development achieving Eco Homes excellent standards % commercial buildings meeting BREEAM very good standard 	
To safeguard and improve accessibility	To improve access to and retention of schools, shops, post offices and GPs in order to support local need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve access to community facilities and services? Will it support the provision and retention of key facilities and services ensuring that local need is met locally wherever possible? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of a) households ; b) households without access to a car; within 15 and 30 minutes of a GP by public transport % of rural households under 2km from a primary school currently 92.1% ** 	Population

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework

Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	To improve access to and retention of the countryside, parks, open space and formal leisure and recreation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it address the sport and recreational needs of children and disadvantaged groups? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability, use and access to green space (for formal and informal recreation) % of people satisfied with sports and leisure facilities (BVPII 19a) % of the population that are within 20 minutes travel time (urban areas ; walking and rural areas by car) of a range of three different sports facility types of which one has received a quality performance standard 	
	To support the development of access to IT facilities including broadband	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve IT communications? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage coverage of broadband/telecommunications No of community broadband solution target 2007/8 = 10* (BVPI CS2) 	
	To increase opportunities for skills development and access to education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide improved access to vocational training, education and skills for young people? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce skills Workforce training ICT skills % of students 	

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it provide improved skills and knowledge in the workplace? 	obtaining 5 A-C grades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of people with qualifications • % of adults with poor literacy and numeracy levels 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it increase the number of people participating in active learning? 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it help to stem out-migration of skilled younger residents? 		
	To improve access to basic needs (including fuel, food and water)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it go towards ensuring everyone has good access to food, water, housing fuel and services at a reasonable cost? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel poverty 	
To achieve and promote high level provision and use of sustainable transport modes where possible	To reduce the need for vehicular trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it reduce vehicular use? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % passenger journey by bus and train 	Human health, population
	To reduce road accidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it improve road safety? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the no. of killed or seriously injured people 	

Table 6.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	To increase opportunities for walking, cycling and public transport use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it encourage a modal shift away from car use? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footpaths and Rights of Way easy to use by the public No of green lanes being implemented % passenger journey by bus and train % of people walking and cycling Number of new and/or improved walking and cycling routes and paths Percentage of Green Infrastructure Corridors 	
Promote good governance	To improve opportunities for participation in local action and decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it empower all sections of the community to participate in decision-making and the impacts of those decisions? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coverage of Parish Plans Preparation of the Statement of Community Involvement 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it improve community capacity⁶² to enable engagement in community enterprise? 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a framework for engagement with communities, including novel approaches to reach particular groups/sectors? 		

Indicators:

- * from Best Value Performance Indicators from Craven District Council “Aiming High”
- ** North Yorkshire County Council
- *** Elements of this indicator could be monitored by English Heritage (SAMs and Listed Buildings)

⁶² Community capacity refers to the resources and facilities available to a community to respond to and engage in activity e.g. consultations, community-based enterprises

**** These indicators have been proposed by the Environment Agency, although Craven District Council does not have the ability to monitor them at present

Remaining indicators in italics are possible indicators which Craven District does not have the ability to monitor at present

Please note that with Best Value Performance Indicators, targets are only defined until 2007/2008. Indicators relating to access to GPs and Cycling trips are to be agreed by North Yorkshire County Council through the draft Local Transport Plan. In addition, the indicators defined above are possible indicators which will be used to monitor the development of the Local Development Framework. For some SA objectives indicators still need to be developed and Craven District Council will draw on work North Yorkshire County Council is currently undertaking to inform future indicators.

7. TESTING THE SA OBJECTIVES

INTRODUCTION

- 7.1. Craven's Community Strategy Objectives were tested against draft sustainability objectives, to determine whether the objectives were consistent. Rather than testing the aims of the current Local Plan, which was considered slightly dated, it was agreed with Craven District Council that the SA objectives should be tested against the Community Strategy objectives. Objectives used from the Community Strategy are summarised below. A detailed list of community objectives is outlined in **Appendix 3**:

A prosperous economy:

- Employment and earning levels
- Sustainable business
- Tourism
- Land and infrastructure growth

Education and skills for all:

- Young people's participation in structured learning, and educational attainment levels
- Early years and childcare provision
- Workforce skills
- Lifelong learning

Sustainable Communities:

- Accessible Services
- Community involvement and participation
- Vibrancy of local communities

Good health and social well being:

- Maintaining a healthy population and supporting vulnerable people
- Addressing local housing needs
- Reducing crime and anti social behaviour
- Quality of life – culture, leisure and sports

A quality environment:

- The natural environment
- The built environment
- Land and water management
- Waste management and cleanliness of the area
- Traffic and transport

- 7.2. Eleven stakeholders attended the half day workshop held on the 1st August. Following a brief introduction and presentation, stakeholders were asked to undertake two tasks, firstly consider the key issues presented by consultants and secondly to test the SA objectives. The second task involved the groups split into two (Group A and B) to complete the assignment outlined above. Part of the matrix was split between each group. Group A covered economy, education and skills, whilst Group B considered objectives relating to good health and environment. Both groups were asked to consider objectives covering sustainable communities. For each section of the matrix,

each group was asked to determine whether they considered that the relevant community objective was strongly supportive, supportive of the sustainability objective, worked against, strongly worked against the sustainability objective, or had an unknown, uncertain effect or no effect and score the matrix accordingly using symbols detailed in **Table 7.1**. Any specific comments were noted by LUC who acted as facilitators.

FINDINGS

- 7.3. The results of the exercise indicate that the Community Strategy objectives broadly complement the draft sustainability objectives see **Table 7.1**. However there were some areas where clarification or modification was required and these are summarised below under the following headings:

General points:

- Clarification was required of the terms: sustainable businesses, identity of the community and vibrance emerging through the community strategy objectives.
- The impacts of development on climate change could be positive if new development adheres to sustainable development principles.
- It was noted that newcomers and indigenous population will have a different perspective of key issues.
- The long term demand on resources depends on the timescale and nature of the development activity.

Specific areas of weakness:

- 7.4. It was suggested that the following draft sustainability objectives/indicators should be reviewed:
- Objectives relating to climate change should include a sub objective covering the protection of land and people from flooding. (A specific objective covering flood risk was transferred from a headline objective relating to achieving sustainable and use and development to one relating to climate change).
 - The headline objective relating to “developing a strong, diverse and sustainable economic base” was altered to read “to develop a strong, diverse economic base”. It was argued that term “sustainable economy” would automatically meet all the sustainability objectives and this objective needed to be targeted. (This comment resulted in amendments to the headline objective).
 - Additional indicators were included covering the percentage of people who walk and/or cycle and indicators relating to accessibility were expanded.

- 7.5. Both groups generally agreed that a number of assumptions had to be made at this stage of the process which was quite subjective.

ANALYSIS OF THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AIMS AGAINST DRAFT HEADLINE SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

Draft Headline Sustainability Objectives		Community Strategy Aims	Maintain and enhance the natural and built environment	Protect and improve air, water and soil quality and minimise noise pollution	Minimise the consumption of natural resources	Develop a managed response to the effects of climate change	Achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development	Develop a strong, diverse and sustainable economic base	Improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	To provide sufficient good quality housing to meet all local needs	Safeguard and improve accessibility	Achieve and promote high level provision and use of sustainable transport modes where possible	Promote good governance	Comments
A Prosperous Economy	Employment and earning levels	?	?	?	?	?	?	✓✓	✓✓	X	✓	?	✓	Environment: Uncertain - depends on how people get to work/people should have higher earning power and therefore have the freedom to make environmental decisions Housing: Negative – it could make the housing market more competitive Transport: Uncertain – people will have access to more than one car Governance: Diversity of employment could encourage community enterprise

Draft Headline Sustainability Objectives		Comments
Community Strategy Aims		

[illegible]






Draft Headline Sustainability Objectives		Maintain and enhance the natural and built environment	Protect and improve air, water and soil quality and minimise noise pollution	Minimise the consumption of natural resources	Develop a managed response to the effects of climate change	Achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development	Develop a strong, diverse and sustainable economic base	Improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	To provide sufficient good quality housing to meet all local needs	Safeguard and improve accessibility	Achieve and promote high level provision and use of sustainable transport modes where possible	Promote good governance	Comments
Community Strategy Aims													
	Land and infrastructure growth	✓✓	✓	X	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	Resources: Increase in growth of development will natural result in increase consumption of resources
Education and Skills for All	Young people’s participation in structured learning, and educational attainment levels	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	Housing: Proposals should encourage the retention of younger people who tend to migrate out of the area – it could increase the demand for the availability of affordable housing
	Early years and childcare provision	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	0	✓	0	0	Economy: Proposals relating to childcare provision should free up the workforce
	Workforce skills	✓	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	Environment: Some of the workforce skills will apply to environmental protection

Draft Headline Sustainability Objectives		Maintain and enhance the natural and built environment	Protect and improve air, water and soil quality and minimise noise pollution	Minimise the consumption of natural resources	Develop a managed response to the effects of climate change	Achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development	Develop a strong, diverse and sustainable economic base	Improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	To provide sufficient good quality housing to meet all local needs	Safeguard and improve accessibility	Achieve and promote high level provision and use of sustainable transport modes where possible	Promote good governance	Comments
Community Strategy Aims													
	Lifelong learning	✓	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	No comments
Sustainable Communities	Accessible Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	0	✓✓	✓✓	✓	Health: very positive close proximity to essential services, bus routes etc (GA) Depends on delivery, current levels of accessibility and can be both positive or negative depending on the location. Outcomers and the indigenous population will have a different perspective on the environment(GB)
	Community involvement and participation	✓	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	0	✓	0	✓✓	Economy: Encourages social enterprise (GA)
	Vibrancy of local communities	✓	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	What is the identity of the community and what do we mean by vibrance? (GB)

Draft Headline Sustainability Objectives		Maintain and enhance the natural and built environment	Protect and improve air, water and soil quality and minimise noise pollution	Minimise the consumption of natural resources	Develop a managed response to the effects of climate change	Achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development	Develop a strong, diverse and sustainable economic base	Improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	To provide sufficient good quality housing to meet all local needs	Safeguard and improve accessibility	Achieve and promote high level provision and use of sustainable transport modes where possible	Promote good governance	Comments
Community Strategy Aims													
Good Health and Social Well Being	Maintaining a healthy population and supporting vulnerable people	✓	✓	0	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Addressing local housing needs	✗	✗	✗	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Reducing crime and anti social behaviour	✓	✓	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Quality of life – culture, leisure and sports	✓	?	✗	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Draft Headline Sustainability Objectives		Maintain and enhance the natural and built environment	Protect and improve air, water and soil quality and minimise noise pollution	Minimise the consumption of natural resources	Develop a managed response to the effects of climate change	Achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development	Develop a strong, diverse and sustainable economic base	Improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	To provide sufficient good quality housing to meet all local needs	Safeguard and improve accessibility	Achieve and promote high level provision and use of sustainable transport modes where possible	Promote good governance	Comments
Community Strategy Aims													
A Quality Environment	The natural environment	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	0	X	0	✓	0	
	The built environment	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	
	Land and water management	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	0	✓	
	Waste management and cleanliness of the area	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	0	0	✓	
	Traffic and transport	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Symbols employed in Table

- ✓  Supports the sustainability objective
- ✓✓  Strongly supported the sustainability objective
- 0  Has no impact on the sustainability objective
- X  Works against the sustainability objective
- XX  Works strongly against the sustainability objective
- ? Has an unknown or uncertain effect on the sustainability objective

Appendix I

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Appendix 2

Review of Other Plans and Programmes

**Craven District Council SA/SEA
Other Plans and Programmes**

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
INTERNATIONAL POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES	
EU Habitats Directive [Directive 92/43/EC]	
<p>The EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (The Birds Directive, 79/409/EEC) and the EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (The Habitats Directive, 92/43/EEC). Together, they establish a legislative framework for protecting and conserving Europe's wildlife and habitats. The directives implement in Community law the requirements of the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species and the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats.</p> <p>The Conservation (Natural Habitats & c) Regulations 1994 (the Habitats Regulations) transposed the requirements of these Directives into national law in Great Britain. At the centre of the policy is the creation of a coherent ecological network of protected areas across the EU - known as NATURA 2000 for habitats and species considered to be of outstanding international significance and therefore of importance to the maintenance of biodiversity in the European Union. Its purpose is to maintain or restore the habitats and species at a favourable conservation status in their natural range.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of this Directive shall be to contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies. • Measures taken pursuant to this Directive shall be designed to maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest. • Measures taken pursuant to this Directive shall take account of economic, social and cultural requirements and regional and local characteristics. <p>Targets</p> <p>Does not contain any targets.</p>	<p>Accept the primacy of nature conservation objectives, and clearly take note of these designations in setting SEA objectives and defining options in the LDF.</p> <p>Requires compensatory measures for negative conservation impacts if development has to proceed on grounds of human health and safety.</p>
Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change	

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted on 9th May 1992. It set out to achieve stabilisation of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at safe levels. The text of the Kyoto Protocol was adopted at the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in Kyoto, Japan, on 11 December 1997.</p> <p>Objectives The ultimate objective of the Convention is “to achieve stabilization of atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at levels that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic (human-induced) interference with the climate system...”. The Convention does not define what levels might be “dangerous”, although it does state that ecosystems should be allowed to adapt naturally, food supply should not be threatened, and economic development should be able to proceed in a sustainable manner. Defining what we mean by “dangerous” is a tough political question, involving social and economic considerations as well as scientific judgement.</p> <p>The Protocol set out a series of targets for specific greenhouse gases and established a framework of actions and requirements to meet these targets with the aim of achieving in a meaningful timeframe (up to 2012, with 1990 levels used as base) the objective of the UN Framework Convention. The two agreements are thus intrinsically linked with the Protocol essentially acting as a template for action to meet the commitments made in the Framework Convention.</p> <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy plays a significant role in assisting Craven District and the Region in meeting its contribution to the UK’s climate change efforts. The Strategy should be aware of, and seek to meet, the Kyoto Protocol commitments.</p> <p>The SA should reflect the importance of climate change during the development of objectives and the appraisal process.</p>
The EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC 1979	
<p>The Birds Directive addresses the conservation of all wild birds throughout the European Union, including marine areas, and covers their protection, management, control and exploitation. It applies to the birds, their eggs, nests and habitats. It places a broad requirement on Member States to take necessary measures to maintain the populations of all wild birds at levels determined by ecological, scientific and cultural needs. In doing so, Member States must also consider economic and recreational needs.</p> <p>Objectives The main provisions of the Directive include:</p>	<p>The Core Strategy should be aware of the main provisions of the Birds Directive as well as the wide range of other statutory and non-statutory activities that support the Bird Directive’s implementation in the UK. This includes national bird monitoring schemes, bird conservation research, and the UK and local Biodiversity Action Plans, which involve actions for a number of bird species and the habitats that support them. The SA objectives must ensure that birds are protected in line with this Directive.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species across their distributional range (Article 2) with the encouragement of various activities to that end (Article 3). • The identification and classification of Special Protection Areas for rare or vulnerable species listed in Annex I of the Directive, as well as for all regularly occurring migratory species, paying particular attention to the protection of wetlands of international importance (Article 4). (Together with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive, SPAs form a network of pan-European protected areas known as Natura 2000.) • The establishment of a general scheme of protection for all wild birds (Article 5). • Restrictions on the sale and keeping of wild birds (Article 6). • Specification of the conditions under which hunting and falconry can be undertaken (Article 7). (Huntable species are listed on Annex II.1 and Annex II.2 of the Directive). • Prohibition of large-scale non-selective means of bird killing (Article 8). • Procedures under which Member States may derogate from the provisions of Articles 5-8 (Article 9) — that is, the conditions under which permission may be given for otherwise prohibited activities. • Encouragement of certain forms of relevant research (Article 10). • Requirements to ensure that introduction of non-native birds do not threatened other biodiversity (Article 11). <p>Targets Does not contain any targets</p>	
The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro 1992	
<p>Article 6a Requires each Contracting Party to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.</p>	<p>SEA should consider biodiversity impacts within its objectives. It should take a holistic view of ecosystems rather than a focusing on 'islands' of protected species.</p>
Directive 2000/60/EC Establishing a Framework for the Community Action in the Field of Water Policy (The Water Framework Directive)	
<p>The Directive establishes a new integrated approach to the protection, improvement and sustainable use of water bodies, introducing a statutory system of analysis and planning based upon the river basin.</p> <p>Objectives</p>	<p>Policies in the Core Strategy will need to be compliant with the Directive and work to improve water quality. The SA must ensure appraisal takes water quality into account.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>The 2000 Water Framework Directive imposes a statutory responsibility on Member States to ensure all water bodies meet certain water quality standards. The four main stages of implementation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental and economic assessment ('characterisation') of River basin Districts including identification of pressures and impacts. • Environmental monitoring based on RBD characterisation. • Setting of environmental objectives. • Designing and carrying out a programme of measures to achieve these environmental objectives. <p>Targets</p> <p>The WFD sets a target for all water bodies in Member States to reach 'Good Ecological Status' by 2015. However, exactly what constitutes 'Good Ecological Status' has not yet been defined.</p> <p>Water bodies classified as artificial or heavily modified will need to meet the alternate requirement of 'Good Ecological Potential', although exactly how this differs from 'good ecological status' has also not yet been defined.</p>	
Directive 1966/62/EC on Ambient Air Quality and Management	
<p>The Air Quality Framework Directive stipulates that in zones and agglomerations in which levels of one or more pollutants exceed certain limit values Member States shall prepare and implement a plan or programme for attaining the limit value within the specific time limit. In zones and agglomerations, where the level of more than one pollutant is higher than the limit values, member states must provide an integrated plan covering all the pollutants concerned. The main purpose of these plans is to improve air quality.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>Objectives which may relate to regional planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain adequate information on ambient air quality and ensure that it is made available to the public, inter alia by means of alert thresholds, • Maintain ambient air quality where it is good and improve it in other cases. 	<p>The location of new developments should take into account any emissions caused by new transport links (and new 'need' to travel), along with emissions from new industry. SEA will include objectives for air quality.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>Targets Targets and objectives from EU Directives must be adopted into UK legislation.</p> <p>This Directive covers the revision of previously existing legislation and the introduction of new air quality standards for previously unregulated air pollutants, setting the timetable for the development of daughter directives on a range of pollutants. The list of atmospheric pollutants to be considered includes sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, lead, ozone, benzene, carbon monoxide, poly-aromatic hydrocarbons, cadmium, arsenic, nickel and mercury.</p>	
The Johannesburg Declaration of Sustainable Development 2002	
<p>The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) represents a reaffirmation of international commitment to sustainable development coming 30 years after the Stockholm commitment to tackle environmental degradation and ten years after the Rio Summit and Declaration of 1992.</p> <p>Objectives The summit brought together heads of state, civil society and business leaders from all nations and sought to provide momentum, agreement and structure to global efforts for sustainable development over the coming decade. The key outcomes of the summit were the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development – from our origins to the future, and a Key Outcomes statement mapping out commitments made by all parties (and in particular national governments). Many of these commitments and outcomes relate to international efforts to tackle global development issues, such as poverty and hunger, however others are commitments to modifying behaviour and actions in each nation. All of us have a role to play in meeting these commitments and the inclusion and adoption of them in regional and sub-regional action can meaningfully influence the UK's response. A number of the sustainable development commitments originating from WSSD, are relevant to land use planning, and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate energy into country-led poverty reduction processes; • Remove market barriers and create a level playing field for renewable energy and energy efficiency; 	<p>The Core Strategy can assist in achieving the commitments arising from the Johannesburg Summit. The policies and supporting text should reflect the goals and objectives of these commitments.</p> <p>Many of these commitments are followed up and elaborated in more in detail in UK guidance and strategies, including Planning Policy Guidance and Planning Policy Statements</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater resource efficiency (incl. decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation); • Support business innovation and take-up of best practice in technology and management; work on waste and producer responsibility. <p>Targets</p> <p>There are a number of follow-up processes, but no specific targets.</p>	
European Spatial Development Perspective 1999	
<p>European cultural landscapes, cities and towns, as well as a variety of natural and historic monuments are part of the European Heritage. Its fostering should be an important part of modern architecture, urban and landscape planning in all regions of the EU.</p> <p>A big challenge for spatial development policy is to contribute to the objectives, announced by the EU during international conferences concerning the environment and climate, of reducing emissions into the global ecological system.</p>	<p>The LDF could influence the historic environment in several ways, including the ambience of historic structures and features.</p> <p>The SEA should include objectives for Conservation Areas and reducing Carbon Dioxide emissions.</p>
Waste Framework Directive (91/156/EEC)	
<p>Article 4.</p> <p>Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes or methods which could harm the environment, and in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - without risk to water, air, soil and plants and animals, - without causing a nuisance through noise or odours, - without adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest. 	<p>LDF should consider these impacts when deciding on locations for waste disposal or processing.</p> <p>This would feed into SEA objectives for noise, air, landscape, and biodiversity.</p>
Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice (EU Sixth Environment Action Programme)	
<p>Recognises that <i>land use planning and management decisions</i> in the Member States can have a major influence on the environment, leading to fragmentation of the countryside and pressures in urban areas and the coast. Also includes objectives on stabilising greenhouse gases, halting biodiversity loss, reducing pollution and resource use. Under the EAP framework, Thematic Strategies are being developed on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Soil Protection • Sustainable use of Pesticides 	<p>At this stage the Thematic Strategies are in a consultation and policy development phase so no specific requirements have arisen from them.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Environment • Waste Prevention and Recycling • Sustainable Use of Natural Resources • Urban Environment 	
European Regional Development Fund	
<p>Funds available to areas within the European Union aimed reducing the differences in social and economic conditions; The EU designates areas as Objectives 1, 2 and 3.</p> <p>Of the three, Objective One is the highest priority designation for European aid and is targeted at areas where prosperity, measured in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per head of population, is 75% or less of the European average.</p>	<p>Parts of Craven District have been designated as eligible for European Objective Two funding in recognition of their need for economic assistance. This includes some of the most rurally deprived communities which are eligible for Priority 3 funding where access to services and employment is a particular issue for local people and includes Cowling, Ribbleside and Clapham Wards. Other parts of the District are eligible for Objective 2, Priority 4 funding and this is intended to attract and retain investment to the market towns and key service areas. These issues will need to be take in to account in the SEA and brought through the LDF.</p>
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of international importance, especially waterfowl habitat (1971)	
<p>The Convention on Wetlands, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international co-operation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. There are presently 138 Contracting Parties to the Convention, with 1368 wetland sites, designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.</p> <p>The official name of the treaty – The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat – reflects its original emphasis on the conservation and wise use of wetlands primarily to provide habitat for water birds. Over the years, however, the Convention has broadened its scope to cover all aspects of wetland conservation and wise use, recognising wetlands as ecosystems that are extremely important for biodiversity conservation in general and for the well-being of human communities.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>The Convention's Mission Statement is 'the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international co-operation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world'.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy must account for areas within Craven that are designated wetland sites. Wetlands must be included in land use planning and their wise use promoted.</p> <p>The SA should lead to the conservation of wetlands where it contributes to sustainable development.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>The general objectives of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2003-2008 are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The wise use of wetlands: To stimulate and assist all Contracting Parties to develop, adopt and use the necessary and appropriate instruments and measures to ensure the wise use of all wetlands within their territories. 2. Wetlands of International Importance: To stimulate and support all Contracting parties in the appropriate implementation of the <i>Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance</i>, including the appropriate monitoring and management of listed sites as a contribution to sustainable development. 3. International co-operation: To promote international co-operation through the active application of the <i>Guidelines for international co-operation under the Ramsar Convention</i> and in particular to mobilise additional financial and technical assistance for wetland conservation and wise use. 4. Implementation capacity: To ensure that the Convention has the required implementation mechanisms, resources and capacity to achieve its mission. 5. Membership: To progress towards the accession of all countries to the Convention. <p>Targets</p> <p>No clear targets are included.</p>	
Bonn Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (1979)	
<p>The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (also known as CMS or the Bonn Convention) aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range. It is an intergovernmental treaty, concluded under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme, concerned with the conservation of wildlife and habitats on a global scale. Since the Convention's entry into force, its membership has grown steadily to include 86 (as of 1 June 2004) Parties from Africa, Central and South America, Asia, Europe and Oceania.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>Particular objectives set out for the involved Parties are that they shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Promote, co-operate and support research relating to migratory 	<p>The Core Strategy should reflect these issues and seek to protect and conserve wild animals and migratory species. Policies which relate to habitats, or which may have significant impact upon land-use or habitats should reflect these national commitments.</p> <p>The SA objectives should include the aims of the Convention.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>species;</p> <p>b) Endeavour to provide immediate protection for migratory species included in Appendix I; and</p> <p>c) Endeavour to conclude Agreements covering the conservation and management of migratory species included in Appendix II.</p> <p>The Convention was agreed based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition that wild animals in their innumerable forms are an irreplaceable part of the earth's natural system which must be conserved for the good of mankind • Awareness that each generation of man holds the resources of the earth for future generations and has an obligation to ensure that this legacy is conserved and, where utilised, is used wisely • Consciousness of the ever-growing value of wild animals from environmental, ecological, genetic, scientific, aesthetic, recreational, cultural, educational, social and economic points of view • Concern particularly with those species of wild animals that migrate across or outside national jurisdictional boundaries • Recognition that the States are and must be the protectors of the migratory species of wild animals that live within or pass through their national jurisdictional boundaries • The conviction that conservation and effective management of migratory species of wild animals require the concerted action of all States within the national jurisdictional boundaries of which such species spend any part of their life cycle <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p>	
Directive to Promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EC)	
<p>This Directive on 'the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in the internal electricity market' addresses an obligation to member states to establish a programme to increase the gross consumption of renewable energy based electricity ("green electricity") by 2010. The Directive also calls on Member States to adopt and publish a report setting national indicative targets for future consumption of electricity produced from renewable energy sources for the next 10 years.</p> <p>Objectives</p>	<p>Spatial planning can have a major influence on the viability and take up of renewable energy and policies and supporting text should reflect this.</p> <p>The relationship between renewables technology and the economic benefits to region should be considered.</p> <p>Both the Core Strategy and SA should take these factors into consideration.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>The purpose of this Directive is to promote an increase in the contribution of renewable energy sources to electricity production in the internal market for electricity and to create a basis for a future Community framework thereof.</p> <p>Targets The UK target is for renewables to account for 10% of UK consumption by 2010.</p>	
European Biodiversity Strategy (1998) (COM(98)42)	
<p>The EBS focuses on the further development and implementation of EC biodiversity policies and instruments, and aims to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biological diversity at the source.</p> <p>The Assessment by UNEP's Global Biodiversity Assessment is that in some European countries up to 24% of species of certain groups such as butterflies, birds and mammals are now normally extinct.</p> <p>The Community Biodiversity Strategy is developed around four major themes which highlight the specific objectives that need to be achieved in the context of Action Plans. It also highlights the opportunity for spatial planning to contribute to conservation and sustainable management of ecosystems through sustainable land-use planning, particularly in socio-economic terms through the geographical distribution of economic activities. The facilitation of partnerships at a local/regional levels is seen as important to ensure that ecological requirements are met.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity • Sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation genetic resources • Research, identification, monitoring and exchange of information • Education, training and awareness 	<p>SEA should consider biodiversity impacts within its objectives. It should take a holistic view of ecosystems rather than a focusing on 'islands' of protected species.</p>
Groundwater Directive 80/68, European Commission, 1991	

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>This Directive either limits or prohibits discharge into groundwater of a number of substances. The directive aims to preserve ground water quality; and is enforced through UK Groundwater Regulations. The Directive is to be replaced by new groundwater directive in 2006.</p> <p>This Directive prohibits the direct or indirect discharge into groundwater of List I substances and limits discharges of List II substances so as to avoid pollution.</p> <p>The Directive does not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discharges of domestic effluents from isolated dwellings not connected to a sewerage system and situated outside areas protected for the abstraction of water for human consumption; • Discharges which are found by the competent authority of the Member State concerned to contain substances in lists I or II in a quantity and concentration so small as to obviate any present or future danger of deterioration in the quality of the receiving groundwater; • Discharges of matter containing radioactive substances. <p>Prior investigation is required to determine the suitability, or otherwise, of those discharges to which the Directive applies.</p>	<p>SEA will need to consider potential discharge from development and its effects on groundwater,</p>
NATIONAL POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES	
PPS I – Delivering Sustainable Communities	
<p>PPSI sets out the Government's overarching planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. PPSI sets out the Government's high level policy objectives for planning. It sets a framework for specific policies, which are set out in the thematic Planning Policy Statements. PPSI complements those documents but is not a substitute for the detailed guidance in those PPSs. In particular, the way in which sustainable development objectives should be approached in detail in specific policy areas will be covered as appropriate in the relevant thematic PPS.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>PPSI contains five broad objectives, based around the four sustainable development aims set out by the (now superseded) 'A Better Quality of Life – A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK', to ensure that</p>	<p>The five broad objectives and key themes on PPSI must be reflected in the Core Strategy</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>planning facilitates and promotes sustainable and inclusive patterns of urban and rural development. The five objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people's quality of life; • Contributing to sustainable economic development; • Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities; • Ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; and • Ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community. <p>The key policy messages are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning has a key role to play in the creation of sustainable communities, • The planning system should be transparent, flexible, predictable, efficient and effective. • Plans should be drawn up with community involvement and present a shared vision and strategy of how the area should develop to achieve more sustainable patterns of development. • The plan-led system, and the certainty and predictability it aims to provide, is central to planning and plays the key role in integrating sustainable development objectives. • Planning is a tool for local authorities to use on establishing and taking forward the vision for their areas as set out in their community strategies. <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p>	
PPG 2 – Green Belts	
<p>There should be a general presumption against inappropriate development in the Green Belt. This includes the construction of new buildings unless exempted under para. 3.4 of the guidance note.</p> <p>When any large scale development or redevelopment occurs within the</p>	<p>Objectives pertaining to the openness of landscape in Green Belt land and the protection of biodiversity (habitat connectivity implications) will be included within the SEA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>Green Belt, it should contribute towards the objectives provided in para. 1.6 of the guidance note.</p>	
PPS 3 – Housing (2003) & Updates January 2005	
<p>Plan to meet the housing needs of the whole community, consider mix used developments and prioritise redevelopment of brownfield sites. Place the needs of the people before ease of traffic movement.</p> <p>PPG3 Housing Update: Supporting the Delivery of New Housing Inserts new paragraph 42(a) of PPG3 that allows LPAs to consider favourably applications for housing or mixed use developments which concern land allocated for industrial or commercial use in saved policies and development plan documents or redundant land or buildings in industrial or commercial use, but which are no longer required for that use. However, certain conditions apply.</p> <p>PPG3 Housing Update: Planning for Sustainable Communities in Rural Areas Replaces paragraph 18 of PPG3 on housing provision in rural area. RSS should set out how planning at the local level is expected to contribute to meeting identified rural affordable housing needs (including Gypsies and Travellers where relevant). LPAs have to make sufficient land available within or adjoining existing rural settlements, and affordable rural housing provision in rural areas should be supported by a rural exception site policy. In addition Paragraph 36 is amended to state that “no allowance should be made for Greenfield windfalls (except for rural exception sites).</p> <p>Consultation Paper on a New Planning Policy Statement 3 (PPS3) Housing, (December 2005) Consultation closing 27 February 2006 Although only a consultation paper, The Government’s new draft planning policy for housing intends to make the planning system more responsive to housing markets and aims to ensure a better supply of land to meet long-term housing needs. Both local and regional planning bodies will have to take account of affordability as well as local housing markets, when considering the number of homes required. It retains an emphasis on developing on brownfield sites, but places greater importance on high quality design, and recommends the use of design codes.</p>	<p>SEA should recognise and include objectives tackling social exclusion. The SEA objective for townscape should emphasise the presumption towards brownfield developments.</p> <p>The 2 new updates are extremely important for the preparation of the LDF. Craven is currently building above average new dwellings on brownfield sites, and has a housing needs survey in preparation.</p> <p>The Consultation Draft for PPS3 suggests that local authorities will need to identify a rolling supply of at least 5 years developable land for housing, and a further 10 years for future development. On larger sites, a broad mix of housing suitable for different household types will need to be provided, and on smaller sites the mix of housing will need to contribute to the creation of mixed communities. It also advocates a partnership approach where local authorities within the same working area may undertake sub-regional housing market assessments. The latest Housing Needs Assessment undertaken for Craven has considered the sub-district level of housing needs within both the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the District, as well as wider sub-regional in-migration implications.</p> <p>A number of companion documents have also been issued with the consultation draft and two of these should help inform work on affordable housing for the LDF. These include Draft practice guidance on Housing Land Availability Assessments which will require authorities to consider the severity of constraints when identifying sites, and The Future for Design Codes which is intended to provide guidance on acceptable design quality which should help provide greater certainty for developers and local communities. This element could form part of an Area Action Plan or Supplementary Planning Documents.</p>
PPG4 – Industrial and Commercial Development and Small Firms (1992)	

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>Development plans should provide specifically for the types of industry which, although necessary, may be detrimental to amenity of a potential source of pollution. Development of such industries is separated from sensitive land uses (see PPG23). The locational demands of businesses are a key input but as are the following objectives: minimising length and number of trips, especially by motor vehicles; energy-efficient modes of transport; discouraging development that would add to local congestion; discouraging development that would require access on mainly local roads. Where demand for such development opportunities is scarce, planning authorities may indicate that they would give preference to proposals for industrial and commercial users who would benefit from efficiency rail or water services rather than for retail or housing proposals which could be located elsewhere. Flexibility is needed however and sites should not be protected if there is no realistic prospect of future development for industrial or commercial purposes.</p> <p>PPG4 encourages authorities to support small businesses by holding discussions over planning issues and where possible removing insecurity and uncertainty and dealing with applications quickly. It may not be appropriate to separate small-scale developments from residential communities from where whom they are a source of employment and services.</p>	<p>The LDF should make separate provision for industrial and commercial development, considering their demands as well as : minimising length and number of trips, especially by motor vehicles; energy-efficient modes of transport; discouraging development that would add to local congestion; discouraging development that would require access on mainly local roads.</p>
PPS 6 – Planning for Town Centres	

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>The Government's key objective for town centres is to promote their vitality and viability by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for the growth and development of existing centres; and • Promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres and encouraging a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all. <p>In order to deliver the Government's objective of promoting vital and viable town centres, development should be focused in existing centres in order to strengthen and, where appropriate, regenerate them. Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively promote growth and manage change in town centres; • Define a network and a hierarchy of centres each performing their appropriate role to meet the needs of their catchments; and • Adopt a proactive, plan-led approach to planning for town centres, through regional and local planning. 	<p>Development plans should promote the vitality of town centres whilst increasing accessibility and reducing social exclusion.</p>
PPS 7 – Sustainable Development in Rural Areas	
<p>PPS 7 follows four of the Government's Objectives for rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas; • To promote more sustainable patterns of development; • Promoting the development of the English regions by improving their economic performance so that all are able to reach their full potential; • To promote sustainable, diverse and adaptable agricultural sectors. <p>Requires that development within and outside existing villages should be permitted where it meets local economic and community needs, where it maintains or enhances the environment and does not conflict with other policies.</p>	<p>The PPS provides for the facilitation and promotion of sustainable patterns of development and sustainable communities in rural areas. Local Development Documents (LDDs) should include policies to sustain, enhance and, where appropriate, revitalise country towns and villages, in addition to policies promoting strong, diverse, economic activity, whilst maintaining local character and a high quality environment.</p>
PPG 9 – Nature Conservation	
<p>Ensure as fully as possible that nature conservation obligations in nationally and internationally designated sites are met as fully as possible. Environmental assessment should occur when development is likely to have significant effects on an SSSI, or is close to an SAC/SPA or RAMSAR site.</p>	<p>Recognise the importance of conservation objectives when determining location and type of new developments near to designated sites. Pre-empt assessment of individual development proposals by assessing impacts during an SEA.</p>
PPS 9 – Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (August 2005)	

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>This PPS replaces PPG9 (1994) on nature conservation. It sets out the Government's national policies for the conservation of biodiversity and geodiversity. In the context of the PPS, biodiversity is the variety of life in all its forms as discussed in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and geological conservation relates to sites that are designated for their geology and/or geomorphological importance.</p> <p>A joint ODPM and DEFRA Circular is being published to accompany this PPS setting out a wide range of legislative provisions at the international and national level that can impact on planning decisions affecting biodiversity and geological conservation issues. A separate guide setting out good practice is also to be published.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>The PPS sets out the Government's objectives as set out in <i>Working with the Grain of Nature: a biodiversity strategy for England</i>. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote sustainable development • To conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology • To contribute to an urban renaissance • To contribute to rural renewal <p>It also sets out key principles which LPAs should adhere to ensure that the potential impacts of planning decisions on biodiversity and geological conservation are fully considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan policies and planning decisions should be based upon up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of their areas. • Plan policies should seek to maintain, or enhance, or add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests. • Plan policies on the form and location of development should take a strategic approach to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and geology, and recognise the contributions that individual sites and areas make to conserving these resources within a wider environment. 	<p>The Core Strategy should reflect nature conservation objectives and work to protect, enhance and restore the biodiversity of the District. The new PPS stresses that local authorities should take an integrated approach to planning for biodiversity and geodiversity when preparing LDDs.</p> <p>The LDF should indicate the location of designated sites of importance making clear distinctions between the hierarchy at international, national, regional and local level. It should also identify any areas or sites for the restoration or creation of new priority habitats which contribute to regional targets and support the restoration/creation through appropriate policies.</p> <p>The SEA Directive requires that the SA consider the conservation of biodiversity.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to other planning conditions, development seeking to conserve or enhance the biodiversity and geological conservation interests of the area and/or the immediate locality should be permitted. • LPAs should consider whether proposed developments can be accommodated without causing harm to biodiversity and geological conservation interests. • Where development will result in unavoidable and significant adverse impacts on biodiversity and geological conservation, planning permission for it should only be granted where adequate mitigation measures are put in place. • Development policies should promote opportunities for the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity and geological features within the design of development. <p>Targets Does not contain any specific targets.</p>	
PPS 11 – Regional Spatial Strategies	
<p>This Planning Policy Statement outlines the greater weight to be given to Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) in order to meet the objectives of the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan, and with which the new Local Development Documents (LDDs) must be in general conformity. The RSS is intended to be a broad development strategy for the region for a 15 to 20 year period. The RSS also incorporates a Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) and provides a spatial framework to inform the preparation of LDDs, LTPs and regional and sub-regional strategies and programmes relating to land use activities.</p>	<p>The RSS for Yorkshire and The Humber is the underlying document for informing the preparation of the LDF and will identify the scale and distribution of provision for new housing, specific priorities for the environment, including countryside and biodiversity protection and transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals extraction and waste treatment and disposal.</p>
PPS 12 – Local Development Frameworks	
<p>Outlines a new style of land use planning, streamlining programme for policy agreement and ensuring community engagement throughout the process</p>	<p>The LDF should accord with national guidance.</p>
PPG 13 – Transport	

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>Actively manage the pattern of urban growth and the location of major travel generating development to make the fullest use of public transport, and to encourage walking and cycling.</p> <p>Land use planning should facilitate a shift in transport of freight from road to rail and water. Attention should be paid to the value of disused transport sites and effort made to prevent their loss to different land uses.</p> <p>Traffic management measures should be designed to reduce environmental/social impacts, whilst fiscal measures should be used for tackling congestion.</p>	<p>This objective is fundamental in encouraging public transport use and establishing a viable patronage base, as well as cycling and walking. In doing so, the LDF would be contributing to the air quality, human health, climate change and social inclusion objectives of its SEA.</p>
PPG 15 – Planning and the Historic Environment	
<p>Objectives are for effective protection for all aspects of the historic environment. Consider opportunities to re-use derelict transport infrastructure, and review the impact of road signs and other street furniture on the character of areas with historic or cultural associations.</p>	<p>The historic environment can be affected by changing land uses in a number of ways, including inappropriate development, vibration/noise impacts, and visual intrusion. The SEA should include objectives for the conservation of the historic environment in relation to transport impacts.</p>
PPG 16 – Archaeology and Planning	
<p>Development plans should reconcile the need for development with the interests of conservation including archaeology. Detailed development plans (ie local plans and unitary development plans) should include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings.</p>	<p>Archaeological sites can be potentially damaged through construction of new build. Archaeological objectives should be included within the SEA.</p>
PPG 17 – Planning for Open Space, Sport, and Recreation	
<p>The recreational quality of open spaces can be eroded by insensitive development or incremental loss of the site. In considering planning applications - either within or adjoining open space - local authorities should weigh any benefits being offered to the community against the loss of open space that will occur. Accessibility should be promoted by sustainable modes of transport (including disabled facilities).</p>	<p>Ensure policy proposals take account of the impact of developments on all open public space.</p>
PPG 20 – Coastal Planning	
<p>Public access to the coast should be a basic principle in local plans, except where it might damage nature conservation.</p> <p>Development opportunities should be prohibited in areas at risk from flooding erosion and land instability</p>	<p>Ensure that policies refrain from development in areas at risk from flooding, on instable land or which will be affected by erosion.</p>
PPG 21 – Tourism	

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF	
Ensure land use is distributed and managed in such a way that it supports the qualities that underpin the tourism industry.		Promoting tourism would increase prosperity and employment (population objective in SEA), however it is important to recognise the potential conflicts between tourist developments and other environmental objectives.	
PPS 22 Renewable Energy			
This PPS replaces PPG 22 (Renewable Energy). It sets out the Government's planning policies for renewable energy, which planning authorities should have regard to when preparing local development documents and when taking planning decisions. This PPS replaces PPG 22 (Renewable Energy). It sets out the Government's planning policies for renewable energy, which planning authorities should have regard to when preparing local development documents and when taking planning decisions.		The Core Strategy should have regard to the national policies on planning for renewable energy along with the principles of sustainable development. The SA should ensure that renewable energy is incorporated within the objectives and appraisal.	
PPG 23 – Planning and Pollution Control			
Development plans should make realistic provision for the types of industry or facility which may be detrimental to amenity or conservation interests or a potential source of pollution – and ensure that incompatible uses of land are separated. The proximity principle should be considered in the siting of waste facilities so that it can be processed reasonably close to its point of generation.		The LDF should consider the potential impacts of pollution resulting from certain types of development, their proximity to communities and the knock on effects on the surrounding environment	
PPG 24 – Planning and Noise			
Noise-sensitive developments should be located away from existing sources of significant noise (or programmed development such as new roads) and that potentially noisy developments are located in areas where noise will not be such an important consideration or where its impact can be minimised.		The aims of PPG24, as well as other National Guidance on Noise should be reflected in the Core Strategy and SA.	
PPG 25 – Development and Flood Risk			
Consider the information available on the nature of flood risk and its potential consequences and accord it appropriate weight in the preparation of development plans and in determining applications for planning permission and attaching conditions where permission is granted.		LDF should avoid unnecessary development in the floodplains that might decrease storage/increase runoff, and compromise human safety. LDF should also encourage development of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.	
Draft PPS 25 – Consultation on Development and Flood Risk, December 2005			

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF	
<p>Draft PPS 25 introduces the use of Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), the sequential test and the exceptions test. The SFRA should be carried out to inform the preparation of a planning authority's LDDs having regard to catchment wide flooding issues which affect its area. It should provide information on how to apply the sequential approach.</p> <p>The sequential test will determine the suitability of land for development in flood risks areas and the exceptions test are departures from the sequential approach only where they can be justified and where it is necessary to meet the wider aims of sustainable development.</p>		<p>Specific policies in the LDF should set out requirements for site specific Flood Risks Assessments to be submitted alongside planning applications in areas of flood risks.</p>	
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)			
<p>Addresses the problem of species protection and habitat loss by setting out the protection that is afforded to wild animals and plants in Britain.</p>		<p>There is significant interaction between wildlife and different types of land use. The SEA should consider the affects of land use on biodiversity.</p>	
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW)			
<p>Emphasises the public's right of access to open country and common land, and gives additional protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).</p>		<p>Certain land uses and development might hinder accessibility to open country and common land. The LDF should consider these issues which have relevance to SEA objectives on human health, population, and severance.</p>	
UK Biodiversity Action Plan			
<p>The UK BAP was published in response to the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992). It highlights a number of priority habitats and species with associated action plans.</p>		<p>LDF should take account of priority habitats and species and integrate their action plan objectives within it, whenever possible.</p>	
England Forestry Strategy 1999			
<p>Continued steady expansion of woodland area to provide more benefit for society and the environment.</p>		<p>LDF should seize upon opportunities to expand existing woodland or create new woodland areas.</p>	
'Working with the Grain of Nature': A Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002)			
<p>Ensures biodiversity considerations are embedded in all main sectors of economic activity. (It is the principal means by which the government will comply with duties under section 74 of the CRoW Act).</p>		<p>The SEA aims to integrate biodiversity into local plans by highlighting interaction between land use and wildlife.</p>	
Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy			
<p>Stimulate new, more efficient sources of power generation, and cut emissions from the transport and agricultural sector.</p>		<p>LDF should encourage development of renewable energy facilities and along with the LTP, attempt to reduce the need for long distance car travel.</p>	

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF	
Climate Change: The UK Programme.			
Cutting UK Carbon Dioxide emissions 60% by 2050.		The SEA should contain objectives for reducing Carbon Dioxide emissions.	
Air Quality Strategy: Working Together for Clean Air			
Sets objectives for eight main air pollutants to protect health.		LDF should consider the location of any Air Quality Management Areas, and the objectives for the eight main air pollutants.	
The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future			
The historic environment should be protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations.		The LDF could influence the historic environment in several ways, including the ambience of historic structures and features. The SEA should include objectives for Conservation Areas.	
Communities Plan (Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future) 2003			
To transform Regional Planning Guidance into a Regional Spatial Strategy which increases delivery and targets for brown field development; affordable housing issues; in rolling forward annual new housing provision; identifies strategic employment locations; clearly defines transport priorities; addresses waste and renewable energy and reinforces urban and rural renaissance.		RPG and RSS should feed directly into the LDF, and as such – issues such as brownfield development and low demand for housing should be tackled within the LDF. The SEA topics concerned with these issues are human health, population, accessibility (which increases housing demand) and townscape. The draft Regional Housing Strategy (May 2005) identifies that the majority of housing issues faced by the sub-region (North Yorkshire) are a direct result of its high value housing market, and includes a shortage of affordable housing, and other issues related to out migration of young people and in migration of older people retiring.	
Road Traffic Reduction Act			
In regards to transport: Promote more efficient use of resources, enhance the vitality of towns and villages, meet the needs of rural areas and ensure high standards of safety.		The Core Strategy should have regard to road traffic reduction and road safety particularly in rural locations	
DETR (1999). A Better Quality of Life, A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK			
In May 1999 the Government published ‘A Better Quality of Life: A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK’. This brings the environment, social progress and the economy alongside each other at the heart of policy making. Objectives The Strategy for sustainable development has four main aims. These are:		The aims of the Core Strategy must reflect the four main aims of the UK Strategy. The aim of the SA is to reflect these aims.	

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. social progress which recognises the needs of everyone; 2. effective protection of the environment; 3. prudent use of natural resources; and 4. maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment. <p>For the UK, priorities for the future are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more investment in people and equipment for a competitive economy; • reducing the level of social exclusion; • promoting a transport system which provides choice, and also minimises environmental harm and reduces congestion; • improving the larger towns and cities to make them better places to live and work; • directing development and promoting agricultural practices to protect and enhance the countryside and wildlife; • improving energy efficiency and tackling waste; • working with others to achieve sustainable development internationally. <p>Targets</p> <p>Does not contain any targets, but does contain ten guiding principles which Government policy will take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • putting people at the centre; • taking a long term perspective; • taking account of costs and benefits; • creating an open and supportive economic system; • combating poverty and social exclusion; • respecting environmental limits; • the precautionary principle; • using scientific knowledge; • transparency, information, participation and access to justice; • making the polluter pay. 	
HM Government (2005). <i>Securing the Future – UK Government Strategy for Sustainable Development</i>	
<p>The Strategy takes account of developments since the 1999 strategy, both domestically and internationally, the changed structure of Government in the UK with devolution to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, greater emphasis on delivery at the regional level and the new relationship between</p>	<p>The Core Strategy must reflect the Sustainable Development Strategy and take the guiding principles as the basis for policy development.</p> <p>The SA must reflect the Sustainable Development Strategy in the appraisal process.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>Government and Local Authorities.</p> <p>It was produced alongside 'One Future, Different Paths – The UK's Shared Framework for Sustainable Development'. This is a joint strategy for the UK Government and the devolved administrations.</p> <p>The Strategy contains a set of shared UK principles that will be used to achieve Sustainable Development and have been agreed by the UK Government, Scottish Executive, Welsh Assembly Government and Northern Ireland Administration. These guiding principles bring together and build on the various previously existing UK principles to set out an overarching approach that the four separate strategies of the Government and devolved administrations can share. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living within environmental limits • Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society • Achieving a sustainable economy • Promoting good governance • Using sound science responsibly. <p>These principles will form the basis for policy in the UK.</p>	
UK Foresight Programme (2004) Foresight Report : Future Flooding	
<p>An independent scientific report into risks of flooding and coastal erosion in the UK over the next 100 years; provision of a challenging vision for flood and coastal defence in the UK between 2030 and 2100 and so inform long-term policy.</p> <p>Objectives To identify and provide options for dealing with future problems concerning flooding and coastal erosion, to present key choices that policy-makers will have to address, and to provide some indication of the next steps required to address the risks concerned with these hazards.</p> <p>Targets Does not contain specific targets.</p>	<p>Although Craven is not currently a high flood risk area, the potential for climate change and seasonal variations needs to be taken into account during the production of the Core Strategy and during the SA, particularly in view of any future development.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
Department for Transport (2004) <i>The Future of Transport a network for 2030. White Paper</i>	
<p>This White Paper looks at the factors that will shape travel and transport over the next thirty years and sets out how the Government will respond to the increasing demand for travel, maximising the benefits of transport while minimising the negative impact on people and the environment.</p> <p>Objectives The main objective underpinning the transport strategy is 'balancing the need to travel with the need to improve quality of life'. This means seeking solutions that meet long-term economic, social and environmental goals.</p> <p>Targets Does not contain specific numerical targets.</p>	<p>Transport issues must be taken into account by the planning process and during Core Strategy development.</p>
Social Exclusion Unit (2003) <i>Making the Connections: Final Report on Transport and Social Exclusion</i>	
<p>This report commissioned by the Prime Minister explores, and makes recommendations to overcome, the problems experienced by people facing social exclusion in reaching work and key services.</p> <p>The report examines the links between social exclusion, transport and the location of services.</p> <p>Objectives The report's main objective is to make recommendations on how social exclusion can be decreased through tackling problems related to the accessibility of local services and activities and the effects of road traffic. It sets out the Government's strategy for improving access to jobs and key services to reduce social exclusion.</p> <p>The Government Strategy to tackle these issues has two main pillars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new framework of 'accessibility planning'. This will ensure that there is clear responsibility and accountability for identifying accessibility problems and deciding how to tackle them. • National policy changes to enable improved public transport, better land-use planning, safer streets, and improved specialist support to help people get to work, learning, healthcare and food shops. 	<p>This is a key document to be taken into account by the Core Strategy to ensure that planning takes social exclusion into account. The SA Framework objectives should also take the objectives and recommendations of this report into account.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>Targets A number of actions / recommendations concerning alterations to key policies to improve access to jobs and services are identified.</p>	
DETR (2000) Government Urban White Paper: Our Towns and Cities: the Future – Delivering an Urban Renaissance	
<p>This report identifies the need to address, education, transport, crime reduction, housing and planning as being instrumental in tackling urban decline. There is also a need to improve people's prosperity and quality of life.</p> <p>Objectives The central purpose of the paper is to arrest urban decline and it starts with a recognition of an holistic approach to policy ("joined up thinking") which recognises the need to link together a range of initiatives on housing, planning, education, transport and law and order issues.</p> <p>Our vision is of towns, cities and suburbs which offer a high quality of life and opportunity for all. We want to see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people shaping the future of their community, supported by strong and truly representative local leaders; • people living in attractive, well-kept towns and cities which use space and buildings well; • good design and planning which makes it practical to live in a more environmentally sustainable way, with less noise, pollution and traffic congestion; • towns and cities able to create and share prosperity, investing to help all their citizens reach their full potential; and • good quality services – health, education, housing, transport, finance, shopping, leisure and protection from crime – that meet the needs of people and businesses wherever they are. <p>Targets Does not contain any specific targets, but does refer to a number of PSA targets.</p>	<p>The Core Strategy should recognise the holistic approach to policy promoted in this White Paper and should appropriately reflect its priorities and actions.</p>
DETR (2000) Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside: the Future – A Fair Deal for Rural England	

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>Outlines the government's vision of a living, working, protected and vibrant countryside.</p> <p>The paper sets out 10 key actions which are intended to meet the vision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support vital village services 2. Modernise rural services 3. Provide affordable homes 4. Deliver local transport solutions 5. Rejuvenate market towns and a thriving rural economy 6. Set a new direction for farming 7. Preserve what makes rural England special 8. Ensure everyone can enjoy an accessible countryside 9. Give local power to country towns and villages 10. Think rural <p>Objectives</p> <p>The Paper lists the Government's rural policy objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 1: To facilitate the development of dynamic, competitive and sustainable economies in the countryside, tackling poverty in rural areas. • Objective 2: To maintain and stimulate communities, and secure access to services which is equitable in all the circumstances, for those who live or work in the countryside. • Objective 3: To conserve and enhance rural landscapes and the diversity and abundance of wildlife (including the habitats on which it depends). • Objective 4: To increase opportunities for people to get enjoyment from the countryside. To open up public access to mountain, moor, heath and down and registered common land by the end of 2005. • Objective 5: To promote government responsiveness to rural communities through better working together between central departments, local government, and government agencies and better co-operation with non-government bodies. <p>These objectives will be taken forward in Departmental Public Service Agreement targets and their subsidiary Service Delivery agreements.</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>Contains Rural Services Standard, which set out minimum standards and targets covering access to and the delivery of public services in rural areas. Some of the more relevant standards and targets are listed below:</p>	<p>The Core Strategy should seek to find ways of accommodating change in rural areas (where this is appropriate) whilst maintaining and enhancing the environment. The Strategy should appropriately reflect the priorities and actions of the White Paper.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Government services to be available on line by 2005. • Presumption against closure of rural schools; • Formal requirement on the Post Office to maintain the rural network of post offices and to prevent any avoidable closures of rural post offices. <p>Targets set for the proportion of the rural population living within about 10 minutes' walk of an hourly or better bus service to increase from 37% to 50% by 2010, with an intermediate milestone of 42% by 2004.</p>	
Cleaner, Safer, Greener Communities Programme, ODPM, Home Office, Defra, DfT, DCMS, DoH, DoE, DTI and HMT, 2005	
<p>A five million programme launched nationally and spanning over three years which involves a Partnership approach and seeks to help councils to create cleaner, greener, safer communities. The programme will seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve residential areas; tackling housing related anti social behaviour and design, manage and maintain the streetscapes • create quality parks and open space improving management and maintenance and assessing the standards of parks and green spaces and highlight the role of the local community in transforming such locations. <p>The initiative will also work with agencies such as ENCAMS, CAGE Space, Idea and Groundwork and twenty towns and cities have been invited to develop and implement best practice</p>	<p>The Core Strategy and in particular policies relating to housing, crime, noise disturbance, design and access to open space and recreational facilities must have regard to this programme.</p>
Environment Agency (2001) Water Resources for the Future – A Strategy for England and Wales	
<p>This strategy is part of a framework of integrated water resources planning, looking 25 years ahead. It considers the needs for water both of the environment and of society, and examines the uncertainties about future water demand and availability.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote water efficiency – expect household water metering to become widespread over the next 25 years. • Pay further attention to leakage control. • Promote water sensitive agricultural practices; farmers should consider crop suitability and the possibility of increased winter storage. • Active promotion of water efficiency opportunities for commerce and industry. • Deliver the sustainable development of water resources through 	<p>The Core Strategy must have regard to the general UK wide policies included in the Strategy.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>working together.</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>Enhancement of water supply by up to 1100 Ml/d above present levels by the improvement of existing schemes and the development of some new resources.</p>	
<p>Defra (2004) <i>Making space for water : Developing a new Government strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England. A Consultation Exercise</i></p>	
<p>Defra's Flood Management Strategy Unit is aiming to set the direction for flood and coastal erosion risk management over the next 20 years.</p> <p>Following the close of this consultation period on 1 November 2004, a summary of the consultation responses was published in March 2005. The proposed strategy is to include a delivery plan for further work to take forward proposals and a commitment to evaluate progress and review the strategy on a regular basis.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>The future aim of the Government's strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management might be summarised as follows: Aim for a new Government strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England: To manage the risks from flooding and coastal erosion in an integrated and holistic way, employing a portfolio of approaches, so as to reduce the threat to human life and property while furthering sustainable development and the strategic objectives of the Government; and to secure rational funding mechanisms that deliver appropriate levels of investment.</p> <p>Aims and objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent decline in current flood defence standards to improve the situation, consider possible need for extreme flood protection measures • Outlines the importance of a holistic approach, not just putting up defences but finding cost effective means of prevention • Shows the importance of sustainable development (to include elements to do with the environment, and flood management solutions while taking the local communities views into consideration <p>The final aim tries to establish what happens when flood protection is not</p>	<p>The Core Strategy needs to consider the evidence and aims of this consultation document.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>possible</p> <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p>	
DETR (2000) The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Working together for clean air (2000)	
<p>The Strategy sets objectives for eight main air pollutants to protect health. Performance against these objectives will be monitored where people are regularly present and might be exposed to air pollution. There are also two new objectives to protect vegetation and ecosystems. These will be monitored away from urban and industrial areas and motorways.</p> <p>Local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales are required to review and assess air quality in their area against the objectives specified for each pollutant in their respective Air Quality Standards regulations. Northern Ireland has a separate environmental legislative code, and its District Councils have voluntarily engaged in the air quality review and assessment process.</p> <p>Objectives The objectives in the Strategy have been set with regard to the scientific and medical evidence on the effects of particular pollutants on health. The Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards (EPAQS) was established in 1991 to advise on air quality standards in the UK and EPAQS recommendations have been used, where they exist, as the air quality standards on which the setting of objectives will be based. See Strategy for detailed list of Objectives.</p> <p>Targets Contains a number of national air quality targets that were updated by DEFRA in August 2002.</p>	<p>Planning plays an important role in improving air quality in the district and the Core Strategy should be aware of and consider fully the air quality implications of its policies and supporting text.</p> <p>The Core Strategy should consider the role of specific measures such as low emissions zones, green transport plans, parking control measures etc.</p>
Defra (2004) The First Soil Action Plan for England: 2004-2006	
<p>The Action Plan contains 52 actions on issues ranging from soil management on farms to soils in the planning system, soils and biodiversity, contamination of soils and the role of soils in conserving cultural heritage and landscape. All of the actions make a step towards more sustainable soil use and protection.</p> <p>Objectives</p>	<p>The Core Strategy will need to ensure that it takes into account the Government's objectives and measures for soil protection. Where appropriate the plan should contain policies for the sustainable use of soils.</p> <p>Soil is also important for the SA, and it is specifically referred to in the SEA Directive.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF

Implications for LDF

The following 9 actions are seen as key to the success of this first Action Plan because they are likely to lead to significant changes on the ground or because they are making first steps to tackle particularly challenging issues:

- Defra will work with stakeholders to develop a programme of education and awareness of soil issues among the general public, those working with soils and the professionals that guide, advise or instruct soil managers. We will aim to develop partnerships and plans by 2005 and review progress in implementing those plans in 2006.
- Defra will implement the CAP cross compliance conditions in a way that enhances management of soils in the farming industry.
- Defra will encourage better management of agricultural soils that goes beyond the requirements of the Single Payment, through the provision of incentives under the Agri-Environment Scheme.
- Defra will build on the output of its Learning Skills and Knowledge review and the pilots of the Whole Farm Appraisals, to develop within the next twelve months a strategy for providing farmers and other land managers with practical information and advice building good soil management into overall farm planning.
- Defra will work during the Spending Review 2004 process to embed soil protection into its forward strategy and, if appropriate, targets on natural resource protection.
- Defra will work with stakeholders to identify the indicators which should be built into a national soil monitoring scheme, in order to develop a scheme which meets both national and European requirements.
- Defra will work with other Government Departments and Agencies (including in the Devolved Administrations), the National Soil Resources Institute at Cranfield University (as co-owners of key data sets) and other soil data users, to develop and provide better access to information on soils.
- Defra will work with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), representatives of planning authorities and other partners to develop a consensus on the procedures needed to give soils appropriate protection during the planning process. The first milestone will be to examine criteria for designating soils that should be protected from building during the current review of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land.

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Nature will prepare and publish, in 2006, a position statement on the role of soil management and protection within statutory nature conservation sites. <p>Targets Does not contain any targets. This is partly due to there being no right or wrong type of soil and so for many soil issues it is difficult to set national targets in the way that can be done for air or water.</p>	
Countryside Council for Wales, English Nature, Environment Agency, RSPB (2004). Strategic Environmental Assessment and Biodiversity: Guidance for Practitioners	
<p>The guidance aims to ensure biodiversity considerations are appropriately addressed in SEAs. It is hoped it will assist people and organisations to prepare plans and programmes in a wide range of sectors, carry out SEA, prepare SEA reports and comment on biodiversity issues in SEA.</p> <p>Objectives Does not contain any objectives.</p> <p>Targets Does not contain any targets.</p>	<p>The SA should take full account of the guidance to ensure biodiversity issues are appropriately addressed.</p>
Department of Education and Skills, (2002) Success for all, Reforming Further Education and Training – Our Vision for the Future	
<p>The Success for All strategy is a long term reform strategy aimed at developing a high quality, demand led, responsive college and provider review for the learning and skill sector. The Strategy has five main themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting needs and improving choice Putting teaching, training and learning at the heart of what we do Developing the leaders, teachers, trainers and support staff of the future Developing a framework for quality and success Accelerating quality of improvement <p>In addition to the themes the strategy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work closely with employers Busting bureaucracy in the sector Equality and diversity 	<p>The Core Strategy needs to reflect the aims of this strategy, in particular identifying the appropriate mix and pattern of provision and the contribution that each college or provider can make to a range of post-16 provision. through a Strategic Area Review.</p>
Department of Health, The NHS (2000) A Plan for Investment, A Plan for Reform	
<p>The NHS Plan is a Plan of investment in the NHS with sustained increases in funding and providing a service fit for the 21st century. The Plan recognises</p>	<p>The Core Strategy needs to support the core principles of this Plan.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF	Implications for LDF
<p>that whilst major improvements have been delivered it falls short of standards patients expect and staff want to provide. Further investment will result in 7,000 extra bed spaces, over 100 new hospitals by 2010 and 500 new one stop primary care centres, modernisation of 3,000 GP premises, cleaner wards and a modern IT system as well as investment in staff.</p> <p>The document covers topics ranging from cancer services through to partnership development. There are a series of core principles designed to be the framework for taking forward to Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NHS will provide a universal service for all based on clinical need, not ability to pay • The NHS will provide a comprehensive range of services • The NHS will shape its services around the needs and preferences of individual patients, their families and their carers • The NHS will respond to different needs of different populations • The NHS will work continuously to improve quality services and to minimise errors • The NHS will support and value its staff • Public fund for healthcare will be devoted solely to NHS patients • The NHS will help keep people healthy and work to reduce health inequalities • The NHS will respect the confidentiality of individual patients and provide open access to information about services, treatment and performance 	
Rural Strategy, Defra, 2004	
<p>The Rural Strategy is a response to the earlier Rural White Paper (2000) and the later Review of the RVWP (2002). It sets out a new devolved and targeted approach to rural policy and delivery for the period up to 2008. The overarching aim is for rural policy to have as its outcome genuinely sustainable development by better integrating and balancing environmental, social and</p>	<p>Important context in relation to sustainable communities stressing the need to incorporate social, economic and environmental concerns, in addition to stressing the importance of tackling social exclusion</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
economic considerations, including tackling social exclusion. It also proposed that three northern regions, the North East, the North West and Yorkshire and Humberside should have the opportunity to vote on elected regional assemblies.		
The future of Transport, White Paper Cm 6234, DfT, 2004		
<p>The White Paper sets out the challenge facing the Government and the need to take into account the ways in which travel is changing, with people becoming accustomed to travelling further. Thus demographic changes and choices will continue to have significant effects over the next twenty to thirty years.</p> <p>The Strategy is built around three central themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained investment over the long term, through the 10 Year Plan; • Improvements in transport management; and • By planning ahead – this applies to all levels of Government, national, local or regional to ensure that transport decisions are taken alongside decisions on liveability, sustainable communities and other policy areas. 		The North Yorkshire County LTP (2006-2016) Draft will incorporate and set out the priorities for the District building on this White Paper.
REGIONAL PLANS AND PROGRAMMES		
Yorkshire Forward, Regional Economic Strategy, 2003		
	<p>6 key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grow the regions' businesses • achieve higher business birth and survival rates • attract and retain more private and public investment • radically improve the development and application of education, learning and skills • connect all of the region's communities to economic opportunity 	<p>Emphasises that economic development, employment and business success cannot be separated from other key related issues and therefore this will best be achieved through integrated, sustainable development.</p> <p>The York and North Yorkshire Investment Plan 2004/2009 identifies that the key objectives in relation to the Craven economy are to build a new economic base in rural areas to encourage the start up and growth of high value added businesses. At a spatial level the priority for the sub region is to harness the dynamism of the Leeds and Bradford economy, and both Settle and Skipton are seen as the key economic drivers in</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhance and utilise the region's infrastructure of physical and environmental assets <p>Contains 10 priority actions for 2003-2006, to be delivered through five action plans, one regional and four sub-regional.</p>	relation to this approach. The LDD through Craven's Economic Strategy needs to build on these objectives.
Yorkshire & Humber Assembly, Yorkshire Forward & Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber: Advancing Together, February 2004		
Regional Policy Framework and Vision	<p>Six main objectives in relation to Yorkshire & Humber:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will have a world class prosperous and sustainable economy; Will have physical infrastructure and communications that meet the needs of people, businesses, places and the environment; Will have high quality natural and man-made environments; Will have exceptional education and training, widespread learning and skills and a healthy labour market without skills gaps or shortages; Will be a socially cohesive and inclusive region; Will possess and portray the highest standards of governance at all levels and the highest levels of civic participation in decision-making and community life. 	<p>Overarching regional policy framework that sets out the region's vision for directing all regional strategies, including the RSS, and ensuring they are joined up. Also contains 32 indicators that are to be included in RSS monitoring framework.</p> <p>The LDF needs to take account of the six main objectives and the core indicators within this strategy document.</p>
Government Office for Yorkshire & Humber : Regional Planning Guidance RPG12 October 2001 and Draft Revised Planning Guidance for Yorkshire & Humber to 2016		
Spatial and development strategy for the region covering land use and transport issues.	<p>RPG has Four strategic themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic regeneration and growth Promoting social inclusion Urban and rural renaissance Conserving and enhancing natural resources <p>Contain Indicators and Targets, reported in annual monitoring report. Latest version published in 2003.</p>	Will be replaced by new RSS outlined below.
Yorkshire & Humber Assembly: Draft Yorkshire and Humber Plan (RSS) Jan 2006		
The Draft RSS was submitted to the Government in December 2005 and for public	The Draft RSS is led by the Spatial Vision to 'achieve a more sustainable pattern and form of development, investment and activity in the Yorkshire and Humber Region – putting a greater emphasis on matching	The RSS sets out the regional spatial strategy for the region up to 2026, and provides the framework to inform the preparation of LDFs, LTPs and sub regional strategies.

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
<p>consultation between January and April 2006. It is anticipated that the RSS will become operational in 2007.</p> <p>The plan contains the spatial and development strategy for the Yorkshire and Humber region covering the period to 2021.</p> <p>The Draft RSS contains sections relating to geographical sub-areas (Leeds City region, South Yorkshire, Humber Estuary, York, the Vale and Tees Link and Remoter Rural) and sections on generic policy areas (Spatial Vision, Core Approach, Coast, Housing,, Economy, Environment, Transport). Much of Craven District lies within the Remoter Rural sub-area. Skipton lies within the Leeds sub-area.</p>	<p>needs across the Region with opportunities and managing the environment as a key resource’.</p> <p>Much of the Craven District is within what the Draft RSS refers to as the ‘Remoter Rural sub-area’ in which development should be focused on the Local Service Centres of Settle, and in the western areas and at Benthams, Helmsley, Kirkbymoorside and Pickering in the eastern area. In these centres, development must contribute to sustaining their roles and should address affordable local housing needs or provide opportunities to promote economic diversification which uses the sub area’s built and natural assets in a sustainable way (Policy RRI)</p> <p>Parts of Craven – specifically Skipton – is within the Leeds Sub-Area in which development is to ensure that roles and functions of places are complementary and supportive. Skipton is identified as a Principle Service Centre which development must play to the strengths of. Policy LCRI specifically continues restraint policies north of Leeds to Skipton through to the eastern part of Harrogate District and provide a greater emphasis on delivering affordable housing in this area (Policy LCRI)</p>	<p>When adopted, the LDF will need to take account of the policy direction given by the RSS for areas of the District within the Leeds and Remoter Rural Sub Areas. The LDF will need to reflect the roles of towns in the District as identified in the RSS and will need to encourage development of the roles of these towns which are identified as serving a rural hinterland.</p> <p>In relation to housing, the Draft RSS sets out housing land allocations and policies relating to managing the release of land affordable housing (particularly in North Yorkshire) and changing the current mix of housing stock.</p> <p>In relation to employment land, policy E3 of the Draft RSS states that Local Authorities should critically review existing employment sites on a 3-year rolling basis so as to ensure that they continue to perform against the above criteria and will meet current or longer term need for economic development. A portfolio of the best sites, representing at least a five-year supply of market-ready sites, should be identified and protected for those purposes. Sites that would undermine the delivery of the Core Strategic Approach of RSS (YH1 – YH8) should be considered for alternative uses/allocations in the following sequences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For employment generating uses other than for business class development • For mixed-use development, including residential uses, taking account of the potential for higher employment densities • For residential uses only • De-allocation <p>The Draft RSS also sets out key messages for each LPA which for Craven is to make additional provision of small-medium, high quality sites, particularly those suited to accommodate small businesses. The Draft RSS also calls for an investigation into the ability of Skipton to accommodate new sites suitable for distribution/warehouse uses.</p>
Yorkshire & Humber Assembly, Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Regional Spatial Strategy, 2005		
<p>The Yorkshire and Humber Assembly have undertaken an internal SA/SEA of the Draft RSS. This document identifies potential</p>	<p>SA/SEA objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good quality employment opportunities available to all. • Conditions for business success, economic growth and investment. 	<p>In relation to the Draft RSS policies for the Remoter Rural areas, the SA proposes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • current level of service provision will mean that a focus on maintaining the role of local services is unlikely to adequately cater for local needs and that in some areas, there is currently insufficient critical mass to

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
sustainability impacts of the plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education & training opportunities which build the skills and capacity of the population. • Conditions and services to engender good health. • Safety and security for people and property. • Vibrant communities which participate in decision making. • Culture, heritage, leisure and recreation activities to all. • Local needs met locally. • A transport network which maximises access whilst minimizing detrimental impacts. • A quality built environment and efficient land use patterns, that make good use of derelict sites, minimise travel and promote balanced development. • Quality housing available to everyone. • Bio-diverse and attractive natural environment. • Minimal pollution levels if environmental impacts are a significant result of the activity consider an environmental impact assessment. • Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and a managed response to the effects of climate change. If environmental impacts are a significant result of the activity consider an environmental impact assessment. • Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources with minimal production of waste. 	<p>support services and facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accessibility issues are not adequately addressed in the policy <p>In relation to the housing chapter, the SA proposes that the rationale for distributing housing provision is a good attempt at a sustainable and balanced distribution of housing relative to the region-wide and sub-area strategies, focusing on linking need with opportunity, whilst taking into account a range of other competing considerations.</p>
Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber, The Regional Housing Strategy , 2003 and Draft Regional Housing Strategy, 2005		
	<p>(2003) RHS Vision: To work in partnership to provide good quality homes and successful neighbourhoods that meet the aspirations of current and future residents.</p> <p>Four programme objectives:</p> <p>1: regeneration and renewal</p> <p>2: provision of sufficient new homes creating mixed-income communities</p>	<p>Strategy setting out the strategic priorities for housing in the region and priorities for public investment in housing. A draft Regional Housing Strategy for Yorkshire and The Humber 2005 – 2021 has been produced and submitted to Government in May 2005. for approval. This strategy is intended to strengthen its fits with other regional strategies and frameworks, and position housing as a crucial element of Sustainable Communities.</p> <p>The 2005 draft RHS for the North Yorkshire Sub Region identifies that further research is needed into the Craven/East Lancashire housing sub market.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>3: improving homes to meet decent standards and aspirations 4: Fair access to quality housing for all groups. Contains a large number of indicators.</p> <p>(2005) The three Regional Housing Strategy Themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating better places • Delivering better homes, choice and opportunity • Fair access 	
Yorkshire and Humber Assembly: Yorkshire & Humber Regional Waste Strategy, Let's Take it From the Tip, July 2003		
Provides objectives and priorities for creating sustainable waste management systems in the region, and includes RPG on waste.	<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To gain community support and involvement in the delivery of the strategy • To reduce waste production and increase re-use, recycling and composting • To manage residual waste in the most sustainable way • To provide technical support and advice <p>Targets: To reduce the annual increase in waste production per household to 2% by 2008/9. Achieve statutory targets for recycling and composting household waste and diverting biodegradable municipal waste from landfill.</p>	Sets overarching framework that will guide North Yorkshire County Council's new combined Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Strategies currently being developed.
Yorkshire & Humber Assembly, Building the Benefits, Regional Sustainable Development Framework, Update 2003		
The region's strategy for integrating sustainability into regional strategies and plans.	The Framework contains 15 sustainability aims that are intended to provide the basis of the region's sustainability appraisal, and to be used in the RSS.	Shares most of the indicators with 'Advancing Together'. The aims of this document will be fully integrated into the revised RSS.
Government Office for Yorkshire & Humber, A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber, June 2005		
	<p>Each region has been commissioned to present clear priorities to meet the Government's headline objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and social regeneration • Social justice for all • Enhancing the value of our countryside 	Intended as a starting point in developing better quality regional rural evidence. Will help in the preparation of the LDF by providing a breakdown of Craven District in comparison with the other Districts in North Yorkshire.

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	Five main chapters covering the economy, infrastructure, environment, education and skills and quality of life in rural Yorkshire and the Humber. A chapter on Governance and civic participation was not included due to a lack of available data.	
English Heritage, Heritage Counts 2004, The State of Yorkshire's Historic Environment		
	<p>Outlines key facts for the historic environment of Yorkshire, buildings and landscapes at risk, scheduled ancient monuments at risk.</p> <p>Outlines that Yorkshire has recorded the greatest increase in visits to country parks of all regions, and the second highest regional increase in visits to gardens. Whereas Yorkshire's historic properties showed a 4% decline on visitor numbers from 2002/03. Also highlights the importance of tourism to contribute to the region's economy.</p>	Background context for historic environment, and also relevance for sustainable tourism/economic development.
Regional Cultural Strategy, Deep Roots, Real Achievements, Lofty Ambitions, Yorkshire Cultural Consortium, 2001		
	<p>The Regional Cultural Strategy aspiration is that by 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone in the region leads a rich, diverse and fulfilling cultural life, with a strong sense of community and a healthy lifestyle • Culture and the creative industries make a substantial contribution to a thriving regional economy • All barriers to participation in the region's culture are removed - whether due to geography, education, background, ability or income • The distinctive, diverse, world-class culture of Yorkshire and the Humber holds its rightful place in Britain, Europe and the world • Local, regional, national and European resources are maximised to provide excellent, accessible, well-used cultural services and facilities 	The aims of the Cultural Strategy will have been considered in consultations and preparation of the Community Plan and will therefore feed through into the LDF.
The Regional Environmental Enhancement Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber, The Yorkshire & Humber Regional Environmental Forum, 2003		
	The Strategy presents five to ten year regional objectives for	The Enhancement Strategy is non statutory, but is seen as important conduit for

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>environmental enhancement arranged within four themes, as well as a set of practical 2 – 5 year actions to achieve these objectives.</p> <p>The four themes are:</p> <p>Theme 1: building knowledge and understanding – creating a region where decisions are based on a real understanding of the environment and a desire to enhance it;</p> <p>Theme 2: conserving environmental resources – making radical improvements in resource efficiency to bring the region's consumption within the carrying capacity of the environment and prevent further induced climate change, both inside and outside the region;</p> <p>Theme 3: managing environmental change – taking every possible opportunity to enhance its environmental wealth, by repairing past damage and giving people and nature the chance to thrive and adapt in a changing climate;</p> <p>Theme 4: making community connections – engaging people and organisations to ensure that everyone can use and enjoy the environment in their everyday lives, and have real opportunity and incentive to participate in shaping and enhancing that environment.</p>	<p>providing expertise and links to other higher level strategies such as the RPG and RES.</p> <p>At a local authority level, the Strategy is seen as an opportunity for decision-makers to highlight opportunities to enhance their contribution to the environmental quality of the region.</p> <p>Theme 4 emphasises the importance of strategic green networks, health and the environment and the sometime damaging impacts relating to tourism, leisure and recreation use. These are all issues that the LDF will need to consider.</p>
Sustainable Communities in Yorkshire and Humber, ODPM, 2003		
	<p>This regional Plan sets out proposals for implementing the national plan (<i>Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future</i>) following on from the Regions' <i>White Paper – Your Region, Your Choice</i> to decentralise power and strengthen regional policy.</p> <p>It is an action plan that is intended to build successful, thriving and inclusive communities in which people want to live and are:</p> <p>economically prosperous; have decent homes at a price people can afford; safeguard the countryside; enjoy a well-designed, accessible and pleasant living and working</p>	<p>The intention is that GOYH will be working with regional and local partners to build upon these proposals and to link them with other relevant programmes. The document provides important context for sustainable communities that will need to be reflected in the LDF.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	environment; and are effectively and fairly governed with a strong sense of community.	
Moving Forward: the Northern Way, One NorthEast, Yorkshire Forward and Northwest Development Agency, 2004		
	<p>A growth strategy to develop new city region growth strategies for each of the major conurbations of the North with the aim of bringing more people back into work, to create truly sustainable communities and to create better transport links in the North.</p> <p>The First Growth Strategy Report indicates that the vision is “Together we will establish the North of England as an area of exceptional opportunity, combining a world-class economy with a superb quality of life”.</p>	Delivery of the Plan is to be achieved through a new joint delivery team comprising the three RDAs.
Countryside Character Area Volume 3 : Yorkshire & The Humber, Countryside Commission, 1999		
	<p>Sets out the approach to mapping and describing countryside character in England. Identifies 24 Character Areas within Yorkshire and The Humber.</p> <p>The Craven area includes the characteristics of five of the Character Areas:</p> <p>21: Yorkshire Dales</p> <p>33: Bowland Fringe and Pendle Hill</p> <p>34: Bowland Fells</p> <p>35: Lancashire Valleys</p> <p>36: Southern Pennines</p>	The key areas of landscape character identified in the Countryside Character methodology are referenced within the Landscape Appraisal undertaken for Craven DC in October 2002. This highlights that the main impacts on the landscape are as a result of pressures from urbanisation, increased mobility and leisure pursuits, in addition to changes in agricultural land management.
COUNTY LEVEL		
North Yorkshire County Structure Plan 1991 - 2006		
	The Structure Plan directs the majority of new development in the County including homes, employment and facilities in and around the main urban areas and the market towns. In rural areas, the remaining provision is to be made within the identified service villages or centres. During the Plan period	Following the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act (2004), the County Council will no longer prepare strategic policies. The RSS and emerging LDF will form the development plan. The current Structure Plan will remain part of the development plan until September 2007

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>the majority of new development is to be located in and around Skipton.</p> <p>The existing policies for Housing H1 and allocation of Employment Land Policy 15 for industrial business development still remain, as well as Policy 18 that permits small scale industrial development of an appropriate type in rural settlements.</p>	
North Yorkshire County Council, Waste Local Plan Revised Deposit Draft, 2001		
	<p>The Plan develops Structure Plan policies into detailed policies and proposals to provide a framework for decisions on waste disposal up to 2006.</p> <p>It seeks a balance between providing essential facilities to treat and dispose of waste and the need to protect and, where possible, enhance the environment and the quality of life in North Yorkshire in accordance with the principles of sustainable development. It gives a priority to reducing waste generation and a greater priority to the recovery and re-use of waste.</p>	<p>The Waste Local Plan is yet to be adopted but will be saved for a period of 3 years while the new Minerals & Waste Development Framework is introduced.</p>
North Yorkshire Minerals Local Plan : Adopted 1997		
	<p>Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure an adequate and steady supply of minerals • To encourage greater use of alternatives to primary resources • To limit the adverse effects of mineral extraction on the environment and local amenity • To encourage, through the reclamation of mineral workings, the longer term enhancement of the environment and local amenity • To encourage the utilisation of the most environmentally acceptable standards of mineral operations and processing • To prevent the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral 	<p>This Plan is being replaced by the new combined Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Strategies which are currently in preparation and will provide important context for the LDF</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>resources and to minimise potential conflict with non-mineral development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To sustain the contribution of mineral related employment to the rural economy 	
North Yorkshire County Council : Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Strategies – Sustainability Appraisal : Consultation Draft Scoping Report		
	<p>Draft Minerals Strategic Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring adequate and steady supply of minerals in accordance with national and regional guidelines Protecting rural communities and local amenity Long term protection and enhancement of the environment Contribution of minerals industry to a strong and diverse rural economy Encourage use of secondary and recycled aggregates Conserving and enhancing natural resources Encouraging local participation in the decision making process 	<p>The SA being undertaken highlights the importance of considering sub-objectives relating to quality of restoration, prudent efficient use and minimising disruption of minerals development, operational activities, and restoration. The LDF will need to consider the land use implications and environmental impacts that could arise from future mineral working.</p>
	<p>Draft Waste Strategic Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure an adequate and integrated network of facilities to deal with waste Reduction in the amount of waste requiring treatment and disposal Encourage sustainable methods of waste treatment and disposal Long term protection and enhancement of the environment Limit the potential adverse impacts of waste management Conserving and enhancing natural resources Encouraging local participation in the decision making process 	<p>The LDF will need to consider the implications for future waste processing sites and facilities</p>
North Yorkshire County Council (2000) Local Transport Plan 2001-2006		

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>5 Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting economic prosperity • improving community life • improving safety • protecting and enhancing environmental quality 	To be replaced by the LTP2 submitted to the Department for Transport at the end of July 2005. The LDF will need to take account of policies and priorities emerging in the new version.
North Yorkshire County Council – Local Transport Plan 2006 -2016 – Draft		
	<p>Aims:</p> <p>To make North Yorkshire a better place by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing equality of opportunity for all • Protecting and enhancing the environment • Improving the safety and health of residents and visitors • Increasing economic prosperity • Building sustainable communities • Reducing the need and demand for travel <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility – to ensure good access to key services (education, health, food, employment and recreation and tourism) for everyone • Safety – to improve safety for all highway users • Environment – to enhance the natural and built environment through the appropriate provision of services and transport, and where necessary protect it from the impacts of these provisions • Congestion – to ensure that traffic congestion, and its adverse environmental and social effects, is minimised in both rural and urban areas • Quality of Life – to ensure that transport provision contributes towards the promotion of healthy and sustainable communities • Economy – to provide and maintain an efficient transport network contributing towards increased economic prosperity for everyone • Efficiency – to ensure that the management and maintenance of the transport infrastructure contributes towards the efficient use of resources. 	The Final Draft of the LTP2 for North Yorkshire will set out the transport priorities for the District, including safeguarding land for potential future transport schemes.

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
North Yorkshire County Council Transport and Sustainable Tourism Measures, Consultation Draft		
	<p>Aim:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To actively encourage visitors and residents to use passenger transport and other green modes when visiting destinations from within and outside the County. Includes ten measures to address key issues, with an emphasis on integrating and co-ordinated transport network and facilitating and encouraging sustainable tourism by creating a network of routes that facilitate journeys by all modes and linking those networks through transport interchange facilities. 	<p>The LDF needs to be aware of proposals for the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) that will be submitted within the LTP2 in order to develop new and existing routes, and to consider the opportunities offered by rail stations within Craven to encourage sustainable tourism.</p> <p>The LDF will need to have regard to safeguarding land for potential future transport schemes outlined in the LTP2.</p>
North Yorkshire Sub Regional Investment Plan 2004-2009, York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit, Draft April 2005,		
	<p>The Appendix document to the Plan - <i>Investment Themes and Priority Actions</i> sets out sub regional themes that take forward Regional Economic Strategy (RES) objectives and the spatial framework for local projects.</p> <p>Of the seven Spatial Investment Themes, Craven falls within area E with Richmondshire. The aim is to utilise heritage and natural cultural assets of the upland areas and their market towns as economic drivers in this area.. A priority action identified is to promote diversification for traditional industries.</p>	<p>The themes identified within the Plan connect with national and regional priorities, and provide context for development of actions at the local level, and are therefore important context for the LDF.</p>
Adjacent Local Authority Local Plans and Local Development Framework Documents		
Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Adopted Unitary Development Plan for the Bradford District (1998); First Deposit Replacement UDP (2001); Modifications to the replacement UDP (2004)		
<p>The Modifications to the UDP may be subject to post-Inquiry revisions, but the final UDP is likely to be adopted in the autumn of 2005. Work on the Local Development Scheme, Core Strategy, SPD and SCI is commencing shortly.</p>	<p>The Report to the Council Executive on 'Modifications to the replacement UDP' (Nov.2004) highlights that the Council has made key proposals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A hierarchy of urban areas to locate new development which the Inspector has recommended should place emphasis on Bradford and Keighley, downgrading the role of Silsden contrary to the Council's proposals; 	<p>The Bradford MDC is awaiting the final RSS to propose the role of the district as part of the wider sub-region, set new housing targets and review brownfield targets. The RRS may define the role of the Bradford and Leeds urban area, and propose Airedale for sub-regional regeneration, and define the role of the green belt. Bradford MDC is expecting to develop an Airedale Master Plan and this may propose changes for the rural hinterland which could have implications for transport improvements and cross-boundary issues.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Inspector has recommended not locating development at Silsden but releasing land at Menston; The Council has indicated that the green belt should last until 2020, but the Inspector proposes 2026, and reviewing which sites should be removed from the green belt or safeguarded for development. 	
Harrogate Borough Council, Harrogate District Local Plan (adopted 2001); Harrogate Local Plan Selective Alteration May (2004): Draft Statement of Community Involvement (June 2005)		
<p>The Harrogate BC District Local Plan will remain in place until September 2007 and some policies will be saved into the LDF policies in DPDs.</p> <p>New style policies in the Core Strategy will replace some of the HDLP policies including Impact on the Environment and Amenity, Managed Housing Site Release, Affordable Housing, Housing Development in the Main Settlements and Villages and Rural Affordable Housing.</p>	<p>Main elements of the Local Plan Strategy (adopted 2003):</p> <p>The protection and enhancement of the special character and environment of the Harrogate District</p> <p>Seeking an environmentally sustainable quantity, pattern and form of development to facilitate the conservation of energy and other natural resources and the minimisation of pollution.</p> <p>Providing sufficient land to meet local housing requirements including the need for affordable housing.</p> <p>Ensuring that adequate land is available to meet local employment needs and to create a more diversified economy.</p> <p>Accommodating most of the District's development needs within or adjoining existing built-up areas, maximising as far as possible the use of vacant and under-used land.</p> <p>Encouraging the development of a safe, accessible and efficient transport system which minimises environmental harm and serves existing and future development.</p> <p>Providing a good range of quality services, including shopping, leisure and other community facilities, throughout the District.</p> <p>Supporting the revitalisation and diversification of the rural economy in ways that maintain or enhance the environment.</p>	<p>The Statement of Community Involvement (2005) indicates that Harrogate has seen an influx of middle-aged people with families seeking the attractive educational and environmental opportunities, and it is also a desirable place to retire. This has led to house prices in the District exceeding national and regional averages.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>Protecting the countryside by restraining development which is inappropriate or does not need to be located there.</p> <p>The Selective Alteration (May 2004) indicates that the projected population change for the Borough is 13% between 1996 – 2021, the highest of all the authorities in the Yorkshire and Humber region.</p>	
Lancaster District Council, Lancaster District Local Plan 1996-2006 (adopted April 2004); Lancaster District Local Development Framework Core Strategy – Issues and Options Paper, (December 2004)		
<p>The Adopted Local Plan has 5 main elements including: a strategy of urban concentration; protection of the North Lancashire Green Belt, the Arncliffe/Silverdale and Forest of Bowland AONBs; directing development to locations along the Primary Bus Corridor and protecting and enhancing the District's town centres.</p>	<p>Relevant factors identified for the Craven Border (within the LDF Core Strategy Issues & Options Paper):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection and restraint of development within the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB; • Identifying Bentham as a local service centre and containing policies to protect village shops; • Inclusion of the recently detrunked A65 with the Strategic Route Network and proposals for bypasses for Conistone Cold, Gargrave and Long Preston/Hellifield on the A65 to improve road linkages between the District and West Yorkshire; • Inclusion of the Leeds-Carnforth railway line within the Strategic Transport Network; <p>Protection of surviving sections of the former Clapham-Sedburgh railway line for recreational use;</p> <p>National Cycle Route 68, the Pennine Cycleway running through Ingleton on route from Derby to Berwick on Tweed.</p>	<p>Much of the Forest of Bowland and Upper Lune Valley of Lancaster District border Craven District. The LDF Issues and Options report indicates that the District is relatively self-contained in employment terms and its strongest linkage is with South Lakeland District.</p>
Pendle Borough Council, Pendle Local Plan 1st Stage Deposit (2003), Written Statement; Local Development Scheme 2004 – 2009, (January 2005)		
	<p>Local Plan Objectives:</p> <p>Creating confident communities that are socially cohesive,</p>	<p>The Local Development Scheme is at an early stage, but many of the policies within the Pendle Local Plan Review, First Deposit Stage are to be saved.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>tolerant and that consider the needs of all ages and cultures;</p> <p>Promoting the quality of the Borough's environment and seeking to achieve sustainable development;</p> <p>Creating a vibrant, competitive and healthy local economy that provides a wide range of employment opportunities;</p> <p>Providing high quality education that ensures that all the Borough's residents are able to achieve the best they can;</p> <p>Developing a Borough in which people can live and work without fear;</p> <p>Creating a vibrant housing market that will offer high quality affordable housing for all;</p> <p>Offering people access to quality health and social care and opportunities to pursue a health lifestyle, and</p> <p>Offering an attractive range of cultural and leisure activities.</p>	<p>The Borough has excellent communication links which open up the area to the rest of the country, including the A59 trunk road and links to the M6. Manchester Airport is situated only 60 minutes away from Clitheroe</p>
Ribble Valley District Council , Ribble Valley District Wide Local Plan, adopted (1998); Ribble Valley Local Development Scheme (March 2005)		
<p>The Council adopted its Local Plan in 1998. This plan was intended to provide a policy framework up to 2006. In accord, however, with the provisions of the new act, this plan is saved until September 2007.</p> <p>Annual monitoring of the plan has shown that the housing requirements set out in the adopted Lancashire Structure plan (1991-2006) are being significantly exceeded. Similarly, the council is in a position of excess when compared to the replacement Lancashire</p>	<p>The key elements of the Core Strategy will be a settlement strategy concentrating the bulk of new development to the key market towns of the borough, Clitheroe and Longridge. This is because these centres provide the most sustainable opportunities to meet development needs, and they also have areas of previously developed land capable of accommodating new development. A series of rural service centres will also be identified, which will act as hubs to accommodate development to meet the needs of their immediate rural hinterland. Smaller villages will be identified as locations where appropriate levels of development to meet their immediate needs can be accommodated.</p>	<p>Over 70% of the Borough is in the Forest of Bowland AONB. Clitheroe the main town lies to the West of the District which borders Craven District.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
Structure Plan (2001-2016).		
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Yorkshire Dales Local Plan Second Deposit, May 2003		
	<p>The Plan is currently under review, and is due to be adopted in 2005.</p> <p>The Local Plan Aims are:</p> <p>To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heriage of the National Park;</p> <p>To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park;</p> <p>In meetings Aims 1 and 2 – to seek to foster the social and economic well-being of the communities within the National Park and encourage social inclusion for all residents;</p> <p>To ensure development is sustainable and planning decisions are based on the precautionary principle;</p> <p>To respect the special charateristics of individual dales.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to take account of those parts of the District that will come under planning policies of the National Park and the implications of cross-boundary issues relating to housing need, transport and accessibility, and service provision. Craven District Council has made objections to some policies on housing provision.</p> <p>The 2nd Deposit emphasises that the pressure for development in the Yorkshire Dales is high, but its capacity to accommodate development without damage to its special qualities is diminishing.</p>
Forest of Bowland AONB Joint Advisory Committee, Management Plan, Achieving Aspirations Through Partnership, 2004-2009		
	<p>Vision for 2014:</p> <p>The Forest of Bowland retains its sense of local distinctiveness, notably the large-scale open moorland character of the Bowland Fells, traditional buildings and settlements patterns of villages, hamlets and farmsteads. Natural and cultural resources are sympathetically managed and contribute to a sustainable and vibrant local economy. The Management of the 'Forest of Bowland AONB has improved the quality of the landscape for all stakeholders.</p>	<p>Craven District Council is on the membership of the JAC for the AONB .</p> <p>The Forest of Bowland AONB Management Plan includes actions to monitor the first phase of Quiet Lanes and Greenways network and proposals for subsequent phases, as well as agreeing a road hierarchy for the AONB and the development of sustainable transport initiatives. Improvements are also planned for the Public Rights of Way Network will being link to the Yorkshire County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan with the Local Transport Plan.</p>
Local Level		

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
Craven Community Strategy : Your Community Plan 2003-2013, Booklet		
Provides the overall direction and vision for the District in the medium to long term	Aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prosperous economy • Education and skills for all • Sustainable communities • Good health and social well-being • A quality environment 	The LDF will need to incorporate the visions aims and objectives where they relate to the spatial expression of land use. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) will also allow for public consultation on LDF issues.
Craven District Council : Aiming High 2005-8, Performance Indicators for Best Value Performance		
Sets out 5 aims of Community Strategy and incorporates Corporate Priorities for 2005-2008	Aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prosperous economy • Education and skills for all • Sustainable communities • Good health and social well-being • A quality environment 	Best Value Performance Indicators link to target achievement only up to 2008, while LDF will need to consider longer term objectives.
Craven District Council Corporate Plan 2005-2008		
Sets out the Corporate Priorities for the District	Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and enhancing the environment • Building a prosperous district with thriving market towns • Balancing local needs for housing and business with conservation of the environment • Supporting community well-being; promoting culture and leisure • Providing accessible and excellent services for all the people of Craven 	The Craven LDF Framework document emphasises the close linkages between the Corporate Plan and Community Strategy. The LDF will make a direct contribution to 4 of the 5 identified corporate priorities.
Draft Craven Economic Development Strategy : Appendix I		
	Aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase output from existing businesses • Increase high growth business start-ups • Raise productivity of tourism • Raise productivity of agriculture The Vision is for an economy that can sustainably produce 3.5% growth per year.	Although the Economic Strategy is still at an early stage, it is a key document in the preparation of the LDF. Leeds City Region Development Programme identifies the need for growth of 3.5% per year for 10 years in order to match the economy of the south east, currently Craven economy is forecast to grow by an average of 2.5%. LDF needs to address the need to identify further employment land in the Skipton and South Craven area to accommodate current and latent demand, as well as maximising use of brownfield land. The Strategy also highlights potential teleworking opportunities and creation of

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
		affordable housing with live/work space.
Craven Economic & Development Group, Craven Integrated Development Plan for Objective 2 Priority 4, 2003		
	<p>Aim: to create wealth and prosperity through economic regeneration and improve the quality of life for all local residents through partnership working in the key market towns and their rural hinterlands.</p> <p>6 objectives</p> <p>Capital investment to be targeted at the development of high quality business units, particularly for expansion of SMEs</p>	IDP focuses on markets towns and key services areas of Settle, Ingletton, Grassington, Crosshills, Bentham and Hellifield. LDF needs to incorporate aims of this Plan, to help reach economic objectives and encourage more self containment in the rural settlements.
Craven District Council, Craven District Local Plan 1991 - 2006		
Sets out the development strategy for the plan area for the period 1991 - 2006 and contains planning policies against which development proposals will be assessed. The adopted local plan was formally adopted in July 1999 and will be replaced by the Core Strategy DPD and Allocations DPD. It is anticipated that these documents will be adopted by the end of 2007.	<p>The Strategy Statement emphasises the importance of sustainable development in the context of all aspects of policy within the Local Plan. The Local Plan area also has to take account of the physical relationship of the area with the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB.</p> <p>There is a general aim of development restraint (para. 3.1) across the Plan area with an emphasis on meeting the needs of District residents and restraining external development pressures.</p>	Annex D – Schedule of Saved Policies beyond 3 years within the Local Development Scheme 2004-2007 sets out the policies that are to be retained. This indicates that Policy ENV1 (Development in the Open Countryside) is likely to be replaced as part of an Allocations DPD following a review of settlement limits. Policy H2 (New Residential Development) is likely to be replaced, together with EMP2 (Existing Employment Commitment and EMP3 Employment Land Allocations) by a review of allocations.
Craven District Council, Local Development Framework for Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park, Local Development Scheme 2004-2007, June 2005		
Sets out the background to the new system of Local Development Documents (LDDs)	<p>Presents the National, Regional and Sub-Regional Planning context for Craven District Council.</p> <p>The LDS will not cover Minerals and Waste Local Plans which are being replaced by a Minerals and Waste LDF prepared by North Yorkshire County Council.</p> <p>The County Council is also responsible for producing the Local Transport Plan (LTP) which will set out the transport priorities for the District.</p>	The key relationships between other documents that the LDF has to take account are set out in Table I of the LDS, and saved policies from the existing Local Plan are included in Annex D of the LDS.
Craven District Council, Contaminated Land Strategy, 2001		

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>Incorporates District Council's Strategic Plan corporate aims. Sets out requirements to produce a strategy to meet requirement of DETR Circular 02/2000 and to meet the need to provide information for the Environment Agency on Contaminated Land.</p> <p>The Council's priorities are to: Protect human health; protect controlled waters; protect designated ecosystems; prevent damage to property; prevent any further contamination of land; encourage voluntary remediation and to encourage re-use of brownfield land.</p> <p>Relates to water and sewerage provision, groundwater extractions, quarrying operations,</p>	<p>Highlights that the Council holds some information regarding land contamination, primarily as part of the development control process. As a large part of the District is within the Yorkshire Dales NP that authority is responsible for delivering development control and planning policy within the Park.</p>
Craven District Council (2003) Urban Housing Potential Study for Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) and Background Paper to illustrate Sites assessed		
<p>A study to identify the potential for residential development on previously developed land, approved by Council</p>	<p>In line with national and regional guidance documents (Yorkshire & Humber 'Regional Good Practice Guide: Urban Potential Studies 2002', DETR 'Tapping the Potential: Assessing Urban Housing Capacity, Towards Better Practice, 2000) the study was developed to reflect the rural character of the study area and define appropriate settlements providing a broad range of services that could meet future housing development and incorporate sustainability objectives.</p> <p>The sub-areas include: Skipton and sub area Settle and sub area North Craven sub area South Craven sub area</p>	<p>Key aim of the Urban Potential Study is to inform the preparation of LDF for the plan area. The identification of sites does not represent acceptance by the Council that development of these sites for housing is acceptable in principle, and planning applications would be considered in light of relevant policy guidance and material considerations.</p>
Craven District Council, Craven Housing Needs Survey, 2001		
<p>A study commissioned in May 2001 to undertake a District-wide Housing Needs Assessment.</p>	<p>Key Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To determine the levels of housing supply and demand in the District To support the annual HIP bid To provide robust information at a ward level in accordance with PPG3 and to guide the location of new 	<p>A key document in informing the initial LDF of housing need. Craven is currently carrying out a new housing needs survey (August 2005) which will help to provide a more up-to-date picture.</p>

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
	<p>provision and development of the Housing Strategy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support Local Plan policies <p>Evidence revealed that the total affordable housing need annually is for 503 units, and even with re-let of existing stock and new delivery there will still be an annual household need of 3132 units, totalling 1,565 over the period to 2006. This amount is not expected to be achieved within the timescale.</p>	
Craven District Council, Craven Housing Needs Assessment, 2005		
<p>Assessment carried out in April 2005 and included a household survey; interviews with stakeholders; questionnaire to Parish Councils to obtain views on housing issues; and a review of secondary data such as house prices and the 2001 census. Assessment considered housing needs and wider market issues in Craven.</p>	<p>Key findings of the Housing Needs Assessment are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demand outstrips supply low proportion of social rented stock lack of vacant stock, particularly in rural areas evidence of hidden homelessness evidence that people are leaving Craven because of a lack of suitable accommodation overall shortfall of 1,440 affordable dwellings over the next 5 years research suggests that a range of affordable dwellings need to be delivered, with 70.8% for social renting and 29.2% intermediate tenure (e.g. shared ownership and shared equity). Housing markets in Craven are largely determined by migration patterns. There are Relatively self contained areas (e.g. Skipton, Settle); high priced rural markets (e.g. Upper Wharfedale), which is influenced by longer-distance migration from many parts of the UK; and areas particularly influenced by migration from adjoining areas, notably Lancaster, Pendle, Bradford and Harrogate. increase in house prices have exceeded increases experienced across North Yorkshire. Market drivers include accessibility to West Yorkshire, which encourages commuters into the area (noticeably to the south of Skipton). Other drivers include residential environment, traditional villages and market towns, lack of crime and good schools. 	<p>The housing needs assessment will be an important source of information for the LDF. It indicates the scale and location of demand as well as type (affordable, social renting etc) and key factors attracting people to the area. The assessment gives a spatial indication of the shortfall of affordable housing at ward level.</p>
Craven District Council Housing Strategy 2004-2007		

Key objectives relevant to LDF		Implications for LDF
In March 2004 a draft strategy was produced following the transfer of the housing stock to Craven Housing on 31st March 2003. This strategy is currently in draft format awaiting a decision from Government Office on it being "fit for purpose".	Sets out the Council's overall approach to housing issues, and its role as a housing enabler.	The LDF will need to incorporate the objectives of the Housing Strategy once adopted, through the implementation of a spatial strategy defining those settlements suitable for housing expansion, and identifying suitable small sites (identified in the Urban Housing Potential study), particularly through the use of brownfield land.
Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland Landscape Appraisal report by Landscape Design Associates for Craven District Council, 2002		
	<p>The report identified 22 landscape character types within the Study Area. It found that some of the boundaries between the landscape character types were transitional and not clearly defined, as in the Valley Landscapes and Intermediate Landscapes.</p> <p>The Schedule of Landscape Character Types includes the following landscapes:</p> <p>Valley Pasture Landscapes (6)</p> <p>Semi-enclosed Lowland (2)</p> <p>Semi-enclosed Intermediate Landscapes (3)</p> <p>Open Upland (7)</p> <p>Open Moorland and Moorland Fringe (3)</p> <p>Modified Landscapes (1)</p>	The report provides very important context for the environment, and in particular for potential impacts that the LDF needs to consider.

Appendix 3

Sourcing the SA Objectives

Table 3 Sourcing of Objectives			
RSS SA Objectives	Craven Community Strategy		
Good quality employment opportunities for all	A Prosperous Economy	Employment and earnings levels	Maintain full employment levels within the District
			Reduce the number of people who are unemployed
			Increase the number of local jobs created
			Improve the quality and stability of local employment
			Increase average earnings and incomes levels toward the national average
			Address the low earning levels of people living in the rural uplands areas
			Contribute to raising GDP levels within the District to the regional average
Conditions for business success, economic growth and investment		Sustainable businesses	Increase the number of sustainable new businesses
			Increase the sustainability of the agricultural and land-based sector of the economy
		Tourism	Increase the value of tourism to the local economy, whilst respecting the needs of the local communities
		Land and infrastructure for business growth	Ensure the availability of sufficient land, in appropriate locations, to meet future employment needs, via an enabling planning policy
			Ensure the full availability of serviceable and affordable broadband infrastructure and connectivity across the whole District
Education and training opportunities which build the skills and capacity of the population	Education and Skills for all	Young people's participation in structured learning and educational attainment levels	Raise the educational attainment rates for all young people resident in Craven
			Increase the proportion of young people aged 18-24 resident in Craven in full-time education or structured learning
			Increase the proportion of young people entering higher education in Craven
		Early years and childcare provision	Increase the number of pre-school and out-of-school childminded places
			Increase the number of places at after-school clubs, homework clubs and holiday play schemes
		Workforce skills levels	Increase the proportion of the Craven workforce with NVQ Level 3 and 4 qualifications in line with national targets

Table 3 Sourcing of Objectives			
RSS SA Objectives	Craven Community Strategy		
			Reduce the number of adults with low basic skills Increase the number of people employed in traditional, craft or trade skills in the District Increase the availability and accessibility of trade courses and apprenticeships
		Lifelong learning	Increase the proportion of adults participating in learning
Local needs met locally	Sustainable Communities	Accessible services	Increase the percentage of residents finding it easy to access key local services
			Increase the number of integrated and flexible rural and linked community transport services
			Increase the percentage of residents who are satisfied with rural and linked community transport services
Vibrant communities which participate in decision making		Community involvement/ participation	Increase the percentage of adults who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area
			Increase the number of young people involved in community activities
			Increase the number and range of out-of-school activities for teenagers
		Vibrancy of local communities	Maintain balanced communities in terms of age structure, households and occupation types
			Maintain the number of effective and active community organisations
			Increase the use of community buildings/facilities.
			Reduce the number of second homes, and limit the number of holiday homes in the District
Conditions and services to engender good health	Good health and social well being	Maintaining a healthy population and supporting vulnerable people	Reduce the death rates in line with national targets for cancer, circulatory diseases, suicide and all accidents by 2010
			Ensure all residents can access local NHS services, including dental, in the District

Table 3 Sourcing of Objectives			
RSS SA Objectives	Craven Community Strategy		
			Deliver a comprehensive health and social care service to older people Reduce the number of elderly people in nursing homes and increase the number receiving intensive home care Increase the provision of drugs and alcohol prevention and rehabilitation services to reduce the levels of dependency
Quality housing available to everyone		Addressing local housing needs	Reduce the number of people requiring local need housing, including housing for rent, owner-occupation etc Increase the availability of local need housing underpinned by affordability Reduce the number of unfit dwellings across all tenures and numbers of homeless/rough sleepers
Safety and security for people and property		Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour	Increase the number of residents who feel safe whilst outside Reduce the number of burglaries, violent offences, vehicle crimes and drugs crimes in line with local targets Reduce the percentage of residents who are concerned about noise in their area
Culture, heritage, leisure and recreation activities for all		Quality of life – culture, leisure, sports	Increase the satisfaction rates with sports, cultural and leisure facilities to the level of the best performing Districts nationally Increase the participation rates in active health sport and leisure activities amongst all sections of the population
Bio-diverse and attractive natural environment	A Quality Environment	The natural environment	Reduce the number of days with high-to-moderate air pollution Maintain or improve the water quality of main rivers and canals Increase the proportion of the Local Bio-Diversity Action Plan species/habitats that are in a 'favourable' condition
A good quality built environment and efficient land use patterns, that make good use of derelict sites, minimise travel and promote balanced development		The built environment	Reduce the percentage of listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments that are "at risk"

Minimal pollution levels. If environmental impacts are a significant result of the activity consider an EIA			Make the best use of redevelopment potential of previously developed land and make a significant contribution to the sub-regional targets
Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and a managed response to the effects of climate change. If environmental impacts are a significant result of this activity consider an EIA		Land water management	Reduce the number of properties that can no longer get insurance due to flooding Increase the number of properties on mains water supplies for residents who wish to be on mains water
Prudent and efficient use of energy and natural resources with minimal production of waste		Waste management and cleanliness of the area	Increase the percentage of household waste that is recycled or composted, and reduce the amount going to landfill in line with national targets Target for 2004 : 18% recycled Target for 2008 : 40% recycled Increase the proportion of residents who are satisfied with the cleanliness of their area
A transport network which maximises access whilst minimising detrimental impacts		Traffic and transport	Reduce traffic flow in rural areas Increase the number of passenger journeys made annually on local buses by 10% by 2005/06 Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents by 40% by 2010

Note:

RSS SA objectives have been based on Stage 1a Sustainability Report – The Preliminary Stage of the SA (incorporating SEA) of the Yorkshire and Humber Draft Regional Spatial Strategy), January 2005, Yorkshire and Humber Assembly

Appendix 4

Baseline Summary

CRAVEN DISTRICT SA/SEA: BASELINE INFORMATION

Possible Sustainability Objectives which may be used/adapted to form part of the SA Framework	Baseline Information	Trends	Indicators / Targets
Environment			
A. To maintain and enhance landscape and townscape quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 AONB Local Landscape Character Assessment identifies 22 landscape character areas encompassing valley pastures, semi-enclosed lowland, open uplands and moorlands. 23 Conservation Areas 4.5% of listed buildings (outside the National Park) in Craven were classified as 'at risk' in 1996.² 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of conservation areas in LA area – target 2007/8 = 31⁷ % of CA in District with up to date character appraisal (new)⁷ % of CA in District with published management proposals (new)⁷ Change in countryside quality based on Countryside Quality Counts data No. of listed buildings on the 'Historic Buildings At Risk' register
B. To maintain and enhance biodiversity, flora and fauna and geological interests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 SSSIs outside YDNPA³ 3 SSSIs bordering YDNPA 13% of Forest of Bowland AONB is SSSI⁵ Forest of Bowland AONB SPA and SAC (European Birds Directive) Nationally important haymeadows, heathland and bogs Important limestone scenery exposed as pavements and dry valleys, and sedimentary millstone grit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2004 36% of the region's SSSIs were in a favourable condition, those considered unfavourable but recovering was 20%, those with no change was 38%.¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of SSSIs in favourable condition, Current status in NY 19% Areas of BAP priority habitat No. and type of internationally/nationally designated sites
C. To conserve and enhance the District's historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 parks and gardens of historic or landscape interest – Broughton Hall and Gledstone Hall 881 Listed Buildings, 12 designated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unrecorded archaeological sites within rural areas, especially Forest of Bowland AONB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss or damage to SAMS, listed buildings, conservation areas and historic parks and gardens No. of sites subject to development

Possible Sustainability Objectives which may be used/adapted to form part of the SA Framework	Baseline Information	Trends	Indicators / Targets
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> as Gd. I 32 SAMs with LP area 		where archaeology is preserved <i>in situ</i> compared with those scientifically recorded
D. To ensure that new development is located in the most sustainable locations that are appropriate to settlement character.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craven is 8th most sparsely populated District in the UK⁷ 31% of the population live in Skipton the District Centre There are a large no. of dispersed villages and hamlets to the north and west of the District² The District is well connected to the mainline rail network⁶ Access to services and employment by sustainable modes of transport was 1 of 3 priorities in the public consultation⁸ Urban capacity for Craven is estimated to be 1,871 dwellings between 2002 and 2016.⁹ Housing Needs Survey identified that 503 units per year required¹⁰ Flood control measures introduced for River Aire and Ribble Areas most at risk from flooding include sections of Rivers Ribble, Aire, Wenning, and Greta³ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craven was one of 3 authorities that built a higher percentage of new houses on brownfield sites in 2003/4 (82%) compared to national average of 70.2%⁷ Craven and Richmondshire are top of wards for high affordability ratios for housing Annual mean temperatures could be between 1° C and 2.5° C warmer by 2050. Summers will be drier and reduction in rainfall of up to 10%¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of new homes built on previously developed land by 2007/8 53% CDC⁷ Loss of greenfield land to development Density of development proposals Proposed indicator for housing quality % of new development with water efficiency measures No. of new planning applications for development in floodplains
E. To encourage prudent use of natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One existing wind farm at Chelker Reservoir supporting 4 wind turbines³ 90% of residents live within 1 km of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of residents live within 1 km of a recycling site in Craven⁷ There are no waste incineration sites in the Plan area¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Yorkshire target of 129 MW renewable energy by 2010, with Craven providing 17MW from wind Craven target for hydro-energy is

Possible Sustainability Objectives which may be used/adpated to form part of the SA Framework	Baseline Information	Trends	Indicators / Targets
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a recycling site⁷ • Movement of aggregates is an issue in Settle from quarries at Horton and Helwith Bridge¹³ • CDCI provides 70 mini-recycling sites across the District • 1 major landfill site at Skibeden outside Skipton • Regional average of total household waste during 2003/4 was 439kg per person¹ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.46MW and 0.12 MW for photovoltaics by 2010¹² • CDC target for 2007/8 tonnage of household waste recycled 20.0%⁷ • CDC target for 2007/8 household waste composted 9.0%⁷ • No. of Kgms of waste per head collected – target 2007/8 472.1 Kgms • 33% of household waste is recycled or composted by 2015; • value is recovered from 67% of municipal waste by 2015; • amount of biodegradable municipal waste being buried in landfill sites is reduced to 35% of the amount that was buried in 1995, by 2020.²¹ •
F. To develop a managed response to the effects of climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennines and North York Moors have coolest and wettest climate in region¹ • Flood control measures introduced for River Aire and Ribble • Areas most at risk from flooding include sections of Rivers Ribble, Aire, Wenning, and Greta³ • There is one reservoir at Chelker • Air Quality results for 2003/04 were good and meet national objectives^{11, 1} 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual mean temperatures could be between 1° C and 2.5° C warmer by 2050. Summers will be drier and reduction in rainfall of up to 10%¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO2 emissions per head (kg) not currently available at sub-regional level (NYCC) Regional comparator 4700 • Days when air pollution is moderate or higher not currently available, regional comparator Urban 43, Rural 23 (NYCC) • Measures of chemical and biological water quality of inland watercourses 'good' and 'fair' • Incidents of major pollution

Possible Sustainability Objectives which may be used/adapted to form part of the SA Framework	Baseline Information	Trends	Indicators / Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of new development with water efficiency measures No. of new planning applications for development in floodplains
Economy			
G. To encourage conditions which facilitate business success.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craven has the largest no. of businesses per head of population within Yorkshire⁷ Craven has the 2nd highest self-employment rate throughout North Yorkshire (14.88%)⁷ Employment rate for 2002/3 was 82.7% higher than national and regional employment rates Craven's workforce is expected to grow during 2005, but 24% of employees have vacancies 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The creation of 460 sq mt of new business space; the creation of 15 new businesses; the creation of 125 new full-time equivalent jobs; the retention of existing large employers based in the District⁷ Investment levered into Craven target 2007/8 £3.25m % increase or decrease in the total number of VAT registered businesses in the area and type of business Land availability and annual take up on a yearly basis
H. To make the most of Craven's economic strengths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craven has potential to develop high growth sectors and clusters¹⁴ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of community broadband solutions target 2007/8 = 10⁷ No. of diversification applications which have received permission No. of tourist days and visitor spend (BVPI CS3-5)
I. To provide for closer links between where people live and where they work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service sector is very important for Skipton and Settle and accounts for 80% of businesses in these 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of development within 30 minutes public transport time of a GP, hospital, primary and secondary

Possible Sustainability Objectives which may be used/adapted to form part of the SA Framework	Baseline Information	Trends	Indicators / Targets
	areas. ² <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District is well connected to the mainline rail network² Craven is one of 4 Districts where there are no local job centres with a 2km radius of outlying rural areas¹ Access to services and employment by sustainable modes promoted within public consultation at one of top 3 issues⁸ 		school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of rural households under 2km from a primary school currently 92.1% (NYCC)
J. To provide a range of premises suitable to support the economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited supply of land is a key constraint to meeting future demand – LDF has to find sites in Skipton, South Craven and Settle¹⁵ Issues relating to land ownership north of Skipton constraining development 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North YCC Structure Plan makes provision for 25ha of employment land in the District up until 2006, and RSS recommends this is in main urban areas, market and coastal towns.
K. To encourage sustainable distribution and communication systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-employment is a growth sector and there are a large no. of small businesses⁷ 3.3% of those in urban parts of District commute by train to work¹³ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of green travel plans submitted
L. To encourage the provision of support services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10.6% of the population in the Craven District provide unpaid care, with 75.48% providing care for 1-19 hrs a week (not in scoping report) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability, use and access to green space % of people satisfied with sports and leisure facilities (BVPI 19a)
M. To improve the skills-base of Craven	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a significant skills gap identified by employers¹ Take up of training is poor¹⁵ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment rates Average earnings against high quality employment opportunities

Possible Sustainability Objectives which may be used/adapted to form part of the SA Framework	Baseline Information	Trends	Indicators / Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce skills • Workforce training • ICT skills
Social			
N. To enable improved community participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craven has a low ethnic diversity with 98.55% of population describing themselves as white (national average is 92.1%) • Market Town Initiatives, Parish Plans and Community Strategy and CIP programmes have involved community participation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coverage of Parish Plans • Production of Statement of Community Involvement
O. To provide support to deprived areas and disadvantaged groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only pockets of deprivation, some hidden in rural areas • Rising elderly population (20% over 65)² • 59.8% of the population living in outlying rural areas, compares to average of 29% across the Region¹⁷ • Glusburn and Skipton North wards feature in top 10% of SOAs in the Indices of Deprivation¹⁷ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMD measures of health deprivation • Household on the housing register • Supply of affordable housing • IMD housing deprivation • % of developing achieving Eco Homes excellent standards • Use of CH systems, double glazing and insulation
P. To improve the health of the population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17.23% of District's population have limiting long-term illness • Life expectancy is good in Craven, female is 81.6 and male is 78, compared to 80.57 and 75.88 nationally for England and Wales¹⁷ • 17.23% of population have limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.18% of people in Craven District perceive their health as not good, 2nd highest % of sub-region¹⁷ • Concentration of incapacity benefit claimants within Skipton South Ward¹⁷ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life expectancy at birth for males and females (NYCC) Current status 77.2 (males) and 81.5 (females) • No. of people with a limiting long term illness • To reduce the no. of those killed or seriously injured in RTA

Possible Sustainability Objectives which may be used/adapted to form part of the SA Framework	Baseline Information	Trends	Indicators / Targets
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> long-term illness (17.8% for England) • Suicide rates are higher than nationally • Craven is within the top five districts regionally with more road traffic accidents 7.9 per 1,000 pop, compared to England 5.8 per 1,000 pop.¹ 		
Q. To reduce levels of crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime rates are comparatively low in the District and show improvements since 2004, but remain a concern of local residents² • 65.9 offences per 1,000 inhabitants during 2003/4, reflecting rurality of region, one of lowest rates in the region.¹⁸ • Problems related to alcohol and drugs misuse particularly among young people¹⁸ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an obvious relationship between rurality and crime rate as York experienced more than twice the no. of offences with 2003/4 than Craven. (York 162.3)¹⁷ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households target 2007/8 4.80⁷ • Violent crime per year, 1,000 pop in the LA, target 2007/8 = 9.7⁷ • Vehicle crimes per 1,000 pop, target 2007/8 = 2.70 • Percentage of racial incidents recorded that resulted in further action, target 2007/8 = 100%
R. To provide housing to meet local needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban capacity for Craven estimates 1,871 dwellings needed between 2002 and 2016 including windfall sites (720) and small sites (238) • Craven has a very high affordability ratio for housing, and the top 20 wards were within Richmondshire and Craven in the region. • Housing Needs Survey identified that 503 units per year were 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craven built a high percentage 82% on brownfield sites in 2003/4 (national average was 70.2%)⁷ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of private sector vacant dwellings returned to occupation or demolished as result of actions by CDC Target 2007/8 = 8.00⁷ • Percentage of new homes built on previously developed land target 2007/8 = 53.0%⁷

Possible Sustainability Objectives which may be used/adapted to form part of the SA Framework	Baseline Information	Trends	Indicators / Targets
	<p>required (2001), but demand exceeds current provision¹⁰</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> House prices have increased by 116% between 1999 and 2004, average price £175,371 in Dec. 2004¹ 		
S. To improve education and skills of the population overall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational attainment is generally high although there are pockets of low attainment which the Community Strategy (Aim 2) is addressing² Skipton North Ward within the top 1% of SOAs in the Index of Deprivation,¹⁹ Craven has 23% of population educated to NVQ level 4/5. Poor levels of literacy and numeracy amongst the adult population¹⁹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 Key Stage 2 in English in maintained schools, current status 81.60%, Regional comparator 72% (NYCC) 2004 Percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 Key Stage 2 in Maths in maintained schools, current status 79.30% 2004 (NYCC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of students obtaining 5 A-C grades % of people with qualifications % of adults with poor literacy and numeracy levels
T. To improve access to a range of services and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.3% of the urban centres commute to work by train, and 2.7% in the rural areas do so¹³ Skipton has good transport links with three mainline services 14% of rural residents do not have access to a car Skipton and Settle are both healthy and vibrant centres²⁰ Bentham railway station provides a key link for the surrounding catchment²⁰ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of rural households under 2km from a primary school currently 92.10% (NYCC) % passenger journey by bus and train Footpaths and RoW easy to use by the public

References to sources of baseline information

1. Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (2005) A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber
2. Craven Local Strategic Partnership (2003) Craven Community Strategy, Your Community Plan 2003-2013
3. Craven District Council (October 2002) Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB, Landscape Appraisal, report by Landscape Design Associates
4. Institute for European Environmental Policy, GFA RACE (August 2003) Yorkshire & Humber Region: A Long Term Policy Perspective for Sustainable Agriculture: Environmental Impacts
5. Forest of Bowland AONB Joint Advisory Committee (2004) Forest of Bowland AONB Management Plan, Achieving Aspirations Through Partnership April 2004- March 2009
6. Craven District Council (2001) Contaminated Land Strategy
7. Craven District Council (2005) Aiming High, Performance Indicators for Best Value, Craven's Corporate Plan
8. Craven District Council (June 2005) Feedback LDF Conference, Issues Raised from the 'Shaping Places and Spaces Conference'
9. Craven District Council (September 2003) Urban Potential Study for Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park)
10. Craven District Council (2001) Craven Housing Needs Survey
11. Craven District Council (April 2004) Air Quality Progress Report 2003, Air Quality in Craven District Council Areas between January and December 2003,
12. Yorkshire & Humber Assembly (Winter 2004/05) Pre-Draft Regional Spatial Strategy Topic Paper 7: Energy, Consultation document
13. North Yorkshire County Council (2000) Local Transport Plan 2001-2006
14. Craven Economic & Development Group (August 2003) Craven Integrated Development Plan for Objective 2, Priority 4
15. Craven District Council (2004) Craven Business and Employment Needs Study, Draft Final Report by ECOTEC Research & Consulting,
16. Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber (2004)
17. York and North Yorkshire Social Inclusion Network (Winter 2004) Overview of Social Exclusion in Craven,
18. North Yorkshire Police (2005) Crime Reduction and Detection in the Craven District 2005/6, record of presentation by Chief Inspector
19. Yorkshire Forward (December 2003) Craven in Brief
20. Craven District Council (March 2004) Retail Analysis and Health Check – Skipton, prepared by Donaldsons, Leeds

21. York & North Yorkshire Waste Partnership (2002) Lets Talk Rubbish

Appendix 5

Summary of Consultation Responses

Consultee	Summary of Consultation Responses	Proposed Action Outcome
English Heritage	Para 3.4 National – As Craven has no Green Belt it is not clear why reference is made to PPG2	Omitted from para 3.4 and Appendix 2
English Heritage	Para 3.4 National – a force for our Future was published by ODPM	Amended
English Heritage	Para 3.4 Regional – For completeness reference should be made to the Regional Cultural Strategy which was produced by the Regional Cultural Consortium in 2001	Amended to include reference to the Regional Cultural Strategy in the text and in Appendix 2
English Heritage	Para 4.46 Given that the local planning authority designates Conservation Areas, it should know the exact number within its area	Amended to include reference to 31 Conservation Areas
English Heritage	Para 4.47 It might be better to begin this Paragraph by stating “The Sites and Monuments record contains a record of all known archaeological sites in the District. Some of these areas, although not Scheduled, may nonetheless be of national importance	Amended to include this sentence in para 4.47
North Yorkshire County Council	Testing the objectives: The reasons for testing the SA objectives against the objectives of the Community Strategy are unclear. This approach is unnecessary as the objectives of the Community Strategy were taken into account when the SA objectives were developed	Noted and a further explanation of why the Community Strategy objectives were tested is included in the scoping report under Chapter 7
North Yorkshire County Council	At no stage, no appraisal is required as the interim guidance states that Task A5 will be included in Stage B. However Task A3 states; “LPAs will be aware of many sustainability issues or problems which they face when preparing their DPD. They will be able to identify others in conducting the SA of the DPD based on (among other things; Analysis of possible tensions or inconsistencies between the current or future baseline conditions	Testing the Community Strategy was an additional extra, it was used to verify the SA objectives and explain to stakeholders attending the workshop how issues can be appraised. The SA objectives will be fully utilised in testing the Issues and Options papers

	and proposed objectives, targets or obligations	
North Yorkshire County Council	Indicators: While the indicators outlined are comprehensive they should directly relate to the SA objectives. The SA should ideally identify specific indicators that assess the impact of the plan against the SA objectives. Therefore, addressing the data and baseline gaps which exist through the iterative SA process. NYCC will soon be undertaking work on indicators for use in SA which will be available for use by the organisations within the county	Recognition is made of the data gaps in the scoping report and where possible additional indicators have been included under Table 6.2
Environment Agency	Sub objective: To maintain and improve water quality Suggested criteria: Will it improve water quality?	Altered
Environment Agency	Sub objective: To maintain and improve soil quality Suggested indicator: Area of contaminated land remediated	<p>This indicator has not been included within the SA Framework as Craven District Council will find it difficult to measure this indicator at present:</p> <p>Craven District Council's Environmental Health Department holds registers of existing contaminated land and land that has been remediated via notices served. These registers are currently empty as remediation work is done via an agreement between Environmental Health & developers through the Planning Process. These agreements would be very difficult to identify from existing systems and would therefore be difficult to measure this indicator at</p>

		present
Environment Agency	There appears to be an error for the sub objective To reduce water consumption. The criteria for it read “Will it reduce waste consumption? This presumably should read “Will it reduce water consumption	Amended
Environment Agency	There is also an error for the sub objective “To achieve efficient use of energy use” This should be remediated	Amended
Environment Agency	The inclusion of the flooding sub-objective should not be solely under the 'climate change' headline objective. Although flooding is likely to be worsened by climate change, flooding would remain an issue in a climate of stability as it is a naturally occurring residual process. My preference would be that the same objective is also included under the headline objective 'To achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development' as it fits more appropriately under this.	Amended
Environment Agency	I would also suggest a re-wording of the sub-objective. It currently reads: Sub-Objective: To reduce the vulnerability to flooding to people, property and the environment. Suggested Sub-Objective: To ensure that development is not at risk of flooding and will not increase flooding elsewhere.	Amended
Environment Agency	Suggested Indicator: Number of developments approved/allocated in Flood Zone 3. Suggested Indicator: % of developments approved/allocated in FZ3 which incorporate appropriate flood proofing measures. Suggested Indicator: Number of developments incorporating SuDS techniques.	Amended
Environment Agency	I would also recommend the following indicator: Sub-Objective: To maximise the use of PDL and buildings.	See reference to contaminated land above

	Suggested Indicator: Area of contaminated land remediated.	
Environment Agency	<p>SFRA</p> <p>Your authority should be undertaking a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). This SFRA should act as an informing tool when formulating your subsequent Spatial Strategy and Allocations documents. We would also expect some commitment in the Core Policies to generally encouraging development away from areas at risk from flooding and encouraging any developments which incorporate SuDS techniques which might have wider benefits in respect of flooding. It is important that SFRA plays an integral role and doesn't just act as a 'bolt on'. The Environment Agency will consider objecting to your Core Strategy and Allocations documents where SFRA has not been used to facilitate the use of the sequential test.</p>	Noted and reference included in Para 4.51
Countryside Agency	<p>Chapter 3:</p> <p>Include reference to the following publications</p> <p>National:</p> <p>Rural Strategy 2004</p> <p>The future of Transport 2004</p> <p>Regional:</p> <p>Regional Cultural Strategy</p> <p>Regional Environmental Enhancement Strategy for Y&H 2003</p> <p>Communities Plan Sustainable Communities in Y and H 2003</p> <p>Northern Way Growth Strategy</p> <p>Countryside Character Areas Volume 3 Y&H Ca 1999</p> <p>County:</p> <p>Sub Regional Investment Plan for York and North Yorkshire 2004-2009</p>	Included references in Chapter 3 and Appendix 2

	Local Level: Craven Landscape Character Assessment OSYDNP & FOB 2002	
Countryside Agency	Chapter 4: The Countryside Agency is able to provide indicators relating to two main areas, social via the State of the Countryside Report and through the work currently being undertaken on Countryside Quality Counts indicators. We see you have already identified the latter source in Appendix 4; this should also be linked to the Local Landscape Character assessment that CDC has undertaken for their area	Reference is made to the Local Landscape Character Assessment in Appendix 4
Countryside Agency	Chapter 5: The environmental/landscape information seems to be limited and does not identify access to the countryside from towns or links to the countryside via Green Infrastructure Corridors or areas of improvement relating to degraded land on the urban/town fringe. Walking is identified as an indicator however cycling is not, indicator relating to new or improved walking and cycling provision should be included. Linking Green infrastructure Corridors and access to the countryside by walking and cycling will help other indicators such as health and fitness of the resident and attract visitors to undertake sustainable tourism activities	Reference is made under Chapter 5 to links with green infrastructure corridors, access to the countryside from towns and areas of improvement relating to graded land or urban/town fringes
Countryside Agency	Chapter 5: Tourism economy will still be a key element of the economy in Craven yet on objective or indicator appears to be included in either Chapter 4 or Appendix 4 in particular green or sustainable tourism objectives and indicators should be included	Reference is made to the tourism economy under the SA framework and additional criteria has been included under the headline objective to develop a strong, diverse economic base “to the encouragement of sustainable tourism activities”

Countryside Agency	<p>Chapter 6:</p> <p>Additional indicators that have already been identified above are:</p> <p>Length of green infrastructure corridors</p> <p>New or improved walking and cycling routes and paths</p> <p>Indicators covering hedgerows and trees that have been lost or planted to improve the natural environment and biodiversity habitats</p>	Included all indicators under the SA framework
Countryside Agency	<p>The Objectives are very basic and some local elements need to be attached to them for example:</p> <p>Objective A should have “local distinctiveness” added before landscape</p> <p>Objective B should include “avoid damage to designated sites and protected species through sustainable and appropriate land management techniques</p> <p>Objective L could be improved by adding “To protect and enhance access to key community facilities and services including leisure and recreation services by means which seek to minimise environmental impact on the district and its communities</p> <p>Objective T To support the provision and retention of key facilities and services ensuring that local need are met locally wherever possible</p>	<p>These objectives are not the final SA objectives but ones to consider for inclusion in the final SA framework. Appendix 4 has been revised to make clear the differences between the possible SA objectives and the final version</p> <p>Amendments have been made to the relevant SA objectives and criteria to ensure these points have been taken on board</p>

