

SEA/SA
of
THE CORE STRATEGY
Preferred Options

Volume I
SCOPING REPORT

Prepared for
Craven District Council

by
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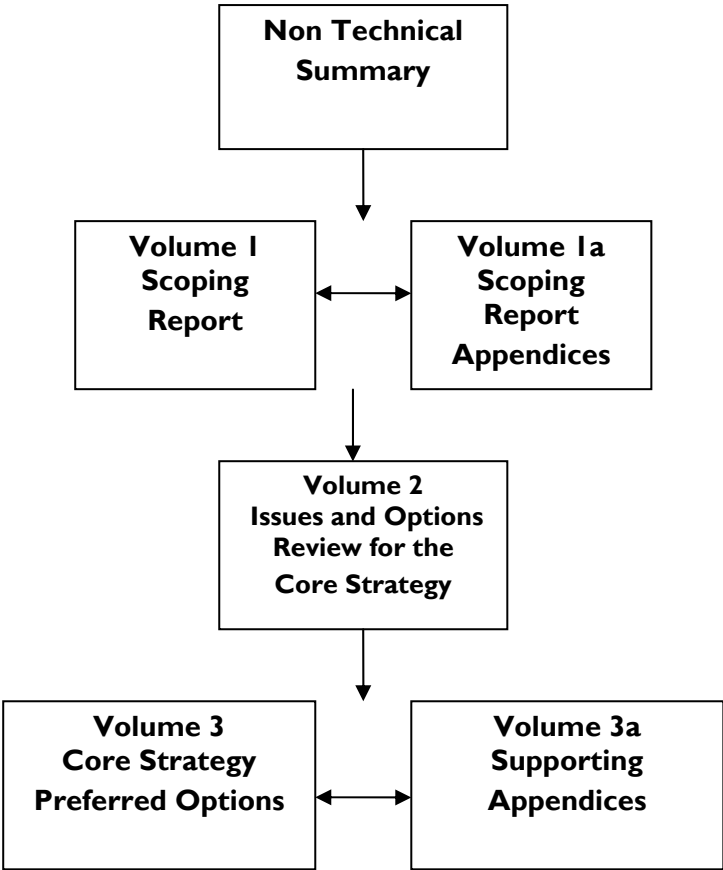
General points:70

Specific areas of weakness:70

I. STATUS OF THE REPORT

- I.1. This report provides a standard introduction to Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in relation to the planning process. It has been written specifically to set the context and provide baseline information for the SA/SEA of Craven District Council's Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD), which has reached the Preferred Options stage. This Scoping Report, which is formally required under the appropriate regulations, is an up-dated version of the first Scoping Report prepared in 2005 and amended in April 2007.

- I.2. For the avoidance of doubt it should be clearly understood that the SEA/SA for the Core Strategy comprises of the Non Technical Summary, this Scoping Report (Volume. 1), the Issues and Options Review (Volume 2) and a Review of Preferred Options (Volume 3) as shown diagrammatically below. The information contained in this report is common to all volumes and is presented in one document to avoid unnecessary printing and duplication.



- I.3 It should be noted that SEAs/SAs are also being undertaken for the following documents:
 - Site Allocations DPD

2. CONTEXT AND PURPOSE OF THE SEA/SA

INTRODUCTION

- 2.1. Land Use Consultants was appointed by Craven District Council to undertake the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) / Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of its Core Strategy which will form part of a suite of spatial planning documents to be incorporated into the Local Development Framework. The work has entailed a number of stages including the preparation of a Scoping Report (first published in August 2005) and an appraisal of Issues and Options completed in June 2006.
- 2.2. As detailed in Chapter 1, this report (and accompanying volumes and appendices) constitute the next stage in the SEA/SA process and contains a review of the Preferred Options relating to the Core Strategy. It has been produced alongside the emerging Core Strategy and will be published for public participation; providing the public and statutory bodies with an opportunity to express their opinions on both the Core Strategy and the SEA/SA Report. It should be noted that the final recommendations made in this report have not yet been included within the Core Strategy, as the Council will be considering them alongside the consultation responses received. The Core Strategy and the SEA/SA will be revised as necessary before they are submitted to the Secretary of State. An examination will then be held before an independent inspector to consider the soundness of the Planning Strategy. Following the publication of the binding Inspector's report the final Core Strategy will be adopted by the council.

PURPOSE OF THE SEA/SA

- 2.3. The UK planning system has undergone major reform in response to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004¹. These changes were paralleled by equally rapid advances in the application of SEA, under the EU Directive and mounting interest in SA. As such, all development plans are now subject to SEA and SA.
- 2.4. The objective of 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'*. These aims are broadly consistent with a range of national and 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;
 - (iii) identify reasonable strategic alternatives and their effects;

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

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

- (iv) consult the public and authorities with environmental responsibilities; and
 - (v) monitor the actual effects of the plan during its implementation.
- 2.5. 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.
- 2.6. The latest ODPM guidance³ (note that OPDM has now become the Department for Communities and Local Government) on sustainability appraisal 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.
- 2.7. Key outputs of the SEA/SA report are to ensure that the Core Strategy:
- complies with both the SEA Directive, (through the preparation of an Environmental Report) and the English Regulations,
 - achieves a framework for delivering more sustainable patterns of development, and,
 - is a genuine aid to the planning process.

WHAT DOES SEA/SA SEEK TO ACHIEVE?

- 2.8. SEA involves analysing and appraising the strategic environmental issues that arise as part of any plan or programme:
- Are parts of the natural and human environment likely to be directly or indirectly affected as a result of the policies, strategies and plans or programmes being considered?
 - Could these effects be of special significance?
 - Are there ways of reducing or mitigating adverse effects?
 - Can any beneficial effects be further enhanced by positive planning?

In the UK, Strategic Environmental Assessment is reinforced by the process of Sustainability Appraisal which asks of the plan or programme:

³ Sustainability of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, Guidance for Regional Planning Bodies and Local Planning Authorities, ODPM, November 2005

- Are all the relevant and significant social, economic and environmental implications of adopting the plan proposals taken into account?

2.9. These attributes are often referred to as the three pillars of sustainability, but the UK Government has widened the topics to be considered by redefining the definition of sustainable development as follows:

The goal of sustainable development is to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without comprising the quality of life of future generations.

For the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations, that goal will be pursued in an integrated way through a sustainable, innovative and productive economy that delivers high levels of employment and a just society that promotes social inclusion, sustainable communities and personal wellbeing. This will be done in ways that protect and enhance the physical and natural environment, and use resources and energy as efficiently as possible.

Government must promote a clear understanding of, and commitment to, sustainable development so that all people can contribute to the overall goal through their individual decisions.

Similar objectives will inform all our international endeavours, with the UK actively promoting multilateral and sustainable solutions to today's most pressing environmental, economic and social problems. There is a clear obligation on more prosperous nations both to put their own house in order, and to support other countries in the transition towards a more equitable and sustainable world.

Five guiding principles which drive this new policy are:

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

(Securing the Future – Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, ODPM, 2005)

COMPLIANCE WITH THE SEA DIRECTIVE/REGULATIONS/GUIDANCE

2.10. This SEA/SA has taken account of the full range of planning guidance and complies with the requirement of:

- The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004; and

- The Environmental Assessment Regulations 2004 for Plans and Programmes which incorporates European Directive 2001/42/EC (which came into effect in July 2004)

2.11. The SEA Directive requires the Environmental Report to identify, describe and evaluate “the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives” (Article 5.1). The Environmental Report is also required to include information that may “reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme (and) its stage in the decision making process” (Article 5.2). Information that is to be provided within the Environmental Report is detailed in **Table 2.1**, which also sign posts the relevant sections of the SEA/SA Reports which meet the SEA Directive requirements.

Table 2.1 Summary of the requirements of the SEA Directive and where these have been addressed in these SEA/SA Reports

SEA Directive Requirements	Where covered in SA Report
<p>Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is (Art. 5 and Annex I):</p>	
<p>a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;</p>	<p>Volume 1 Chapter 4, Volume 1a, Appendix 2 and Volume 3, Chapter 2</p>
<p>b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;</p>	<p>Volume 1: Chapter 4</p>
<p>c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;</p>	<p>Volume 1: Chapter 4</p>
<p>d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.</p>	<p>Volume 1: Chapter 4</p>
<p>e) The environmental protection, objectives, established at international, Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental, considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;</p>	<p>Volume 1 Chapter 4, Volume 1a: Appendix 2</p>
<p>f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. (Footnote: These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects);</p>	<p>Volume 3: Chapter 2 and 3 Volume 3a Appendices 1 & 2</p>

SEA Directive Requirements	Where covered in SA Report
g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;	Volume 3: Chapter 2 and 3 Volume 3a Appendices 1 & 2
h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	Volume 2 Chapters 1 & 3 1
i) a description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;	Volume 3: Chapter 2 & 3
j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	Non-Technical Summary
The report must include the information that may be reasonably required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Art. 5.2)	Volume 3: Chapters 2, 3 & 4
Consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4) 	Scoping Report August 2005 Volume 1a Appendix 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • authorities with environmental responsibility and the public, shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Art. 6.1, 6.2) 	Consultation on this SEA/SA Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7). 	Not applicable
Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8)	To be addressed at a later date
Provision of information on the decision: When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art.7 must be informed and the following made available to those so informed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the plan or programme as adopted • a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report of Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Art. 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Art. 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and • the measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9) 	To be addressed at a later date

SEA Directive Requirements	Where covered in SA Report
Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10)	To be addressed at a later date

STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

2.9. The remainder of this report (Volume I) is divided into the following chapters:

Chapter 3: Appraisal methodology, describes the SEA/SA process, the approach used and the specific SEA/SA tasks undertaken.

Chapter 4: A review of international, national, regional and local plans and programmes plans.

Chapter 5: Presentation of baseline information for Craven which describes, the characteristics of Craven in terms of environmental and sustainability issues.

Chapter 6: Identifying the key sustainability issues.

Chapter 7: SEA/SA Framework, sets out the SEA/SA objectives for assessing the Core Strategy

Chapter 8: Testing the SEA/SA objectives.

2.10. **Volume Ia** which supports this report includes the following **Appendices**:

Appendix 1: References

Appendix 2: Other Plans and Programmes

Appendix 3: Sourcing Objectives

Appendix 4: Baseline Summary

Appendix 5: List of consultees and summary of responses table

3. APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

- 3.1. This SEA/SA has been undertaken using the methodology set out in ODPM's SA guidance⁴, and is designed to meet the requirements of both the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the SEA Directive (European Directive 2001/42/EC). This report therefore covers some of the required elements of an 'Environmental Report' (the output required by the SEA Directive) as outlined in the previous chapter.
- 3.2. It should be noted that during the preparation of this report the latest Government guidance on SEA/SA was issued⁵ stating that an Initial Sustainability Appraisal report is no longer required (formerly defined as Stage B). The review of options now forms part of a wider review of issues and options leading to the prediction and appraisal of preferred options. For the purpose of this set of reports, the tasks and stages in the following chapters (also outlined below in **Table 3.1**) are based on ODPM's SEA/SA guidance (September 2004)⁶. They constitute Stage A 'Scoping' and Stage B 'Issues and Options Appraisal'. Although these stages and tasks are defined differently in ODPM's recent guidance issued in November 2005, the requirements marry with their earlier Consultation Draft issued in September 2004.

STAGES AND TASKS IN SEA/SA

- 3.3. ODPM's SA guidance introduces the SEA/SA process and explains how to carry out SEA/SA as an integral part of the plan-making process. **Table 3.1** sets out the main stages of the plan making process and shows how these link to the SEA/SA process. Progress with the preparation of the Core Strategy and the SEA/SA is discussed below.

Table 3.1 Corresponding stages in plan-making and SEA/SA (from Figure 2 SA Guidance, ODPM 2004)

Generic stages of plan-making	Stages and tasks	Purpose
Information gathering	Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	
	A1: Identifying other relevant plans, programmes, and sustainability objectives	To document how the plan is affected by outside factors and suggest ideas for how any constraints can be addressed.

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

⁵ Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, Guidance for Regional Planning Bodies and Local Planning Authorities, ODPM, November 2005

⁶ Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks, Consultation Paper, ODPM, September 2004

Generic stages of plan-making	Stages and tasks	Purpose
Identify issues and options and prepare for consultation	A2: Collecting baseline information	To provide an evidence base for sustainability issues, effects prediction and monitoring.
	A3: Identifying sustainability issues	To help focus the SA and streamline the subsequent stages, including baseline information analysis, setting of the SA Framework, prediction of effects and monitoring
	A4: Developing the SA Framework	To provide a means by which the sustainability of the plan can be appraised
	A5: Testing the plan objectives against the SA Framework	To ensure that the overall objectives of the plan are in accordance with sustainability principles and provide a suitable framework for developing options
	A6: Consulting on the scope of the SA	To consult with statutory bodies with social, environmental, or economic responsibilities to ensure the appraisal covers the key sustainability issues
	Stage B: Developing and refining options	
	B1: Appraising issues and options	To assist in the development and refinement of the options, by identifying potential sustainability effects of options for achieving the plan objectives
B2: Consulting on the SA of emerging options	To consult with the public and statutory bodies on the SA of emerging options to ensure the SA covers all the reasonable options and key sustainability issues.	
Identify Preferred Options (current stage of the SEA/SA process) Consult public on emerging options	Stage C: Appraising the effects of the plan	
	C1: Predicting the effects of the plan, including plan options	To predict the significant effects of the plan and its plan options
	C2: Assessing the effects of the plan	To assess the significance of the predicted effects of the plan and plan options and assist in the refinement of the plan

Generic stages of plan-making	Stages and tasks	Purpose
<p>Prepare the plan/strategy for formal consultation stage</p>	<p>C3: Mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects</p>	<p>To ensure all potential mitigation measures and measures for maximising beneficial effects are considered and as a result residual effects identified</p>
	<p>C4: Developing proposals for monitoring</p>	<p>To detail the means by which the sustainability performance of the plan can be assessed</p>
	<p>C5: Preparing the SA Report</p>	<p>To provide a detailed account of the SA process, including the findings of the appraisal and how it influenced the development of the plan, in a format suitable for public consultation and decision-makers</p>
<p>Full public consultation/ participation on plan/strategy</p> <p>Examination</p> <p>Finalise and adopt plan/strategy</p> <p>Publish adopted plan/strategy</p>	<p>Stage D: Consulting on the plan and SA Report</p>	
	<p>D1: Consulting on the SA Report alongside the plan</p>	<p>To provide the public and statutory bodies with an effective opportunity to express their opinions on the SA Report and to use it as a reference point in commenting on the plan</p>
	<p>D2: Appraising significant changes</p>	<p>To ensure that any significant changes to the plan are assessed for their sustainability implications and influence the revision of the plan</p>
	<p>D3: Decision making and providing information</p>	<p>To provide information on how the SA Report and consultees' opinions were taken into account in preparing the plan</p>
<p>Monitor plan/strategy implementation</p>	<p>Stage E: Monitoring implementation of the plan</p>	
	<p>E1: Monitoring the significant effects of the plan</p>	<p>To measure the sustainability performance of the plan in order to determine whether its effects are as anticipated, and thereby inform future revisions</p>
	<p>E2: Responding to adverse effects</p>	<p>Ensure that the adverse effects can be identified and appropriate responses developed</p>

METHOD OF APPROACH

3.4. This SEA/SA has been carried out in three stages involving the:

- Production of a Scoping Report (covered in this volume, **Volume I** and **Ia**)
- Preparation of an appraisal of the Issues and Options papers, 'Shaping Places and Spaces' (described in **Volume 2**); and
- A sustainability appraisal of the Preferred Options of the Core Strategy (covered in **Volume 3** and **Volume 3a**).

A final SEA/SA report will be prepared following the next round of consultations as described in paragraph 2.2.

Stage A: Setting the Context and Scope

3.5. LUC undertook Stage A (Scoping) of the SEA/SA process and consulted on the Scoping Report which provided the sustainability context for development of the Core Strategy and remaining DPDs and SPDs. The Scoping Report provided relevant background information on other plans and programmes, on the character of Craven District and the way in which sustainability objectives were defined. Specific details relating to the Core Strategy are covered in **Chapter 4, 5 and 6 of this volume, Volume I**).

3.6. The Scoping Report was circulated to local representatives of the statutory environmental bodies and other social and economic organisations following a workshop, which discussed the draft report, key sustainability issues and draft SEA/SA objectives. Amendments were made to the report based on an analysis of comments. A full list of consultees, a summary of consultation responses and how comments were considered is included in **Appendix 5** accompanying this volume, **Volume Ia**.

Stage B: Issues and Options Appraisal

3.7. The appraisal of Issues and Options (which is reproduced in **Volume 2**) represented a review of the broad issues and options relating to the preparation of the Core Strategy.

Stage C: Assessing Effects of the LDF

3.8. LUC has appraised the **Core Strategy** (April 2007). The appraisal considered whether the Preferred Policies were of a type that could give rise to significant effects in environmental, social and economic terms and what the nature of those effects might be. Having identified policies that had potential significant effects, the next step assessed how significant those effects were likely to be and whether there was scope for preventing, reducing or off-setting these consequences. All of these findings, have been drawn together in this report and the supporting volumes and collectively they form the Sustainability Appraisal Report (including the Environmental Report)

Stage D: Consulting on the Core Strategy and the SEA/SA Report

- 3.9. This Sustainability Appraisal of the Preferred Options DPD has been produced for the statutory six week pre submission public participation stage alongside the Core Strategy. In light of representations during this six week period, subsequent alterations may be made to both documents, the Core Strategy Preferred Options DPD and this SEA/SA which will be accompanied by a summary of how findings of the full SA process and consultation responses will be taken into account by the authority.

Stage E: Monitoring Implementation of the LDF

- 3.10. Stage E will follow the adoption of the Core Strategy. However the SEA Directive and SA guidance require that the Sustainability Report includes a description of effects which may need to be monitored. This is included in **volume 3**.

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

INTRODUCTION

- 4.1. 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**.
- 4.2. 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.
- 4.3. 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.
- 4.4. 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

NATIONAL LEVEL

Title	Author	Date
PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development PPS 1 Draft supplement Planning and Climate Change	ODPM DCLG	2005 March 2007
PPG3: Housing PPS 3: Housing	ODPM DCLG	2000 Nov 2006
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	2004
PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control	ODPM	2004
PPG24: Planning and Noise	DTLR	1994
PPS 25: Development and Flood Risk	DCLG	Dec 2006
Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended)	UK Government	1981
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW)	UK Government	2000
Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006	UK Government	2006
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 Economy	DTI	2002
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	ODPM	2003

Communities: Building for the Future)		
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 The Regional Economic Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber 2006-15	Yorkshire Forward	2003 and 2006
Advancing Together – Regional Policy Framework	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly, Yorkshire Forward & GOYH	2004
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

Developing the Regional Spatial Strategy, Draft Spatial Vision and Strategic Approach	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly	2004
Pre-Draft Regional Spatial Strategy Topic Paper 7: Energy Consultation Document	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly	2004
Yorkshire and Humber Plan, Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber	Yorkshire & Humber Assembly	Dec 2005
North West Regional Spatial Strategy	Government Office for the North West	2003
The Regional Housing Strategy	Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber	2003
Draft Regional Housing Strategy 2005-2021	Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber and Regional Housing Board	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
Regional Energy Infrastructure Strategy	Yorkshire & Humber Regional Energy Forum GOYH, Yorkshire Forward, Y&HA	April 2006
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
North West Yorkshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Harrogate Borough Council, Craven District Council, Richmondshire District Council and Yorkshire Dales National Park	2005

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	1997

	Council	
Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Core Strategies – Sustainability Appraisal, Consultation Draft Scoping Report	North Yorkshire County Council	2005
Delivering Sustainable Energy in North Yorkshire, Recommended Planning Guidance	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
North Yorkshire County Council Local Transport Plan (LTP2) 2006-2011	North Yorkshire County Council	March 2006
People, Paths and Places, the Rights of Way Improvement Plan for North Yorkshire	North Yorkshire County Council	March 2007
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
North West Yorkshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Harrogate Borough Council	2005
Joint Lancashire Structure Plan 2001 - 2016	Lancashire County Council	2005
A Landscape Strategy for Lancashire	Lancashire County Council	2000
Lancashire Local Transport Plan 2006 - 2010	Lancashire County Council	2006
Lancashire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2001 - 2010	Lancashire County Council	2001
A Greener Strategy for a Greener Future: A Sustainable Environment for Lancashire 2001 - 2020	Lancashire County Council	2001
Ambition Lancashire: Community Strategy for Lancashire 2005 - 2025	Lancashire Partnership	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
Core Strategy: Issues and Options, Topic Papers	City of Bradford Metropolitan District	Feb 2007
Harrogate District Local Plan, Harrogate Local Plan Selective Alteration and Draft Statement of Community Involvement	Harrogate Borough Council	2001, 2004 and 2005
Harrogate Borough Council LDF Core Strategy: Preferred Options Consultation		June-July 2006
Lancaster District Local Plan 1996-2006,	Lancaster District	2004

adopted 2004; Lancaster District LDF Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper Statement of Community (adopted) Preferred Option Consultation for Core Strategy	Council	2007
Pendle Borough Local Plan 1 st State Deposit Written Statement; Pendle Local Development Scheme 2004-2009 Statement of Community Involvement, adopted 2007	Pendle Borough Council	2003 and 2005 2007
Ribble Valley District Wide Local Plan, Ribble Valley Local Development Scheme Submission Statement of Community Involvement	Ribble Valley District Council	1998 and 2005 March 2006
Yorkshire Dales Local Plan Second Deposit Yorkshire Dales Local Development Scheme Yorkshire Dales Local Plan, adopted 2006	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	2003, 2005 and 2006
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
Consultation Draft Revised Craven Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2013	Craven Local Strategic Partnership	February 2007
Aiming High 2005-2008 Performance Indicators for Best Value Performance	Craven District Council	2005
Craven Annual Monitoring Report 2005/06	Craven District Council	2006
Corporate Plan 2005-2008	Craven District Council	2005
Corporate Plan 2006-2007	Craven District Council	2006
Draft Craven Economic Strategy, Appendix I	Craven District Council	2003
Craven Integrated Development Plan for Objective 2, Priority 4	Craven Economic & Development Group	2003
Craven Business and Employment Needs Study	Craven District Council	2005
Employment Land Review	Craven District Council	2004
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
Urban Potential Study for Craven District (Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park)	Craven District Council	2005
Craven Housing Needs Survey	Craven District Council	2001
Draft Housing Strategy 2004-2007	Craven District Council	2004
Craven Housing Needs Assessment Final	Craven District Council	2005

Report		
Craven District Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Forest of Bowland AONB – Landscape Appraisal	Craven District Council	2002
Craven's Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment	Craven District Council	2004
Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2005 - 2010	Craven District Council	2005
Craven Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Craven District Council	Draft consultation 2007
Retail Analysis and Healthcheck Studies for Skipton, Settle, Bentham, Ingleton and Cross Hills	Craven District Council	2004

4.5. From the brief review of other plans and programmes, some of the main issues which Craven District Council officers should consider in preparing the LDF are as follows:

- 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 Revised Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and The Humber will be a key document in influencing overarching spatial policies with Craven, which forms part of the Leeds and Bradford sub-area.
- 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. Consultation with key stakeholders and the public has recently been undertaken on the Preferred Options for both the Minerals and Waste Core Strategies.
- The 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. The intention is to develop twenty-eight Service Centre Transportation Strategies based around Local Service Centres as an approach to rural transport provision, linking to Policy T8 of the Regional Spatial Strategy.
- Cross boundary issues in the adopted 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.
- The Airedale Partnership Masterplan focuses on accelerating change within Bradford Metropolitan District Council and improving the connectivity between

the District's towns and their rural hinterlands with implications for transport improvements.

- Skipton and Settle are identified as the main market towns in Craven 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. The latest Corporate Plan⁷ for the District puts protection of the environment and building a prosperous district with thriving market towns as two of the five main priorities. The consultation draft of the revised Community Strategy is due to be finalised in April 2007.
- Craven has been given an indicative potential target for producing around 47.8 MW of renewable energy by 2021, and was one of six local authorities identified as having the potential for hydroelectric schemes in a study undertaken by a Partnership of local authorities in North Yorkshire⁸.
- The Craven Housing Needs Survey provides an up-to-date picture of the local housing needs and requirements with the household projections suggesting that there will be an increase of around 3,000 households over the period 2001 to 2021, and a particular increase in the proportion of multi-person and one person households. The Draft Regional Housing Strategy emphasises that balancing communities through the provision of new affordable homes is the most significant issue for North Yorkshire.

⁷ Craven District Council (2006) *Corporate Plan 2006-2007*

⁸ North Yorkshire County Council (October 2005) *Delivering Sustainable Energy in North Yorkshire, Recommended Planning Guidance*, Land Use Consultants and National Energy Foundation

5. BASELINE FOR CRAVEN

INTRODUCTION

- 5.1. 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 Guidance⁹. While data has been prepared under these headings, it is recognised that many issues will be cross-cutting.
- 5.2. 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 part of the report, which was issued for consultation in August 2005 has been revised to take into account subsequent revisions to emerging documentation including the Yorkshire and Humber Plan, Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber, December 2005.

BASELINE DATA AND INDICATORS

Data Sources

- 5.3. Data for this Chapter has been drawn from plans and programmes that have been reviewed in Chapter 3 and additional documents listed in **Table 5.1** below.

Table 5.1: 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
Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy 2005-2008 including Action Plan	Craven Crime Reduction Partnership	2005
Craven Local Strategic Partnership Annual Report 2005-2008	Craven LSP	2005

⁹ HM Government (2005) *Securing the Future on Sustainable Development*, The Stationery Office

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
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 Cultural 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	Environmental Health Dept. Craven District Council	2004
Air Quality Review and Assessment Updating and Scoping Assessment 2006	Environmental Health Dept. Craven District Council	2006
National Employers Skills Survey 2003: Key Findings in Craven Local Authority District	Learning & Skills Council North Yorkshire	2004

Data Gaps

- 5.4. **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, areas where traffic or background noise is a concern, and a lack of renewable energy data. Appendix 2 sets out a list of existing data sources. Baseline information collection is an on-going process. This chapter has been amended to take account of more recent publications, including the Craven District Housing Needs Assessment and other national and regional guidance which has emerged.

OVERVIEW

- 5.5. Craven is a rural District and the eighth most sparsely populated in the whole of the UK¹⁰. 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 north-west 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 locations¹¹ the boundary of the National Park bisects settlements and the population ratio is reflected in **Table 5.1**, resulting in a split in planning control between Craven District and the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Table 5.1 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

- 5.6. In 2001, the total population for the District was 53,620¹² 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 5.2**. 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 2001¹³. The gender breakdown indicates that there are 21,103 males and 22,903 females within the District, outside the National Park boundaries.
- 5.7. 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

¹⁰ Craven District Council (2005) *Aiming High*, Priorities for Improvement Performance Indicators for Best Value Performance.

¹¹ Craven District Council (1999) *Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan*, adopted 2 July 1999.

¹² Source Census 2001, ONS

¹³ Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (revised April 2005) *Headline Census Data 2001*

are also a large number of dispersed villages and hamlets particularly in the north and west of the District.

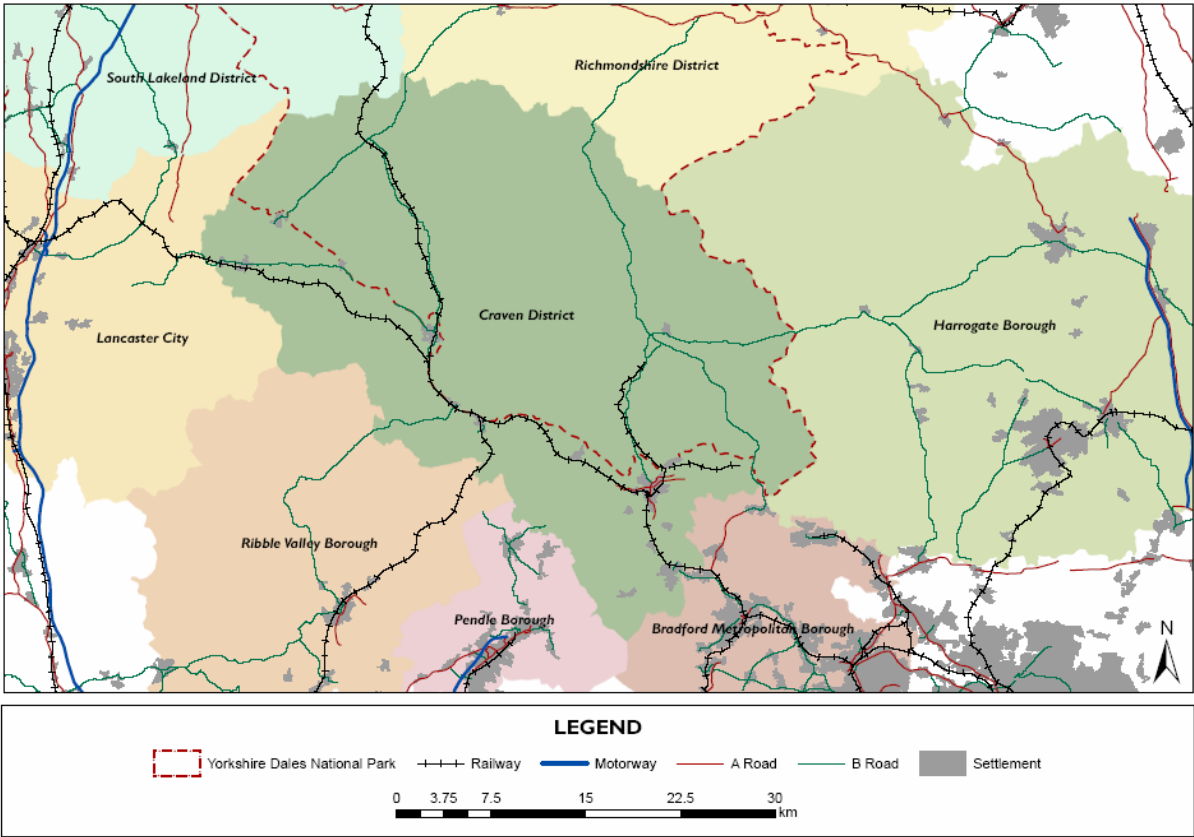
Table 5.2 Population breakdown for Craven District showing split with Yorkshire Dales National Park

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.

- 5.8. 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.
- 5.9. 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 5.1**.

Figure 5.1 Context Map



- 5.10. 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.
- 5.11. The economy of Craven is very diverse although it is predominantly rural District¹⁴, with agriculture and quarrying the traditional sectors. Craven has maintained high levels of employment through diversification and a growth in new micro businesses¹⁵. 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.
- 5.12. 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 2002/2003¹⁶. 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

- 5.13. One of the issues facing the District is an ageing population¹⁷, with approximately 20% of the population being over 65 years, and around one third being over 55 years of age see **Table 5.3** below. The gender breakdown shows there are 21,103 males and 22,903 females within the District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park boundaries). By 2028, the population profile is predicted¹⁸ to show a rise in the number of the people over 60 (38.6%). Whilst current statistics over the last five years show that retirement migration into the District has accounted for some of this increase (18.4%), figures also show that couples under 60 account for 21.4% and couples with children for 21.5%. Migration to Craven is largely from elsewhere in Yorkshire and Humber and the North West.
- 5.14. 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.

¹⁴ Craven Local Strategic Partnership (2003) *Craven Community Strategy, Your Community Plan 2003-2013*

¹⁵ Craven District Council (2004) *Craven Business and Employment Needs Study, Draft Final Report* by ECOTEC Research & Consulting, Birmingham

¹⁶ York & North Yorkshire Social Inclusion Network (2004) *Overview of Social Exclusion in Craven*

¹⁷ Craven District Council (June 2005) *Local Development Scheme 2004-2007*, for Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park, amendment to submitted version.

¹⁸ Craven District Council (November 2005) *Craven 2005 Housing Needs Assessment*, Final Report prepared by David Cumberland Housing Regeneration Ltd

Table 5.3 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

- 5.15. **Table 5.4** illustrates the number of people within the District with limiting long-term illnesses, and the number providing unpaid care and support.

Table 5.4 Health profile and unpaid care within Craven

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

- 5.16. There is only a small ethnic minority population, concentrated mainly in the Broughton Road area of Skipton.
- 5.17. Household composition is illustrated in **Figure 5.5** below, and will influence future demands for accommodation type and housing needs. The latest Craven Housing Needs Assessment (2005) illustrates that the household structure of the District differs to that of the Yorkshire and Humber region, as well as nationally. There are more couples without children (38.1% Craven; 30.4% YHR) and fewer couples with children (16.2% Craven 6.3% YHR), as well as fewer lone parents (4.0% Craven; 6.3% YHR). The household projections suggest that there will be an increase of around 3,000 households over the period 2001 to 2021, and a particular increase in the proportion of multi-person and one person households.

Table 5.5 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

- 5.18. 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 Humber¹⁹. 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

- 5.19. 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 Partnership²⁰ 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 areas²¹.
- 5.20. 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 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

- 5.21. 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.
- 5.22. Craven, Harrogate and Rural District NHS Primary Care Trust²² previously emphasised that the rural geography was a key influencing factor when implementing health improvement programmes within Craven. At that time the intention was to 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.. During October 2006 there were changes to the structure of NHS delivery and this has led to a merger of three NHS Trusts to form the much larger North Yorkshire & York Primary Care Trust which now incorporates health care provision for Craven District. There are now five District hospitals with accident and emergency departments located at York, Scarborough, Northallerton, Airedale and Harrogate and eight Minor Injury Units (MIU) found in the smaller community hospitals.

¹⁹ York & North Yorkshire Social Inclusion Network (Winter 2004) *Overview of Social Exclusion in Craven*, based on Defra Rural Evidence Hub.

²⁰ SPARSE (May 2005) *Sparsity Partnership for Authorities Delivering Rural Services, Rural Manifesto 2005/06*

²¹ Government Office for Yorkshire & Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and the Humber*

²² Craven, Harrogate & Rural District NHS Primary Care Trust (2003) *Looking Ahead, Strategic Framework for 2003-2006*

- 5.23. 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

- 5.24. 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

- 5.25. 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 young people, figures are comparatively low in the District²³ 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 District²⁴. The Council works in partnership with the Craven Crime Reduction Partnership, North Yorkshire Police and Craven Housing to address antisocial behaviour. Skipton, South Craven, Wharfedale and Settle were areas where crime related issues were previously the main focus. The Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy for 2005-2008²⁵ includes an Action Plan setting out targets for reducing crime and drug related anti-social behaviour.

Education

- 5.26. 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.
- 5.27. 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,

²³ North Yorkshire Police (2005) *Crime Reduction and Detection in the Craven District 2005/6*, presentation by Chief Inspector

²⁴ Yorkshire Futures, York & North Yorkshire Social Inclusion Network (2004) *Overview of Social Exclusion in Craven*

²⁵ Craven Crime Reduction Partnership (2004) *Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy 2005-2008*

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.

- 5.28. Poor levels of literacy and numeracy among the adult population (25.5% of the adult population compared to 24% for England) have also been identified²⁶ and resulting in skills shortages discussed below under the economy.

Rights of Way

- 5.29. 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.
- 5.30. 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.
- 5.31. 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 the area. The North Yorkshire County Council Local Transport Plan (2006) indicates that 80% of residents in the area use their local rights of way, with 84% walking from their local area. The top priority identified through consultation is for more circular routes, and a better linked and connected network. North Yorkshire County Council²⁷ has recently produced a draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan and this also outlines the main issues and opportunities for individual settlements (Appendix I).

Leisure and Culture

- 5.32. Although Craven is a sparsely populated it has a good range of leisure and cultural provision. An assessment of open space, sport and recreation facilities²⁸ 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

²⁶ *Yorkshire Forward (December 2003) Craven in Brief*

²⁷ North Yorkshire County Council (2007) *People, Paths and Places, the Rights of Way Improvement Plan for North Yorkshire 2007-2011*

²⁸ Craven District Council (August 2004) *Open Spaces Sport & Recreation Assessment Report: Executive Summary* report by Knight, Kavanagh & Page, Leisure Management Consultancy

of the population. The provision of a new swimming pool for Skipton is a key priority within the Plan timescale.²⁹

Housing

- 5.33. The 2005 Craven Housing Needs Assessment³⁰ outlines that the total dwelling stock across the District has increased by 1,660 dwellings (7.1%) during the last five years, principally through the provision of new building in the private sector. Owner occupation accounts for 22,772 dwellings (81.1%) and this proportion is considerably higher than for the Region and England as a whole. Social rented stock accounts for only 9.2% and there are 2,274 dwellings under the management of a registered social landlord, while private rented accommodation accounts for 9.7%. Levels of hidden homelessness are also high, with over 2,000 residents staying temporarily with another household during the year to June 2005.
- 5.34 **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).³¹ 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 a windfall allowance for 793 dwellings, with an additional 238 dwellings through small sites below 0.2Ha in existing settlements.
- 5.35 The Draft Regional Spatial Strategy allocations for housing provision from 2004 to 2011 is for an annual average of 2,850 dwellings in York and North Yorkshire (15,160 in total across the Yorkshire and Humber region), and for 57.5% to be on previously developed land (65% regionally). This low building rate is designed to restrain growth in rural areas and within the National Parks, while allowing some growth in the market towns. The revised Draft Regional Housing Strategy³² emphasises that balancing communities through the provision of new affordable homes is the most significant issue for North Yorkshire. In the high demand areas and rural communities with populations of less than 10,000, including those in the Golden Triangle parts of North Yorkshire and East Riding, the aim is to deliver 306 affordable homes per annum, 50% of which are to be in settlements with populations of less than 3,000.
- 5.36 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. The District forms part of a sub-regional housing market strongly linked to the North West and West Yorkshire markets and the Yorkshire Dales National Park. 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 of 70.2%

²⁹ Craven District Council (2005) *Corporate Plan 2005 - 2008*

³⁰ Craven District Council (2005) *Craven 2005 Housing Needs Assessment, Final Report*, David Cumberland Housing Regeneration Ltd

³² Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber and Regional Housing Board (2005) *Yorkshire & Humber Regional Housing Strategy 2005-2021*

- 5.37 **Affordability:** Research into rural housing in the Yorkshire and Humber³³ 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 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.
- 5.38 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.
- 5.39 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 Assessment (2005) has identified an affordable housing shortfall between April 2005 to March 2010 of 1,440 dwellings (288 per annum). This has been further broken down between Craven (213 p.a.) and the Yorkshire Dales National Park (75 p.a.). Research undertaken for the study has established that the range of affordable dwellings needs to allow for 70.8% for social renting and 29.2% for shared ownership/or shared equity.

ENVIRONMENT

Landscape character

- 5.40 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.
- 5.41 The most recent³⁴ characterisation adopts the Countryside Agency Landscape Character Assessment methodology to identify twenty-two landscape character

³³ 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

³⁴ 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

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 elevated pastures are also considered to be suitable sites for wind turbines,

Biodiversity

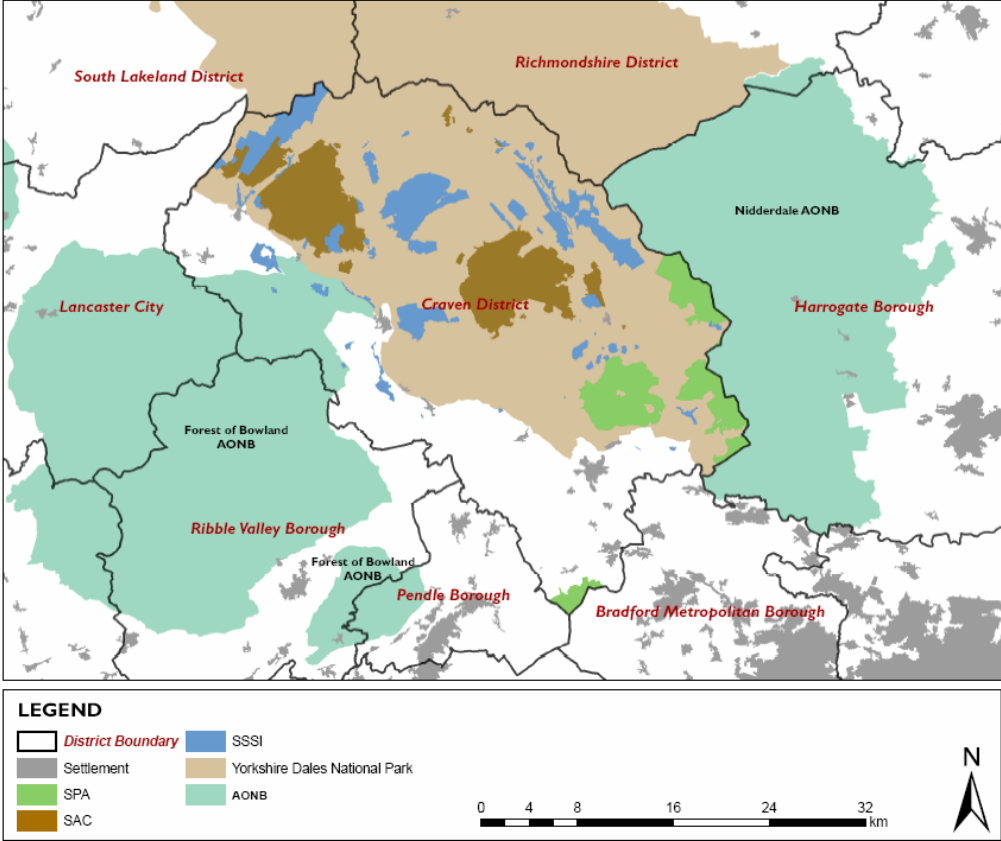
- 5.42 Most of the Forest of Bowland AONB is designated as Special Protection Area (SPA) or Special Area of Conservation (SAC), important for its moorland habitat and a major breeding ground for upland birds. A large proportion of the Bowland Fells is designated a SPA under the European Birds Directive, as well as 13% of the AONB being designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).³⁵ 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 5.2.**) These are all covered by Policy ENV.6 in the existing Local Plan.
- 5.43 On the basis of current knowledge, no sites are likely to be identified within Craven's proposed LDF documents 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.
- 5.44 A Biodiversity Action Plan for the area of the District outside of the National Park has been produced in draft³⁶. A Local BAP is a plan of action for protecting, conserving and enhancing wildlife at a local level. It reflects the existing national and regional designations and highlights important and native species to the area. The primary aim of Craven's BAP is to ensure the protection and enrichment of biodiversity in the Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) for current and future generations.
- 5.45 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 important³⁷; 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.

Figure 4.2 Location of Environmental Designations

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

³⁶ Source Craven *Local Strategic Partnership Annual Report 2005-2008*, Aim 5, p.23

³⁷ Institute for European Environmental Policy, GFA RACE (August 2003) *Yorkshire & Humber Region: A Long Term Policy Perspective for Sustainable Agriculture: Environmental Impacts*



Geology

5.46 Limestone related scenery such as Malham is the dominant overall landscape character of the Craven area, exposed as pavements and dry valleys³⁸ 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

5.47 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 1, 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.

5.48 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 the Forest of Bowland AONB and used to inform the AONB Management Plan³⁹.

³⁸ Craven District Council (2001) *Contaminated Land Strategy*
³⁹ Forest of Bowland AONB Joint Advisory Committee (2004) *Forest of Bowland AONB Management Plan, Achieving Aspirations Through Partnership April 2004 – March 2009*

The Plan highlights the need for further study and recording within the AONB and elsewhere throughout the District.

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

Climate Change

- 5.50 Climate conditions for the Yorkshire and Humber region⁴⁰ 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%.
- 5.51 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 flooding⁴¹ 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 are various reservoirs within the District namely Chelker Reservoir, Elslack Reservoir, Jenny Gill Reservoir, half of Laneshaw Bridge Reservoir and various underground, unnamed reservoirs. There are no further proposals for additional reservoirs.
- 5.52 A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has being undertaken by the District Council and will be used as a tool to inform the Core Strategy and Allocations documents. The SFRA was undertaken in joint partnership with Harrogate, Richmondshire and the Yorkshire Dales National Park and was completed in November 2006. 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 the SFRA played an integral role to informing the location of development.

Air Quality

- 5.53 The results of air quality monitoring for Craven District in 2003⁴² 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

⁴⁰ Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (June 2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*

⁴¹ Environment Agency cd supplied to Craven District Council (June 2005)

⁴² 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

period, nor were there any major new developments that could have increased traffic flows. The subsequent update and screening for 2006⁴³ also confirms that no Air Quality Management Areas have been declared in Craven District.

- 5.54 Regionally air quality monitoring⁴⁴ 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

- 5.55 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

- 5.56 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.
- 5.57 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

- 5.58 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

- 5.59 Craven has the potential to exploit renewable energy generation, but its own landscape character and proximity to the protected landscapes of the Yorkshire 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. The turbines at Chelker are, however, coming to the end of their working life and are due to be changed for two larger turbines.

⁴³ Craven District Council, Environmental Health Department (2006) *Air Quality Review & Assessment Updating and Screening Assessment 2006*

⁴⁴ 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)

- 5.60 The Yorkshire and Humber Assembly issued a second consultation topic paper⁴⁵ on energy in late 2004 which informed the regional and sub-regional targets within the Regional Spatial Strategy. The emphasis was on developing a regional energy hierarchy that gives priority to reducing the demand for energy, and then to using renewable sources where possible. The Regional Energy Infrastructure Strategy⁴⁶ highlights that Yorkshire and Humber contribute to between 17 – 18% of the UK's energy production while only consuming 7 – 8%. North Yorkshire County Council (2007) *People, Paths and Places, the Rights of Way Improvement Plan for North Yorkshire 2007-2011*
- 5.61 A renewable energy study was commissioned by a partnership of local authorities in North Yorkshire (including Craven District Council)⁴⁷. 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.
- 5.62 As mentioned earlier, this study was issued as Recommended Planning Guidance in 2005. It includes figures from a separate study⁴⁸ for indicative renewable energy potential for North Yorkshire to 129 MW by 2010 and 294 by 2021, with Craven providing 17 MW from wind energy (the same as Richmondshire), and lower than Hambleton which is to provide 40 MW by 2010. Craven's indicative targets for hydro energy is 0.46 MW and for photovoltaics of 0.12 MW by 2010.

Minerals and Waste

- 5.63 Development Plan Documents relating to minerals and waste are currently being prepared by North Yorkshire County Council (alongside an SEA/SA which has now 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.
- 5.64 Within Craven there is evidence of earlier lead mining/quarrying and lime production, and small scale coal mining around the village of Ingleton. The former Skipton Rock limestone quarry located just outside Skipton is currently dormant and unlikely to

⁴⁵ Yorkshire and Humber Assembly (Winter 2004/05) *Pre-Draft Regional Spatial Strategy Topic Paper 7: Energy*, Consultation document

⁴⁶ Yorkshire & Humber Regional Energy Forum (April 2006) *Regional Energy Strategy*

⁴⁷ North Yorkshire Partnership, *Renewable Energy Study for North Yorkshire, 2005*, LUC

⁴⁸ AEAT (December 2004) *Planning for Renewable Energy Targets in Yorkshire & Humber*

become active due to environmental concerns, but the remainder of the large complex is still used for removal and storage of other materials.

- 5.65 There are reserves of crushed rock identified in the Craven Lowlands, but there are no current mineral working 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.
- 5.66 The Local Transport Plan for North Yorkshire (2006) indicates that the movement of aggregates can cause significant local problems in some areas, and is 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).
- 5.67 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.⁴⁹ The latest figures indicate that this has risen to 489.26kgs per head.⁵⁰
- 5.68 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

- 5.69 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 2001⁵¹ 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.
- 5.70 There are around 2,300 properties⁵² in the District that are not connected to the mains water supply, and around 750 sites providing private water supplies.
- 5.71 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.

⁴⁹ Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*, Ch.5

⁵⁰ Craven District Council (June 2005) *Best Value Performance Indicator 2004-2005*, 2nd amended version

⁵¹ Craven District Council (June 2001) *Contaminated Land Strategy*

⁵² Craven Local Strategic Partnership (2003) *Craven Community Strategy, Your Community Plan 2003-2013*

ECONOMY

Employment Characteristics

- 5.72 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 employees⁵³. 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% were self-employed⁵⁴, the second highest self-employment rate throughout the York and North Yorkshire area, while unemployment was fairly low and recorded at 2.49%.
- 5.73 Sectors contributing the largest number of jobs are:
- Distribution, hotels and restaurants (30%);
 - Public administration, education and health (20%);
 - Manufacturing(16%).
- 5.74 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 Humber⁵⁵. A review of employment is currently being undertaken for the Scrutiny Board of the Regional Assembly by Yorkshire Forward to help determine the employer base in the future of the region, how the workforce can be prepared for this and what types of funding initiatives are available. The report is due to be published in July 2007.
- 5.75 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 expected their workforce to grow during 2005, but a quarter (24%) of employers had vacancies.

Land Allocation for Employment Needs

- 5.76 A recent study on the needs of businesses and employers⁵⁶ 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

⁵³ Craven District Council (2005) 'Aiming High' – Performance Indicators for Best Value Performance & Craven's Corporate Plan

⁵⁴ 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

⁵⁵ Government Office for Yorkshire & The Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*

⁵⁶ Craven District Council (2004) *Craven Business and Employment Needs Study, Draft Final Report* by ECOTEC Research & Consulting Ltd, Birmingham

connectivity is acting as a constraint for some businesses. Employment is the next issue being examined by the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly in 2007, as part of its scrutiny role, looking at how Yorkshire Forward is working with partners to deliver the Regional Economic Strategy

- 5.77 The Craven Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for Objective 2⁵⁷ has focused upon capital investment for the development of 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. However, the limited supply of land is a key constraint in meeting future demand and the LDF will need to find suitable sites in areas of key demand which include Skipton, South Craven and parts of Settle.
- 5.78 Discussions with planning officers indicate that there are also issues relating to ownership constraints relating to land to the north of Skipton. The North Yorkshire County Structure Plan made provision for 25ha of employment land in the District up until 2006, and the Regional Spatial Strategy⁵⁸ recommends that employment land should be focussed on the main urban areas, market and coastal towns.
- 5.79 A study on business and employment needs for the Council⁵⁹ concluded that the LDF should allocate in the region of 20ha of employment land, and that most of this allocation should be in the areas of key demand – Skipton, South Craven and parts of Settle. The 2006 Annual Monitoring Report for the District indicates that Craven has 5.4ha of allocated employment land available for future development. The draft RSS⁶⁰ sets a forecast of between 1 – 8 ha of net change in employment land in the District by 2016 and a growth in new jobs forecast from 23,500 to 25,200.

Agriculture

- 5.80 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.
- 5.81 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.

⁵⁷ Craven Economic & Development Group (August 2003) *Craven Integrated Development Plan for Objective 2 Priority 4*

⁵⁸ ODPM (2004) *Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and Humber*

⁵⁹ Craven District Council (2004) *Craven Business and Employment Needs Study*, Draft Final Report by ECOTEC, Birmingham

⁶⁰ cited in North Yorkshire LTP2, Table 2.4 Net Employment Land Use Change 2006-2016, p19.

5.82 Data from the Regional Econometric Model⁶¹ 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

5.83 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.

5.84 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 communities. Delegates to the 'Shaping Places and Spaces Conference', June 2005⁶² run by Craven District Council highlighted the need to encourage some forms of rural employment to ensure sustainable rural communities.

5.85 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 environment⁶³.

5.86 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 Council⁶⁴ has developed guidelines for transport and sustainable tourism, and the Local Transport Plan acknowledges that sustainable tourism is one of the key drivers of the economy of North Yorkshire, but controlling further increases in car use will be essential.

⁶¹ Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*, Ch. 2, p15

⁶² Craven District Council (June 2005) Feedback LDF Conference, *Issues Raised from the Shaping Places and Spaces Conference*

⁶³ 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

⁶⁴ North Yorkshire County Council (March 2005) *Transport and Sustainable Tourism Measures, Consultation Draft*

Transport and Access

- 5.87 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.
- 5.88 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).
- 5.89 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. A proposed new rail platform at Crosshills is currently being considered in the North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan, but proposals for a bridge over the railway were not given funding by the Regional Transport Board. The North Yorkshire LTP2⁶⁵ sets out specific policy approaches for the named Service Centres in Craven: These are to include Crosshills and Glusburn, Settle, Grassington, and North West Craven (which will encompass Ingleton, High Bentham and the outlying areas).
- 5.90 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 Partnership⁶⁶ in developing community transport services in the more remote parts of the area, thus aiding rural households to access services, and promoting sustainable forms of transport throughout the District. Other sustainable modes of transport within the District include cycle and walking paths and the use of the Leeds Liverpool canal route.
- 5.91 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 2002⁶⁷ 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 .

⁶⁵ North Yorkshire County Council (March 2006) *Local Transport Plan 2006-2011*

⁶⁶

⁶⁷ Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber (2005) *A Rural Evidence Base for Yorkshire and The Humber*, Ch. 7 Quality of Life

The Market Towns and Villages

5.92 **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 out⁶⁸ in 2004 identified that traffic management was a problem area with conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles especially during market days.

5.93 Skipton and Settle are the first towns in North Yorkshire to be included within the Renaissance Market Towns programme sponsored by Yorkshire Forward. The District Council will play a leading role in delivering this programme with Skipton being supported as the capital of Craven and a key gateway into North Yorkshire and the Yorkshire Dales. Improving infrastructure to support transport to the District in partnership with North Yorkshire County Council will be a major focus,

5.94 **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.

5.95 Three other smaller centres (Bentham, Ingleton and Cross Hills) have been the subject of retail health checks to assist the preparation of the LDF⁶⁹. **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 cattle market. Some townscape improvements have been identified through the health check, but overall Bentham is considered to be a relatively robust centre.

5.96 **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.

⁶⁸ Craven District Council (March 2004) *Retail Analysis and Health Check – Skipton*, prepared by Donaldsons, Leeds

⁶⁹ 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

- 5.97 **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.
- 5.98 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, Ingleton, Settle and South Craven. All four areas 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. The CIPs set out a range of priorities for increasing the well-being of the area. These priorities include economic, social, community and environmental issues, the promotion of which affect the ongoing sustainability of community life.

6. IDENTIFYING KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

- 6.1. 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

- 6.2. 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 districts 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 encourage retention and

improvement of existing facilities in the district, and work with partners to located new education and training facilities, in order to attract and retain higher income employees. The LDF will also need to concentrate 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. Whilst there is a strong intention to support employment predominately within high growth sectors and business clusters and to promote the district's proximity to Leeds and Bradford for future development, the focus needs to be on ensuring that there is the employment land available in the right locations to address need and demand.
- 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 allocate land for Technology businesses which may attract opportunities for 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.

- 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.
- One of the major issues facing the district therefore is where to plan for future growth; should it be concentrated within urban settlements or should a dispersed pattern of growth be encouraged?
- **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. This can be achieved on a macro level through the improvement of the district's existing wind farm and the encouragement of new farms at appropriate locations within the district. It can also be achieved at the micro level by the encouragement of individual household wind turbines. In both instances, the LDF should endeavour to overcome difficulties presented by the district's landscape character and the proximity to the protected landscapes of the Yorkshire

Dales National Park and the Forest of Bowland AONB which may limit such opportunities for renewable wind technologies.

7. SA/SEA FRAMEWORK

PROPOSED FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

- 7.1. The development of SEA/SA objectives is a recognised way in which environmental and sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared.⁷⁰ ODPM's SA guidance recommends that objectives are developed with an input from key stakeholders.
- 7.2. 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 7.1**.

Table 7.1 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

⁷⁰ 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

- 7.3. 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 8 covers a more detailed discussion of the events.
- 7.4. 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 7.2**. 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”*.
- 7.5. 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 7.2** 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 Council⁷¹ and elsewhere have been adapted from ODPMs Guidance on SA⁷².

⁷¹ Aiming High, Craven District Council, 2004?

⁷² ODPM, 2004, Consultation Paper, Sustainability Appraisal of the Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Framework

Table 7.2: 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 7.2: 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 • <i>Loss or damage to SAMs, listed buildings, conservation areas and historic parks and gardens ***</i> • % 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 7.2: 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 • <i>Number of developments incorporating water efficiency measures****</i> 	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 • <i>Area of contaminated land ****</i> 	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 7.2: 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 2007/8 472.1kgms* (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 meters)*****</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 7.2: 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****</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 7.2: 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)****</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climatic factors

Table 7.2: 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) • <i>Area of contaminated land. Planning permission conditions could be monitored to determine whether conditions have been fulfilled****</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil

Table 7.2: 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)****</i> • <i>Number of developments incorporating water efficiency measures****</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climatic factors
	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? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density of development proposals • Proposed indicator for housing quality (standard of decent homes) 	

Table 7.2: Revised Sustainability Framework					
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it increase noise pollution near residential populations? 			
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? 	<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> 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it help retain existing businesses? 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide for business support services? 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it ensure that tourism and culture continues to contribute to the local economy? 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it support the changing needs of agriculture including diversification? 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it encourage the growth of indigenous businesses? 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it encourage micro and small businesses? 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide employment sites in accessible locations i.e. reduce need to travel to work in cars? 			
	To provide a range of high quality employment opportunities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide high quality employment opportunities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment rates Average earnings against high quality employment opportunities 	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it support high levels of self employment? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it encourage new employment that is consistent with local needs? 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it encourage higher skilled economic sectors in the District? 					
To provide a range of premises suitable to		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will it provide employment land in areas of short supply? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land availability and annual take up on a 		

Table 7.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	support the economy and utilise employment land effectively and efficiently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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? 	yearly basis	
	To encourage sustainable distribution and communication systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it encourage an increase in the provision and use of e-business/broadband? • 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? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of green travel plans submitted for large firms • No of businesses using broadband within rural locations 	
Social				
To improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities	To improve access and availability of health care facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the availability of healthcare, particularly for the elderly? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No of people with a limiting long term illness • IMD measures of health deprivation 	Human health, Air
	To reduce levels and fear of crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will it encourage crime-sensitive design? • Will it reduce the likelihood of violence and anti-social behaviour? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of violent 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 	

Table 7.2: Revised Sustainability Framework				
Headline Objectives	Sub objective	Criteria	Possible Indicators	SEA Directive Topics
	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 7.2: 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 (BVPI I 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 7.2: 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? • Will it increase the number of people participating in active learning? • Will it help to stem out-migration of skilled younger residents? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • obtaining 5 A-C grades • % of people with qualifications • % of adults with poor literacy and numeracy levels 	
	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 7.2: 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 capacity⁷³ 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)

⁷³ 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.

8. TESTING THE SA OBJECTIVES

INTRODUCTION

- 8.1. 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

- 8.2. 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 8.1**. Any specific comments were noted by LUC who acted as facilitators.

FINDINGS

- 8.3. The results of the exercise indicate that the Community Strategy objectives broadly complement the draft sustainability objectives see **Table 8.1**. 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 outcomers 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:

- 8.4. 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.

- 8.5. 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		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 Prosperous Economy	Employment and earning levels	?	?	?	?	?	✓✓	✓✓	X	✓	?	✓	<p>Environment: Uncertain - depends on how people get to work/people should have higher earning power and therefore have the freedom to make environmental decisions</p> <p>Housing: Negative – it could make the housing market more competitive</p> <p>Transport: Uncertain – people will have access to more than one car</p> <p>Governance: Diversity of employment could encourage community enterprise</p>

SEA/SA of Craven District Council's Core Strategy, Volume I Scoping Report, April 2007

Draft Headline Sustainability Objectives	Community Strategy Aims	Comments
	<p>Maintain and enhance the natural and built environment</p> <p>Protect and improve air, water and soil quality and minimise noise pollution</p> <p>Minimise the consumption of natural resources</p> <p>Develop a managed response to the effects of climate change</p> <p>Achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development</p> <p>Develop a strong, diverse and sustainable economic base</p> <p>Improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities</p> <p>To provide sufficient good quality housing to meet all local needs</p> <p>Safeguard and improve accessibility</p> <p>Achieve and promote high level provision and use of sustainable transport modes where possible</p> <p>Promote good governance</p>	
Sustainable business	<p>✓✓</p> <p>✓✓</p> <p>✓✓</p> <p>✓✓</p> <p>✓✓</p> <p>✓✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>0</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓✓</p> <p>0</p>	<p>Clarification was required of the term sustainable business. If it is sustainable will it address environmental as well as economic objectives – it was assumed that it would do. Similarly it was assumed that with access that such businesses would source products locally thereby reducing vehicular trips</p>

SEA/SA of Craven District Council's Core Strategy, Volume I Scoping Report, April 2007

Draft Headline Sustainability Objectives	Community Strategy Aims	Comments
	<p>Maintain and enhance the natural and built environment</p> <p>Protect and improve air, water and soil quality and minimise noise pollution</p> <p>Minimise the consumption of natural resources</p> <p>Develop a managed response to the effects of climate change</p> <p>Achieve and promote sustainable land use and built development</p> <p>Develop a strong, diverse and sustainable economic base</p> <p>Improve the health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities</p> <p>To provide sufficient good quality housing to meet all local needs</p> <p>Safeguard and improve accessibility</p> <p>Achieve and promote high level provision and use of sustainable transport modes where possible</p> <p>Promote good governance</p>	
	Tourism	<p>?</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>0</p> <p>X</p> <p>✓✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>0</p> <p>Environment: Uncertain depending on the type and visitor numbers. Increasing spending power could have positive effects on the environment, but it depends on the type of tourism on offer – increasing access to the countryside could result in erosion of landscape character etc</p> <p>Housing: Negative – Could result in the loss of housing stock to second homes</p>

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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	✓✓	✓	✗	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	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 leaning, and educational attainment levels	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	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
	Lifelong learning	✓	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	No comments

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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													
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)






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Community Strategy Aims													
Good Health and Social Well Being	Maintaining a healthy population and supporting vulnerable people	✓	✓	0	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Addressing local housing needs	X	X	X	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Reducing crime and anti social behaviour	✓	✓	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Quality of life – culture, leisure and sports	✓	?	X	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
A Quality Environment	The natural environment	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	0	X	0	✓	0	

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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													
	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