

# SA/SEA of the Draft Regional Economic Strategy for South East England

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SEEDA

# **SA/SEA of the Draft Regional Economic Strategy for South East England**

April 2006

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For and on behalf of  
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## CONTENTS

<b>NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	<b><i>SA/SEA OF THE DRAFT REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY (RES) FOR SOUTH EAST ENGLAND</i></b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.2</b>	<b><i>WHAT IS THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY?</i></b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.3</b>	<b><i>WHAT DOES THE RES DO?</i></b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.4</b>	<b><i>WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL?</i></b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.5</b>	<b><i>SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL PROCESS</i></b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.6</b>	<b><i>APPRAISAL TEAM</i></b>	<b>7</b>
<b>1.7</b>	<b><i>WHAT DIFFERENCE IS THE APPRAISAL MAKING?</i></b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2</b>	<b><i>APPRAISAL SCOPE</i></b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<b><i>INTRODUCTION</i></b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2.2</b>	<b><i>CORE SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES – THE INTEGRATED REGIONAL FRAMEWORK</i></b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2.3</b>	<b><i>LINKS TO OTHER PLANS, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES</i></b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2.4</b>	<b><i>BASELINE INFORMATION</i></b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2.5</b>	<b><i>DATA COLLECTION DIFFICULTIES AND LIMITATIONS OF DATA</i></b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2.6</b>	<b><i>THE DRAFT RES</i></b>	<b>9</b>
<b>3</b>	<b><i>SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF THE DRAFT RES</i></b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b><i>INTRODUCTION</i></b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3.2</b>	<b><i>APPRAISAL OF ALTERNATIVES</i></b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3.3</b>	<b><i>KEY FINDINGS</i></b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3.4</b>	<b><i>SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: PROCESS AND STRUCTURAL</i></b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3.5</b>	<b><i>EQUALITIES ISSUES</i></b>	<b>12</b>
<b>3.6</b>	<b><i>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF THE RES</i></b>	<b>ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.</b>
<b>3.7</b>	<b><i>APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT</i></b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3.8</b>	<b><i>MITIGATION</i></b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4</b>	<b><i>CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</i></b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b><i>INTRODUCTION</i></b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.2</b>	<b><i>OVERALL CONCLUSIONS</i></b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.3</b>	<b><i>GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS</i></b>	<b>15</b>
<b>4.4</b>	<b><i>SMART GROWTH</i></b>	<b>16</b>
<b>4.5</b>	<b><i>SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY</i></b>	<b>19</b>
<b>4.6</b>	<b><i>RECOMMENDATIONS</i></b>	<b>22</b>

## **NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

### **1.1 SA/SEA OF THE DRAFT REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY (RES) FOR SOUTH EAST ENGLAND**

This report presents a non-technical summary of the findings of the SA/SEA that has been carried out on the Draft RES. The Sustainability Appraisal Report and a number of supplementary annexes alongside the Draft RES are available at:

<http://www.seeda.co.uk>

### **1.2 WHAT IS THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY?**

The South East Regional Economic Strategy (RES) is being prepared by SEEDA, the Regional Development Agency for the South East.

In accordance with Section 3 of the DTI's Guidance to RDA on Regional Strategies:

*'The Regional Economic Strategy must have a clear focus on economic development but the Strategy and action to implement it must be based on the principle of sustainable development. The RES should include a full sustainability appraisal, informed by the Regional Sustainable Development Framework or the equivalent in the region, in order to identify the contribution that it will make to sustainable development, including showing how it will foster:*

- *high and stable levels of economic growth and employment;*
- *social progress which recognises the needs of everyone (including all social and ethnic groups);*
- *effective protection of the environment and prudent use of natural resources; and*
- *integration of economic, social and environmental objectives which will contribute to the development of sustainable communities'.*

### **1.3 WHAT DOES THE RES DO?**

The Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) have been provided with guidance from the DTI as to what the objectives and scope of a RES should be, this notes that:

*'The fundamental purpose of the RES is to improve economic performance and enhance the region's competitiveness, addressing market failures which prevent sustainable economic development, regeneration and business growth in the region'*

Whilst the primary focus of the RES is economic, the Guidance notes the requirements for such economic development to be sustainable and to be aligned with the Regional Sustainable Development Framework, which underpins all regional strategies (in the case of the South East this is the Integrated Regional Framework or IRF).

## 1.4

### **WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL?**

The appraisal aims to predict and assess the economic, social and environmental effects which are likely to arise from the Draft RES. The appraisal integrates two processes:

- *Sustainability Appraisal (SA)*, a process for understanding whether policies, strategies or plans promote sustainable development, and for improving those policies etc to deliver more sustainable outcomes.
- *Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*, a process for assessing and mitigating the negative environmental impacts of specific plans and programmes. SEA is required for Regional Spatial Strategies under EU Directive 2001/42, transposed into UK law by the *Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004*.

The appraisal process has been designed to meet the statutory requirements applying to both SA and SEA, as explained in official guidance provided by ODPM. In particular, the appraisal process has been developed in reference to the ODPM Consultation Paper on *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks* (September 2004) and also the ODPM's '*A Practical guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive*' issued in September 2005. In addition, the appraisal has used ODPM's '*Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents*' published in November 2005.

In addition, the appraisal integrates key aspects of Health Impact Assessment (HIA)<sup>(1)</sup> Rural Proofing<sup>(2)</sup> and 'future proofing'<sup>(3)</sup> and is informed by work on these processes that has been carried out in the South East.

(1) HIA is a decision-making tool that takes account of the potential effects of a proposal on the health of its target population. It aims to improve the health of communities and individuals; reduce health inequalities and work toward sustainable development; promote fairness and equality for all target disadvantaged and marginalized groups; and encourage participation of all affected.

(2) Rural Proofing is a commitment by the Government to ensure that all its domestic policies take account of rural circumstances and needs. This means that as policies are developed, policy makers should systematically consider whether their policy is likely to have a different impact in rural areas because of rural circumstances and needs to assess the significant impacts; and adjust the policy where necessary with solutions to meet rural needs and circumstances.

(3) Future Proofing is a process that seeks to ensure that the policy development process has taken full account of potential longer-term change. It is designed to make plans more aware of opportunities, provide early notice of new challenges and help them manage change and manage risk.

In line with official ODPM guidance, the process has been called 'Sustainability Appraisal'.

## 1.5

### **SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL PROCESS**

Sustainability Appraisal is an iterative process that identifies and reports on the likely significant effects of a plan or strategy, and the extent to which implementation of the Strategy will support the social, environmental and economic objectives by which sustainable development can be defined. As such, the assessment should:

- take a long term view of whether and how the area covered by the strategy is expected to develop;
- provide a mechanism for ensuring that sustainability objectives are translated into sustainable economic development policies;
- reflect global, national, regional and local concerns;
- provide an audit trail of how the strategy has been revised to take into account the findings of the appraisal; and
- from an integral part of all stages – including the earliest possible stages – of strategy preparation.

According to the guidance, issued by ODPM in November 2005, the process has five stages which should be implemented in turn. Each stage comprises a number of subsidiary tasks, some of which should be implemented alongside each other and lead to the development of a specific output.

The stages in the sustainability appraisal process are presented in *Figure 1.1*.

**Figure 1.1 The Sustainability Appraisal**

Generic Plan-Making Activities	SA Stage	Task	Purpose
Gather information	A. Setting the Appraisal Scope	A1. Identifying other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives A2. Collecting baseline information A3. Identifying the sustainability issues for the strategy to address A4. Developing the Appraisal Framework	To document how the strategy is affected by outside factors and to suggest ideas for how any constraints can be overcome To provide an evidence base for the prediction of effects and for monitoring To ensure that the appraisal is focused, and to streamline subsequent stages, eg baseline data analysis, setting the Appraisal Framework etc To provide a means by which the sustainability of the strategy can be assessed
		A5. Testing the strategy's objectives against the Appraisal Framework A6. Consulting on the Appraisal Scope	To ensure that the overall objectives of the strategy are in accordance with agreed sustainability principles, and provide a framework for developing options To ensure that appraisal covers the key sustainability issues, by consulting with statutory authorities and other relevant bodies on a 'Scoping Report'
Identify issues and options, and prepare for consultation	B. Developing/Refining Options	B1. Appraising issues and options B2. Consulting on the emerging options	To assist in the development and refinement of options, by identifying potential sustainability effects of options for achieving the objectives of the strategy. To consult with statutory bodies on the emerging options, to ensure that the appraisal covers all the reasonable options and key sustainability issues
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT			SEEDA

Generic Plan-Making Activities	SA Stage	Task	Purpose	
Identify preferred options	C. Appraising the effects of the strategy	C1. Predicting the effects of the strategic options	To predict the significant effects of the strategy and strategies options	<i>Tasks carried out simultaneously</i>
Consult public on the emerging options		C2. Assessing the effects of the strategy	To assess the significance of the predicted effects, and to assist in the refinement of the strategy	
Prepare the strategy for formal consultation		C3. Mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects	To ensure all potential mitigation measures and measures for maximising beneficial effects are considered, and as a result residual effects identified	
		C4. Developing proposals for monitoring	To detail the means by which the sustainability performance of the strategy can be assessed	
		C5. Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report	To provide a detailed account of the process, including findings and how it influenced the strategy for consultation	
Full public consultation on strategy	D. Consulting on strategy and SA	D1. Consulting on the SA Report alongside the strategy	To provide the public and statutory bodies with an opportunity to express their opinion on the Sustainability Appraisal Report, and to use it as a reference point in commenting on the strategy	
Examination		D2. Appraising significant changes	To ensure that any significant changes to the strategy are assessed for their sustainability implications, and to influence the revision of the strategy	
Finalise and adopt the strategy		D3. Decision-making and providing information	To provide information on how the Sustainability Appraisal Report and consultees' opinions were taken into account in preparing the strategy	
Publish the adopted strategy	E. Monitoring	E. Monitoring the significant effects of the strategy, and responding	To measure the sustainability performance of the strategy, to determine whether effects are as anticipated, to inform future revisions and to develop appropriate responses	
Monitor strategy implementation				

## **1.6**

### ***APPRAISAL TEAM***

This appraisal has been carried out by Environmental Resources Management (ERM) on behalf of SEEDA.

To assist the SA process, SEEDA has established a Steering Group. The Steering Group has offered advice to the SEEDA and the consultants throughout the process and has ensured that key organisations have been able to input into the process and give greater legitimacy to the process. The Steering Group includes representatives of the ‘relevant authorities’ – the Environment Agency, English Nature, English Heritage and the Countryside Agency – who are statutory consultees under Strategic Environmental Assessment requirements, as well as representatives of a number of other regional groups.

## **1.7**

### ***WHAT DIFFERENCE IS THE APPRAISAL MAKING?***

SEEDA has been keeping a detailed record of the ways in which the appraisal has influenced the RES. The document setting out this ‘audit trail’ will be presented in the final Sustainability Appraisal Report.

**2.1*****INTRODUCTION***

In establishing a clear scope for the Sustainability Appraisal and SEA of the South East RES, and in compliance with statutory requirements, it was first necessary to review and develop an understanding of:

1. possible appraisal objectives;
2. other plans, policies and strategies of relevance to the Plan;
3. baseline information on environmental, social and economic conditions in the region; and
4. key sustainability issues facing the region.

The work carried out on scoping the appraisal was first presented in the Scoping Report of the SA/SEA of the RES issued in December 2005. The work on the scope of the appraisal has continued since the publication of that report in relation to key sustainability issues and also the evidence base for the appraisal.

**2.2*****CORE SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES – THE INTEGRATED REGIONAL FRAMEWORK***

The Integrated Regional Framework (IRF) for South East England establishes a shared regional vision of sustainable development, and a set of objectives, indicators and targets that map out how the region should deliver economic development that benefits people and protects and improves the environment. The IRF has also been developed by a working group of key regional partners, including the Assembly, Government Office for the South East, South East England Development Agency and others.

It was agreed by the Steering Group and Appraisal team that the IRF, therefore, provided the key set of objectives on which to base Sustainability Appraisal.

During the course of the consultation periods on both the Scoping Report and the Sustainability Appraisal of the RES Consultation Document, respondents did, however, make suggestions as to how the IRF objectives and second level objectives which stemmed from these, could be expanded upon. These comments have been incorporated into the objectives; the current list of Appraisal objectives reflects these comments.

**2.3*****LINKS TO OTHER PLANS, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES***

An analysis of the links between the Draft RES and other relevant plans, policies and strategies as required by the SEA regulations is presented in Annex A of the Sustainability Appraisal.

There are clearly especially close links to be made between the South East Plan, which sets out the region's spatial strategy and the RES. Integration of these two strategies will be fundamental in delivering planned growth for the region in a manner which is both integrated and more sustainable.

## 2.4

### **BASELINE INFORMATION**

A detailed review of data on baseline environmental, social and economic conditions within the region is presented in *Annex B* of the Sustainability Appraisal Report. This information has been reviewed and comprehensively updated for this Report. A detailed description of the regional baseline is presented in *Annex B* of the Sustainability Appraisal Report.

## 2.5

### **DATA COLLECTION DIFFICULTIES AND LIMITATIONS OF DATA**

We have drawn upon publicly available information, provided by regional partners, including the Environment Agency, English Nature and English Heritage. The data represents the most updated information on regional trends, currently available.

The Final Appraisal Report will detail any issues which have arisen in respect of difficulties or limitations encountered in collecting data for the Appraisal.

## 2.6

### **THE DRAFT RES**

The primary vision of the RES is that by 2016 '*the South East will be a world class region achieving sustainable prosperity*'. Three core values which underpin and are embedded in the Strategy are:

- Building on excellence for global competitiveness;
- Investing in potential to increase performance;
- Safeguarding quality of life as a competitive advantage.

The RES is structured according to the three critical objectives for the region.

- Global competitiveness
- Smart growth
- Sustainable prosperity

Further information on the Draft RES is presented in the Sustainability Appraisal Report.

### 3.1

#### *INTRODUCTION*

This section of the SA/SEA report focuses on the assessment of alternatives and the key findings of the appraisal.

### 3.2

#### *APPRAISAL OF ALTERNATIVES*

The assessment of alternatives is a key requirement of both the SEA Directive and the UK's Government Guidance. In the case of the RES for the South East, we have taken as alternatives four different scenarios of the likely growth of the South East economy, as presented in 'Sustaining success in a prosperous region: Economic implications of the South East Plan' published by SEEDA in March 2005.

### 3.3

#### *KEY FINDINGS*

The following section provides a summary of the Appraisal findings as they relate to the key IRF objectives and associated questions which have framed this Appraisal. These are presented in terms of the overall appraisal and then the key issues identified in the DTI's guidance to RDA's on the links between the RES Review and the UK's Sustainable Development Strategy.

- *A Focus on Economic Development*

The RES sets out in a concise way how the Region could potentially move towards achieving its aspiration of smart growth and sustainable prosperity. It is focused on economic development but also contains clear evidence and proposals as to the benefits of making growth more sustainable.

- *Sustainable Consumption and Production*

The ideas within the RES on resource management and the management of demand and consumption mirror the concerns that are one of the key themes of the UK's Sustainable Development Strategy. The ideas put forward in the document are proactive and address both process and behavioural aspect of business as well as products and services.

The ability to drive demand for a more sustainable pattern of production and consumption is only partly within the gift of the Region. Wider forces such as national policy and legislation need to be aligned to this objective for the Region to be able to make substantial progress on this issue. The Region will need to demonstrate how it will seek to influence Central Government on this issue. It will be important for SEEDA and other key

regional partners to develop a common set of objectives and a common strategy so that the Region can engage effectively with Central Government.

Work being carried out by the Sustainable Consumption and Projection Network (SCP-NET), which has been tasked by government with implementing methods of assessing resource consumption and efficiency (such as the REEIO Model) has been supported by SEEDA and other regional partners and will be incorporated into the thinking of the SA/SEA and the RES as they evolve.

The Region is keen to stabilise and then move to reduce its ecological footprint.

- ***Climate Change and Energy***

The Draft RES recognises the challenges and opportunities posed by Climate Change and Energy Supply and Security. The current proposals in the document whilst positive and promising will need to be considerably developed to ensure that opportunities are maximised and that the Region will be able to design a route map for moving towards a low carbon economy.

- ***Natural Resource Protection and Enhancement***

The Draft RES recognises the value of the Region's natural resources and natural assets and the role that they play in underpinning quality of life in the Region. There is, however, relatively little detail provided on how natural resources protection and enhancement can help to deliver smart growth and sustainable prosperity. This issue will need to be further developed.

### **3.4**

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: PROCESS AND STRUCTURAL**

- ***EVIDENCE BASE***

The production of the Evidence Base document has been extremely useful and has complemented the work carried out for the SA/SEA extremely well. The Draft RES provides clear links between the regional evidence base and proposed actions and initiatives as well as targets and indicators.

- ***LEADERSHIP***

In general, the Draft RES as expected, given its aims and objectives, does not focus to any great degree on issues of leadership in specific areas albeit it does mention a wide range of organisations who have key roles in the current and future delivery of the Region's Economic strategies and initiatives. It also highlights the role of the public sectors a champion on issue relating to procurement. This could be extended to a number of areas such as building efficiency, sustainable construction, sustainable transport etc.

- ***TARGETS/INDICATORS/MONITORING***

The RES, still needs to demonstrate how it intends to go about measuring its performance and what its key indicators of success will be.

Whilst the RES sets out very clearly the types of actions it considers would help to deliver on its targets and also identifies key delivery bodies, it is far less clear how performance will be measured or reported on.

- ***IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RES***

The SA/SEA will need to be able to appraise the delivery or implementations plan of the RES. This will enable the appraisal to suggest opportunities for actions that will promote sustainable development and to propose focused mitigation measures. To date, very little information on this vital aspect of the RES has been provided.

### **3.5**

### ***EQUALITIES ISSUES***

The SA/SEA team has carried out an initial Equalities Impact Assessment of the Draft RES. This has highlighted the following issues to be taken into account in the ongoing development of the Draft RES:

- An equalities perspective has begun to be integrated into the text of the Regional Economic Strategy and this has begun to show how it links with the overall strategy for the region. The Draft RES also recognises albeit in a not very detailed way, the issues relating to deprived and minority group in the region and how this is expressed in terms of RDM data, information on access to employment etc.
- References to the core equality categories and legislative and regulatory significance still need to be set out in the RES.
- Reference to SEEDA's equality agenda should be addressed in the general introduction or Vision Statement of the Draft RES. This would also a good place to reference the commitment that SEEDA and its partners have regarding meeting race and diversity targets.

In general, the Draft RES and the Evidence Base document demonstrate an awareness of equalities, diversity and race issues in terms of the proposals and the broad strategy outlined. The SA/SEA team will be carrying out a more in-depth review of equities, race and diversity issues as part of the ongoing Sustainability Appraisal of the RES.

### **3.6**

#### ***APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT***

It is possible that the RES will require an ‘Appropriate Assessment’ under the terms of the EU Habitats Directive. Guidance on this issue is currently being produced by Government and when this is available the need for an assessment will be investigated.

### **3.7**

#### ***MITIGATION***

The Appraisal will develop detailed mitigation measures based on the Draft RES and its Implementation Plan. These will be included in the Final SA/SEA Report and in the Final Regional Economic Strategy.

**4.1*****INTRODUCTION***

This section of the Executive Summary sets out the overall conclusions of the SA/SEA of the Draft RES for the South East of England. It provides a concise summary of the appraisal's review of the RES's philosophy, strategy and actions as they relate to the development of a growth model for the region that is firmly embedded within the principles of sustainable development.

**4.2*****OVERALL CONCLUSIONS***

The overall conclusions of the SA/SEA of the Draft RES can be summarised as follows:

- The Draft RES clearly demonstrates that it has taken account of the key elements of the UK's Sustainable Development Strategy whilst retaining a clear focus on the regional economy.
- The Draft RES also recognises that a significant shift in the consumption and management of resources is required if the region and the economy are to prosper.
- The need for significant behavioural change is both implicit and explicit in many aspects of the Draft RES. The scale of change required should be more clearly emphasised as should the need for dialogue with Central Government.
- The Draft RES demonstrates and underlines the need for close cooperation in the delivery of the RES and the South East Plan.
- The Draft RES sets out quite clearly a series of significant opportunities for the region arising from a more sustainable approach to economic development.
- The Strategy is also quite open about the equally significant challenges that the region faces in implementing this approach and the extent to which existing and still to be created partnerships between SEEDA and other national, regional and local stakeholders will be required to deliver on the region's potential.
- The emphasis on sustainable prosperity and the clearly set out targets which the region needs to move towards are significant elements in helping to create a framework for testing the extent to which the region can move along a more sustainable development path. It is important that the RES has set out such clear targets.
- SEEDA needs to work with national and regional partners to identify clear strategies for making progress towards each target.
- It is equally important that the Final RES has a detailed Implementation Plan Monitoring Framework and that the actions within the Plan have equally clearly defined performance measures such as the use of the REEIO Model.

One of the most significant aspects of the RES from a sustainability perspective is its openness to the progressive integration of measures of performance in addition to the GDP and GVA. The Region is already working on additional performance measures.

The remainder of this section of the non-technical summary sets out our conclusions regarding the individual components of the Strategy.

#### 4.3

#### **GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS**

In maintaining and enhancing its global role it will be important for the region to ensure that it does not also increase its environmental footprint. The RES explicitly recognises this in terms of the need to invest in infrastructure in ways that promote sustainable development. It is also committed to stabilising its ecological footprint. Both of these aspirations may be difficult to deliver on in practice without significant support from both Central Government and regional partners.

In terms of the proposed actions to underpin this component of the Strategy we would make the following comments:

- *Assist more businesses to operate internationally.* It would be useful if an integral part of these actions were to identify partner regions who the South East could seek to work with in terms of their similar sustainability aspirations as well as a need for the skills and expertise of the region. This is already implicit in the actions for Foreign Direct Investment.
- *Increase the South East's Share of Foreign Direct Investment.* It would be useful for the region to develop a tool that assists in the screening of investors based on their sustainability credentials. Whilst this is likely to be only a minor components of the overall assessment of investor performance it would send out a clear message as to the emphasis the region places on performance in this area.

Such a tool could form part of an overall appraisal tool used by public agencies to assess investors and investment decision.

- *Increase business expenditure on research and development.* The focus on the four priority areas is important. The region should also be seeking to encourage greater public sector expenditure on R + D where this can respond with business and policy needs. Support to the region's academic institutions should focus on these areas of research that have clear business outcomes and are demand-led.

The R+D should be based on a clear evidence of need rather than being 'supply driven'. There should also be an emphasis on ensuring that the results of research are accessible and that marketable ideas/innovations

are supported.

Critical areas of R + D should include design and construction of housing and commercial buildings, climate change adaptation, sustainable transport, fuel technologies, and also research into behavioural change.

- *Increase collaboration between businesses and the region's knowledge base.* An integral part of the aspiration to build an international science city and region should be to build on the region's strengths in the areas of climate change, sustainable construction and product design and social aspects of sustainable development. Again, business needs to have a significant role in setting the agenda for collaboration.
- *Secure the infrastructure needed to support continued prosperity.* The significant need for investment in transport and other infrastructure brought out by the RES echoes similar concerns expressed in the South East Plan. It will be important to ensure that any increased capacity is associated with demand management and significant upgrading of public transport. The targets set for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions obliges the region to implement such measures.

**Investment in infrastructure alone will not help to resolve the problems of congestion and associated pollution which so seriously affect the region – significant behavioural change is required and it would be useful to see specific actions relating to demand management and modal shift included in the RES. Without such actions it is difficult to see how the RES will avoid presiding over a significant increase in both emissions and the region's footprint.**

A final strand of the strategy for global competitiveness of significance to the SA is the recognition of the need to 'influence the climate of regulation and legislation'. There is recognition within the Draft RES that what is needed is more effective legislation.

#### 4.4

#### *SMART GROWTH*

The South East RES adheres very closely to the idea of smart growth. In increasing economic participation rates and the overall productivity of the region and the RES identifies a number of strategic issues of importance to the SA.

- In terms of Enterprise it will be important sure that there reflect not only the economic strengths of the region but also the diversity of its communities and the current intra-regional disparities within the regional economy.
- In the case of Innovation it will be important that resource efficiency and resource consumption are recognised as key components of innovation in

- many areas and that innovations relating to lifestyles may be equally as important to the future of the region as technologies.
- Skills and access to training is clearly important on both social and economic grounds. The Draft RES recognises the need to make skills business-relevant. This means that training programmes and skills development must be demand-led and must be supported by business. It is also important that the Draft RES recognises the changing demographic structure of the region and the need to address the skills needs and lifetime working patterns of an ageing population.
  - Competition recognises that companies in the region, especially smaller businesses require assistance to become active players in the economy, especially in relation to the requirements of public sector and community enterprises who often lack the resources to participate effectively in tendering processes and yet offer goods and services in key areas such as healthcare, social infrastructure and waste management.
  - It is encouraging that Infrastructure in the context of Smart Growth addresses the need to reduce the impacts of congestion and seeks to introduce effective measures to manage demand. This will need to proceed in tandem both with the actions identified under the Global Competitiveness strand of the Strategy and with the actions proposed by the South East Plan. Even so, the combined effects of the proposals under the RES and the South East Plan are likely to lead to an increase in transport emissions.
  - The intra-regional disparities in the regional economy clearly have direct links to Employment. As such the focus with the Draft RES on increased productivity and economic activity should assist in addressing issues of social exclusion, poverty and also poor health status in some areas of the region.

In terms of the proposed actions to underpin this component of the Draft Strategy we would make the following comments:

#### *Enterprise*

- The recognition of the need to provide more integrated business support is important. Support to businesses (especially smaller businesses and social and community enterprises) on sustainability issues is often criticised as being supply rather than demand focused as well as being confirming in terms of the numbers of providers and any measures to provide more focused support should improve the situation.
- It will be important to recognise the skills-base of companies in more deprived areas of the region and to encourage innovation around existing skills and knowledge as well as importing new areas of business.
- The action to ‘Build sustainability and corporate social responsibility into everyday business practice’ is an important one. This will require considerable leadership. SEEDA itself is the proposed lead and this is an encouraging example of how SEEDA intends to follow through on the commitment to sustainable development in the Draft RES. It would be

useful to have more detailed information on the actions that will be implemented.

#### *Innovation and Creativity*

- The recognition in this section of the Draft RES of the ‘substantial opportunities to accelerate innovation in the region’s land-based industries’ is extremely important as are the examples provided. Innovation in this sector is of significance to a number of the key sustainability challenges faced by the region including climate change, energy supply, local product development, management of rural areas and maintenance of the rural landscape as well as rural livelihoods.
- The support of the sector consortia is likely to provide considerable scope for innovations of relevance to sustainability in key areas such as the use of ICT, coastal zone management, health and healthy lifestyles and the quality of the built environment and sustainable communities. It is important the cross-fertilisation across the sectors is also encouraged. The focus on quality of design is also important in a number of aspects of sustainability including quality of buildings and construction, whole-life approaches to products and also resource efficiency and consumption.

#### *Skills*

- It will be important that there is a high level of integration of skills actions across the RES. The actions focusing on the region’s young people, older people and on the development of a Skills Escalator should have significant impacts on social deprivation, social exclusions and also health status in more deprived areas of the region.

#### *Competition*

- The actions indicated for this component of the Strategy all have a direct bearing on the overall sustainability of the region’s development. Encouragement and facilitation of local procurement by the public sector within the region is a key action. Integration of public sector procurement would also be beneficial. This is an area where the public sector could demonstrate leadership.
- The idea of actions to develop a more integrated and responsive planning process in the region would have major benefits for key sustainable development challenges for the region such as climate change adaptation, management of water resources, the deployment of renewable energy, identification of key development opportunities etc. It is quite clear from the Draft RES that the implementation of the Strategy and the South East Plan must be closely coordinated.

#### *Infrastructure*

- The idea of a Regional Infrastructure Fund is an interesting and innovative one which shows real leadership. At present it is on Economic

Development, Transport and Housing this reflects the current scope of regional funding allocations and targets new infrastructure.

- The actions relating to investment in a sustainable transport network are enhanced by the explicit recognition of the need to encourage behavioural change. This must be a major element of the delivery of the RES (and the South East Plan) if the Region is to achieve ‘smart growth’.
- The actions relating to affordable housing appear not to recognise the considerable ‘gap’ in performance in terms of actual and predicted demand and likely levels of delivery. The South East Plan has demonstrated that need is unlikely to be met by current proposed rates of delivery. This raises serious issues in terms of the region’s ability to attract and retain key members of the workforce. This issue requires urgent action by both SEEDA and the Regional Assembly.
- The idea of creating a private sector housing renewal strategy for the region is strongly supported. The impacts of existing housing far outweigh the likely impacts of housing to be delivered via the South East Plan and stabilisation of the region’s ecological footprint will require action to be taken to improve the resource efficiency of the existing housing stock.
- Recognition of the need to promote quality investment in the environment and Green Infrastructure is important, however, more information is required on the detail of what is proposed. The Draft RES provides a useful basis from which to develop ideas on how this investment might be delivered.
- Barriers to employment associated with health and social inequalities are also highlighted by the Draft RES. The links between poor quality housing, poor access to services, poor health status and economic participation are well-known. The model of increased economic participation and reduction of economic inequalities demand that these issues are addressed.
- Similarly, the proposed actions concerning ICT that focus on access to ICT, skills development and Digital Inclusion should also help to encourage economic participation and reduce social exclusion. The RES is realistic in its recognition that tackling Digital Exclusion will require the mobilisation of a ‘significant long term partnership of public, private and voluntary sector organisations’ to address the issue. This would be a major step forward.

#### 4.5

#### *SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY*

The Draft RES has set targets for the key parameters that will assist the region in reaching its goal of reducing, then stabilising and ultimately reducing the regions ecological footprint. The targets should all make sizable contributions to the overall goal but the region will still need to develop a detailed ‘route map’ to make any significant progress towards the target by 2016. Key to any real progress in this area is the issue of behavioural change. Increases in efficiency of design and delivery are no substitute for changing behaviour. Provision of new infrastructure needs to be balanced in all cases with

initiatives to reduce demand and consumption and improve existing levels of delivery – water resources are an obvious example of this.

Given that the South East Plan also has the same target there is scope for a coordinated regional programme of actions - this should include all of the region's key agencies and should also include targets within all key regional strategies.

It is important that the RES views reduction of the region's ecological footprint as a challenge to innovation and an opportunity – this is very much in line with current government policy and actions on resource efficiency and resource consumption. As the Draft RES notes, 'In terms of its research base and expertise, its capacity for innovation and the quality of its environmental technology sector companies, the South East is extremely well-placed to secure major advantage from these opportunities'. The Draft RES also promotes various mechanisms through which business can engage with this agenda too.

In terms of the proposed actions in the Draft RES we would make the following comments:

*Reduce carbon dioxide emissions to the South East by 20% by 2016*

- Clearly, what is 'attributable' to the South East is debateable especially in terms of energy generation, travel miles, etc. However, it is useful to have a target to work with even if that target is 'softer' than the national one. At present the United Kingdom is experiencing difficulties with its management of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Given the significance of transport emissions to overall levels of CO<sub>2</sub> this must be a priority area for emissions reduction and this will mean that infrastructure investment will need to be 'tested' in terms of their impact on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- The proposed actions in the Draft RES contain a number of useful 'hooks' in terms of addressing the opportunities arising from adaptation to climate change, the need to take a long-term perspective, the need to acknowledge the costs of not dealing with effects of climate change, then to look at climate change as a market for goods and services, etc. All of the proposed actions require considerably more detail before their likely practicality/efficiency can be assessed.

*Increase the contribution of renewable energy to overall energy supply in the South East, to meet national targets of 10% of electricity demand by 2010 and 20% by 2020*

- Once again the target appears to be somewhat unambitious – no rationale for this is provided. The proposed actions all seem relevant to delivery of the target. It would have been beneficial, however, to see the link made to the need for a more progressive planning system since at present the planning system is viewed by developers as one of the principal barriers to the development of renewables.

*Reduce per capita water consumption in the South East by 20% by 2016*

- This is clearly a major challenge in a region where per capita consumption continues to rise. The challenges facing the region with regards to water resources are very well known as are the likely impacts of a continuation of ‘business as usual’ in terms of the efficiency of supply and of use of these resources as well as the levels of consumption.
- The proposed actions are clearly useful but appear to be very limited in terms of their likely impact and their ability to meet the target. Actions to do with housing design and quality and the proposed regional strategy for existing housing would also make significant contributions but there is still no clear indication of how this target will be met. Behavioural change is clearly key to achieving this target. The Region will need to work with Central Government and the Water Utilities to ‘fast-track’ initiatives that can bring about significant changes in consumption patterns.

*Achieving a 30% increase over the 2003 baseline in GVA generated per tonne of materials entering the waste stream by 2016*

- The emphasis within the proposed actions to achieve this goal appears to be a focus on sustainable consumption and production – this is in line with the UK’s Sustainable Development Strategy and also current work within government on improving the performance of business.
- The idea of sector-specific resource efficiency standards is attractive as is the idea of a South East Plan for Sustainable Public Procurement.
- Resource Recovery Parks may also prove to be an effective tool in changing attitudes in the business sector.
- It is not clear, however, how the region’s economy will decouple growth from increased amounts of waste – albeit waste that may be more effectively managed.

*Ensure all building development in the South East achieve the Ecohomes/BREEAM ‘excellent’ standard by 2016*

- The two actions to achieve this goal are both likely if successfully implemented, to assist in the achievement of an improved quality of life, reduced social and environmental exclusion and an improvement in the quality of ‘new build’ in the region. If the region also implements its proposed strategy for existing housing then a very considerable difference should be made since it is the existing housing stock that has the greatest impact.
- Action 83 on ‘investing in urban renaissance’ has an interesting series of actions which will, if successfully implemented, bring about an improved quality of life in urban areas. Much of what is proposed is at the heart of the ‘sustainable communities’ agenda. It is encouraging to see that rural centres are also acknowledged.
- The challenge inherent in Action 83 is to implement ‘appropriate’ urban renaissance ie renaissance that has some resonance for the local community not regeneration that is purely design-led and is divorced

from the reality and the potential of the communities that are being targeted.

#### 4.6

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The recommendations arising from the Appraisal of the Draft RES in terms of the Strategy and its development are as follows:

- SEEDA should continue to work with partners in the Region and with National Government on the clarification of actions to deliver the RES including a Monitoring Framework and more detailed Implementation Plan. Engagement with key partners will be critical to developing a more robust way forward on implementation.
- Each of the targets in the Draft RES should be provided with a clear rationale and also a ‘delivery path’ ie, how is the target to be met – at present it is not clear how actions will deliver the targets.
- SEEDA and the Regional Assembly should develop clear proposals for integrating the implementation of the RES and the South East Plan.
- Given the significance of behavioural change to the delivery of both the RES and the South East Plan – a clear set of actions relating to this key area of policy should be developed for discussion with Central Government, the private sector and public sector partners.
- SEEDA and its partners should continue to work on innovative ways of measuring the impact of the Draft RES on resource consumption and efficiency such as its work with the REEIO Model and the Sustainable Consumption and Production Network.
- SEEDA and its partners should establish a clear process for reporting on the sustainability impacts – positive and negative of the RES.
- SEEDA should continue to work with partners and the SA/SEA Steering Group to ensure that the appraisal meets the requirements of the UK Regulations and the SEA Directive.
- SEEDA should work with regional partners to identify clear roles and responsibilities for ensuring the delivery of key actions relating to sustainability – building on work already done.

With regards to the SA/SEA our recommendations are as follows:

- The SA/SEA team must continue to work closely with SEEDA on the integration of sustainability into the RES as it continues to develop.
- The SA/SEA should continue to identify opportunities to increase the contribution of the RES to sustainable development.
- The SA/SEA team must continue to work closely with the SA/SEA Steering Group on key aspects of the appraisal including the evidence base, the analysis of significant effects and the assessment of cumulative impacts.
- The SA/SEA team should work with SEEDA and regional partners to ensure that any need for an ‘Appropriate Assessment’ is addressed.



## **CONTENTS**

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1</b>	<b>SUSTAINABILITY REPORT</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.2</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<b>THE SOUTH EAST RES</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.2</b>	<b>WHAT DOES THE RES DO?</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.3</b>	<b>THE DRAFT RES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>2.4</b>	<b>THE EVIDENCE BASE AND ECONOMIC CONTEXT</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2.5</b>	<b>COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2.6</b>	<b>SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>2.7</b>	<b>CONSULTATION RESPONSES ON THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>APPRAISAL SCOPE</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>3.2</b>	<b>CORE SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES – THE INTEGRATED REGIONAL FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>3.3</b>	<b>LINKS TO OTHER PLANS, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3.4</b>	<b>BASELINE INFORMATION</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>3.5</b>	<b>DATA COLLECTION DIFFICULTIES AND LIMITATIONS OF DATA</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF THE DRAFT RES</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>APPRAISAL OF ALTERNATIVES</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>4.3</b>	<b>APPRAISAL FINDINGS</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>4.4</b>	<b>SIGNIFICANT ISSUES</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>4.5</b>	<b>SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: PROCESS AND STRUCTURAL</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>4.6</b>	<b>SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>4.7</b>	<b>EQUALITIES ISSUES</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>4.8</b>	<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF THE RES</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>4.9</b>	<b>EVALUATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT WITHOUT THE SOUTH EAST RES</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>4.10</b>	<b>MITIGATION</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>5.2</b>	<b>DTI GUIDANCE ON MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE RES</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>5.3</b>	<b>INCORPORATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INTO THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE RES.</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>6.1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>6.2</b>	<b>OVERALL CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>47</b>

<b>6.3</b>	<i>GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS</i>	<b>48</b>
<b>6.4</b>	<i>SMART GROWTH</i>	<b>50</b>
<b>6.5</b>	<i>SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY</i>	<b>53</b>
<b>6.6</b>	<i>RECOMMENDATIONS</i>	<b>55</b>

**1.1****SUSTAINABILITY REPORT**

The Regional Economic Strategy for the South East (RES) – is being prepared by South East of England Regional Development Agency (SEEDA), the statutory body charged with overseeing the economic development of the region.

As part of the process of developing the South East RES, SEEDA has commissioned Environmental Resources Management (ERM) to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment/Sustainability Appraisal (SEA/SA) of the Strategy<sup>(1)</sup>. A Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report has previously been published on the Consultation Document issued by SEEDA in November 2005. Within this, an appraisal of alternatives was carried out based on the option scenarios presented in the SEEDA report 'sustaining success in a prosperous region: Economic implications of the South East Plan' published in March 2005 prepared by Deloitte.

The next stage of this appraisal involves an appraisal of the Draft Regional Economic Strategy, which has now been produced. This Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report is, therefore, an assessment of the Draft RES.

The Appraisal follows an iterative process, providing an independent view of the likely implications of proposals and policies which can then be taken into consideration throughout the development of the South East Regional Economic Strategy. The findings of this appraisal, along with the responses received through public consultation, will be used to inform the development and refinement of the RES prior to its submission to the Government.

The report is structured as follows:

*Section 2* sets out the context to the Sustainability Appraisal, and information on the methodology that has been used for this study.

*Section 3* provides information on the Appraisal Scope, i.e. on what issues the appraisal is investigating, and why.

*Section 4* presents the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft RES

*Section 5* outlines issues concerning Implementation and Monitoring

*Section 6* presents the Conclusions of the Appraisal of the Draft RES and the remaining stages in the SEA/SA process.

In addition, the following annexes have been prepared:

- *Annex A: Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Strategies*

(1) For the purposes of this Report, the Strategic Environmental Assessment/Sustainability Appraisal process will be known as the SEA/SA or the 'Sustainability Appraisal' (or simply 'Appraisal').

- *Annex B: Review of Baseline Economic, Social and Environmental Conditions in the Region*
- *Annex C: Detailed Appraisal Outputs*
- *Annex D: Detailed Analysis of Consultation Responses on the SA.*

## 1.2

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

In line with Government guidance, this Appraisal aims to meet the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) within the wider remit of a Sustainability Appraisal, thereby covering economic, social and environmental issues in an integrated way. This report therefore does not contain a separate Environmental Report dealing with issues pertaining solely to an SEA.

In the absence of a stand-alone Environmental Report, guidance suggests that a table should be included in the Sustainability Appraisal signposting the components of the report which would make up the Environmental Report. *Table 1.1* below presents the relevant information.

**Table 1.1** *Environmental Report - Key Components*

<b>Key Components</b>	<b>Report Location</b>
The Environmental Report will detail 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):	The information required of an Environmental Report will be provided in each report of the Sustainability Appraisal
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	Scoping/ Annex B Sustainability Appraisal Reports
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	Scoping/ Annex A Sustainability Appraisal Reports
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	Scoping/ Annex B Sustainability Appraisal Reports
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.;	Scoping/ Annex B Sustainability Appraisal Reports
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;	Scoping/ Annex A Sustainability Appraisal Reports
f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health,	Scoping/Sustainability

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);	Appraisal Reports – Section 4
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;	Sustainability Appraisal Reports.
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;	Sustainability Appraisal Reports – Section 4
i) a description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
The report must include the 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, 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)	



**2.1****THE SOUTH EAST RES****2.1.1*****What is the South East Regional Economic Strategy?***

The South East Regional Economic Strategy (RES) is being prepared by SEEDA, the Regional Development Agency for the South East.

In accordance with Section 3 of the DTI's Guidance to RDA on Regional Strategies:

*'The Regional Economic Strategy must have a clear focus on economic development but the Strategy and action to implement it must be based on the principle of sustainable development. The RES should include a full sustainability appraisal, informed by the Regional Sustainable Development Framework or the equivalent in the region, in order to identify the contribution that it will make to sustainable development, including showing how it will foster:*

- *high and stable levels of economic growth and employment;*
- *social progress which recognises the needs of everyone (including all social and ethnic groups);*
- *effective protection of the environment and prudent use of natural resources; and*
- *integration of economic, social and environmental objectives which will contribute to the development of sustainable communities'.*

**2.2****WHAT DOES THE RES DO?**

The Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) have been provided with guidance from the DTI as to what the objectives and scope of a RES should be, this notes that:

*'The fundamental purpose of the RES is to improve economic performance and enhance the region's competitiveness, addressing market failures which prevent sustainable economic development, regeneration and business growth in the region'*

Whilst the primary focus of the RES is economic, the Guidance notes the requirements for such economic development to be sustainable and to be aligned with the Regional Sustainable Development Framework, which underpins all regional strategies (in the case of the South East this is the Integrated Regional Framework or IRF).

The primary vision of the RES is that by 2016 '*the South East will be a world class region achieving sustainable prosperity*'. Three core values which underpin and are embedded in the Strategy are:

- Building on excellence for global competitiveness;
- Investing in potential to increase performance;
- Safeguarding quality of life as a competitive advantage.

The RES is structured according to the three critical objectives for the region.

- Global competitiveness
- Smart growth
- Sustainable prosperity

Through each of these drivers, the RES identifies key objectives and the tasks which will have to be completed to fulfil these objectives.

The RES is a regional wide strategy for economic development. Integral to this, however, is recognition of the socio-economic disparities which exist within the region. Three key areas have been identified, as presented in *Figure 2.1*, these being: the Inner South East, Outer South East and Coastal South East. Specific issues are raised in relation to these areas, within the context of the wider framework of the RES.

- The Inner South East: tackling the pockets of deprivation which exist; investment in infrastructure and maintaining the high quality environment
- The Outer South East: addressing the need to harness quality of life as a source of competitive advantage; reconfiguring rural towns as economic hubs or centres and addressing deprivation through better access
- The Coastal South East: using the urban settlements as a focus for economic development; and reinvigorating the coastal towns

In identifying these three areas, the RES addresses the particular issues which arise in relation to the primary objectives and the tasks outlined to deliver them. In so doing, the Draft RES is offering a framework through which its vision of sustainable prosperity will be delivered region-wide through ensuring the three zones are targeted individually, in terms of key needs.

The Vision of the RES is presented in *Box 2.1*.

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The vision for the Regional Economic Strategy 2006 – 2016 is confirmed as:

**By 2016 the South East will be a world class region achieving sustainable prosperity**

Informing this vision are three values which run through the Strategy:

- Building on excellence for global competitiveness
- Investing in potential to increase performance
- Safeguarding quality of life as a competitive advantage

Three headline targets are proposed. Progress towards all three of these in parallel will provide evidence of overall progress against the vision:

- Achieve an average annual increase in GVA per capita of at least 3%
- Increase productivity per worker by 30%, from £39,000 in 2005 to at least £50,000 by 2016
- Reduce the rate of increase in the region's ecological footprint (from 6.3 global hectares per capita in 2003, currently increasing at 1.7% per capita per annum), stabilise it and seek to start reducing it by 2016

The Strategy has been structured to relate directly to the three challenges identified in the preceding section, namely:

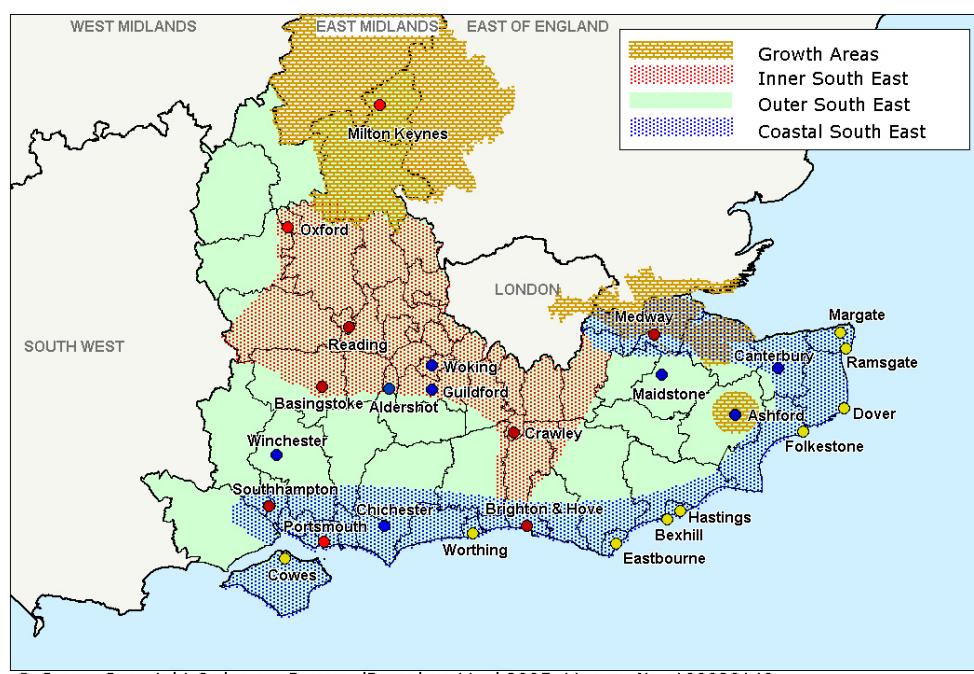
- Global competitiveness
- Smart growth
- Sustainable prosperity

For each of these objectives, an overall goal is identified, together with a set of measurable targets that demonstrate progress towards the goal. A context is provided for each objective or its components, with actions organised to demonstrate their contribution to individual targets. Each action is accompanied by a brief rationale, and a proposed lead organisation. In this way, the draft Strategy provides a clear hierarchy that connects individual actions to the overall vision

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**Figure 2.1** *Economic Zones Identified Within the RES*

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By any conventional economic measures, the South East is one of the UK's most successful regions. Comparing economic performance over the period 1997 – 2003 against other UK regions, the South East achieved:

- The fastest growth in Gross Value Added (GVA) per head at 35.3%
- The second highest absolute level of GVA per head at £18,400
- The highest economic activity rate, averaging 82.9%
- The lowest unemployment rate, averaging 4.2%
- The second highest household income per head, at almost £14,300 <sup>(1)</sup>.

The South East's strong performance in national terms puts it firmly among the most prosperous regions globally. But its performance is not outstanding against these comparators: it is nominally 31st out of 40 top performing regions (based on workplace data, which may underestimate the performance of the South East given the degree of outward commuting to London).

Strong headline economic growth masks substantial regional variations. GVA per head in the Thames Valley was 60% higher than the national average in 2002, while in the Isle of Wight it was 39% below the national average. Even though disparities in economic growth between South East County areas have narrowed slightly since 1999, they remain larger than disparities between the 9 English regions.

Productivity and labour market indicators follow broadly similar patterns. Between 1997 and 2003, the South East has seen a higher rate of growth in output per hour worked than any other UK region, and is second only to London in terms of absolute productivity levels. But internationally the region's performance is less impressive, ranking 34th out of 40 high performing global regions, and more than 50% below the best performing European regions. Performance is again mixed within the region, with Kent and East Sussex lagging behind the UK average in terms of both absolute levels and average annual growth rates. Across the region, current trends and projections point towards an increasingly polarised labour market in the South East, with a strong and growing proportion of both high-end and basic occupations alongside significant decline in intermediate occupations.

With high economic activity rates, high vacancy rates and low unemployment the South East has one of the tightest labour markets in the UK, and indeed is one of the highest performing regions globally in this regard. However, 900,000 residents of working age, representing almost 20% of the region's potential labour force, are economically inactive. Within this group, almost 250,000 people report themselves as wanting to work. As a group, the economically inactive tend to be concentrated in the Eastern part of the region, along the coast and in the region's largest urban areas. Ethnicity is also a

<sup>(1)</sup> NB before taking into account regional variations in costs of living

factor: black residents are 1.5 times more likely to be economically inactive than white residents, and Asian residents almost twice as likely to be economically inactive.

"Two consistent themes run through the evidence base. Firstly, the South East is a region that in terms of averages consistently outperforms the UK average on wide ranging measures of economic wellbeing. Secondly, it is clear that averages can be as misleading within regions as between them".

## 2.5

### ***COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***

Underpinning the strategy and embedded within the 6 key drivers, applicable across the zones, is the commitment to sustainable development. The RES notes that '*Regional economic prosperity must be secured within the context of sustainable development principles. The Integrated Regional Framework provides a reference point for testing this, as does the UK Sustainable Development Strategy 'Securing the Future'.*

The document outlines how it seeks to address the issues raised under the four key strands of 'Securing Our Future', demonstrating its commitment to addressing and delivering upon sustainable development. This relationship is summarised in *Table 2.1*,

**Table 2.1 Priorities Under Securing Our Future and the RES**

<b>Securing Our Future - Priorities</b>	<b>RES Approach and Key Issues</b>
Sustainable Consumption and Production	Boosting competitiveness and minimising waste. The region's strong research base and good representation of businesses in both the product design and environmental technology sectors will enable it to address and take advantage of the opportunities arising from sustainable consumption and production.
Climate change and energy	Acknowledging the importance of the issue of climate change upon the region; minimising the region's contribution to and creating adaptation measures for it. Addressing the potential energy gap for the region and both creating and marketing innovative solutions to future energy provision
Natural Resource Protection and Environmental Enhancement	Recognising that ' <i>the quality of the natural and built environment, together with the region's outstanding cultural assets, is a major element in the quality of life in the South East</i> '; capitalising upon the value which the environment has in attracting businesses to the region; recognising the issue of water resources and the need for careful planning
Sustainable Communities	Acknowledging that poverty coexists alongside economic wealth; addressing the need for equality and the disadvantages which sections of society encounter; emphasising the importance of addressing health. There is recognition of the importance of the community and voluntary sector within the region.

## 2.6

### **SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL**

#### **2.6.1**

##### ***What is Sustainability Appraisal?***

This Appraisal aims to predict and assess the economic, social and environmental effects which are likely to arise from the Draft South East RES. The Appraisal, therefore, integrates two processes:

- *Sustainability Appraisal (SA)*, a process for understanding whether policies, strategies or plans promote sustainable development, and for improving those policies etc to deliver more sustainable outcomes.
- *Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*, a process for assessing and mitigating the negative environmental impacts of specific plans and programmes. SEA is required for Regional Spatial Strategies under EU

*Directive 2001/42, transposed into UK law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.*

The Appraisal process has been designed to meet the statutory requirements applying to both SA and SEA, as explained in official guidance provided by ODPM. In particular, the appraisal process has been developed in reference to the ODPM Consultation Paper on *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks* (September 2004) and ODPM's '*A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive*' published in September 2005.

In accordance with best practice and after consultation with the Steering Group, this Appraisal has also taken into account the key proofing guidance in respect of Health Impact Assessment (HIA)<sup>(1)</sup>, Rural Proofing<sup>(2)</sup>, 'age proofing'<sup>(3)</sup> and 'future proofing'<sup>(4)</sup>. This Appraisal has also reviewed the Draft RES from an Equalities perspective.

#### *Assessment of Cumulative Impacts*

Assessment of cumulative impacts is a key component of SA/SEA. The Appraisal team is in the process of developing a cumulative impact assessment of the RES with the assistance of SEEDA and the SEA/SA Steering Group. This assessment will be presented in the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report.

#### *Appropriate Assessment*

There is a potential need to carry out an 'Appropriate Assessment' of the RES in accordance with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive. This will be reviewed once the Government has issued guidance on this topic which is currently being developed.

### **2.6.2      *Sustainability Appraisal Process***

Sustainability Appraisal is an iterative process that identifies and reports on the likely significant effects of the plan, and the extent to which implementation of the plan will support the social, environmental and

(1) HIA is a decision-making tool that takes account of the potential effects of a proposal on the health of its target population. It aims to improve the health of communities and individuals; reduce health inequalities, work toward sustainable development; promote fairness and equality for all, target disadvantaged and marginalized groups; and encourage participation of all affected.

(2) Rural Proofing is a commitment by the Government to ensure that all its domestic policies take account of rural circumstances and needs. This means that as policies are developed, policy makers should systematically consider whether their policy is likely to have a different impact in rural areas, because of rural circumstances and needs; assess the significant impacts; adjust the policy where necessary with solutions to meet rural needs and circumstances.

(3) An age proofing toolkit has been published by Age Concern, and other partners, to ensure that the potential effects of a proposal, policy or framework on the older/elderly sections of the community; recognising the growing, ageing characteristic of the population

(4) Future Proofing is a process, which seeks to ensure that the policy development process has taken full account of potential longer-term change. It is designed to make plans more aware of opportunities, provide early notice of new challenges, help them manage change and manage risk.

economic objectives by which sustainable development can be defined. As such, the assessment should:

- take a long term view of whether and how the area covered by the Strategy expected to develop;
- provide a mechanism for ensuring that sustainability objectives are translated into Strategic Programmes and plans;
- reflect global, national, regional and local concerns;
- provide an audit trail of how the Strategy has been revised to take into account the findings of the appraisal; and
- form an integral part of all stages – including the earliest possible stages – of Strategy preparation.

**Table 2.2**, below, outlines the key requirements of the SEA Directive and how these have and will continue to be addressed through this Sustainability Appraisal process.

**Table 2.2      Summary of the Requirements of the SEA Directive**

Requirements	Where covered in SA process (Stage)
<b>Preparation of an environmental report</b> 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):	The information required of an Environmental Report will be provided in each report of the Sustainability Appraisal
k) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	Scoping/Sustainability Appraisal Reports
l) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	Scoping/Sustainability Appraisal Reports
m) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	Scoping/Sustainability Appraisal Reports
n) 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;;	Scoping/Sustainability Appraisal Reports
o) 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;	Scoping/Sustainability Appraisal Reports
p) 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);	Scoping/Sustainability Appraisal Reports
q) 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;	Sustainability Appraisal Reports.

Requirements	Where covered in SA process (Stage)
r) 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;	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
s) a description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
t) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
The report must include the 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, 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)	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
<b>Consultation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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)</li> </ul>	Scoping
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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)</li> </ul>	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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).</li> </ul>	Not Applicable
<b>Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8)</b>	Final Sustainability Appraisal Report
<b>Provision of information on the decision:</b> 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:	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the plan or programme as adopted</li> <li>• a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report 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</li> <li>• the measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9)</li> </ul>	
<b>Monitoring</b> of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10)	Sustainability Appraisal Reports
<b>Quality Assurance:</b> environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive	Sustainability Appraisal Reports

## 2.6.3

### Work Carried Out to Date

As fulfils current Government Guidance, a Scoping Report was published for consultation. A Draft Sustainability Report was published on the Consultation Document, this being the subject of a twelve week public consultation period. The consultation responses received have been reviewed in the drafting of this report and the key issues raised by the consultees are presented in *Section 2.6* and *Table 2.1* of this report. A full analysis of the Consultation Responses received on the Draft Sustainability Report is presented in *Annex D* of this report.

This Draft Report appraises the Draft RES and comprises the components of an Environmental Report under the SEA Directive, whilst also addressing wider social and economic considerations. This Draft Report is being published for public consultation in compliance with the SEA Directive and Government Guidance.

#### **2.6.4** *Appraisal Team*

This appraisal is being carried out by Environmental Resources Management (ERM) on behalf of SEEDA.

To assist the SA process, SEEDA has established a Steering Group to assist in informing the undertaking of the SEA/SA of the RES. The Steering Group includes representatives of regional stakeholders, including Statutory Agencies.

#### **2.6.5** *What Difference is the Appraisal Making?*

The Sustainability Appraisal team is working with the SEEDA to create a detailed record of how the appraisal has influenced the development of the RES. This will be included in the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report.

Key findings from the appraisal process to date have been shared with those developing the RES at both regional and sub-regional levels. This will continue during the process of developing the Final Sustainability Appraisal.

### **2.7**

#### ***CONSULTATION RESPONSES ON THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL***

As part of the overall consultation on the review of the RES, consultation responses have been received which relate specifically to the Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report issued to accompany the Consultation Document. The comments from the statutory agencies and other respondents have been collated and are outlined below in respect of the generic issues covering process and structure and specific issues which are addressed individually or collectively, where they relate to key issues.

A detailed analysis of the consultation responses is presented in *Annex D* of this report.

A key part of the development of the Appraisal will be the review of consultation responses to the RES relating to issues covered by the IRF and how, crucially, the RES takes account of those responses. This will inform the Final Sustainability Appraisal of the RES.

The following overarching issues relate to the process and structure of the Appraisal as raised by consultation respondents include:

- Content of the Sustainability Appraisal and the Data Used

The Sustainability Appraisal is making use of the best data that is publicly available. In addition, regional stakeholders and some of the consultation responses themselves have provided useful data to make the appraisal more robust.

The evidence base for the appraisal and the RES is growing continuously and the appraisal will continue to draw on new data as it becomes available.

- The Sustainability Appraisal Process

The SA/SEA process has followed ODPM guidance. It has also drawn on best practice and the advice of groups such as the Steering Group.

The Sustainability Appraisal team will continue to ensure that the latest guidance on the SA/SEA from ODPM is used. They will also continue to work with SEEDA and the Steering Group on the appraisal process.

- The Appraisal Framework

The framework that has been used to assist in the appraisal of the Draft RES is based on the region's Integrated Regional Framework. This contains a series of objectives designed to assist the region follow a sustainable model of regional development.

The appraisal team has drawn upon a range of experts in the drafting of the detailed appraisal questions. The appraisal team recognises that it needs to ensure that the framework is consistently applied and interpreted and will be working with both SEEDA and the Steering Group on these issues.

The SA/SEA has, where possible, accommodated the comments of consultees regarding the appraisal framework.

- The Influence of the Sustainability Appraisal on the Draft RES

Several consultation responses have raised the issue of how the influence of the appraisal on the RES will be demonstrated. It has been recognised by the SEEDA and the appraisal team that this is both a requirement of the Regulations and an extremely useful tool and a mechanism for recording the effect of the appraisal on the policies and the RES is currently being developed.

Information on how the Sustainability Appraisal has influenced the RES throughout the course of the RES Review will be presented in the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report.

## **2.7.2** *Specific Comments*

Specific comments are presented in *Annex D* of this report.

**3.1*****INTRODUCTION***

In establishing a clear scope for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft RES, and in compliance with statutory requirements, it is first necessary to review and develop an understanding of:

- 1 possible appraisal objectives;
- 2 other plans, policies and strategies of relevance to the RES;
- 3 baseline information on environmental, social and economic conditions in the region; and
- 4 significant sustainability issues facing the region.

**3.2*****CORE SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES – THE INTEGRATED REGIONAL FRAMEWORK***

The Integrated Regional Framework (IRF) for South East England establishes a shared regional vision of sustainable development, and a set of objectives, indicators and targets that map out how the region should deliver economic development that benefits people and protects and improves the environment. The IRF was developed by a working group of key regional partners, including the Regional Assembly, Government Office for the South East, SEEDA and others.

It was agreed by the Steering Group and Appraisal team that the IRF, therefore, provided the key set of objectives on which to base Sustainability Appraisal.

During the course of the consultation periods on both the Scoping Report and the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft RES, respondents did, however, make suggestions as to how the IRF objectives and second level objectives which stemmed from these, could be expanded upon. These comments have been incorporated into the objectives; the current list of Appraisal objectives reflecting these comments.

**Table 3.1 IRF Objectives and Amended Appraisal Questions**

<b>IRF Objective</b>	<b>Appraisal Questions: Does the RES:</b>
1. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home	1.1 ensure the provision of housing for key workers and key sectors in the region? 1.2 ensure that housing and economic development policies deliver housing and jobs in an integrated fashion 1.3 ensure the provision of a range of economic opportunities in, or accessible to, rural areas? 1.4 promote the adoption of sustainable design and construction practices in development (eg energy/water/land/materials efficiency, incorporation of biodiversity/natural assets etc)? 1.5 ensure that the mix/type of new developments can reflect changes in population (size, demographics etc) and household structure in the region? 1.6 Take account of existing conditions that affect minority and excluded groups
2. To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment	2.1 prevent all inappropriate development in the flood plain? 2.2 require that all new development applications show that sustainable drainage has been considered and implemented wherever practicable? 2.3 ensure that development located in the floodplain is designed to be flood resilient? 2.4 ensure that development does not increase flood risk to others?
3. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population and reduce inequalities in health	3.1 substantially diminish inequalities in mortality, health and well-being across the region? 3.2 ensure the accessibility of healthcare services by non-car means, eg through the incorporation of services in new developments? 3.3 promote healthy, active lifestyles as part of the well being of the region and as a means of reducing economic and social exclusion 3.4 Take account of the specific health and wellbeing issues of minority and excluded groups
4. To reduce poverty and social exclusion, and close the gap between the most deprived areas in the South East and the rest of the region	4.1 contribute towards a halving the gap between the most disadvantaged communities and the average position of the region by 2010? 4.2 ensure the provision of employment land and housing in, or accessible to, the most deprived areas of the South East? 4.3 Promote the economic and social inclusion of deprived and minority groups?
5. To raise educational levels across the region and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work	5.1 ensure the accessibility of educational/training opportunities by non-car means? 5.2 ensure the accessibility of educational/training opportunities for the most deprived communities and excluded and minority groups? 5.3 ensure the accessibility of educational/training opportunities for rural communities?

IRF Objective	Appraisal Questions: Does the RES:
6. To reduce crime and the fear of crime	6.1 promote the incorporation of 'secured by design' principles as part of good urban design in economic development sites?
7. To create and sustain vibrant communities	7.1 encourage the involvement of communities in the planning and management of their neighbourhoods?
8. To improve accessibility to all services and facilities	<p>8.1 promote compact, mixed-use development with good accessibility to local facilities and services (eg employment, education, health services, shopping, leisure, green spaces, culture etc), that reduce the need to travel?</p> <p>8.2 ensure that facilities and services (eg employment, education, health services, shopping, leisure, green spaces, culture, outdoor recreation etc) are accessible to rural communities?</p> <p>8.3 Ensure the provision of the services and facilities of most relevance to excluded and minority groups.</p>
9. To encourage increased engagement in cultural activity across all sections of the community in the South East	<p>9.1 ensure that existing facilities and locations for cultural activities are protected and that new facilities are provided in areas targeted for development?</p> <p>9.2 Ensure that cultural needs of minority groups are addressed?</p>
10. To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance	<p>10.1 ensure the provision of employment land and housing on previously-developed land, as opposed to greenfield sites (in line with the sequential approach) and through conversion of existing buildings, to ensure that 60% of all forms of development (not just housing) occurs on previously used land by 2008?</p> <p>10.2 encourage the reuse of materials in construction?</p> <p>10.3 promote the adoption of sustainable design and construction practices in non-housing developments (eg energy/water/land/materials efficiency, incorporation of biodiversity/natural assets etc)?</p> <p>10.4 require good design to create attractive, high quality environments where people will choose to work and live?</p> <p>10.5 ensure that the historic urban environment and the distinctiveness/character of urban areas is protected as part of urban developments?</p> <p>10.6 ensure that the historic rural environment and its distinctiveness and character is protected as part of the development of rural areas?</p>
11. To reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve	<p>11.1 promote more sustainable transport patterns in all economic development areas, particular those of low air quality (eg AQMAs), including provision for public transport, walking and cycling (see also Objective 15)</p> <p>11.2 address the air quality impacts arising from specific development activities (eg airports, energy generation etc)?</p>

IRF Objective	Appraisal Questions: Does the RES:
12. To address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and ensure that the South East is prepared for its impacts	<p>12.1 ensure a 20% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2010 (from 1990 levels)?</p> <p>12.2 require that development proposals are guided by 'climate proofing' principles?</p> <p>12.3 promote actions that will favour a shift towards a 'low carbon' economy</p> <p>12.4 Provide business with support to address the challenges and opportunities of climate change</p>
13. To conserve and enhance the region's biodiversity	<p>13.1 protect, enhance and restore the region's (international, national and local) designated sites recognizing the contributions they make to the region's economy and the wellbeing of residents and visitors?</p> <p>13.2 protect, enhance and restore the region's priority habitats and species, and take account of the need to deliver regional biodiversity targets so as to maintain the region's natural asset base?</p> <p>13.3 encourage the development of new biodiversity assets within/alongside developments? (Including encourage the linkage of habitats and the provision of wildlife corridors?)</p>
14. To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment the region's countryside and historic environment	<p>14.1 recognise the importance to the region's economy of it's natural environmental assets (eg the green belt, parks and green spaces, common land, woodland and forests, National Parks, AONBs, ESAs etc) and seek to protect, restore and enhance them as an integral part of the region's quality of life</p> <p>14.2 recognise the importance to the region's economy of the region's cultural and heritage assets (eg Heritage Coasts, World Heritage Sites, SAMs, Listed Buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens, Conservation Areas, Registered Battlefields etc and their role in the region's quality of life and seek to protect, restore and enhance them)?</p>
15. To reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice and reducing the need for travel by car/lorry	<p>15.1 promote more sustainable transport patterns in all areas, particularly those with high congestion?</p> <p>15.2 promote public transport, walking and cycling?</p> <p>15.3 promote more sustainable transport patterns in connection with developments in rural areas?</p>
16. To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products	<p>16.1 promote the use of locally and sustainably-sourced, and recycled, materials in construction and renovation?</p> <p>16.2 Promote measures to reduce the overall ecological footprint of the region</p> <p>16.3 Promote resource efficiency measures within the region's businesses</p> <p>16.4 Promote the region's strengths in the environmental goods and services industry</p>
17. To reduce waste generation and disposal , and achieve the sustainable management of waste	<p>17.1 promote sustainable waste management practices in all sectors and at all levels through the provision of a range of appropriate waste management facilities?</p> <p>17.2 promote waste minimisation?</p>
18. To maintain and improve the water quality of the region's rivers and coasts, and to achieve sustainable water resources management	<p>18.1 Promote measures to reduce water demand by business</p> <p>18.2 Promote pollution control and reduction measures by business</p>

IRF Objective	Appraisal Questions: Does the RES:
19. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the region	<p>19.1 provide for the establishment of renewable energy developments at a regional level, to ensure that renewable energy targets are achieved (eg 16% of generation capacity by 2026)?</p> <p>19.2 Promote the uptake of renewable energy sources by business</p> <p>19.3 promote the incorporation of small-scale renewables in developments?</p>
20. To ensure high and stable levels of employment so everyone can benefit from the economic growth of the region	<p>20.1 Promote actions to deliver employment to all sections of society in the region especially deprived minority and excluded groups</p> <p>20.2 Target employment growth in areas where social and transport infrastructure capacity exists</p>
21. To sustain economic growth and competitiveness across the region	<p>21.1 Promote actions to narrow the gap in GVA per capita between the best and worst performing parts of the region?</p>
22. To stimulate economic revival in priority areas	<p>22.1 Identify priority areas for economic regeneration and their needs?</p> <p>22.2 Promote actions to develop less-favoured areas within the region?</p>
23. To develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge based economy that excels in innovation, with higher value, lower impact activities	<p>23.1 support the development of access to broadband infrastructure, particularly in rural and deprived areas and among excluded and minority groups?</p> <p>23.2 Identify actions to promote innovation and research and development in the region?</p> <p>23.3 Identify clear priorities for investment in new services/technologies</p>
24. To encourage the development of a buoyant , sustainable tourism sector	
25. To develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness of the region	<p>25.1 Promote business support measures/skills programs that meet the demands of the region's businesses</p> <p>25.2 Identify key skills sets/skills gaps to be developed/managed</p> <p>25.3 Identify key sectors that provide 'skills escalators' that create opportunities for less-skilled individuals in the region's economy</p> <p>25.4 Identify the skills needs/demands for skills amongst minority and excluded groups?</p>

### 3.3

### LINKS TO OTHER PLANS, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

An analysis of the links between the Draft RES and other relevant plans, policies and strategies as required by the SEA regulations is presented in *Annex A*.

There are clearly especially close links to be made between the South East Plan, which sets out the region's spatial strategy and the RES. Integration of these two strategies will be fundamental in delivering planned growth for the region in a manner which is both integrated and more sustainable.

### **3.4**

#### ***BASELINE INFORMATION***

A detailed review of data on baseline environmental, social and economic conditions within the region is presented in *Annex B*.

### **3.5**

#### ***DATA COLLECTION DIFFICULTIES AND LIMITATIONS OF DATA***

We have drawn upon publicly available information, provided by regional partners, including the Environment Agency, English Nature and English Heritage. The data represents the most updated information on regional trends, currently available.

The Final Appraisal Report will detail any issues which have arisen in respect of difficulties or limitations encountered in collecting data for the Appraisal.

**4.1****INTRODUCTION**

This section of the SA/SEA report focuses on the key components of the appraisal process, the assessment of alternatives and the key findings of the appraisal.

**4.2****APPRAISAL OF ALTERNATIVES**

The assessment of alternatives is a key requirement of both the SEA Directive and the UK's Government Guidance. In the case of the RES for the South East, we have taken as alternatives four different scenarios of the likely growth of the South East economy, as presented in 'Sustaining success in a prosperous region: Economic implications of the South East Plan' published by SEEDA in March 2005.

The Key characteristics of each of the scenarios are summarised in *Box 4.1* below.

**Box 4.1*****Economic Scenarios***

- 
- **The baseline** – the rate of productivity growth in the baseline (2.27% per annum), is slightly lower than the recent trend of 2.32% per annum, and reflects structural changes in the region's economy away from manufacturing to services (which record measurably lower productivity rates). Even at a level of 2.27% p.a, this translates into an overall increase in productivity from £39,000 per worker in 2005 to £32,000 per worker by 2026 (at constant prices). Employment growth projections in this scenario assume that economic activity rates will rise to bring an additional 50,000 residents into employment. This implies an increase in economic activity rates from 83% (already the highest in the UK) to 85%.

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  - **Scenario 1** – this scenario reflects what might be achieved through additional regional efforts in terms of enhancing productivity and economic activity. It assumes that concentrated action on research and development, innovation and productivity maintains that current average yearly productivity improvement despite the structural shift towards service sectors. It also assumes that all those who are economically inactive but relatively well skilled and ready to return to work (65,000 existing residents in total) are brought back into employment in the South East.

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- **The baseline** – the rate of productivity growth in the baseline (2.27% per annum), is slightly lower than the recent trend of 2.32% per annum, and reflects structural changes in the region's economy away from manufacturing to services (which record measurably lower productivity rates). Even at a level of 2.27% p.a, this translates into an overall increase in productivity from £39,000 per worker in 2005 to £32,000 per worker by 2026 (at constant prices). Employment growth projections in this scenario assume that economic activity rates will rise to bring an additional 50,000 residents into employment. This implies an increase in economic activity rates from 83% (already the highest in the UK) to 85%.
- 

- **Scenario 2** – this is at the upper limit of what could conceivably be achieved with significant investment, concentrated action by all relevant partners, and with major innovations in public policy. Over the course of the Plan period, productivity growth progressively improves by an average additional 5% (of the projected trend) per annum, implying that the South East becomes one of the most productive regions in Europe by 2026. The aggregate productivity growth under this scenario would be 2.39% per annum.

To put this scenario in a more regional context, if every sector in Kent, the Isle of Wight and East Sussex (the lagging areas of the South East in terms of productivity) were to catch up and match the region's average productivity levels by 2026, the additional average annual growth in productivity would be around 5% - similar to the levels assumed under this scenario

In addition, major efforts to bring more challenging groups of economically inactive residents into employment area assumed to succeed under this scenario, with a total of 265,000 additional residents finding employment. Specifically:

- the number inactive due to childcare or other care commitments would fall by one third from 295,000 to 190,000;
- the number inactive due to long-term sickness or disability would halve from 160,000 to 80,000;
- The number indicative due to early retirement would fall slightly from 75,000 to 60,000; and
- the only other group remaining significantly economically inactive would be full-time students.

This implies lifting the region's overall economic activity rate to almost 90%, a rate never yet achieved in any regional economy, and significantly higher than anything yet achieved in any part of the South East.

This is a challenging target to achieve, where all who would like to work by currently cannot work (e.g. due to childcare commitments or long-term illness etc.) area assisted to enter the labour market. Again, for context, if all parts of the region were to increase economic activity rates to match the highest current rate (i.e. Berkshire), this would deliver less than half the overall improvements in economic activity assumed under this scenario.

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- **2% Growth** – Modelling the effects of lower growth demonstrated that there is a clear choice between sustainable growth and decline. For instance, if growth in GVA was constrained to an average of 2% per annum over the Plan period:
  - The region would generate £43 billion (constant prices) less GVA per annum by 2026, compared to the 3% growth scenario (i.e. GVA of £206 billion instead of £249 billion in 20026). In total, over the Plan period, the region would generate £400 billion less GVA (constant prices) under the 2% growth scenario;
  - Employment growth would shrink to 113,000 over the Plan period (compared with a growth of 805,000 jobs under the 3% growth scenario); and
  - Given the projected growth in the economically active population, this would imply an unemployment rate of 7% (roughly 400,000 residents unemployed) by 2026, compared to around 2% unemployed under the 3% growth scenario.

Source: Sustaining success in a prosperous region: Economic implications of the South East Plan (SEEDA 2005)

**Table 4.1** below summarises the key factors affecting achievement of GVA growth of 3% per annum.

**Table 4.1 Achieving 3% per annum GVA Growth to 2026**

The baseline - based on the draft South East Plan figures	Scenario 1 – maintaining historic productivity growth and reducing economic inactivity by 65,000	Scenario 2-5% pa additional productivity growth and reducing economic inactivity by 265,000
Annual productivity growth(%)	2.27 (historic trend 2.32)	2.32
Total Full Time Equivalent (FTA) employment growth	805,000	772,000
Labour shortfall – with a build rate of 25,500 per annum	381,000	336,000
Labour shortfall – with a build rate of 28,000 per annum	339,000	294,000
Labour shortfall – with a build rate of 32,000 per annum	273,000	227,000
Dwellings required for a balanced labour market under each scenario	48,000	45,500
		34,800

#### 4.3

#### APPRAISAL FINDINGS

The Appraisal considers how the Draft RES ‘performs’ against the IRF’s Objectives and associated questions, assigning a ‘score’ to each question.

The scoring framework used in undertaking the Assessment is outlined in **Figure 4.1** below:

**Figure 4.1 Scoring Framework for the Assessment**

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✓✓	Clear Strong positive impacts
✓	Overall impact likely to be positive
✓/✗	Overall impact mixed
?	Overall impact unclear
0	Overall impact neutral
✗	Overall impact likely to be negative
✗✗	Clear, strong negative impacts
**	Not addressed, but likely to be important
N/A	Not applicable

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The detailed Assessment matrices are provided in *Annex C* of this Report. The matrices outline how the Draft RES has performed against the appraisal questions, assessing the likely impact of the Draft RES in relation to each objective and question and assigning a score as per the scoring framework noted above.

Set out below is a brief summary of key points arising from the appraisal of the Draft RES.

There is clearly a strong link between the Draft South East Plan and the review of the RES. Where appropriate the assessment has taken these links, potential and actual, into account.

In assessing the four scenarios we have made a few basic assumptions:

- That economic growth can be achieved in a more sustainable manner;
- That economic growth does not automatically signify environmental damage or reduced environmental quality;
- That higher levels of growth provide resources and stimuli that are likely to help deliver the ‘Sustainability Prosperity and Smart Growth’ more effectively and at a faster rate;
- That higher levels of growth will tackle issues of deprivation, intra-regional equality and social and economic exclusion more effectively; and
- The ‘managed decline’ of the economy is not an option i.e. the South East will be encouraged to maintain its position within the UK economy.

The appraisal notes, where relevant, the contribution that will be required from behavioural change if policies, targets and actions are to lead to more sustainable outcomes for the region.

IRF Objective	Likely Impact	Conclusions
1. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainable constructed and affordable home	✓/*	<p>As the RES notes 'the region is characterised by high demand and inelastic supply, with household growth in the South East Exceeding house building rates.... The problems of house prices and of a lack of affordable housing have been widely publicised. The research and analysis carried out within the region in the context of the South East Plan has highlighted that at the proposed rate of supply set out in the Plan it is unlikely that current issues relating to affordability will be resolved. The targeted completion rates for affordable housing represent a considerable increase in terms of current completion rates and there is considerable doubt that they will be met'.</p> <p>There are also concerns that the rate of housing supply does not correspond to real need and is at odds to the likely levels of demand that would be generated by the growth scenarios in the Draft RES.</p> <p>In terms of the existing housing stock in the region, there are concerns over the resource efficiency of much of this and the intention spelt out in the Draft RES to develop and implement a strategy to upgrade existing private sector housing is a positive step. It will require close coordination with the South East Plan and will also require significant levels of funding to achieve meaningful impact.</p> <p>Without a significant improvement in the performance of existing housing any gains made from new housing in the region will be significantly diminished and the prospects for stabilising let-along reducing the region's ecological footprint appear remote.</p>
2. To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment	0	<p>The RES recognises that the 'region is affected by a range of flooding issues - tidal, rivers and groundwater. Over 200,000 existing houses and workplaces are in areas of high flood risk'.</p> <p>It is important the economic development of the region does not increase the risk of flooding and of the human, economic and environmental losses associated with it. This will require regional partners including SEEDA to work closely with the Environment Agency and also to act in accordance with the relevant policies in the South East Plan. It is not easy, however, to establish any direct relationship between the strategy and actions put forward in the Draft RES and flooding.</p>
3. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population and reduce inequalities in health	?	<p>Health is recognised as a key issue for the region in connection with a number of issues such as the impacts of an ageing population, the links between poor health status and economic participation and the links between social, economic and environmental exclusion and economic deprivation.</p>

IRF Objective	Likely Impact	Conclusions
		<p>The Draft RES notes that – ‘Health is a key dimension of disadvantages. The region’s most disadvantaged areas, where unemployment is highest, often feature higher than average ill health and mortality. Initiatives which target worklessness will also lead to higher standards of living and other factors which influence quality of life. As well as being a route out of poverty and benefit dependency, employment and training programmes can lead to a healthier lifestyle. There are business benefits in developing a healthy and skilled local workforce and a better workplace environment, reducing absence through illness and improving efficiency and productivity.’</p> <p>While the ‘skills’ actions within the Draft RES may assist in improving health and well-being more actions targeting the determinants of health are still required.</p>
4. To reduce poverty and social exclusion, and close the gap between the most deprived areas in the South East and the rest of the region	✓✓	This is one of the principal objectives of the Draft RES which seeks to address the barriers to economic participation. It is also focused on the spatial distribution of poverty and exclusion within the region and seeks to address the specific needs and potential of more deprived sub-regions such as some of the coastal areas of the South East.
5. To raise educational levels across the region and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work	N/A	The RES contains a number of actions aimed at raising educational and skills levels across the region. It promotes this idea of a Regional Skills Escalator and also the need for whole life learning and actions targeted at the ageing population of the region.
6. To reduce crime and the fear of crime	N/A	Whilst dear of crime is an issue of significance for the region’s residents it is not an issue that is especially linked to the RES. There is a link between reduction in deprivation and worklessness which could in turn reduce levels of some types of crime.
7. To create and sustain vibrant communities	✓	Quality of life and sustainable prosperity are both key components of the Draft RES. A wide range of actions are proposed to assist the region conserve and enhance its quality of life for residents and businesses. The Draft RES (in co-ordination with the South East Plan) also target the regeneration of communities.
8. To improve accessibility to all services and facilities	✓	The Draft RES recognises that the region needs substantial economy investment in infrastructure if it’s to continue to grow and to perform. The RES and the South East Plan must pursue an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure – this must help to reduce congestion which has an accessibility. It should also make significant improvements to access via public transport.
9. To encourage increased engagement in cultural activity across all sections of the community in the South	✓	The Draft RES recognises the importance of cultural activities to sustainable prosperity and to quality of life. It also recognises the economic significant of the region’s cultural assets and the role that these

IRF Objective	Likely Impact	Conclusions
East		play in making the region a 'leader'.
10. To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance	✓	The RES is keen that the region's performance on the re-use of PDL is maintained and that planning authorities are able to make the best use of the resources of PDL in the region.
11. To reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve	✗	Whilst the RES recognises the need to tackle pollution, especially from transport it is difficult to see how the RES will lead to any reduction in our pollution without a massive investment in public transport and a similarly significant shift in behaviour. The current policy and funding framework in the UK does not appear conducive to the scale of change required.
12. To address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and ensure that the South East is prepared for its impacts	✗	<p>The RES notes that 'while striving to avoid future climate change through mitigation measures, we must recognise that some climate change is unavoidable and to plan for adaptation. Climate risks and costs need to be incorporated into business decision making and policy making. Whilst inevitably there are some uncertainties over the degree and pace of climate change, proper forward planning will generate costs savings, reduce exposure to risk and losses, enhance reputation, improve regulatory relationships and increase opportunities for market leadership'.</p> <p>It is important the RES highlights the opportunities arising from climate change and also that it is very much a business and competitiveness issues as well as a sustainable development one.</p> <p>The RES sets a target for the reduction of greenhouse gases in line with government targets. It is also seeking to stabilise and then reduce its ecological footprint, this too will require a concerted effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions significantly. Whilst the RES proposes a wide range of resource efficiency and management measures it will require a significant increase in awareness and sensitivity within the private, public and domestic sectors to bring about a cultural shift in the management of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the region. The RES does address the causes of climate change and it is entirely correct that it sets a target for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions but it is questionable whether all of the other targets set out in the Draft RES are likely to lead to a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions – the target for renewables being a prime example.</p> <p>In terms of making sure that the South East is prepared for climate change – this will require integration of the actions of both the RES and the South East Plan as well as other regional strategies.</p>

IRF Objective	Likely Impact	Conclusions
		<p>Climate change needs to be more effectively embedded into regional thinking in terms of both adaptation and proactive engagement within the opportunities.</p> <p>Consultees have also highlighted the need to look at Climate Change in a holistic fashion so that issues such as 'coastal squeeze' which are likely to affect many of the region's coastal environmental assets can be planned for.</p>
13. To conserve and enhance the region's biodiversity	?	<p>The importance of the natural environment, to the region, not least in economic terms, is clearly spelt out in the Draft RES. The importance of Green Infrastructure and its contribution to Quality of Life and Sustainable Prosperity is also made clear.</p> <p>However, the evidence base for the SA/SEA highlights the current levels of threat to many of the region's most valuable areas. Investment in new biodiversity assets and improved conservation of existing site should be promoted as an integral part of Sustainable Prosperity.</p>
14. To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment the region's countryside and historic environment	N/A	<p>The RES recognises the important role played by the region's countryside and historic environment. It does not promote actions that will necessarily have negative impacts on these assets but stakeholders are concerned about the apparent lack of clarity on this issue in the Draft RES. Consideration needs to be given to this in the ongoing development of the RES. Clearly the South East Plan contains policies to prevent damage to these assets and to promote their balanced use. The RES need to support these polices.</p>
15. To reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice and reducing the need for travel by car/lorry	✗	<p>The Draft RES explicitly recognises the need to reduce road congestion and pollution. However, it is not clear that the strategy and the actions proposed both by the RES and the South East Plan are likely to lead to any reduction in pollution – the reverse seems more likely since investment in infrastructure seems more likely to generate journeys than reduce them.</p>
16. To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products	✓	<p>The Draft RES is committed to improving resource efficiency and resource consumption in the region and stabilising and then reducing the region's ecological footprint. However, it is not clear how the region intends to move towards this target. The RES and the South East Plan need to develop a co-ordinated approach to this strategic challenge. Once again, behavioural change will be a key component of any strategy that is likely to produce significant change.</p>
17. To reduce waste generation and disposal , and achieve the sustainable management of waste	✓/✗	<p>The Draft RES contains a targets designed to improve the overall efficiency of businesses use of materials and waste generation. This does not contain any clear way forward and it is not clear how the region will achieve anything more than a slower rate of increase in waste generation. The</p>

IRF Objective	Likely Impact	Conclusions
		evidence for how this target will be achieved need to be included in the Draft RES.
18. To maintain and improve the water quality of the region's rivers and coasts, and to achieve sustainable water resources management	?	The work being carried out by the Environment Agency in preparation for the Water Framework Directive is highlighting key issues for water quality management in the region. This work needs to be reflected in the RES in terms of its implications for Sustainable Prosperity. It is not clear how the region will reach the targets in the RES on water consumption. Policies in the South East Plan and actions in the RES are not likely to lead to sustainable water resources without a significant investment in demand management, supply efficiency and overall behavioural change of both consumers and suppliers. At present the policy context is not favourable to such change - or not at the scale required to move towards sustainability.
19. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the region	✓	<p>The Draft RES established clear targets for the development and deployment of the renewable energy in the region. As with the other targets in the RES more information is required as to how these targets will be delivered.</p> <p>Some references are made to the use of specific feedstocks but this too requires a greater level of detail.</p>
20. To ensure high and stable levels of employment so everyone can benefit from the economic growth of the region	✓	The Draft RES is directed at improving the economic performance of the region and increased levels of economic participation and increased employment in growth sectors with strong potential for the future are fundamental to that. At lower levels of growth these objectives may be harder to achieve. Ensuring higher levels of employment in the more deprived areas of the region is also a key objective of the RES.
21. To sustain economic growth and competitiveness across the region	✓✓	Current and proposed economic strategy for the South East looks to maintain and improve the economic profile and performance of the region. A particular focus of the Draft RES is the need to reduce and move towards the elimination of significant intra-regional disparities. At lower levels of growth this objective may be harder to achieve.
22. To stimulate economic revival in priority areas	✓✓	The Draft RES recognises a number of sub-regions within the South East one of the objectives being the targeting of areas in need of economic and social regeneration. Actions to assist these areas will require co-ordination between the RES and the South East Plan. The Draft RES identifies key priorities for each area to address their needs.
23. To develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge based economy that excels in innovation, with higher value, lower impact activities	✓✓	The development of the knowledge-based economy and a focus on innovation are both key priorities with the Draft RES - both are viewed as key elements of the forward strategy for the economy of the South East and the Greater South East.

IRF Objective	Likely Impact	Conclusions
24. To encourage the development of a buoyant, sustainable tourism sector	✓	The role of the cultural, sport and creative sectors in the regional economy is clearly set out in the RES. Sustainable tourism needs clearer support with the Strategy.
25. To develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness of the region	✓✓	The Draft RES contains a wide range of actions relating to skills and the skills and training needs of the region in relationship to retaining and building on its competitiveness.

#### 4.4

#### *SIGNIFICANT ISSUES*

The following section provides a summary of the Appraisal findings as they relate to the key IRF objectives and associated questions which have framed this Appraisal. These are presented in terms of the overall appraisal and then the key issues identified in the DTI's guidance to RDA's on the links between the RES Review and the UK's Sustainable Development Strategy.

- *A Focus on Economic Development*

The RES sets out in a concise way how the Region could potentially move towards achieving its aspiration of smart growth and sustainable prosperity. It is focused on economic development but also contains clear evidence and proposals as to the benefits of making growth more sustainable.

- *Sustainable Consumption and Production*

The ideas within the RES on resource management and the management of demand and consumption mirror the concerns that are one of the key themes of the UK's Sustainable Development Strategy. The ideas put forward in the document area proactive and address both process and behavioural aspect of business as well as products and services.

The ability to drive demand for a more sustainable pattern of projection and consumption is only partly with the gift of the Region. Wider forces such as national policy and legislation need to be aligned to this objective for the Region to be able to make substantial program on this issue. The Region will need to demonstrate how it will seek to influence Central Government on this issue. It will be important for the Regional Assembly, SEEDA and other key regional partners to develop a common set of objectives and a common strategy so that the Region can engage effectively with Central Government.

Work being carried out by the Sustainable Consumption and Projection Network (SCP-NET), which has been tasked by government with implementing methods of assessing resource consumption and efficiency (such as the REEIO Model) will be used by the SA/SEA to further assess

the resource efficiency implications of the RES as it develops.

The Region is keen to stabilise and then move to reduce its ecological footprint.

- ***Climate Change and Energy***

The Draft RES recognises the challenges and opportunities posed by Climate Change and Energy Supply and Security. The current proposals in the document whilst positive and promising will need to be considerably developed to ensure that opportunities are maximised and that the Region will be able to design a route map for moving towards a low carbon economy.

- ***Natural Resource Protection and Enhancement***

The Draft RES recognises the value of the Region's natural resources and natural assets and the role that they plan in underpinning quality of life in the Region. There is, however, relatively little detail provided on how natural resources protection and enhancement can help to deliver smart growth. This issue will need to be addressed in the Draft RES.

In terms of the IRF Objectives the Draft RES 'scores' well on the following objectives:

- Reducing Poverty and Social Exclusion (IRF4)
- Raising Educational Achievement (IRF5)
- Creating Sustainable Comments (IRF7)
- Improving Accessibility to services and Facilities (IRF8)
- Increased Engagement in Cultural Activity (IRF9)
- Improved Efficiency in Land Use (IRF10)
- Reduce Resource Consumption (IRF16)
- Reducing Waste Generation and Disposal (IRF17)
- Monitoring and Improving Waste Quality (IRF18)
- Increasing Energy Efficiency (IRF19)
- Ensuring High and Stable Levels of Employment (IRF20)
- Sustaining Economic Growth and Competitiveness (IRF21)
- Stimulate Economic Revival in Priority Areas (IRF22)
- Develop a Dynamic, Diverse and Knowledge Based Economy (IRF23)
- Encourage the Development of a Sustainable Tourism Sector (IRF24)
- Developing a Skilled Workforce (IRF25)

It also scores well in terms of IRF Objectives 20-23 which relate to the performance of the economy.

However, the performance of the Draft RES is much less strong in terms of the remainder of the IRF objectives for the following reasons:

- Delivery constraints (IRF1)- Affordable Homes/Ensuring Decent, Sustainable Housing
- Degree of connectivity with economic strategy (IRF6 – Crime and Fear of Crime)
- Lack of regional control/scale of investment or policy change required/IRF 11 - Air Quality, IRF-12 Climate Change, IRF 15 - Transport and Congestion, IRF-16 Reducing Global Impacts
- Lack of recognition of opportunities (IRF – 13 Biodiversity) and IRF – 24 Sustainable Tourism)

#### 4.5

#### *SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: PROCESS AND STRUCTURAL*

- **EVIDENCE BASE**

The production of the Evidence Base document has been extremely useful has complemented the work carried out for the SA/SEA extremely well. The Draft RES will need to provided clear links between the regional evidence base and proposed actions and initiatives as well as targets and indicators.

- **LEADERSHIP**

In general, the Draft RES as expected given its aims and objectives does not focus on issues of leadership in specific areas albeit it does mention a wide range of organisations who have key roles in the current and future delivery of the Region's Economic strategies and initiatives.

The document invites regional stakeholders to propose how they can assist in the delivery of the strategy – this will be very important for the Sustainability Document which will not be delivered without a coordinated delivery plan across a number of organisations and sectors. The role of the RES in integrating and focusing strategies should be extended to cover issues relevant to the delivery of smart sustainable growth.

- **TARGETS/INDICATORS/MONITORING**

The Draft RES, however, will need to demonstrate how it intends to go about demonstrating its performance and what its key measures of success will be.

In terms of the SA/SEA we will be reviewing how targets, indicators and monitoring can be used to measure significant effects and also performance against the objective of the IRF.

The SA/SEA take account of EU and UK guidance on this topic.

- **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RES**

The SA/SEA will need to be able to appraise the delivery or implementations plan of the RES. This will enable the appraisal to suggest opportunities for actions that will promote sustainable development and to propose focused mitigation measures.

#### 4.6

#### *SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS*

**Table 4.1** sets out our assessment of the likely significant effects of the Dwarf RES on key environmental issues as required by the SEA Directive. The following issues may, depending on how the RES is implemented, potentially experience significant **positive** effects:

- Population
- Human Health
- Material Assets
- Waste

Issues that may potentially experience significant **negative** effects are as follows:

- Air (in terms of transport emissions)
- Climate Factors (CO<sub>2</sub> and Greenhouse Gas Emissions)

**Table 4.1 Likely Significant Effects on the Environment of the South East Draft RES**

Environmental Issues	Comments
Biodiversity	There may be opportunities and also impacts but in the absence of detailed actions this is difficult to assess.
Population	The wellbeing of the population should be affected in a positive way
Human Health	The Strategy should promote actions that will deal with many of the determinants of social and economic exclusion and this should benefit health status.
Fauna	There may be opportunities and also impacts but in the absence of detailed actions this is difficult to assess.
Flora	There may be opportunities and also impacts but in the absence of detailed actions this is difficult to assess.
Soil	Use of PDL should help to reduce contamination. A focus on PDL also reduces the likely demand on good quality agricultural land in the region – especially in Green Belt areas.
Water	There may be opportunities and also impacts the target of reducing per capita consumption is positive but it is doubtful if sufficient behaviour change can be delivered to really address the sustainable use of resources.
Air	It is likely that atmospheric emissions especially from transport will increase
Climatic Factors	Green house gas emissions are likely to increase
Material Assets	The Strategy should protect and enhance material assets
Cultural Heritage - Architectural - Archaeological	There may be opportunities and also impacts but in the absence of detailed actions this is difficult to assess.
Landscape	There may be opportunities and also impacts, however, the value of the landscape to the economy is recognised.
Waste	The Strategy promotes improved waste management and opportunities for growing waste management and recycling businesses.

#### 4.7 EQUALITIES ISSUES

The SA/SEA team has carried out an initial Equalities Impact Assessment of the Draft RES. This has highlighted the following issues to be taken into account in the ongoing development of the Draft RES:

- An equalities perspective should be integrated with the text of the Regional Economic Strategy to highlight how it links with the overall strategy for the region.
- Reference to the core equality categories and legislative and regulatory significance should be outlined in the Draft RES.
- Reference to SEEDA's equality agenda should be addressed in the general introduction or Vision Statement of the Draft RES. This would also a good place to reference the commitment that SEEDA and its partners are meeting race and diversity targets.

In general, the Draft RES and the Evidence Base document demonstrate an awareness of equalities, diversity and race issues in terms of the proposals and the broad strategy outlined. The SA/SEA team will be carrying out a more in-depth review of equities, race and diversity issues as part of the ongoing Sustainability Appraisal of the RES.

#### 4.8

#### CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF THE RES

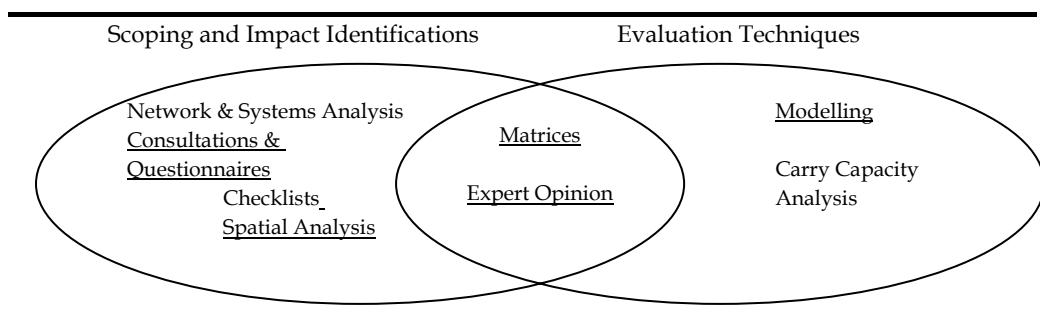
The SA team has, in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive, the UK Regulations and ODPM guidance, begun to carry out an assessment of the likely cumulative impacts of the implementation of the Draft RES. This has included an assessment of potential secondary impacts and synergistic effects.

The process used to assess cumulative impacts to date has involved the following stages:

1. Identification of regional and sub-regional key sustainability issues based on published research, monitoring data, qualitative surveys and expert opinion.
2. Iterative refinement of the issues and the likely impacts via internal SA team brainstorming, reviews of available data and inputs from the Assembly's Office's and members of the Sustainability Appraisal Sounding Board.
3. Development of assessment tables for cumulative impacts and setting and the nature, source and likely receptors.
4. Refinement of the assessment tables to ensure that secondary impacts and synergistic effects were captured.

**Figure 4.2** below presents a diagram of the theoretical ways of developing a cumulative impact assessment and highlights the methods drawn upon to produce the cumulative impact assessment of the South East Plan.

**Figure 4.2** *Theoretical Ways of Developing a Cumulative Impact Assessment*



Source: ERM modified from European Commission - 1999

The full results of the cumulative impact assessment will be presented in the final Sustainability Appraisal Report. A summary of the initial analysis is presented below:

Cumulative Effect	Cumulative/synergistic effects
Increased waste arisings and resource inefficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upward pressure on levels of waste generated is likely to make sustainable waste management increasingly difficult to achieve. This will be taking place within a context of falling landfill availability and increasingly stringent policy targets for diversion from landfill.</li> <li>More waste recycling will lead to increased transport of waste, with associated air quality , greenhouse and congestion impacts.</li> <li>Air emissions from treatment technologies are likely to increase over the foreseeable future.</li> <li>Increasing need for waste management capacity will create additional demands for land, particularly near to urban areas.</li> </ul>
Shortage of housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>House price inflation</li> <li>Lack of housing for key workers</li> <li>Rural housing availability</li> <li>Community mix balance ie reinforcement of exclusion, creation of 'ghetto' communities both rich and poor.</li> </ul>
Lack of affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Difficulty in Attracting key workers into region</li> <li>Increased journey times for key workers commuting in</li> <li>Unbalanced communities</li> <li>Constraint on economic growth</li> <li>Quality of public services</li> <li>Health and social impacts on families in temporary accommodation, affected by excessive community times, financial burdens of childcare, travel etc an overall quality of life effective leading to higher levels of social exclusion</li> <li>The RES should contain actions to address effective economic participation including access to childcare etc</li> </ul>
Increased Emissions from Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased numbers of journeys, whatever the mode, will increase air emissions and lead to greater air pollution. If congestion increases, this will exacerbate the impacts by increasing journey times. Local amenity is likely to be adversely affected near to major routes and feeder roads.</li> <li>Increased air pollution is likely to lead to greater adverse impacts on human health (these effects are likely to affect deprived/excluded groups disproportionately-so call 'environmental exclusion'), biodiversity and potentially historic buildings.</li> <li>Improved access to services for the socially excluded is dependent on improved public transport services, as well as provision of services in convenient locations.</li> </ul>
Increased Ecological Footprint of the South East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased resource consumption may lead to increased prices for raw materials and higher prices for finished products thus making many products inaccessible to deprived families in the region.</li> <li>Inefficient use of source resources such as water and clean air coupled with poor management of waste, inefficient use of energy, low rates of recycling, reprocessing and materials recovery are all possible under current policy scenarios.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation is not producing a fast enough change in resource efficiency and consumption and added/maintained growth under a 'business as usual' policy scenario will increase the size of the region's footprint.</li> </ul>
Increased Emissions of CO <sub>2</sub> - Climate Change Effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growth of housing, transport movement, waste generating, energy use and other factors are likely to mean that implementation of the RES leads to an increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the region.</li> <li>The increase in transport emissions in particular may be offset by policies/measures that help to reduce/offset GHG emissions. The effectiveness of such measures and the timescale over which they will be introduced, can only be partially controlled by the region itself.</li> <li>The direct effects of GHG emissions connected with the implementation of the RES will be very difficult to identify. They are going to occur against a background of existing emissions. Failure to tackle existing sources, for example the region's housing stock, will continue to place emphasis on the RSS.</li> <li>The likely impacts in terms of habitat/species loss, increased incidence/severity of flooding, unpredictable weather problems, etc, are also difficult to apportion to the RSS however, without effective mitigation, the RSS will be a contributor to these impacts.</li> </ul>
Loss of Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potentially a further loss of habitats and species but also potentially biodiversity gains/enhancements heavily dependent on quality of implementation/detailed planning.</li> <li>Effects on habitats and species of regional, national and international significance such as those protected by SPAs, SACs, SSIs, NNRs etc</li> </ul>

## 4.9

### EVALUATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT WITHOUT THE SOUTH EAST RES

#### *Introduction*

The requirements of the SEA Directive include the assessment of the likely evolution of 'State of the Environment Subjects'. In the absence of the South East RES.

This appraisal has used the State of the Environment Report for the South East produced in 2005 by the Environment Agency 'Creating a better place' as the basis of our assessment since this is the most recent and authoritative evidence base for current evolutionary trends under RPG9. This report provides information on environmental trends and also includes analyses of the potential effects of recent or proposed legislation.

Given that environmental legislation and standards, like other types of legislation, require some time before their effect can be assessed, this aspect of the SA will require periodical updating as part of the overall review of the environmental baseline and environmental evidence base.

## *Key issues in the Evolution of the Environment of the South East*

The State of the Environment Report 2005 for the region highlights the following pressures on the environment:

- Pressure from new development;
- Increasing demand for water;
- Increasing demand for energy; and
- Increasing demand for waste disposal.

These are being driven by economic and social factors such as the success of the region's economy, increasing population and increasing rates of household formation and also by environmental factors such as the low and inexplicable rainfall of the region and climate change.

## *Current Environment Trends in the South East*

The environment of the South East is monitored via a series of indicators that allow trends to be identified and monitored and actions to be address negative trends to be formulated.

The indicator information reported on in the 2005 State of the Environment Report is the best information we have on the effects to date of the policies and actions within RPG on the environment. As such they are the most robust evidence base for examining likely trends without the South East Plan.

### *Negative Trends*

These are trends where the environment is deteriorating or environmental pressure is increasing. Aspects of the environment that indicate such trends include the following:

- Water demand and availability including supply demand balance, annual abstraction rates, household consumption, leakage and water demand
- Energy consumption
- Waste arising
- Road traffic/traffic emissions
- Emissions from regulated processes
- Nitrates in groundwater
- Biodiversity including distribution of water voles, salmon populations and wild bird populations
- Flood risk
- Future climate change in the South East
- Sea level change at Sheerness

### *Positive Trends*

These are trends where the environment is improving or environmental pressure is decreasing. Aspects of the environment that exhibit such trends include the following:

- Household water metering
- Concentrations of Sulphur dioxide
- Concentrations of Nitrogen dioxide
- Concentrations of Particulates
- Biological quality of river water
- Levels of Phosphate
- Water pollution incidents
- New homes built on previously developed land
- Area under agri-environment schemes
- Land pollution from agriculture and other sources
- Biodiversity including the Condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest, the area of woodland, the distribution of otters and the population of sea trout.
- UK greenhouse gas emissions

There is therefore a complex picture of ongoing environmental change occurring within the region. In addition, there are significant issues for which no trend or causal effect has been clearly identified in terms of concrete impacts. The most significant of these is man-induced climate change.

#### *The Likely Effects of Legislation*

Nation and EU legislation on the environment continues to evolve and several new or proposed items of legislation could have a major effect on the evolution of the environment of the region. The Water Framework Directive is an obvious example. However, what is equally clear from assessing the trends in key environmental indicators is that regulation alone is unlikely to eradicate environmental deterioration. Many of the negative trends relate to the behaviour of the public, private and domestic sectors in terms of the consumption of resources and the production of wastes or by-products.

#### *What is the Likely Trend Without the South East RES?*

From the evidence presented in the State of the Environment Report 2005 it seems highly likely that business as usual ie. current trends in economic development, is likely to contribute to a continuation of the negative trends in the region's environment without significant investment and significant policy shifts to encourage radical behavioural change.

Investment in infrastructure and improved enforcement and better standards of performance in terms of industrial processes, building standards etc may be of some assistance in improving environmental performance but they do not address the behaviours that are at the heart of many of the negative trends.

Waste, water, energy, biodiversity impacts and impacts from flooding as well as increased evidence of the impacts of climate change all appear likely to increase under a continuation of current economic development trends.

**4.10*****MITIGATION***

The Appraisal will develop detailed mitigation measures based on the Draft RES and its Implementation Plan. These will be included in the Final SEA/SA Report and in the Final Regional Economic Strategy.

**5.1****INTRODUCTION**

The Draft RES includes only an outline way forward in terms of an Implementation Plan with suggested roles and responsibilities. It does not include a detailed monitoring framework.

**5.2****DTI GUIDANCE ON MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE RES**

The DTi's guidance state that '*The RES should set out how the RDA will monitor its implementation and impact*'. It goes on to say '*It is for the RDAs in conjunction with Regional Assemblies and other regional partners to decide how to judge the success of their RES, but use should be made wherever possible of specific and quantifiable indicators*'. The RES should make clear how the impact of the RES will be evaluated and the results used to inform the subsequent resources of the RES.

Clearly, sustainable development actions and the performance of the RES in terms of the IRF's objectives are one of the components of the monitoring framework that needs to be established.

The remainder of this section of the SA/SEA report deals with issues of implementation and monitoring relating to the development of an evidence base to assess the contributions of the RES to regional national and international sustainable objectives as encapsulated in the region's Integrated Regional Framework.

**5.3****INCORPORATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INTO THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE RES.**

The importance of a sound evidence base for the development of the RES is clearly spelt out in the DTi's guidance. A sound evidence base is also fundamental to effective monitoring of the impacts of the RES during its implementation. From a sustainable development perspective there are a number of issues that need to be discussed with the region.

- The organisation of the evidence base
- Leadership on development sustainable development inputs to the Implementation Strategy
- Selection of core RES indicators and targets for sustainable development
- Selection of contextual indicators and targets for sustainable development
- Responsibility for monitoring of the RES

- *Organisation of the Evidence Base*

The South East has carried out a great deal of research on sustainable development related issues. Available evidence has been collected together for the baseline component of this SA/SEA as well as for the South East Plan.

What is required is organisation of the evidence base, capacity for regional updating and also capacity for analysis and interrogation of the data as required for SA/SEA. Management of the evidence base in the form of a 'sustainable development module' as an integral part of the observatory or data portal would reflect a model successfully being developed in other regions. At present no such module exists for the region.

- *Leadership on Sustainable Development inputs to the Implementation of the RES*

It will be important that sustainable development inputs to the implementation of the RES are carefully co-ordinated and that the sector is able to provide leadership on key aspects of the overall process of developing the strategy including the selection of indicated and targets for the measurement of performance.

- *Selection of Core RES Indicators and Targets for Sustainable Development*

It is highly likely that there will be a range of actions within the Implementation Strategy for the RES but that it will also be necessary to limit the number of indicators and targets which are applied to the RES. In selecting targets and indicators it will be necessary to focus on those that combine relevance to the RES with significance in terms of sustainable development ie are relevant to the objectives of the IRF. In both cases there will need to be clear baseline for measurement and clear ownership of the indicator or target and commitment to monitor the trends/assignment during the lifeline of the RES.

- *Selection of Contextual Indicators and Targets*

By 'contextual' the SA/SEA report means indicators and targets that help to characterise the overall setting within which the RES is delivered from a sustainable development view point. These indicators and targets may not relate directly to the Implementation Strategy of the RES but may help to increase understanding of the overall contribution of the RES to sustainable development in the region.

Sustainable development stakeholders in the region needs to formulate a strategy for this broader monitoring of the RES.

- *Responsibility for Monitoring the RES*

This is another area where there needs to be a decision as to who will lead on sustainable development issues connected with the RES. If monitoring can be

carried out by one organisation, for instance the South East Observatory, based on a limited set of indicators and targets then the monitoring reports could be co-ordinated by SEEDA as a series of annual monitoring reports.

The region needs to develop a clear position as to how monitoring of sustainable development outcomes will be carried out.



**6.1****INTRODUCTION**

This section of the report sets out the overall conclusions of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft RES for the South East of England. It provides a detailed summary of the appraisal's review of the RES's philosophy, strategy and actions as they relate to the development of a growth model for the region that is firmly embedded within the principles of sustainable development.

**6.2****OVERALL CONCLUSIONS**

The Draft RES clearly demonstrates that it has taken account of the key elements of the UK's Sustainable Development Strategy whilst retaining a clear focus on the regional economy. There is a wide range of issues relating to economic, social and environmental sustainability that are recognised as being key to the delivery of a growth model that ensures that the region continues to grow economically but not at the expense of quality of life or the integrity of the environment. It also recognises that a significant shift in the consumption and management of resources is required if the region and the economy are to prosper. The need for significant behavioural change is also implicit in many aspects of the Draft RES.

The Draft RES sets out quite clearly a series of significant opportunities for the region arising from a more sustainable approach to economic development. It is also quite open about the equally significant challenges that the region faces in implementing this approach and the extent to which existing and still to be created partnerships between SEEDA and other national, regional and local stakeholders will be required to deliver on the region's potential.

The emphasis on sustainable prosperity and the clearly set out targets which the region needs to move towards are significant elements in helping to create a framework for testing the extent to which the region can move along a more sustainable development path. It is important that the RES has set out such clear targets. It will be equally important that the Implementation Plan and the actions within it have equally clearly defined performance measures - this is work that still remains to be done but is of fundamental importance if the region is to understand what progress it is achieving.

One of the most significant aspects of the RES from a sustainability perspective is its openness to the progressive integration of measures of performance in addition to the GDP and GVA. Recognition of the role that can be played by measures designed to capture areas where this is cope for further development of the RES include the following:

- more detail on the Implementation Plan

- more detailed information on desired outcomes from the actions listed in the Draft RES
- a greater emphasis on the need for integration with the South East Plan
- more information on the role of the public sector in delivering sustainable prosperity.

The remainder of this section of the SA report sets out our conclusions regarding the individual components of the Strategy.

### 6.3

#### **GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS**

In maintaining and enhancing its global role it will be important for the region to ensure that it does not also increase its environmental footprint. The RES explicitly recognises this in terms of the need to invest in infrastructure in ways that promote sustainable development. It is also committed to stabilising its ecological footprint.

Many of the countries which are currently changing the shape of the world economy such as China, Russia, India, Brazil and the new EU Member States are also major markets for environmental goods and services and this offers the region not only markets for the many excellent companies and R + D groups that it has in the sector but also opportunities for new partnerships, products and services in those countries, many of whom have significant skills. Tackling environmental management issues in these countries would also put the region in a position of global leadership.

The Region has already invested in activities such as the GROW programme and the RES is clear about the region's ongoing commitment to European Commission programmes of R + D. One key element of this work must continue to be research into the policies, strategies and behaviours that characterise successful regions where success is equated with a demonstrably high quality of life including well-balanced communities.

In terms of the proposed actions to underpin this component of the strategy we would make the following comments:

- *Assist more businesses to operate internationally.* It would be useful if an integral part of these actions were to identify partner regions who the South East could seek to work with in terms of their similar sustainability aspirations as well as a need for the skills and expertise of the region. This is already implicit in one of the actions for Foreign Direct Investment.
- *Increase the South East's share of Foreign Direct Investment.* It would be useful for the region to develop a tool that assists in the screening of investors based on their sustainability credentials. Whilst this is likely to be only a minor component of the overall assessment of investor performance it would send out a clear message as to the emphasis the region places on performance in this area.

Such a tool could form part of an overall appraisal tool used by public agencies to assess investors and investment decision.

The idea of a Greater South East is an interesting one from a sustainable development perspective. All three regions have recognised the significance of sustainability in their planning and strategy processes. It is not clear, however, how much integration and resource sharing is realistically going to be achieved since there will also be competition for infrastructure, etc.

- *Increase business expenditure on research and development.* The focus on the four priority areas is important. The region should also be seeking to encourage greater public sector expenditure on R + D where this responds to business and policy needs. There should also be an emphasis on ensuring that the results of research are accessible and that marketable ideas/innovations are supported. Not all of the major funders of research have a strong track record or interest in the implementation of research and the region needs to endure that it focuses on this aspect of R + D.

Critical areas or R + D should include design and construction of housing and commercial buildings, sustainable transport, fuel technologies, and also research into behavioural change.

- *Increase collaboration between businesses and the region's knowledge base.* An integral part of the aspiration to build an international science city and region should be to build on the region's strengths in the areas of climate change, sustainable construction and product design and social aspects of sustainable development.
- *Secure the infrastructure needed to support continued prosperity.* The significant need for investment in transport and other infrastructure brought out by the RES echoes similar concerns expressed in the South East Plan. It will be important to ensure that any increased capacity is associated with demand management and significant upgrading of public transport. Investment in infrastructure alone will not help to resolve the problems of congestion and associated pollution which so seriously affect the region - significant behavioural change is required and it would be useful to see specific actions relating to demand management and modal shift included in the RES.

The Draft RES also comments on Broadband Infrastructure. The SA would only note that issues of access are equally as important as coverage and that measures to increase access and uptake by excluded and deprived groups should be included in the RES.

A final strand of the strategy for global competitiveness of interest to the SA is the recognition of the need to 'influence the climate of regulation and legislation'. There is recognition with the Draft RES that what is needed is

more effective legislation. It also mentions the need to remove redundant or ineffective legislation. From a sustainability perspective much of the concern relates to the effectiveness, specifically the effective implementation of existing environmental legislation. Bodies such as the Better Regulation Taskforce, the Environment Agency and the Environment Industries Commission have all highlighted the benefits to not only the environmental technologies sector but business in general of more effective implementation of legislation including proactive recognition of the opportunities that it creates for product and service innovation. There are considerable advantages to the region to be gained from effective engagement with UK and EC regulations.

## 6.4

### *SMART GROWTH*

The South East RES adheres very closely to the idea of smart growth. In increasing economic participation rates and the overall productivity of the region and the RES identifies a number of strategic issues of importance to the SA. In terms of Enterprise it will be important sure that there reflect not only the economic strengths of the region but also the diversity of its communities and the current intra-regional disparities within the regional economy. In the case of Innovation it will be important that resource efficiency and resource consumption are recognised as key components of innovation in many areas and that innovations relating to lifestyles may be equally as important to the future of the region as technologies.

Skills and access to training is clearly important on both social and economic grounds. The Draft RES recognises the need to make skills business-relevant. This means that training programmes and skills development must be demand-led and must be supported by business. Another key skills issues recognised in the Strategy that have important sustainability implications are the need for a 'Skills Escalator', this has been demonstrated as being an important mechanism for assisting with economic participation and also social inclusion. It is also important that the Draft RES recognises the changing demographic structure of the region and the need to address the skills needs and lifetime working patterns of an ageing population.

Competition recognises that companies in the region, especially smaller businesses require assistance to become active players in the economy, especially in relation to the requirements of public sector and community enterprises who often lack the resources to participate effectively in tendering processes and yet offer goods and services in key areas such as healthcare, social infrastructure and waste management.

It is encouraging that Infrastructure in the context of Smart Growth addresses the need to reduce the impacts of the congestion and seeks to introduce effective measures to manage demand. This will need to proceed in tandem both with the actions identified under the Global Competitiveness strand of the Strategy and with the actions proposed by the South East Plans.

The intra-regional disparities in the regional economy clearly have direct links to Employment. As such the focus with the Draft RES on increased productivity and economic activity should assist in addressing issues of social exclusion, poverty and also poor health status in some areas of the region. In terms of the proposed actions to underpin this component of the Draft Strategy we would make the following comments:

#### *Enterprise*

The recognition of the need to provide more integrated business support is important. Support to businesses (especially smaller businesses and social and community enterprises) on sustainability issues is often criticised as being supply rather than demand focused as well as being confirming in terms of the numbers of providers and any measures to provide more focused support should improve the situation.

It will be important to recognise the skills-base of companies in more deprived areas of the region and to encourage innovation around existing skills and knowledge as well as importing new areas of business.

The action to 'Build sustainability and corporate social responsibility into everyday business practice' is an important one. This will require considerable leadership. SEEDA itself is the proposed lead and this is an encouraging example of how SEEDA intends to follow through on the commitment to sustainable development in the Draft RES. It would be useful to have more detailed information on the detailed actions that will be carried out.

The action to 'stimulate increased levels of enterprise among older people' is also significant because of the change in the demographic structure of the region and expectations regarding longer working lives.

#### *Innovation and Creativity*

The recognition in this section of the Draft RES of the 'substantial opportunities to accelerate innovation in the region's land-based industries' is extremely important as are the examples provided. Innovation in this section is of significance to a number of the key sustainability challenges faced by the region including climate change, energy supply, local product development, management of rural areas and maintenance of the rural landscape as well as rural livelihoods.

The support of the sector consortia is likely to provide considerable scope for innovations of relevance to sustainability in key areas such as the use of ICT, coastal zone management, health and healthy lifestyles and the quality of the built environment and sustainable communities. It is important the cross-fertilisation across the sectors is also encouraged. The focus on quality of design is also important in a number of aspects of sustainability including

quality of buildings and construction, whole-life approaches to products and also resource efficiency and consumption.

### *Skills*

It will be important that there is a high level of integration of skills actions across the RES. The actions focusing on the region's young people, older people and on the development of a Skills Escalator should have significant impacts on social deprivation, social exclusions and also health status in more deprived areas of the region.

### *Competition*

The actions indicated for this component of the Strategy all have a direct bearing on the overall sustainability of the region's development. Encouragement and facilitation of local procurement by the public sector within the region is a key action. Integration of public sector procurement would also be beneficial.

The idea of actions to develop a more integrated and responsive planning process in the region would have major benefits for key sustainable development challenges for the region such as adaptations, climate change, management of water resources, the deployment of renewable energy, identification of key development opportunities etc.

### *Infrastructure*

The idea of a Regional Infrastructure Fund is an interesting one. At present it is on Economic Development, Transport and Housing this reflects the current scope of regional funding allocations and targets new infrastructure.

The actions relating to investment in a sustainable transport network are enhanced by the explicit recognition of the need to encourage behavioural change.

The actions relating to affordable housing appear not to recognise the considerable 'gap' in performance in terms of actual and predicted demand and likely levels of delivery. The South East Plan has demonstrated that need is unlikely to be met by current proposed rates of delivery. This raises serious issues in terms of the region's ability to attract and retain key members of the workforce. This issue requires urgent action by both SEEDA and the Regional Assembly. The idea of creating a private sector housing renewal strategy for the region is strongly supported. The impacts of existing housing far outweigh the likely impacts of housing to be delivered via the South East Plan and stabilisation of the region's ecological footprint will require action to be taken to improve the resource efficiency of the existing housing stock.

Recognition of the need to promote quality, investment in the environment and Green Infrastructure are all important, however, more information is required on the detail of what is proposed.

Barriers to employment associated with health and social inequalities are also addressed by the Draft RES. The links between poor quality housing, poor access to services, poor health status and economic participation are well-known. Actions within the RES that help to address these issues in a holistic fashion should help to address issues of deprivation in the region.

Similarly, the proposed actions concerning ICT that focus on access to ICT, skills development and Digital Inclusion should also help to encourage economic participation and reduce social exclusion. The RES is realistic in its recognition that tracking Digital Exclusion will require the mobilisation of a 'significant long term partnership of public, private and voluntary sector organisations' to address the issue. This would be a major step forward.

## 6.5

### SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY

The Draft RES has set targets for the key parameters that will assist the region in reaching its goal of reducing, then stabilising and ultimately reducing the regions ecological footprint. The targets should all make sizable contributions to the overall goal but the region will still need to develop a detailed 'route map' to make significant progress by 2016. Given that the South East Plan also has the same goal there is scope for a coordinated regional programme of actions - this should include all of the region's key agencies and should include targets within all key regional strategies.

It is important that the RES views reduction of the region's ecological footprint as a challenge to innovation and an opportunity – this is very much in line with current government policy and actions on resource efficiency and resource consumption. As the Draft RES notes, '*In terms of its research base and expertise, its capacity for innovation and the quality of its environmental technology sector companies, the South East is extremely well-placed to secure major advantage from these opportunities*'. The Draft RES also promotes various mechanisms through which business can be engaged with on this agenda too.

In terms of the proposed actions in the Draft RES we would make the following comments:

*Reduce carbon dioxide emissions to the South East by 20% by 2016*

Clearly, what is 'attributable' to the South East is debateable especially in terms of energy generation, travel miles, etc. However, it is useful to have a target to work with. At present the United Kingdom is experiencing difficulties with its management of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Given the significance of transport emissions to overall levels of CO<sub>2</sub> this must be a priority area for

emissions reduction and this will mean that infrastructure investment will need to be ‘tested’ in terms of their impact on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The proposed actions in the Draft RES contain a number of useful ‘hooks’ in terms of addressing the opportunities arising from adaptation, the need to take a long-term perspective, the need to acknowledge the costs of not dealing with effects of climate change, then to look at climate change as a market for goods and services, etc. All of the proposed actions require considerably more detail before their likely practicality/efficiency can be assessed.

*Increase the contribution of renewable energy to overall energy supply in the South East, to meet national targets of 10% of electricity demand by 2010 and 20% by 2020*

The proposed actions all seem relevant to delivery of the target. It would have been beneficial, however, to see the link made to the need for a more progressive planning system since at present the planning system is viewed by developers as one of the principal barriers to the development of renewables.

It would be useful to have more detail on each of the proposed actions so that they can be assessed in greater depth. At present the actions are all quite vague and it is difficult to judge how effective the actions would be.

*Reduce per capita water consumption in the South East by 20% by 2016*

This is clearly a major challenge in a region where per capita consumption continues to rise. The challenges facing the region with regards to water resources are very well known as are the likely impacts of a continuation of ‘business as usual’ in terms of the efficiency of use of these resources as well as the levels of consumption.

The proposed actions are clearly useful but appear to be very limited in terms of their likely impact and their ability to meet the target. Actions to do with housing design and quality and the proposed regional strategy for existing housing would also make significant contributions but there is still no clear indication of how this target will be met. This requires further work during the ongoing development of the RES including close coordination with the Regional Assembly over the likely implementation of policies in the South East Plan.

*Achieving a 30% increase over the 2003 baseline in GVA generated per tonne of materials entering the waste stream by 2016*

The emphasis within the proposed actions to achieve this goal appears to be a focus on sustainable consumption and production – this is in line with the UK’s Sustainable Development Strategy and also current work within government on improving the performance of business.

The idea of sector-specific resource efficiency standards is attractive as is the idea of a South East Plan for Sustainable Public Procurement.

Resource Recovery Parks may also prove to be an effective tool in changing attitudes in the business sector.

*Ensure all building development in the South East achieve the Ecohomes/BREEAM 'excellent' standard by 2016*

The two actions to achieve this goal are both likely if successfully implemented to assist in the achievement of an improved quality of life, reduced social and environmental exclusion and an improvement in the quality of 'new build' in the region. If the region also implements its proposed strategy for existing housing then a very considerable difference should be made. More detail is required on how the standard of new construction will be monitored.

Action 83 on 'investing in urban renaissance' has an interesting series of actions which will, if successfully implemented, bring about an improved quality of life in urban areas. Much of what is proposed is at the heart of the 'sustainable communities' agenda. It is encouraging to see that rural centres are also acknowledged.

The challenge inherent in Action 83 is to implement 'appropriate' urban renaissance ie renaissance that has some resonance for the local community not regeneration that is purely design-led and is divorced from the reality and the potential of the communities that are being targeted. The importation of models of regeneration needs to be resisted unless these can be demonstrated to be relevant to the people and the places they are destined for. The human dimension of regeneration needs to be respected as do the long-traditions and considerable resources of many of the areas of the region that require regeneration.

## 6.6

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations arising from the Appraisal of the Draft RES in terms of the Strategy and its development are as follows:

- SEEDA should continue to work with partners in the Region and with National Government on the clarification of actions to deliver the RES including a Monitoring Framework and more detailed Implementation Plan. Engagement with key partners will be critical to developing a more robust way forward on implementation.
- Each of the targets in the Draft RES should be provided with a clear rationale and also a 'delivery path' ie, how is the target to be met - at present it is not clear how actions will deliver the targets.
- SEEDA and the Regional Assembly should develop clear proposals for integrating the implementation of the RES and the South East Plan.

- Given the significance of behavioural change to the delivery of both the RES and the South East Plan – a clear set of actions relating to this key area of policy should be developed for discussion with Central Government, the private sector and public sector partners.
- SEEDA and its partners should continue to work on innovative ways of measuring the impact of the Draft RES on resource consumption and efficiency such as its work with REEIO Model and the Sustainable Consumption and Production Network.
- SEEDA and its partners should establish a clear process for reporting on the sustainability impacts – positive and negative of the RES.
- SEEDA should continue to work with partners and the SA/SEA Steering Group to ensure that the appraisal meets the requirements of the UK Regulations and the SEA Directive.
- SEEDA should work with regional partners to identify clear roles and responsibilities for ensuring the delivery of key actions relating to sustainability.

With regards to the SA/SEA our recommendations are as follows:

- The SA/SEA team must continue to work closely with DEEDA on the integration of sustainability into the RES as it continues to develop.
- The SA/SEA should continue to identify opportunities to increase the contribution of the RES to sustainable development.
- The SA/SEA team must continue to work closely with the SA/SEA Steering Group on key aspects of the appraisal including the evidence base, the analysis of significant effects and the assessment of cumulative impacts.
- The SA/SEA team should work with SEEDA and regional partners to ensure that any need for an 'Appropriate Assessment' is addressed.



## Annex A

# Review of Key Plans and Strategies



**A1.1*****INTRODUCTION***

This section identifies all other policies, plans and strategies at international, national and regional levels which should inform/have a bearing on the development of the RES, so that the links and dependencies between the RES and those policies, plans and strategies can be understood.

**Table A1.1    Review of Objectives**

IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
<b>Objective 1. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To fully meet the housing completion targets in RPG9</li> <li>• To increase the supply of affordable housing both in numbers and as a proportion of total housing stock</li> <li>• To reduce the numbers of homeless households in priority need and the number of households in housing need on the Housing Register</li> <li>• To reduce the percentage of unfit/non-decent homes, with a specific target to eliminate them in the public sector by 2010</li> </ul>	a. Housing completions compared with regional guidance b. Additional provision of affordable housing c. Average property price compared against average earnings d. Households on the Housing Register e. Number of unfit homes per 1,000 dwellings	<p><b>South East Regional Housing Strategy (2004/2005)</b></p> <p>The overarching aim of the Strategy is to increase the quantity and quality of housing provision in the region. Housing must better address the needs of key housing groups within the population, in particular, the homeless, key workers, those in rural areas, those targeted for regeneration and key growth areas within the region.</p> <p><b>Regional Housing Strategy (2006)</b></p> <p>The Regional Housing Strategy sets out the framework for how housing will be provided and funded across the South East from 2006 onwards. The strategy sets out the housing priorities for the region from 2006 and calls for significant investment to tackle the shortage of high quality, affordable homes. It identifies the need to improve the condition of the region's existing housing stock as a key priority.</p> <p><b>Sustainable Communities in the South East: Building for the future</b></p> <p>The objective of ensuring that people have 'decent homes at a price people can afford' is noted within the strategy.</p> <p><b>Draft South East Plan 2005</b></p> <p>The Draft South East Plan (Part 1) is a document that will set out changes needed to improve the quality of life in the South East England region over the next 20 plus years. The South East Plan will look forward to 2026 and set out strategies for improving life in the region during that period. Among other things it will review the number of new houses needed in the region each year</p> <p><b>Infrastructure in the South East 2005</b></p> <p>This report contributes to the debate on how the infrastructure associated with a growing population and economy will be delivered. The publication looks at existing and planned investments in the South East</p>	<p><b>PPG1.</b> Provide mixture and range of housing to meet the increasingly varied housing requirements, including affordable housing.</p> <p><b>PPG3.</b> Meet housing needs of the whole community, including affordable and special needs. Provide wider housing opportunity and choice and better mix in size, type and location, and create mixed communities.</p> <p><b>ODPM 3.5.</b> Achieve a better balance between housing availability and the demand for housing in all English regions while protecting valuable countryside around our towns, cities and in the greenbelt - and the sustainability of existing towns and cities - through specific measures to be set out in the Service Delivery Agreement</p> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b></p> <p>The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>The Communities Plan 2003</b></p> <p>The Plan sets out a long-term programme of action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other parts of the country, and the quality of public spaces.</p> <p><b>ODPM 3.7.</b> By 2010, bring all social housing into 'decent' condition with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas, and increase the proportion of private housing in decent condition occupied by vulnerable</p>

(1) This table focuses on objectives from PPGs and PSAs. A review of other relevant EU and UK Government strategies and policies has also been carried out and relevant objectives have been included in this analysis.

IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
		<p>as well as highlighting work underway that might reduce pressure on infrastructure. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deals with the sustainable communities programme from a planning perspective;</li> <li>• focuses on Government investment in infrastructure, looking at transport;</li> <li>• explores how existing infrastructure can be better managed to optimise its efficiency and how the benefits of new investment can be 'locked in';</li> <li>• addresses ways in which Infrastructure might be delivered; looks at alternative funding mechanisms and how revenue works in relation to growth.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Milton Keynes &amp; South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy (MKSM SRS) 2005</b></p> <p>The purpose of the document is to provide a clear, agreed, sub-regional strategy for the period 2001-2021, and a long-term spatial vision for the sub-region towards the year 2031, as part of the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan. The Strategy highlights the need for planned, sustainable communities with adequate infrastructure for vital services such as transportation, health and education services. The Strategy promotes the creation of sustainable communities – well-designed places where people want to live, with jobs, facilities, services, and strong communities. A key aim is to introduce a step change in housing supply, including affordable housing, and provide strategic direction for local authorities, delivery vehicles and other organisations within the Milton Keynes South Midlands growth area.</p>	<p>groups.</p> <p><b>PPS7.</b> The priorities within PPS3 should be applied with due consideration of the specific context/needs of rural areas.</p> <p>Housing White Paper: End fuel poverty in vulnerable households by 2010 and in all households by 2016-18.</p> <p><b>PPS11.</b> The RSS will take into account identification of the scale and distribution of provision for new housing; housing strategies will be considered in the scope of the RSS.</p> <p><b>Rural Strategy 2004</b></p> <p>Highlights the need for affordable housing that helps sustain mixed and viable rural communities. Planning policy supports this aim through special provisions to provide affordable housing in small rural settlements.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It</p>

IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
			<p>represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p> <p><b>Quality and Choice: a decent home for all (the Housing Green Paper, 2003)</b></p> <p>This document sets out our policies to achieve the Government's aim to offer everyone the opportunity of a decent home and so promote social cohesion, well-being and self-dependence.</p> <p><b>Devolving Decision Making - Pre-Budget Report 2004</b></p> <p>The Devolving Decision Making Review, published alongside Budget 2004, set out the case in particular for strengthening the capacity of regional institutions to meet their specific economic and social challenges including regional transport, housing and economic development.</p>

IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
<b>Objective 2. To reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To prevent all inappropriate development in the flood plain</li> <li>By 2010, to increase the numbers of properties protected by 15,000</li> <li>All new development applications to show that sustainable drainage has been considered and implemented if appropriate</li> </ul>	a. Properties at risk from flooding b. New development with sustainable drainage installed		<p><b>PPG25.</b> Ensure that new development is safe and not exposed to flooding by considering flood-risk on a catchment-wide basis. Where possible, reduce flood-risk. Ensure that floodplains are used for their natural purpose, function effectively and are protected from inappropriate development.</p> <p><b>PPS 7.</b> To promote more sustainable patterns of development through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>focusing most development in, or next to, existing towns and villages</li> <li>preventing urban sprawl</li> <li>discouraging the development of 'greenfield' land and where such land must be used, ensuring it is not used wastefully</li> <li>promoting a range of uses to maximise the potential benefits of the countryside fringing urban areas</li> <li>providing appropriate leisure opportunities to enable urban and rural dwellers to enjoy the wider countryside</li> </ul> <p><b>PPS11.</b> The RSS will align itself with environmental strategies.</p> <p><b>Rural Strategy 2004</b></p> <p>Recognises that flooding risk will increase with climate change and increased development/wealth. It highlights the impact on both rural and urban areas and notes the role of the forthcoming Government strategy for flooding and coastal erosion risk management.</p>

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<b>Objective 3. To improve the health and wellbeing of the population and reduce inequalities in health</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over the long term, to reduce death rates from these diseases appreciably</li> <li>Improve other indicators of health and well being</li> <li>Substantially diminish inequalities in mortality, health and well-being across the region</li> </ul>	a. Death rates from circulatory disease, cancer, accidents and suicide b. Infant mortality rates c. Conceptions among girls under 18 d. Life expectancy	<p><b>Health Priorities for the South East</b></p> <p>There is no Health Strategy for the region, however, 'Health Priorities' has been drawn up by the South East Public Health Observatory and seeks to address the disparity in health performance across the region. The key objectives noted are: to continue improvement in health performance; closing the gap with the high performers in Europe and reducing the scale of health inequalities.</p> <p>The priorities work in conjunction with National strategies such as the NHS Plan, Our Healthier Nation and the National Service Frameworks. Relevant targets from the Department of Health's Public Service Agreement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reducing mortality rates from heart disease by a minimum of 40% and cancer by a minimum of 20% in the under 75s, by 2010</li> <li>Improving life outcomes of adults and children with mental health problems, through annual improvements in access to crisis and mental health services, and reduce mortality rates from suicide and undetermined injury by a minimum of 20% by 2010</li> <li>Improving the quality of life and independence of older people so that they can continue to remain at home</li> <li>Improve life chances for children and reduce the conception rate of the under 18s by 50% by 2010</li> <li>Increase participation of problem drug users in treatment programmes by 55% by 2004, and by 100% by 2008;</li> <li>Increase annual proportion of users successfully sustaining or completing treatment programmes</li> <li>Reducing by a minimum of 10% the gap in infant mortality rates between manual groups and the general population; reducing by a minimum of 10% the gap between areas with the lowest life expectancy and the population as a whole</li> </ul> <p><b>The State of the Environment, South East, 2005</b></p> <p>Data relating to this issue is used to inform the review and baseline data for the Report.</p> <p><b>Choosing Health in the South East: Physical Activity</b></p> <p>Data from this report is used to inform the review and baseline data for the Report with regards to participation in physical activity.</p>	<p><b>PPS11.</b> The RSS will take into consider and align itself with health strategies.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b></p> <p>The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p> <p><b>Sixth Environmental Action Programme</b></p> <p>The Environment Action Programme is the EU's long-term policy programme, and it sets priorities for ten years at a</p>

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			<p>time. The programme focuses on four major areas of action: i) tackling climate change; ii) nature and biodiversity; iii) environment and health; and iv) sustainable use of natural resources and management of wastes</p> <p><b>EU Strategy for Sustainable Development</b></p> <p>This Strategy focuses on four key-priorities: limiting climate change and increasing the use of clean energy; addressing threats to public health; managing natural resources more responsibly; improving the transport system and land use.</p>
		<p><b>Farming and Food: Our Healthy Future: Delivery plan for sustainable farming and food in the South East and London</b></p> <p>The Plan notes the need to drive forward action on food and nutrition for healthy eating and living; that healthy food is available, affordable and acceptable to all; Roll-out of School Fruit Scheme- Delivery of business plan on SFS and SMART objectives for Regional Food and Health Action Plan- Ofsted to monitor progress on schools and nutrition</p> <p><b>England Rural Development Programme 2000-2006, Appendix A7 South East Region</b></p> <p>The ERDP seeks to further the encouragement of healthy lifestyles by developing access opportunities- Improved levels of understanding through enhanced interpretation- Increase the involvement of communities in the development of rural areas- Improve the health of the region with fresh local foods</p> <p><b>Draft South East Plan 2005</b></p> <p>The Draft South East Plan (Part 1) is a document that will set out changes needed to improve the quality of life in the South East England region over the next 20 plus years. The South East Plan will look forward to 2026 and set out strategies for improving life in the region during that period. Among other things it will recommend ways to improve health and the environment.</p> <p><b>The Milton Keynes &amp; South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy (MKSM SRS) 2005</b></p> <p>The purpose of the document is to provide a clear, agreed, sub-regional</p>	

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		<p>strategy for the period 2001-2021, and a long-term spatial vision for the sub-region towards the year 2031, as part of the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan. The Strategy highlights the need for planned, sustainable communities with adequate infrastructure for vital services such as transportation, health and education services. The Strategy promotes the creation of sustainable communities – well-designed places where people want to live, with jobs, facilities, services, and strong communities. A key aim is to introduce a step change in housing supply, including affordable housing, and provide strategic direction for local authorities, delivery vehicles and other organisations within the Milton Keynes South Midlands growth area.</p>	
<b>Objective 4. To reduce poverty and social exclusion, and close the gap between the most deprived areas in the South East and the rest of the region</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2010, to halve the gap between the most disadvantaged communities and the average position of the region</li> </ul>	a. Proportion of children under 16 who live in low-income households b. Percentage of population of working age who are claiming key benefits c. Percentage of households in fuel poverty d. Proportion of population who live in areas that rank within the most deprived 20% of areas in the country e. Household income in rural areas	<p><b>GROW Programme (2005)</b>  The Grow project is a €7.5 million InterregIIIC programme covers a network of five high growths regions including South East of England. There are three main pillars to the programme: Green Growth, Business Growth and Inclusive Growth. The overall objective of the Grow programme is to establish a framework of co-operation, encouraging multinational projects to overcome some of these challenges and to balance social, environmental and economic constraints to achieve sustainable growth. The partner regions will work toward a joint implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas.</p> <p><b>SEEDA's Draft Race Equality Scheme 2005-2008 (July 2005)</b>  The draft Scheme focuses on race equality in order to fight discrimination in a transparent manner and ensure that any unwitting barriers to SEEDA's services or bias in service delivery are highlighted and eliminated. The Race Equality Scheme prioritises four core areas of work for assessment in the first year: Reviewing the Regional Economic Strategy on behalf of the Region; SEEDA's Procurement of goods and services; SEEDA's Communication Strategy; and Business Support.</p> <p><b>South East Workforce Skills Programme (Learning and Skills Council/SEEDA, April 2003)</b>  The Workforce Skills Programme is a joint initiative led by the Learning and Skills Council in the South East, the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), and the Government Office for the South</p>	<p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b>  The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b>  The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p>

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		<p>East. Working with other organizations the Programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the Most of Labour Market Information: working with partners to help improve coordinated labour market intelligence;</li> <li>• Working on a "sectoral approach": working with organisations to take forward regional versions of the national Sector Skills Agreements (SSAs). These are essentially deals between the industry and the Government to: ensure training meets employers' needs, increase the numbers of employers prepared to train their employees, and make individuals more employable; and</li> <li>• National Employment Panel – Jobcentre Plus: working with Jobcentre plus through a member of staff seconded from the Government Office resulting in a table of priorities and actions.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Milton Keynes &amp; South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy (MKSM SRS) 2005</b></p> <p>The purpose of the document is to provide a clear, agreed, sub-regional strategy for the period 2001-2021, and a long-term spatial vision for the sub-region towards the year 2031, as part of the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan. The Strategy highlights the need for planned, sustainable communities with adequate infrastructure for vital services such as transportation, health and education services. The Strategy promotes the creation of sustainable communities – well-designed places where people want to live, with jobs, facilities, services, and strong communities. A key aim is to introduce a step change in housing supply, including affordable housing, and provide strategic direction for local authorities, delivery vehicles and other organisations within the Milton Keynes South Midlands growth area.</p>	<p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p> <p><b>Quality and Choice: a decent home for all (the Housing Green Paper, 2003)</b></p> <p>This document sets out our policies to achieve the Government's aim to offer everyone the opportunity of a decent home and so promote social cohesion, well-being and self-dependence.</p>

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<b>Objective 5. To raise educational levels across the region and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To significantly raise the number of people with Level 3 qualifications in the region</li> <li>• To reduce the proportion of the population with basic skills needs</li> </ul>	a. Proportion of 19 year olds with Level 2 qualifications (5 GCSEs A*- C or NVQ equivalent) b. Percentage of population of working age qualified to NVQ Level 3 or equivalent c. Proportion of adults with poor literacy and numeracy skills	<p><b>Action South East: FRESA</b></p> <p>The FRESA highlights key areas for focusing action upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equalising opportunities for local jobs and skills, creating equity across the region</li> <li>• Develop more local jobs in deprived areas</li> <li>• Explore possibilities for improving connectivity between areas of economic success and low growth localities</li> <li>• Assist socially excluded groups to improve their access to employment or learning and skills</li> <li>• Creating an infrastructure to support a sustainable supply of workers with access to employment opportunities</li> <li>• Address sectors and localities adversely affected by infrastructure barriers</li> <li>• Tackle skills shortages and gaps in high growth areas which threaten sustained growth and competitiveness</li> <li>• Rapid response, building partner capacity to respond to and anticipate labour market change</li> <li>• Develop capacity and systems in local areas to ensure a speedy, cohesive response to significant redundancies</li> <li>• Investor support; develop local collaborative approaches that assist investors in obtaining the supply of workers they need to match their proposed business activities</li> <li>• Build capacity for partnership between private, public, voluntary and community sectors</li> <li>• Preparing the region's labour market for major change</li> </ul>	<p>There are a wide range of PSA targets for the Department for Education and Skills, including the following:</p> <p><b>DFES 5.</b> Between 2002 and 2006 the proportion of those aged 16 who get qualifications equivalent to 5 GCSEs at grades A* to C rises by 2 percentage points each year on average and in all schools at least 20% of pupils achieve this standard by 2004 rising to 25% by 2006; and the proportion of 19 year olds who achieve this standard rises by 3 percentage points between 2002 and 2004, with a further increase of 3 percentage points by 2006</p> <p><b>DFES 9.</b> By 2010, increase participation in Higher Education towards 50% of those aged 18 to 30</p> <p><b>DFES 10.</b> Improve the basic skill levels of 1.5 million adults between the launch of Skills for Life in 2001 and 2007, with a milestone of 750,000 by 2004.</p> <p><b>PPS11.</b> The RSS will take into consideration and seek to align itself with higher education and skills strategies.</p> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b></p> <p>The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p>

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		<p><b>England Rural Development Programme 2000-2006, Appendix A7 South East Region</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the skills of the workforce match existing and potential business opportunities</li> <li>• Increased provision of adaptable training packages as part of a life-long learning concept</li> <li>• Increased education partnerships between schools, the community and business</li> <li>• Improved local awareness of local job opportunities</li> <li>• Increased training opportunities in local businesses</li> </ul> <p><b>SEEDA's Draft Race Equality Scheme 2005-2008 (July 2005)</b></p> <p>The draft Scheme focuses on race equality in order to fight discrimination in a transparent manner and ensure that any unwitting barriers to SEEDA's services or bias in service delivery are highlighted and eliminated. The Race Equality Scheme prioritises four core areas of work for assessment in the first year: Reviewing the Regional Economic Strategy on behalf of the Region; SEEDA's Procurement of goods and services; SEEDA's Communication Strategy; and Business Support.</p> <p><b>South East Workforce Skills Programme (Learning and Skills Council/SEEDA, April 2003)</b></p> <p>The Workforce Skills Programme is a joint initiative led by the Learning and Skills Council in the South East, the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), and the Government Office for the South East. Working with other organizations the Programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the Most of Labour Market Information: working with partners to help improve coordinated labour market intelligence;</li> <li>• Working on a "sectoral approach": working with organisations to take forward regional versions of the national Sector Skills Agreements (SSAs). These are essentially deals between the industry and the Government to: ensure training meets employers' needs, increase the numbers of employers prepared to train their employees, and make individuals more employable; and</li> <li>• National Employment Panel - Jobcentre Plus: working with Jobcentre plus through a member of staff seconded from the Government Office resulting in a table of priorities and actions.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Objective 6. To reduce crime and the fear of crime</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce crime in the South East in line with national Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets, in particular reduce the gap between the highest crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) areas and the best comparable areas</li> <li>• To reduce vehicle crime by 30% from 1998/99 to 2004, domestic burglary by 25% from 1998/99 to 2005 and robbery by 14% from 1999/2000 to 2005</li> <li>• To reduce fear of crime through meeting targets set out in Indicator 6a above</li> </ul>	a. Level of domestic burglaries, violent offences and vehicle crimes b. Fear of crime	<p><b>Crime Reduction Priorities for the South East</b></p> <p>Whilst there is no formal Crime Strategy for the region, GOSE has prepared the 'Crime Priorities' document, which reflects local priorities within the context of national strategies.</p> <p>The overall objective is to maintain the South East as the safest region in England and Wales. This will be achieved by continuing to reduce the impact of offending and by securing continued reductions in violent crime, burglary and car crime.</p> <p>Four key groups have been targeted: prolific offenders; repeat victims; vulnerable communities; geographical crime priority areas. Preventing young offenders from re-offending and stopping established repeat offenders are two key priorities within the document/strategy. Other foci will be targeting prolific, drug-dependant, persistent violent offenders and anti-social behaviour offenders.</p> <p>Victims of hate crime, burglary and business crime will be made a priority area for concern. Crime priority areas have been named as Oxford, Reading, Slough, South Buckinghamshire, Portsmouth, Southampton, Brighton and Hove, Eastbourne, Hastings, Spelthorne, Dartford and Gravesham, and Medway.</p> <p><b>The Milton Keynes &amp; South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy (MKSM SRS) 2005</b></p> <p>The purpose of the document is to provide a clear, agreed, sub-regional strategy for the period 2001-2021, and a long-term spatial vision for the sub-region towards the year 2031, as part of the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan. The Strategy highlights the need for planned, sustainable communities with adequate infrastructure for vital services such as transportation, health and education services. The Strategy promotes the creation of sustainable communities - well-designed places where people want to live, with jobs, facilities, services, and strong communities. A key aim is to introduce a step change in housing supply, including affordable housing, and provide strategic direction for local authorities, delivery vehicles and other organisations within the Milton Keynes South Midlands growth area.</p>	<p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p>

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<b>Objective 7. To create and sustain vibrant communities</b>			
	<p>a. Percentage of people who say they are satisfied with their local area as a place to live</p> <p>b. Percentage of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously</p> <p>c. Percentage of people who have carried out any of a specified list of actions, unpaid, for someone who is not a relative in the past 12 months</p> <p>d. Percentage of people who have received any of a specified list of actions, unpaid, by someone who is not a relative in the past 12 months</p>	<p><b>Sustainable Communities in the South East: Building for the future</b></p> <p>Notes its objective to create sustainable communities in which people want to live, in which people can enjoy a well-designed, accessible and pleasant living and working environment. It also notes the requirement to ensure that people are effectively and fairly governed with a strong sense of community.</p> <p><b>European Strategy for South East England 2001-2006 (2001)</b></p> <p>The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a region-wide policy framework for maximising the benefits of membership of the European Union for the region-measured in terms of social, environmental and economic well-being. The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlines key objectives of the European Commission and matches these against the South East region's own priorities;</li> <li>• Analyses the European dimension to each of the three measures of success of the region's development as identified in the RES and prioritises European activities accordingly.</li> <li>• Provides analysis of the European dimension of the Regional Economic Strategy and analysis of Structural Funds in the region.</li> </ul> <p><b>Valuing Culture in South East (August 2005)</b></p> <p>Regional Development Agencies are charged with improving regional economic performance and identifying strategies for achieving that aim. This paper discusses how culture can contribute to improving regional economic performance.</p> <p><b>South East Workforce Skills Programme (Learning and Skills Council/SEEDA, April 2003)</b></p> <p>The Workforce Skills Programme is a joint initiative led by the Learning and Skills Council in the South East, the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), and the Government Office for the South East. Working with other organizations the Programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the Most of Labour Market Information: working with partners to help improve coordinated labour market intelligence;</li> <li>• Working on a "sectoral approach": working with organisations to take forward regional versions of the national Sector Skills Agreements (SSAs). These are essentially deals between the industry and the Government to: ensure training meets employers' needs,</li> </ul>	<p><b>PPS7.</b> To raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas through the promotion of thriving, inclusive and sustainable rural communities, ensuring people have decent places to live by improving the quality and sustainability of local environments and neighbourhoods</p> <p><b>Rural Strategy 2004</b></p> <p>Highlights the need to tackle social exclusion wherever it exists. The Strategy highlights the need to target efforts at socially excluded groups and empower them to improve their lives and communities. Funding is being targeted at the voluntary and community sector across rural areas.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b></p> <p>The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>The Communities Plan 2003</b></p>

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		<p>increase the numbers of employers prepared to train their employees, and make individuals more employable; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Employment Panel – Jobcentre Plus: working with Jobcentre plus through a member of staff seconded from the Government Office resulting in a table of priorities and actions.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Milton Keynes &amp; South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy (MKSM SRS) 2005</b></p> <p>The purpose of the document is to provide a clear, agreed, sub-regional strategy for the period 2001-2021, and a long-term spatial vision for the sub-region towards the year 2031, as part of the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan. The Strategy highlights the need for planned, sustainable communities with adequate infrastructure for vital services such as transportation, health and education services. The Strategy promotes the creation of sustainable communities – well-designed places where people want to live, with jobs, facilities, services, and strong communities. A key aim is to introduce a step change in housing supply, including affordable housing, and provide strategic direction for local authorities, delivery vehicles and other organisations within the Milton Keynes South Midlands growth area.</p> <p><b>South East Social Enterprise Strategy</b></p> <p>The purpose of the strategy is to condition the region to be receptive to the emerging impact of social enterprise; where businesses are driven by primarily social objectives rather than profit for shareholders. The South East Social Enterprise Strategy aims to raise the profile of both the role and value of social enterprises in the region. Current estimates suggest that there are around 1,000 organisations that might be considered to be social enterprises. The intention is to open up new markets for these growing businesses through greater collaboration between partners.</p>	<p>The Plan sets out a long-term programme of action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other parts of the country, and the quality of public spaces.</p> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p>

#### Objective 8. To improve accessibility to all services and facilities

a. Percentage of rural households at set distance from key services	<b>Farming and Food: Our Healthy Future: Delivery plan for sustainable farming and food in the South East and London</b> The Delivery Plan highlights the need for the following actions: More structured programme of farm visits, leading to better informed children	PPG1. Concentrate development for uses which generate a large number of trips in places well-served by public transport, especially town centres, rather than in out-of-centre locations.
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IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
		<p>and public; Better standards of rights of way; Significant increase in numbers of farmers taking positive action to exploit increased access by the public; Greater numbers of visitors to city farms, and better facilities for them; Greater uptake of allotments</p> <p><b>England Rural Development Programme 2000-2006, Appendix A7 South East Region</b></p> <p>The ERDP states the need to ensure: Improved provision of and accessibility of essential services; Improved sharing of rural services;- Improved levels of health and education by outreach into the rural community;-Better accessibility for rural areas through multi-purpose transport</p> <p><b>Infrastructure in the South East 2005</b></p> <p>This report contributes to the debate on how the infrastructure associated with a growing population and economy will be delivered. The publication looks at existing and planned investments in the South East as well as highlighting work underway that might reduce pressure on infrastructure. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• focuses on Government investment in infrastructure, looking at transport.</li> </ul> <p><b>SEEDA's Draft Race Equality Scheme 2005-2008 (July 2005)</b></p> <p>The draft Scheme focuses on race equality in order to fight discrimination in a transparent manner and ensure that any unwitting barriers to SEEDA's services or bias in service delivery are highlighted and eliminated. The Race Equality Scheme prioritises four core areas of work for assessment in the first year: Reviewing the Regional Economic Strategy on behalf of the Region; SEEDA's Procurement of goods and services; SEEDA's Communication Strategy; and Business Support.</p>	<p><b>PPG1.</b> Transport and land-use policies should reduce growth in the length and number of motorised journeys, encourage alternative means of transport which have less environmental impact, and reduce reliance on the car.</p> <p><b>PPG1.</b> Promote land for housing (outside of urban areas) which is or will be well-served by public transport and with good access to employment and services including leisure, shopping, education and health.</p> <p><b>PPG3.</b> Build (housing) in ways which exploit and deliver accessibility by public transport to jobs, education and health facilities, shopping, leisure and local services. Reduce car dependence by facilitating walking/cycling, improving linkages by public transport, and by mixed use development.</p> <p><b>PPG13.</b> Promote more sustainable transport choices for people and freight. Promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling. Reduce the need to travel, especially by car.</p> <p><b>DEFRA 1.3.</b> opening up public access to mountain, moor, heath and down and registered common land by the end of 2005 Forestry Commission 9. Increase the number of day visits to woods and forests to 350m by 2006</p> <p><b>PPS7.</b> Notes the importance of 'Community Services and Facilities'. People who work in rural areas should have reasonable access to a range of services and facilities. Local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• through their LDDs, facilitate and plan for accessible new services and facilities</li> <li>• where possible, ensure that new development in identified service centres is supported through improvements to public transport, and to walking and cycling facilities to meet the needs of the whole community, including disabled users</li> <li>• support mixed and multi-purpose uses that maintain</li> </ul>

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		<p><b>South East Workforce Skills Programme (Learning and Skills Council/SEEDA, April 2003)</b></p> <p>The Workforce Skills Programme is a joint initiative led by the Learning and Skills Council in the South East, the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), and the Government Office for the South East. Working with other organizations the Programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the Most of Labour Market Information: working with partners to help improve coordinated labour market intelligence;</li> <li>• Working on a "sectoral approach": working with organisations to take forward regional versions of the national Sector Skills Agreements (SSAs). These are essentially deals between the industry and the Government to: ensure training meets employers' needs, increase the numbers of employers prepared to train their employees, and make individuals more employable; and</li> <li>• National Employment Panel - Jobcentre Plus: working with Jobcentre plus through a member of staff seconded from the Government Office resulting in a table of priorities and actions.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Milton Keynes &amp; South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy (MKSM SRS) 2005</b></p> <p>The purpose of the document is to provide a clear, agreed, sub-regional strategy for the period 2001-2021, and a long-term spatial vision for the sub-region towards the year 2031, as part of the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan. The Strategy highlights the need for planned, sustainable communities with adequate infrastructure for vital services such as transportation, health and education services. The Strategy promotes the creation of sustainable communities – well-designed places where people want to live, with jobs, facilities, services, and strong communities. A key aim is to introduce a step change in housing supply, including affordable housing, and provide strategic direction for local authorities, delivery vehicles and other organisations within the Milton Keynes South Midlands growth area.</p> <p><b>South East Social Enterprise Strategy</b></p> <p>The purpose of the strategy is to condition the region to be receptive to the emerging impact of social enterprise; where businesses are driven by primarily social objectives rather than profit for shareholders. The South East Social Enterprise Strategy aims to raise the profile of both the role</p>	<p>community validity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support the provision of small scale, local facilities to meet community needs outside identified local service centres, particularly where they would benefit those rural residents who would find it difficult to use more distant service centres</li> <li>• Planning authorities should adopt a positive approach to planning proposals designed to improve the viability, accessibility or community value of existing services and facilities</li> </ul> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p>

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		<p>and value of social enterprises in the region. Current estimates suggest that there are around 1,000 organisations that might be considered to be social enterprises. The intention is to open up new markets for these growing businesses through greater collaboration between partners.</p>	<p><b>Rural Strategy 2004.</b> Highlights the priority of ensuring fair access to public services, transport and affordable housing. The document highlights the role of accessible and good quality public services that meet the majority of rural residents; and better targeting that meets the particular needs of those with limited mobility and low incomes. Transport is highlighted as a key focus for improving access to services. The Government will also ensure that the full potential of broadband for delivering public services and the productivity of businesses is realised in rural areas.</p> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b> The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>The Århus Convention</b> The Århus Convention establishes a number of rights of the public (citizens and their associations) with regard to the environment. Public authorities (at national, regional or local level) are to contribute to allowing these rights to become effective.</p>

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<b>Objective 9. To encourage increased engagement in cultural activity across all sections of the community in the South East</b>			
	a. Engagement in cultural activity by all target groups, for example young people, or by geographic area	<p><b>'The Cultural Cornerstone Regional Cultural Strategy'</b></p> <p>Noted within its Action for inclusion are the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater participation in cultural activities, particularly among both young and older people, socially disadvantaged communities, those with disabilities (including all those to whom the Disability Discrimination Act applies) and others who might feel themselves excluded</li> <li>• Effective research on patterns of participation across the cultural sectors and on the causes and consequences of non-participation</li> <li>• Improvements in transport, on a number of levels</li> <li>• The regular use of schools, libraries and other educational institutions as cultural centre</li> <li>• A cultural component to all initiatives on digital access for communities, such as facilities developed by LearnDirect Action for learning:</li> <li>• Delivery 'beyond the national curriculum' in the arts and sport in all schools</li> <li>• A reversal of the erosion of playing fields and related resources in schools</li> <li>• Systematic engagement of educational institutions at all levels (from pre-school to university) in the cultural agenda</li> <li>• An increase in the supply of trained professionals in the arts and creative industries from further and higher education</li> <li>• Accredited training for volunteers across the cultural sectors</li> <li>• An increase in the number, reach and range of lifelong learning initiatives (such as book clubs) that succeeded in embedding cultural activity in everyday life</li> <li>• An acceleration in the opening up of museums, archives, libraries and other cultural and sporting services to support informal learning</li> </ul>	<p><b>PPS11.</b> The RES will take into consideration and seek to align itself with cultural strategies.</p> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b></p> <p>The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p>

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		<p>Action for recognition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better understanding of the 'cultural dividend' at all levels of government</li> <li>• Specific cultural representation on all of the new local strategic partnerships and other relevant partnerships involved in leading and co-ordinating quality of life initiatives in communities and neighbourhoods</li> <li>• The preparation, adaptation and implementation by all local authorities of local cultural strategies covering the full range of cultural activities</li> <li>• Explicit development of the creative industries within the SEEDA Regional Economic Strategy (RES), including within officially sponsored 'enterprise hubs'</li> <li>• Positive acknowledgement of the contribution of ethnic minorities, included those granted asylum, to the cultural life of the region</li> <li>• Engagement of all of the cultural agencies and local authorities with young adults' cultural activities and interests, including music and dancing</li> <li>• Improved coverage of cultural activity within the regional media, including television and radio</li> </ul> <p>Action for partnership and coherence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The successful development of relevant government schemes with a cultural element, including Education Action Zones, Sports Action Zones, New Deal for Communities, and Creative Partnerships</li> <li>• More resources for communities to develop their own capacity for participation in cultural life</li> <li>• Pathfinder projects of urban renewal and housing development including cultural resources</li> <li>• High profile, integrated projects for the promotion of cultural tourism across the region</li> <li>• Further development of the ability of regional agencies to monitor and support the development of regional capacity within different spheres of activity (like contemporary art, repertory theatre, and access to the countryside).</li> </ul>	

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		<p>Action for support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A central role for the cultural sector within the developing strategies of the Regional Development Agency (SEEDA) for economic development and regeneration and the Regional Assembly for sustainability</li> <li>• Improved national investment through the agencies and institutions operating in the region</li> <li>• Increased financial support from Europe as well as joint projects with Continental European neighbours</li> <li>• Achievement of the regional priorities declared by the various lottery providers</li> </ul> <p><b>European Strategy for South East England 2001-2006 (2001)</b></p> <p>The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a region-wide policy framework for maximising the benefits of membership of the European Union for the region-measured in terms of social, environmental and economic well-being. The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlines key objectives of the European Commission and matches these against the South East region's own priorities;</li> <li>• Analyses the European dimension to each of the three measures of success of the region's development as identified in the RES and prioritises European activities accordingly.</li> <li>• Provides analysis of the European dimension of the Regional Economic Strategy and analysis of Structural Funds in the region.</li> </ul> <p><b>Valuing Culture in South East (August 2005)</b></p> <p>Regional Development Agencies are charged with improving regional economic performance and identifying strategies for achieving that aim. This paper discusses how culture can contribute to improving regional economic performance.</p> <p>Mission: Possible – The South East Plan for Sport 2004-2008.</p> <p>This outlines the vision and priorities for participation in sport. The objectives of this plan are to define the priorities for action on sport until 2008, which in turn will influence investment decisions. The priorities for action are described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make the South East an Active and successful sporting region;</li> <li>• Drive up participation levels in the South East by at least 1% year</li> </ul>	

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		<p>on year;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the 'equity gap';</li> <li>• Increase club membership;</li> <li>• Increase the number of people receiving coaching and tuition;</li> <li>• Increase the number and quality of leaders for sport;</li> <li>• Increase the number of people taking part in competition;</li> <li>• Contribute to England becoming the best sporting nation in the world by 2020;</li> <li>• Establish a network of multi sport community clubs;</li> <li>• Disseminate best practice across the region;</li> <li>• Support innovation;</li> <li>• Encourage economic and environmental sustainability;</li> <li>• Put sport and active recreation at the heart of the planning process in the region;</li> <li>• Link whole sport plans to local delivery;</li> <li>• Maximise the positive impact of education in all its forms;</li> <li>• Use the natural resources of the region to increase participation;</li> <li>• Encourage informal active recreation;</li> <li>• All organisations involved in sport and active recreation to work in genuine partnership.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Objective 10. To improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2008, to develop 60% of all forms of development (not just housing) on previously used land</li> </ul>	a. Development on previously developed land b. Derelict land and empty properties	<p><b>Infrastructure in the South East 2005</b></p> <p>This report contributes to the debate on how the infrastructure associated with a growing population and economy will be delivered. The publication looks at existing and planned investments in the South East as well as highlighting work underway that might reduce pressure on infrastructure. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>deals with the sustainable communities programme from a planning perspective</li> </ul> <p><b>GROW Programme (2005)</b></p> <p>The Grow project is a €7.5 million InterregIIIC programme covers a network of five high growths regions including South East of England. There are three main pillars to the programme: Green Growth, Business Growth and Inclusive Growth. The overall objective of the Grow programme is to establish a framework of co-operation, encouraging multinational projects to overcome some of these challenges and to balance social, environmental and economic constraints to achieve sustainable growth. The partner regions will work toward a joint implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas.</p> <p><b>Integrated Regional Framework 2004: A Better Quality of Life in the South</b></p> <p>The purpose of the Integrated Regional Framework (IRF) is to establish a shared regional vision and set of objectives, which organisations can use to achieve economic development that benefits people and protects and improves the environment. It updates the Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) published in June 2001. Objectives of IRF include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective protection of the environment</li> <li>Prudent use of natural resources</li> </ul> <p><b>The Regional Spatial Planning Strategy for Tourism</b></p> <p>(Proposed alterations to Regional Planning Guidance, South East - Tourism and Related Sport and Recreation) is a regional framework that sets out a vision for the development of a tourism industry in the South East over the next 20 years. It concentrates on the regional spatial planning aspects of tourism such as land-use planning, transport planning and visitor management.</p>	<p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>EU Strategy for Sustainable Development</b></p> <p>This Strategy focuses on four key-priorities: limiting climate change and increasing the use of clean energy; addressing threats to public health; managing natural resources more responsibly; improving the transport system and land use.</p>

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		<p><b>The Milton Keynes &amp; South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy (MKSM SRS) 2005</b></p> <p>The purpose of the document is to provide a clear, agreed, sub-regional strategy for the period 2001-2021, and a long-term spatial vision for the sub-region towards the year 2031, as part of the Government's Sustainable Communities Plan. The Strategy highlights the need for planned, sustainable communities with adequate infrastructure for vital services such as transportation, health and education services. The Strategy promotes the creation of sustainable communities – well-designed places where people want to live, with jobs, facilities, services, and strong communities. A key aim is to introduce a step change in housing supply, including affordable housing, and provide strategic direction for local authorities, delivery vehicles and other organisations within the Milton Keynes South Midlands growth area.</p>	
<b>Objective 11. To reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To establish Air Quality Action Plans in areas which are unlikely to meet national air quality objectives (relevant local authorities in conjunction with partner agencies)</li> </ul>	<p>a. Days when air pollution is moderate or high</p>	<p><b>The State of the Environment, South East, 2005</b></p> <p>Data relating to this issue is used to inform the review and baseline data for the Sustainability Appraisal Report.</p>	<p><b>DfT 1.6.</b> Improve air quality by meeting our National Air Quality strategy objectives for carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particles, sulphur dioxide, benzene and 1-3 butadiene. Joint Target with DEFRA</p> <p><b>PPG4.</b> Industry and commerce developments in locations which minimise length and number of trips, especially by motor vehicles, and which can be served by more energy efficient forms of transport. Discourage new development where it would add to congestion.</p> <p><b>PPG24.</b> Noise-sensitive developments should be located away from major sources of noise (eg road, rail, airports), and noisy developments located away from noise-sensitive land uses (eg housing, hospitals, schools).</p> <p><b>DfT 1.1.</b> Reduce congestion on the inter-urban trunk road network and in large urban areas in England below 2000 levels by 2010.</p> <p><b>PPS11.</b> The RES will take into consideration and seek to</p>

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			<p align="justify">align itself with air strategies.</p> <p><b>Rural Strategy 2004</b></p> <p>The importance of maintaining good air quality is highlighted as a priority area for action. The Government review of the Air Quality Strategy is noted as ensuring continuous improvement in air quality.</p> <p><b>The Transport White Paper 2004</b></p> <p>Highlights the fact that 'road transport is also responsible for a significant proportion of the pollutants that affect air quality and which impact on people's health'. It stresses the need to ensure strategic transport decisions seek to address this impact and ensure good air quality.</p>
<b>Objective 12. To address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and ensure that the South East is prepared for its impacts</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2050, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from activities within the region by 60%</li> </ul>	<p>a. Emissions of greenhouse gases from energy consumption, transport and land use and waste management</p> <p>b. Capacity during 'critical periods' to supply water without the need for restrictions</p>	<p><b>Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change</b></p> <p>Summary of the South East Climate Threats and Opportunities Research Study (SECTORS) Project: A Study of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Key Sectors in South East England. The Study focuses largely on 'unpreventable climate change', and how it will impact on key sectors in the South East over the next few decades; it addresses the need and scope for adaptation - and the need to plan for it, ahead of time.</p> <p>SECTORS has four main objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To assess the South East's key sectors in terms of their expected climate change impacts, related issues and responses and to identify sector-based adaptation strategies;</li> <li>• To map existing datasets and data collection systems relating to climate change and to develop a set of regional climate change indicators;</li> <li>• To map existing research activities relevant to climate change impacts and adaptation within the region;</li> <li>• To advise on the development of a GIS tool to aid adaptive planning in the region.</li> </ul> <p><b>The State of the Environment, South East, 2005</b></p> <p>Data relating to this issue is used to inform the review and baseline data for the Sustainability Appraisal Report.</p>	<p><b>PPS11.</b> The RES will take into consideration and seek to align itself with environmental strategies.</p> <p><b>PPS22.</b> The importance of renewable energy to addressing climate change targets is highlighted.</p> <p><b>PPG25.</b> Ensure that new development is safe and not exposed to flooding by considering flood-risk on a catchment-wide basis. Where possible, reduce flood-risk. Ensure that floodplains are used for their natural purpose, function effectively and are protected from inappropriate development.</p> <p><b>DEFRA 1.2.</b> Improve the environment and the sustainable use of natural resources, including through the use of energy saving technologies, to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% from 1990 levels and moving towards a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2010.</p> <p><b>Energy White Paper.</b> Generate 10% of electricity from renewable sources by 2010, 20% by 2020.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)</b></p> <p>Sets out to achieve stabilisation of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at safe levels.</p> <p><b>Air Quality Framework Directive (Directive 96/62/EC)</b></p> <p>Sets out that Member States shall prepare and implement a plan or programme for attaining the limit value within the specific time limit when in zones and agglomerations in which levels of one or more pollutants exceed certain limit values.</p> <p><b>Sixth Environmental Action Programme</b></p> <p>The Environment Action Programme is the EU's long-term policy programme, and it sets priorities for ten years at a time. The programme focuses on four major areas of action: i) tackling climate change; ii) nature and biodiversity; iii) environment and health; and iv) sustainable use of natural resources and management of wastes</p> <p><b>EU Strategy for Sustainable Development</b></p> <p>This Strategy focuses on four key-priorities: limiting climate change and increasing the use of clean energy; addressing threats to public health; managing natural resources more responsibly; improving the transport system and land use.</p>

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<b>Objective 13. To conserve and enhance the region's biodiversity</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2010, achieve a sustained increase in the regional wild bird population index (including to reverse the historical declines in the indices in the farmland and woodland species)</li> <li>To ensure that there is no further loss, damage or deterioration of SSSIs</li> <li>By 2010, to ensure that 95% of SSSIs are in favourable or recovering condition (target to directly reflect the national PSA target)</li> <li>To maintain the condition and extent of all key regional habitats which are judged to be at a favourable conservation status</li> <li>To restore and/or re-create key regional habitats so these reach a favourable conservation status</li> </ul>	a. Population of wild birds b. Condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (Sisses) c. Extent and condition of key habitats for which BAPS have been established d. Extent of ancient woodlands	<p><b>Action for Biodiversity in South East England</b></p> <p>This document will be subject to review by SEEBF during 2006. As part of this process, the review targets will be revisited. Targets for beyond 2010 have also been included in the draft South East Plan.</p> <p>The conservation objectives for each priority habitat are ranked in order of urgency and importance: - to maintain the wildlife interest of existing current sites where the habitats are well managed; to restore the habitat of existing sites where these have become degraded, or introduce positive management to prevent further loss in extent; to increase the extent of habitat by its recreation on sites with little current wildlife value. Specific targets are noted for each action.</p> <p><b>A Regional Forestry framework for the South East Region</b></p> <p>The general theme of the Strategy is to ensure 'Better places for people to live'. To achieve this, a list of key actions/aims have been outlined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More people's health and well-being improved through visiting local woodland.</li> <li>More use being made of woodlands as settings for community projects and activities.</li> <li>New and existing trees and woodlands supporting urban renaissance and regenerationTheme: Enhanced biodiversity and environment.</li> <li>Priority woodland habitats and species being maintained, or brought into, good ecological condition.</li> <li>Woodland biodiversity being supported at a landscape scaleTheme: A sustainable economy6. Woodlands playing a greater role in attracting tourism, inward investment and other economic activity.</li> <li>The economic value of woodland products to the region being increasedTheme: A secure future for our woodland resources.</li> <li>Woodland and trees, especially ancient woodlands and veteran trees, protected from loss.</li> <li>Ensuring that we have the skills base needed to manage our woodlands.</li> <li>Securing existing - and developing new- sources of finance for</li> </ul>	<p>PPS9 - Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should ensure that the potential impacts of planning decisions on biodiversity and geological conservation are fully considered through the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basing policies and planning decisions on up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of their areas.</li> <li>Aiming to maintain, and enhance, restore or add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests. Appropriate weight should be attached to protected sites and species.</li> <li>Taking a strategic approach to the conservation, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and geology.</li> <li>Promoting opportunities for the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity and geological features within the design of development.</li> <li>Permit development proposals where the principal objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity and geological conservation interests.</li> </ul> <p>Preventing harm to biodiversity and geological conservation interests.</p> <p><b>DEFRA 1.3.</b> Bringing into favourable condition by 2010 95% of all nationally important wildlife sites.</p> <p><b>PPS7.</b> To promote sustainable, diverse and adaptable agriculture sectors whose farming achieves high environmental standards, minimising impact on natural resources and manages valued landscapes and biodiversity.</p> <p><b>PPS11.</b> The RSS will take into consideration 'priorities for the environment, such as the countryside and biodiversity protection'. The RSS will also take into consideration and seek to align itself with biodiversity strategies.</p> <p><b>Rural Strategy 2004</b></p> <p>Notes biodiversity as being a key priority area for action,</p>

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		<p>woodland management</p> <p>To achieve these objectives, a range of actions for each objective are noted within the Strategy.</p> <p><b>The State of the Environment, South East, 2005</b></p> <p>Data relating to this issue is used to inform the review and baseline data for the Sustainability Appraisal Report.</p>	<p>highlighting the importance of the Biodiversity Strategy for England, as providing a holistic approach to addressing this issue. It also highlights the importance of sustainable forestry management and sustainable farming as vital to protecting the countryside and enhancing biodiversity.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b></p> <p>The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>Working with the Grain of Nature: a Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002)</b></p> <p>A Government strategy to ensure biodiversity considerations become embedded in all main sectors of public policy in England, setting out a programme for the next five years to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance and work with the grain of nature and ecosystems</p>

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			<p>rather than against them. The Strategy sets out a series of actions that will be taken by the Government and its partners to make biodiversity a fundamental consideration in agriculture, water and wetlands, woodland, marine and coastal management, and urban areas. The Strategy also looks at ways of engaging society as a whole in understanding the needs of biodiversity and what can be done by everyone to help conserve and enhance it.</p> <p><b>Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)</b></p> <p>The Convention aims to ensure conservation of wild flora and fauna species and their habitats. Special attention is given to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species specified in appendices. The specific aims of the convention are the following: i) to conserve wild flora and fauna and natural habitats; ii) to promote co-operation between States; and iii) to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species.</p> <p><b>Bonn Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (1979)</b></p> <p>The Convention aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species.</p> <p><b>Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna &amp; Flora (Directive 92/43/EC) (The Habitats Directive).</b></p> <p>The aim of this Directive shall be to contribute towards ensuring bio-diversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies.</p> <p><b>Ramsar Convention of Wetlands of international importance especially waterfowl habitat (1971)</b></p> <p>The Convention's aim is the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation as a means to sustainable development.</p> <p><b>Directive on Conservation of Wild Birds</b></p> <p>Directive provides a framework for the conservation and management of, and human interactions with, wild birds</p>

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			<p>in Europe.</p> <p><b>Sixth Environmental Action Programme</b></p> <p>The Environment Action Programme is the EU's long-term policy programme, and it sets priorities for ten years at a time. The programme focuses on four major areas of action: i) tackling climate change; ii) nature and biodiversity; iii) environment and health; and iv) sustainable use of natural resources and management of wastes</p> <p><b>EU Strategy for Sustainable Development</b></p> <p>This Strategy focuses on four key-priorities: limiting climate change and increasing the use of clean energy; addressing threats to public health; managing natural resources more responsibly; improving the transport system and land use.</p>
		<p><b>England Rural Development Programme 2000-2006, Appendix A7 South East Region</b></p> <p>The ERDP notes the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguard and enhance the diversity of habitats and species of the regions-</li> <li>• The achievement of national and local BAP targets</li> <li>• Key habitats linked by creation and restoration</li> <li>• Protect key wildlife and natural features from detrimental activity</li> <li>• To develop appropriate long term management of designated wildlife sites</li> <li>• Strategic goal: Ensure appropriate management of woodland and water resources</li> <li>• Better integrated management of woodland with other farm enterprises</li> <li>• Planting of appropriate new multi-purpose woodlands on farms</li> <li>• Hydrological integrity of wetlands maintained</li> <li>• Promote environmentally friendly farming</li> <li>• Increased adoption of best practice</li> <li>• Skills in the techniques of environmental management increased</li> <li>• Better understanding of farming</li> </ul>	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved provision of on-farm advice to land managers</li> </ul> <p><b>Farming and Food: Our Healthy Future Delivery Plan for Sustainable Farming and Food Delivery Plan in the South East and London (2003)</b></p> <p>Our Healthy Future is the delivery plan for the Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food (SSFF) in the South East. It aims to make farming and food industries more sustainable economically, socially and environmentally. The plan focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>advice and training - helping existing farmers and encouraging new ones</li> <li>countryside access - promoting the benefits of increased public access to the countryside</li> <li>promoting sustainability through whole-farm planning, soil and water management</li> <li>improving communication between farmers and consumers</li> <li>health - action on food and nutrition for healthy eating and living</li> <li>building the local food market</li> <li>developing a food and farming strategy to benefit the people and economy of London</li> </ul>	
<b>Objective 14. To protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment the region's countryside and historic environment</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To remove 32% of entries in the 1999 'At risk' list by the 2004 list publication, 36% by the 2005 publication and 40% by the 2006 publication. (South East will contribute to these English Heritage national targets)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Land covered by management schemes</li> <li>b. Access to and the use of the countryside</li> <li>c. Buildings of Grade I and II* at risk of decay</li> </ul>	<p><b>Heritage Counts, South East, 2005. English Heritage</b></p> <p>Outlines the state of the historic environment in the region and highlights where action is necessary to address issues relating to protection and enhancement of these assets.</p> <p><b>England Rural Development Programme 2000-2006, Appendix A7 South East Region</b></p> <p>The ERDP notes its commitment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance distinctive landscapes, countryside character and historic environment</li> <li>Better managed landscapes in AONBs and National Parks</li> <li>Strengthened countryside character in the South East- Enhanced, restored and recreated open downland and other traditional landscapes</li> <li>Safeguarded historic features through appropriate management</li> <li>Strategic goal</li> </ul>	<p><b>PPS7.</b> Protection and enhancement of the historic and cultural landscapes of rural areas, with particular attention to designated areas. Agricultural activity must also seek to minimise its impact on natural resources, valued landscapes and biodiversity. The importance of enhancing accessibility to the countryside for urban dwellers is noted.</p> <p><b>PPS22.</b> Planning permission for renewable energy developments likely to have an adverse effect on a site of international importance for nature and heritage conservation should only be granted once an assessment has shown that the integrity of the site would not be adversely affected.</p> <p>With national designations, permission will only be granted if it can be shown that any adverse effects on the designated qualities, are clearly outweighed by</p>

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		<p><b>European Strategy for South East England 2001-2006 (2001)</b>  The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a region-wide policy framework for maximising the benefits of membership of the European Union for the region-measured in terms of social, environmental and economic well-being. The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlines key objectives of the European Commission and matches these against the South East region's own priorities;</li> <li>• Analyses the European dimension to each of the three measures of success of the region's development as identified in the RES and prioritises European activities accordingly.</li> <li>• Provides analysis of the European dimension of the Regional Economic Strategy and analysis of Structural Funds in the region.</li> </ul> <p><b>Farming and Food: Our Healthy Future Delivery Plan for Sustainable Farming and Food Delivery Plan in the South East and London (2003)</b>  Our Healthy Future is the delivery plan for the Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food (SSFF) in the South East. It aims to make farming and food industries more sustainable economically, socially and environmentally. The plan focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advice and training – helping existing farmers and encouraging new ones</li> <li>• countryside access - promoting the benefits of increased public access to the countryside</li> <li>• promoting sustainability through whole-farm planning, soil and water management</li> <li>• improving communication between farmers and consumers</li> <li>• health - action on food and nutrition for healthy eating and living</li> <li>• building the local food market</li> <li>• developing a food and farming strategy to benefit the people and economy of London</li> </ul>	environmental, social and economic benefits. <b>Rural Strategy 2004</b> Highlights the need to enhance the value and natural beauty of the countryside for rural communities and for the benefit of society in general <b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b> The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003. <b>The Communities Plan 2003</b> The Plan sets out a long-term programme of action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other parts of the country, and the quality of public spaces. <b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b> The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues. PPG 15 – Protects listed buildings from alteration or demolition unless developers can give a convincing argument for these changes. The importance of preserving the historical environment is noted. PPG 16 – Advises planning authorities that archaeological sites should be taken into account in the planning process. Development should seek to minimise impacts on archaeology, with a presumption in favour of physical preservation <i>in situ</i> .

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			<p>"The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future" The economic and cultural importance of the historic environment is noted. The report sets out a vision in which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• public interest in the historic environment is matched by firm leadership, effective partnerships, and the development of a sound knowledge base from which to develop policies;</li> <li>• the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource is realised;</li> <li>• the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as something with which the whole of society can identify and engage;</li> <li>• the historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations; and the historic environment's importance as an economic asset is skilfully harnessed.</li> </ul>

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<b>Objective 15. To reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice and reducing the need for travel by car/lorry</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce regional road traffic in the short to medium term, in line with the Government's national 10 Year Plan (that is, improving the ratio of traffic growth to GDP by 0.8:1 to 0.6:1 by 2010)</li> <li>To reduce 'private vehicle kilometres travelled'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Average daily motor vehicle flows</li> <li>b. Proportion of travel by mode</li> <li>c. Monetary investment in public transport, walking and cycling</li> </ul>	<p><b>"From Crises to Cutting Edge": Draft Regional Transport Strategy (Proposed Alterations to RPG9)</b></p> <p>The Draft Strategy highlights the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve transport infrastructure within and to the Thames Gateway to maximise regeneration potential and encourage economic development;</li> <li>To improve strategic road and rail links within and to the Western Policy Area to maintain economic success;</li> <li>To improve road and rail links along the South Coast Corridor to improve spatial connectivity and realise economic opportunities to reduce disparities within the region;</li> <li>To support economic development in East Kent through investment in improved accessibility;</li> <li>To take forward transport infrastructure proposals required to support development in the growth areas of Milton Keynes and Ashford;</li> <li>To develop road and rail links that improve inter and intra-regional connectivity while avoiding the need to interchange in London;</li> <li>To improve and develop more sustainable transport connections to the region's key ports, airports and international rail stations as a basis for the enhancement of its gateway function to Europe and the rest of the world;</li> </ul>	<p><b>PPS7.</b> Issues of travel provision and accessibility within rural areas must be considered.</p> <p><b>PPS11.</b> The RSS will take into consideration transport issues.</p> <p><b>The Transport White Paper 2004</b></p> <p>Notes that building sustainable communities takes time and it will present particular challenges for our transport network. It is essential that planning and transport policies are closely co-ordinated to produce more sustainable patterns of development and travel.</p> <p>The principal aims of the Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to ensure sustained investment over the long-term</li> <li>to deliver improvements in transport management</li> <li>to ensure there is forward planning.</li> </ul> <p>A systematic list of objectives to address public and private transport infrastructure and use is outlined.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitate urban renaissance and foster social inclusion by bringing forward measures that encourage modal shift, with particular emphasis given to significantly improving the attractiveness of local public transport services;</li> <li>• To reduce the wider environmental, health and community impact associated with the transport system by bringing forward measures to positively manage the transport system in urban areas that reduce our dependence on the private car.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b>  The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>Transport 2010 – the 10 Year Plan (2000)</b>  The 10 Year Plan published in July 2000 sets out the Government's strategy to tackle congestion, safety and pollution by improving all types of transport - rail and road, public and private - in ways that increase choice. This requires a new approach, based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated transport: looking at transport as a whole, matching solutions to specific problems by assessing all the options.</li> <li>• Public and private partnership: government and the private sector working more closely together to boost investment.</li> <li>• New projects: modernising our transport network in ways that make it better, safer, cleaner and quicker.</li> </ul> <p>The Plan sets out the resources that will be committed over the next 10 years to improve transport. It also sets the framework. Individual projects and programmes will flow from decisions taken by a variety of agencies, the private sector and through Regional Transport Strategies and Local Transport Plans.</p> <p>The additional package of measures envisaged in the Plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better local public transport services to provide more attractive alternatives to car journeys.</li> <li>• Smarter road network management.</li> <li>• Promoting efficiency improvements in the road haulage sector.</li> <li>• Building bypasses to take traffic away from towns</li> </ul>

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			<p>and villages and smooth traffic flows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Localised improvements to optimise the performance of existing roads.</li> <li>• Improving larger junctions to reduce accidents and remove bottlenecks.</li> <li>• Adding capacity to the most congested corridors, largely by widening existing trunk roads.</li> <li>• Where appropriate, giving priority to particular types of vehicles, through measures such as lorry and coach lanes.</li> <li>• All 41 schemes currently in the Highways Agency's Targeted Programme of Improvements.</li> <li>• 30 trunk road bypasses.</li> <li>• Widening some 5 per cent of the strategic road network (360 miles/576km) and associated junction improvements.</li> <li>• 80 major schemes tackling bottlenecks at other junctions.</li> <li>• £130 million a year on smaller-scale targeted improvements, including £90 million to relieve congestion and safety hot spots.</li> <li>• Widespread introduction of new technology for better network management to reduce delays and improve reliability.</li> <li>• New incident warning systems to prevent multiple collisions and other safety improvements at accident blackspots.</li> <li>• Quieter surfaces installed on over 60 per cent of the network including all concrete stretches.</li> </ul>

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<b>Objective 16. To reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products</b>			
	<p>a. Percentage of new build and retrofit homes meeting EcoHomes Very Good standard</p> <p>b. Percentage of commercial buildings meeting BREEAM Very Good standard</p> <p>c. Ecological footprint for the South East</p>	<p><b>Farming and Food: Our Healthy Future: Delivery plan for sustainable farming and food in the South East and London</b></p> <p>The Delivery Plan highlights the need to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• - The public sectors play their part in the procurement of local food</li> <li>• - Number of producers and products supplying large customers-</li> <li>• Number of outlet recognised as selling local food</li> <li>• Practical proposals for more efficient logistics</li> <li>• Practical recommendations for suppliers and customers on workplace catering</li> <li>• Small businesses involved in regional food network</li> <li>• Food group activities, and volume of local food sold through them</li> <li>• 12 new producers using toolkit per annum by December 2005</li> <li>• 2 new protected food names per annum by December 2005</li> <li>• Increased sourcing by foodservice and retail customers of SE goods in season</li> <li>• 70% of food group members to demonstrate minimum standard by December 2005</li> <li>• More producers and customers involved in local food</li> <li>• Exploit niche markets for high value products- Improved marketing of locally distinctive products</li> </ul> <p><b>Regional Minerals Strategy (Proposed Alterations to RPG9)</b></p> <p>The Strategy notes the development of sustainable construction practices so as to reduce the growth in demand for primary aggregates and other minerals in the region; · increased use of recycled materials and mineral waste as alternatives to primary mineral extraction; · sufficient planned provision for minerals extraction to meet the region's share of national supply; · effective management of minerals extraction and processing within environmental objectives and the safeguarding of future supplies; · appropriate use of imported materials to supplement local supply.</p>	<p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p>

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		<p>To deliver the Strategy, the Regional Assembly proposes a set of monitoring measures to assess the performance of its minerals policies. Progress against these measures will be published in an annual Regional Monitoring Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The use of new building products in the construction industry which utilise synthetic or recycled materials or involve less use of natural materials;</li> <li>· The use of recycled construction, demolition and mineral waste in the production of aggregates and the development of new recycling techniques for other building products;</li> <li>· The implementation of the aggregates supply policy in development plans including apportionment;</li> <li>· Provision in development plans for sufficient production and processing capacity to meet regional and national requirements for other minerals;</li> <li>· The proportion of minerals and minerals-related products which are transported within and beyond the region by rail or water.</li> </ul>	
<b>Objective 17. To reduce waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase recovery of all waste in the region by 71% by 2010</li> <li>• To increase recycling and composting of waste in the region by 50% by 2010</li> <li>• To reduce growth of all waste in the region to 1% per annum by 2010, and 0.5% per annum by 2020</li> </ul>	<p>a. Percentage of the total tonnage of all types of waste (municipal solid waste, commercial, construction and demolition and industrial) that has been recycled, composted, used to recover heat, power and other energy sources, and land filled</p>	<p><b>No Time to Waste – Regional Waste Management Strategy (Proposed Alterations to RPG9)</b></p> <p>The Strategy highlights the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To raise awareness of the need to minimise waste and shift the balance of responsibility for managing waste to the producers, suppliers and consumers responsible for its generation and to encourage them to recognise that waste materials are a resource that has value;</li> <li>• To reduce the rate of growth of waste and start to minimise the overall amount generated through uncoupling waste growth from economic progress;</li> <li>• To provide a policy framework to ensure provision of sufficient capacity and infrastructure for the management of the region's waste to meet and exceed targets, and to support the development and uptake of new technologies and good management practices;</li> <li>• To integrate waste management policies with all other regional strategies;</li> <li>• To provide a regional or sub-regional context for waste local plans and management strategies;</li> <li>• To promote waste management practices that optimise the balance</li> </ul>	<p><b>PPG10.</b> Waste management to be based on the best practicable environmental option, regional self-sufficiency, precautionary principle, and the waste hierarchy.</p> <p><b>DEFRA 5.6.</b> Enable 25% of household waste to be recycled or composted by 2005-06</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as</li> </ul>

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		<p>between environmental, economic and social benefits to the region and beyond;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify issues requiring joint working between authorities, agencies and industry;</li> <li>• To identify issues requiring legislative change or action at national level and lobby accordingly.</li> </ul> <p>Data will be collated and reported on the following: Generation (and growth rates) of major waste streams; Management of all major waste streams including recycling, composting and other recovery and diversion from landfill, and landfill; Waste movements, particularly exports from London; · Waste management infrastructure and capacity.</p> <p><b>Farming and Food: Our Healthy Future Delivery Plan for Sustainable Farming and Food Delivery Plan in the South East and London (2003)</b></p> <p>Our Healthy Future is the delivery plan for the Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food (SSFF) in the South East. It aims to make farming and food industries more sustainable economically, socially and environmentally. The plan focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advice and training – helping existing farmers and encouraging new ones</li> <li>• countryside access - promoting the benefits of increased public access to the countryside</li> <li>• promoting sustainability through whole-farm planning, soil and water management</li> <li>• improving communication between farmers and consumers</li> <li>• health - action on food and nutrition for healthy eating and living</li> <li>• building the local food market</li> <li>• developing a food and farming strategy to benefit the people and economy of London</li> </ul>	<p>on wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p> <p><b>Waste Strategy 2000</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To recover value from 45% of municipal waste and to recycle or compost 30% of household waste by 2010</li> <li>• To reduce landfill for industrial and commercial waste to 85% of the 1998 level by 2005</li> </ul> <p><b>Waste to Landfill Directive (99/31/EC).</b></p> <p>This Directive aims to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment from the land filling of waste, by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.</p> <p><b>Sixth Environmental Action Programme</b></p> <p>The Environment Action Programme is the EU's long-term policy programme, and it sets priorities for ten years at a time. The programme focuses on four major areas of action: i) tackling climate change; ii) nature and biodiversity; iii) environment and health; and iv) sustainable use of natural resources and management of wastes</p>

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<b>Objective 18. To maintain and improve the water quality of the region's rivers and coasts, and to achieve sustainable water resources management</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2005, for 91% of river length to achieve compliance with Environment Agency River Quality Objectives (in line with national Public Sector Agreement target)</li> <li>To ensure that all waters in the region comply with the EC Bathing Waters Directive in all years</li> <li>To stabilise PCC of water at current levels</li> <li>By 2007, achieve a 12% reduction in Category 1 and 2 pollution incidents from all sectors</li> </ul>	a. Rivers of Good or Fair chemical and biological water quality b. Compliance with EC Bathing Waters Directive c. Per capita consumption (PCC) of water d. Incidents of major and significant water pollution	<p><b>Water Resources for the Future - A Strategy for Southern Region / A Strategy for Thames Region</b></p> <p>The Strategy notes its commitment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage water resources in a way that causes no long term degradation of the environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve the state of existing degraded catchments</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ensure that water is available to those who need it, and that it is used wisely by all</li> <li>Indicate the present state of water resources</li> <li>Illustrate the impact of different social and economic choices on future water use</li> <li>Cater robustly for risks and uncertainties</li> <li>Promote the value of water to society and environment</li> <li>Review feasible water management options including innovative solutions where appropriate</li> <li>Provide a framework for logical decisions to be taken at the right time</li> <li>Identify actions and opportunities for the Agency and others to work together to achieve our vision.</li> </ul> <p>The following is noted in relation to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For public water supply by 2010, there is an exception to ensure water savings up to 75 ml/d and have allowed for resource development of up to 115 ml/d.</li> <li>Demand management options including metering and water efficiency measures</li> <li>Progressive metering toward 2025 expectations</li> <li>Progressive leakage control towards 2025 expectations</li> <li>Enhancement of some local source outputs (50 Ml/d)</li> <li>Further integration of existing water supply (25 Ml/d)</li> <li>Bulk supplies and other resource sharing, including potential enhancement of storage by enlarging either Bewl or Darwell reservoirs (40 Ml/d)</li> <li>Determine the best use of Swanscombe quarry as an additional or alternative source.</li> </ul> <p><b>The State of the Environment, South East, 2005</b></p>	UK's water management policy is driven by the EU's Water Framework Directive, which requires that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>management of water resources issues be integrated and carried out at catchment level;</li> <li>All groundwater needs to be of good chemical status, there must be no further decreases in quality and trends of deterioration be reversed;</li> <li>good ecological and chemical status must be achieved for all water resources by 2015; and</li> <li>full cost recovery for water services be introduced.</li> </ul> <p>Draft River Basin Management Plans must be produced by 2008.</p> <p><b>Rural Strategy 2004</b></p> <p>Highlights the need for management of water supply and quality, as a priority area for action. Noting that whilst improvements have been made, diffuse pollution from agriculture and other sources remains a major issue. It highlights the role of the Water Framework Directive as a framework for such management and the need for management plans to be created in response to this.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as</li> </ul>

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		Data relating to this issue is used to inform the review and baseline data for the Report.	<p>on wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive</b></p> <p>The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of these waste water discharges.</p> <p><b>Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)</b></p> <p>Objectives include: i) reducing water pollution caused or, induced by nitrates from agricultural sources; and ii) preventing further such pollution.</p> <p><b>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</b></p> <p>This Directive aims to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater.</p> <p><b>Sixth Environmental Action Programme</b></p> <p>The Environment Action Programme is the EU's long-term policy programme, and it sets priorities for ten years at a time. The programme focuses on four major areas of action: i) tackling climate change; ii) nature and biodiversity; iii) environment and health; and iv) sustainable use of natural resources and management of wastes.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For public water supply by 2025, it is expected to see water savings up to 125 Ml/d and have allowed for further resource development of up to 50 Ml/d</li> <li>• Demand management options including metering and water efficiency measures for savings of at least 75 Ml/d- Increased household metering-</li> <li>• Higher levels of metering in some areas where water is particularly scarce- Further leakage control, for savings of up to 45 Ml/d more than 1999 WRP forecasts</li> <li>• Further water company system integration, optimisation and resource sharingFor agriculture by 2025</li> <li>• Individual and consortium winter storage reservoirs totalling 15 Ml/dFor industry and commerce, by 2025</li> <li>• Water use minimisation will be promoted, for savings of up to 30 Ml/dFor the environment, by 2025</li> <li>• Abstraction recovery of 80 Ml/d to 180 Ml/d across the region,</li> </ul>	

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		<p>where abstraction is damaging the environment- Recovery of up to 500ML/d of licensed but unused abstraction ('paper' licensing), as necessary. Other options under construction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-use of effluent currently discharged to coastal waters</li> <li>• Potential resource developments of new reservoirs including Havent Thicket (Hampshire) and Broadoak (Kent)</li> <li>• Strategic transfer into the region from the Thames Region- Desalination</li> </ul> <p><b>Farming and Food: Our Healthy Future:</b> Delivery plan for sustainable farming and food in the South East and London</p> <p>The Delivery Plan states the following priorities: Improved inland water quality; Reduced number of agriculture related pollution incidents ; Reduced flood risk from agricultural run-off; Increased biodiversity/habitats; Decreased use of active ingredients, and more widespread use of alternative methods; Reduced levels in surface and ground waters</p>	
<b>Objective 19. To increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the region</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2010, install 620MW of renewable energy (5.5% of generation capacity)</li> <li>• By 2016, install 895MW of renewable energy (8 % of generation capacity)</li> <li>• By 2026, install 1750MW of renewable energy (16% of generation capacity)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Energy use per capita</li> <li>b. Installed capacity for energy production from renewable sources</li> </ul>	<p><b>'Harnessing the Elements' – Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (Proposed Alterations to RPG9)</b> makes a commitment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase energy efficiency</li> <li>• increase the proportion of energy generated and consumed in the region from renewable sources</li> <li>• raise awareness of the importance of energy efficiency and renewable energy in addressing global climate change and resource use</li> </ul>	<p><b>PPS22.</b> Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should adhere to the following principles in their approach to planning for renewable energy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• renewable energy developments should be capable of being accommodated ...where the technology is available and environmental, economic and social impacts can be addressed satisfactorily</li> <li>• policies should promote and encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy resources; the full range of renewable energy sources, their characteristics, locational requirements and potential environmentally conscious exploitation should be recognised</li> <li>• at local level; criteria for planning authorities should be set out</li> <li>• the wider environmental and economic benefits of renewable energy project proposals should be given significant weight in determining permission</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assumptions should not be made about the technical and commercial feasibility of projects</li> <li>• small scale projects can provide a limited but valuable contribution and should not be rejected because of their size</li> <li>• local and regional planning authorities, stakeholders and strategic partnerships should foster community involvement in renewable energy projects through greater knowledge and acceptance</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• development proposals should demonstrate any environmental, economic and social benefits as well as how any socio-environmental impacts have been minimised through considerations of location, scale, design and other measures</li> <li>• Regional and local bodies will be responsible for delivering Government objectives and establishing regional targets. Targets should be set for achievement by 2010 and 2020.</li> </ul> <p><b>Our Energy Future – creating a low carbon economy (the Energy White Paper, 2003)</b>  Defines a long-term strategic vision for energy policy combining our environmental, security of supply, competitiveness and social goals.</p> <p><b>EU Strategy for Sustainable Development</b>  This Strategy focuses on four key-priorities: limiting climate change and increasing the use of clean energy; addressing threats to public health; managing natural resources more responsibly; improving the transport system and land use.</p>

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<b>Objective 20. To ensure high and stable levels of employment so everyone can benefit from the economic growth of the region</b>			
	<p>a. Proportion of people of working age in employment</p> <p>b. Proportion of people claiming unemployment benefits who have been out of work for more than a year</p> <p>c. Percentage increase or decrease in the total number of VAT registered businesses in the area</p> <p>d. Percentage change in workplace-based employment</p>	<p><b>England Rural Development Programme 2000-2006, Appendix A7 South East Region</b></p> <p>The ERDP highlights the following actions/objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To build on market opportunities to develop local employment that is accessible to all;</li> <li>• Better use made of under-used rural buildings to create local jobs;</li> <li>• Improved competitiveness of rural businesses; revitalise market towns to improve employment and services</li> <li>• Improved provision of support services to enable people to take up local employment</li> </ul> <p><b>Social Enterprise: It's Business but not as we know it: Providing an enabling framework for Social Enterprise in the South East'</b></p> <p>The document highlights the following key actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the breadth of supply of social enterprise products and services, through encouraging opportunity driven start-up, from a diverse range of sources</li> <li>• To enable existing organisations to be sustainable through access to knowledge and opportunity</li> <li>• To provide regional coherence on issues effecting social enterprise in the South East.</li> </ul> <p><b>GROW Programme (2005)</b></p> <p>The Grow project is a €7.5 million InterregIIIC programme covers a network of five high growths regions including South East of England. There are three main pillars to the programme: Green Growth, Business Growth and Inclusive Growth. The overall objective of the Grow programme is to establish a framework of co-operation, encouraging multinational projects to overcome some of these challenges and to balance social, environmental and economic constraints to achieve sustainable growth. The partner regions will work toward a joint implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas.</p> <p><b>SEEDA's Draft Race Equality Scheme 2005-2008 (July 2005)</b></p> <p>The draft Scheme focuses on race equality in order to fight discrimination in a transparent manner and ensure that any unwitting barriers to SEEDA's services or bias in service delivery are highlighted and eliminated. The Race Equality Scheme prioritises four core areas of</p>	<p><b>PPG4.</b> Development plans should aim to ensure that there is sufficient land available which is readily capable of development and well served by infrastructure. They should also ensure that there is a variety of sites available to meet differing needs.</p> <p><b>PPS7.</b> Diversification and more economically competitive agricultural activity will be promoted within rural areas.</p> <p><b>PPS11.</b> The RSS will seek to align itself with the RES.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b></p> <p>The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of</p>

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		<p>work for assessment in the first year: Reviewing the Regional Economic Strategy on behalf of the Region; SEEDA's Procurement of goods and services; SEEDA's Communication Strategy; and Business Support.</p> <p><b>South East Workforce Skills Programme (Learning and Skills Council/SEEDA, April 2003)</b></p> <p>The Workforce Skills Programme is a joint initiative led by the Learning and Skills Council in the South East, the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), and the Government Office for the South East. Working with other organizations the Programme includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the Most of Labour Market Information: working with partners to help improve coordinated labour market intelligence;</li> <li>• Working on a "sectoral approach": working with organisations to take forward regional versions of the national Sector Skills Agreements (SSAs). These are essentially deals between the industry and the Government to: ensure training meets employers' needs, increase the numbers of employers prepared to train their employees, and make individuals more employable; and</li> <li>• National Employment Panel - Jobcentre Plus: working with Jobcentre plus through a member of staff seconded from the Government Office resulting in a table of priorities and actions.</li> </ul> <p><b>South East Social Enterprise Strategy</b></p> <p>The purpose of the strategy is to condition the region to be receptive to the emerging impact of social enterprise; where businesses are driven by primarily social objectives rather than profit for shareholders. The South East Social Enterprise Strategy aims to raise the profile of both the role and value of social enterprises in the region. Current estimates suggest that there are around 1,000 organisations that might be considered to be social enterprises. The intention is to open up new markets for these growing businesses through greater collaboration between partners.</p>	<p>life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p> <p><b>Social Enterprise: A Strategy For Success</b></p> <p>Sets out details of a new company form for social and community business. It is designed specifically for enterprises that use their profits and assets for the benefit of the local community and / or the wider public. Community Interest Companies will combine entrepreneurial spirit with a sense of social purpose to deliver new opportunities and services where they are most needed.</p>

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<b>Objective 21. To sustain economic growth and competitiveness across the region</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To narrow the gap in GVA per capita between the best and worst performing parts of the region</li> <li>To continue sustainable 'smart economic growth'</li> </ul>	a. GVA per capita b. Labour productivity performance of the South East against other high performing regions in Europe and the world	<p><b>Joining Forces - An Integrated Framework for Business Support in the South East (2005)</b></p> <p>Joining Forces is a framework that promotes improved business support service in the region. It seeks to ensure that publicly funded business support is coherent and helps to achieve increased economic success. It is a long-term vision for the Business Support Network of the future. It will also provide a platform for local businesses and employer representatives to inform and influence policy making within the region.</p> <p><b>Infrastructure in the South East 2005</b></p> <p>This report contributes to the debate on how the infrastructure associated with a growing population and economy will be delivered. The publication looks at existing and planned investments in the South East as well as highlighting work underway that might reduce pressure on infrastructure. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>explores how existing infrastructure can be better managed to optimise its efficiency and how the benefits of new investment can be 'locked in';</li> <li>addresses ways in which Infrastructure might be delivered; looks at alternative funding mechanisms and how revenue works in relation to growth.</li> </ul> <p><b>European Strategy for South East England 2001-2006 (2001)</b></p> <p>The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a region-wide policy framework for maximising the benefits of membership of the European Union for the region-measured in terms of social, environmental and economic well-being. The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlines key objectives of the European Commission and matches these against the South East region's own priorities;</li> <li>Analyses the European dimension to each of the three measures of success of the region's development as identified in the RES and prioritises European activities accordingly.</li> <li>Provides analysis of the European dimension of the Regional Economic Strategy and analysis of Structural Funds in the region.</li> </ul> <p><b>GROW Programme (2005)</b></p> <p>The Grow project is a €7.5 million Interreg IIIC programme covers a</p>	<p><b>PPS7.</b> Promoting the development of the English regions by improving their economic performance so that we are able to reach their full potential by developing competitive, diverse and thriving rural enterprise that provides a range of jobs and underpins strong economics. To promote sustainable, diverse and adaptable agriculture sectors where farming...contributes directly and indirectly to rural economic diversity; is itself competitive and profitable and provides high quality products that the public wants.</p> <p>Diversification and more economically competitive agricultural (and wider) activity within rural areas will be promoted.</p> <p><b>PPS11.</b> The RSS will take into account issues of economic development; in particular, the RES.</p> <p><b>Rural Strategy 2004</b></p> <p>Two key components to address the particular needs of rural areas: building on the economic success of the majority of rural areas; and tackling the structural economic weaknesses and accompanying poor social conditions that exist in a minority of rural areas.</p> <p>Highlights the range of initiatives being taken forward :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>making the supply of learning provision consistently relevant to rural business requirements and improving its delivery</li> <li>driving up demand for learning, particularly in industries facing major change e.g. facilitating continuous professional development framework for farmers and supporting steps to demonstrate the benefits of learning in raising business performance</li> <li>a range of business support initiatives are being put in place to assist business creation and growth in rural areas</li> <li>particular emphasis on agriculture and fishing industries</li> </ul>

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		<p>network of five high growths regions including South East of England. There are three main pillars to the programme: Green Growth, Business Growth and Inclusive Growth. The overall objective of the Grow programme is to establish a framework of co-operation, encouraging multinational projects to overcome some of these challenges and to balance social, environmental and economic constraints to achieve sustainable growth. The partner regions will work toward a joint implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas.</p>	<p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b>  The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>DTI - The Strategy</b>  DTI's ambition is Prosperity for All, by raising productivity and competitiveness by supporting successful business, ensuring fair markets and promoting world-class science and innovation. The strategy provides a longer-term direction for achieving this. The strategy sets clear priorities for the next five years and how to deliver on these commitments. These policy priorities are based on the best available economic evidence of where DTI can make the greatest contribution to raising UK productivity.</p> <p><b>DTI Five Year Programme</b>  The programme focuses on how the UK will develop a strong, modern knowledge based economy, which can meet the challenges posed by rapidly emerging economies and new technologies, and the need to transform the DTI to meet this new challenge.</p> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b>  The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p> <p><b>Devolving Decision Making - Pre-Budget Report 2004</b>  The Devolving Decision Making Review, published alongside Budget 2004, set out the case in particular for strengthening the capacity of regional institutions to meet their specific economic and social challenges including regional transport, housing and economic development.</p>

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			<p><b>Review of the Government's Manufacturing Strategy</b>  Review of the 2002 Manufacturing Strategy, which sets out priorities for action to achieve a manufacturing sector made up of highly skilled, knowledge intensive, highly productive, innovative manufacturing businesses</p> <p><b>A Government Action Plan for Small Business</b>  This action plan aims to build a Britain where enterprise is open to all, and small businesses get the support and the range of accessible, coherent and high quality services they need</p> <p><b>Air Transport White Paper (2003)</b>  Sets out a strategic framework for the development of airport capacity in the United Kingdom over the next 30 years, against the wider context of the air transport sector.</p>
		<p><b>England Rural Development Programme 2000-2006, Appendix A7 South East Region</b>  The ERDP highlights the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen local economies through diversification into value added products and associated downstream activities</li> <li>• Increased sustainable tourism and recreation in the countryside</li> <li>• Encouragement To increase the quantity and range of high value added produce</li> <li>• Improved rural business support services</li> <li>• Improved business management skillsStrategic goal: Ensure economic activity is sustainable</li> <li>• Maximised local use of local capacity</li> <li>• Ensure economic activity results in viable and sustainable businesses</li> <li>• Develop viable, self-supporting farming</li> <li>• Utilise surplus rural resources for alternative use</li> <li>• Develop collaborative marketing initiatives; More effective co-operatives</li> <li>• Improved marketing skills in rural areas; Development of rural</li> </ul>	

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		<p>enterprise hubs; Encourage diversification of the rural economy and stimulate related activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better alternative crop production</li> </ul> <p><b>South East Social Enterprise Strategy</b></p> <p>The purpose of the strategy is to condition the region to be receptive to the emerging impact of social enterprise; where businesses are driven by primarily social objectives rather than profit for shareholders. The South East Social Enterprise Strategy aims to raise the profile of both the role and value of social enterprises in the region. Current estimates suggest that there are around 1,000 organisations that might be considered to be social enterprises. The intention is to open up new markets for these growing businesses through greater collaboration between partners.</p>	
<b>Objective 22. To stimulate economic revival in priority areas</b>			
a. Proportion of people, in the most deprived areas, of working age in employment b. Proportion of people, in the most deprived areas, claiming unemployment benefit who have been out of work for more than a year c. Proportion of young people (18-24 year olds), in the most deprived areas, in full-time education or employment d. Percentage		<p><b>Infrastructure in the South East 2005</b></p> <p>This report contributes to the debate on how the infrastructure associated with a growing population and economy will be delivered. The publication looks at existing and planned investments in the South East as well as highlighting work underway that might reduce pressure on infrastructure. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• explores how existing infrastructure can be better managed to optimise its efficiency and how the benefits of new investment can be 'locked in';</li> <li>• addresses ways in which Infrastructure might be delivered; looks at alternative funding mechanisms and how revenue works in relation to growth.</li> </ul> <p><b>GROW Programme (2005)</b></p> <p>The Grow project is a €7.5 million InterregIIIC programme covers a network of five high growths regions including South East of England. There are three main pillars to the programme: Green Growth, Business Growth and Inclusive Growth. The overall objective of the Grow programme is to establish a framework of co-operation, encouraging multinational projects to overcome some of these challenges and to balance social, environmental and economic constraints to achieve sustainable growth. The partner regions will work toward a joint implementation of the Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas.</p>	<p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Our Towns and Cities: the Future (the Urban White Paper, 1999)</b></p> <p>The White Paper sets out the Government's goal - that all urban areas should offer their residents a good quality of life and enable them to achieve their full potential. It represents a strong, long-term commitment to the future of</p>

IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
	increase or decrease in workplace based employment in the most deprived areas	<p><b>SEEDA's Draft Race Equality Scheme 2005-2008 (July 2005)</b></p> <p>The draft Scheme focuses on race equality in order to fight discrimination in a transparent manner and ensure that any unwitting barriers to SEEDA's services or bias in service delivery are highlighted and eliminated. The Race Equality Scheme prioritises four core areas of work for assessment in the first year: Reviewing the Regional Economic Strategy on behalf of the Region; SEEDA's Procurement of goods and services; SEEDA's Communication Strategy; and Business Support.</p> <p><b>South East Social Enterprise Strategy</b></p> <p>The purpose of the strategy is to condition the region to be receptive to the emerging impact of social enterprise; where businesses are driven by primarily social objectives rather than profit for shareholders. The South East Social Enterprise Strategy aims to raise the profile of both the role and value of social enterprises in the region. Current estimates suggest that there are around 1,000 organisations that might be considered to be social enterprises. The intention is to open up new markets for these growing businesses through greater collaboration between partners.</p>	<p>urban areas. It is comprehensive in scope, dealing with environmental, economic and social issues.</p> <p><b>Review of the Government's Manufacturing Strategy</b></p> <p>Review of the 2002 Manufacturing Strategy, which sets out priorities for action to achieve a manufacturing sector made up of highly skilled, knowledge intensive, highly productive, innovative manufacturing businesses</p> <p><b>A Government Action Plan for Small Business</b></p> <p>This action plan aims to build a Britain where enterprise is open to all, and small businesses get the support and the range of accessible, coherent and high quality services they need</p>
<b>Objective 23. To develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge based economy that excels in innovation, with higher value, lower impact activities</b>			
	a. Average annual increase in GVA per worker for manufacturing and the knowledge sectors b. Value of manufacturing exports per head	<p><b>Joining Forces - An Integrated Framework for Business Support in the South East (2005)</b></p> <p>Joining Forces is a framework that promotes improved business support service in the region. It seeks to ensure that publicly funded business support is coherent and helps to achieve increased economic success. It is a long-term vision for the Business Support Network of the future. It will also provide a platform for local businesses and employer representatives to inform and influence policy making within the region.</p> <p><b>Infrastructure in the South East 2005</b></p> <p>This report contributes to the debate on how the infrastructure associated with a growing population and economy will be delivered. The publication looks at existing and planned investments in the South East as well as highlighting work underway that might reduce pressure on infrastructure. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• explores how existing infrastructure can be better managed to optimise its efficiency and how the benefits of new investment can be 'locked in';</li> </ul>	<p><b>Summit 2005: Delivering Sustainable Communities, ODPM</b></p> <p>The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit ran from 31 January - 2 February 2005. The Summit explored the progress in delivering new and regenerated sustainable communities since the publication of the Sustainable Communities Plan in February 2003.</p> <p><b>Social Enterprise: A Strategy For Success</b></p> <p>Sets out details of a new company form for social and community business. It is designed specifically for enterprises that use their profits and assets for the benefit of the local community and / or the wider public. Community Interest Companies will combine entrepreneurial spirit with a sense of social purpose to deliver new opportunities and services where they are most needed.</p> <p><b>10 year Science Framework</b></p> <p>Ten year investment framework for science and innovation</p>

IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• addresses ways in which Infrastructure might be delivered; looks at alternative funding mechanisms and how revenue works in relation to growth.</li> </ul> <p><b>European Strategy for South East England 2001-2006 (2001)</b>  The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a region-wide policy framework for maximising the benefits of membership of the European Union for the region-measured in terms of social, environmental and economic well-being. The Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlines key objectives of the European Commission and matches these against the South East region's own priorities;</li> <li>• Analyses the European dimension to each of the three measures of success of the region's development as identified in the RES and prioritises European activities accordingly.</li> <li>• Provides analysis of the European dimension of the Regional Economic Strategy and analysis of Structural Funds in the region.</li> </ul> <p><b>Valuing Culture in South East (August 2005)</b>  Regional Development Agencies are charged with improving regional economic performance and identifying strategies for achieving that aim. This paper discusses how culture can contribute to improving regional economic performance.</p> <p><b>South East Social Enterprise Strategy</b>  The purpose of the strategy is to condition the region to be receptive to the emerging impact of social enterprise; where businesses are driven by primarily social objectives rather than profit for shareholders. The South East Social Enterprise Strategy aims to raise the profile of both the role and value of social enterprises in the region. Current estimates suggest that there are around 1,000 organisations that might be considered to be social enterprises. The intention is to open up new markets for these growing businesses through greater collaboration between partners.</p>	<p>alongside the 2004 Spending Review</p> <p><b>Review of the Government's Manufacturing Strategy</b>  Review of the 2002 Manufacturing Strategy, which sets out priorities for action to achieve a manufacturing sector made up of highly skilled, knowledge intensive, highly productive, innovative manufacturing businesses</p>

IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
<b>Objective 24. To encourage the development of a buoyant , sustainable tourism sector</b>			
	a. Percentage of jobs in the tourism sector b. Number of visitors staying overnight and overnight spend	<p><b>Tourism ExSELlence - the Strategy for Tourism in the South East.</b></p> <p>The following key objectives within this Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating a 'must visit' Region which people aspire to visit- Marketing focused on strong brands and destinations</li> <li>• Develop compelling themes, packages and experiences- Exploit the potential of all sectors of tourism</li> <li>• Capitalise on the Region's location</li> <li>• Exploit new routes to market2. Providing an unrivalled experience for the visitor whilst they are with us</li> <li>• Invest in people and motivate them</li> <li>• Strive for product excellence</li> <li>• Make places more appealing and inviting</li> <li>• Improve access &amp; information.</li> <li>• Effective Management and Organisation of tourism support</li> <li>• Develop strong partnerships and networks</li> <li>• Make better use of resources</li> <li>• Become more evidence driven</li> <li>• Create a positive climate for tourism</li> <li>• Generate a step change</li> </ul> <p><b>Destination South East - Tourism and Related Sport and Recreation (Proposed Alterations to RPG9)</b></p> <p>To develop and implement policies for tourism development and management which reflect sub-regional circumstances. · To ensure tourism growth takes place in areas which have the capacity to accommodate it in ways that conform to the environmental policies in RPG9 and make prudent use of natural resources. · To utilise and husband the region's numerous environmental assets to foster sustainable tourism. · To minimise the adverse impacts associated with visitor pressure on sensitive urban and rural destinations through enhanced visitor management. · To promote opportunities for high quality tourism and related development in ways which will enhance the range and quality of facilities available, strengthen the natural and cultural asset base on which tourism is dependent and assist regeneration, especially in coastal resorts, the Isle of Wight and the Thames Gateway.</p>	<p><b>PPS7.</b> The importance of tourism and the economic contribution it makes to rural areas must be noted and support provided where appropriate.</p> <p><b>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005</b></p> <p>The Strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions</li> <li>• five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits</li> <li>• four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and</li> <li>• a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tomorrow's Tourism Today (2004)</b></p> <p>To promote tourism in Britain through four key drivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marketing and e-tourism</li> <li>• The quality of the products</li> <li>• The skills of our people</li> <li>• The data on which business decisions are made</li> </ul>

IRF Objectives and Targets	IRF Indicators	Regional Objectives and Targets	International National Objectives and Targets (1)
		<p><b>Farming and Food: Our Healthy Future: Delivery plan for sustainable farming and food in the South East and London</b>  The Delivery Plan notes the need for: Increased tourism entrepreneurship; More effective and efficient exploitation of new tourism opportunities; Extended market for existing tourism activity</p> <p><b>The Regional Spatial Planning Strategy for Tourism</b>  (Proposed alterations to Regional Planning Guidance, South East - Tourism and Related Sport and Recreation) is a regional framework that sets out a vision for the development of a tourism industry in the South East over the next 20 years. It concentrates on the regional spatial planning aspects of tourism such as land-use planning, transport planning and visitor management.</p>	
<b>Objective 25. To develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness of the region</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To significantly raise the number of Level 3 qualifications in the region</li> <li>To reduce the proportion of the population with basic skills needs</li> </ul>	(See indicators (b) and (c) under objective 5 on population qualified to NVQ level 3 and literacy and numeracy skills)	<p><b>South East Social Enterprise Strategy</b>  The purpose of the strategy is to condition the region to be receptive to the emerging impact of social enterprise; where businesses are driven by primarily social objectives rather than profit for shareholders. The South East Social Enterprise Strategy aims to raise the profile of both the role and value of social enterprises in the region. Current estimates suggest that there are around 1,000 organisations that might be considered to be social enterprises. The intention is to open up new markets for these growing businesses through greater collaboration between partners.</p>	<p>There are a wide range of PSA targets for the Department for Education and Skills, including the following:</p> <p><b>DFES 5.</b> Between 2002 and 2006 the proportion of those aged 16 who get qualifications equivalent to 5 GCSEs at grades A* to C rises by 2 percentage points each year on average and in all schools at least 20% of pupils achieve this standard by 2004 rising to 25% by 2006; and the proportion of 19 year olds who achieve this standard rises by 3 percentage points between 2002 and 2004, with a further increase of 3 percentage points by 2006</p> <p><b>DFES 9.</b> By 2010, increase participation in Higher Education towards 50% of those aged 18 to 30</p> <p><b>DFES 10.</b> Improve the basic skill levels of 1.5 million adults between the launch of Skills for Life in 2001 and 2007, with a milestone of 750,000 by 2004</p> <p><b>White Paper 'Skills: Getting on in business, getting on at work'.</b>  This White Paper builds on the Government's first national Skills Strategy. It sets out how to address the skills challenge.</p>



## Annex B

### Review of Baseline Data

\*NB\*. Please note that this data will be updated throughout the course of the SEA/SA as further data becomes available.  
Data on Objective 9 is also being sought\*

## CONTENTS

<i>B1.1</i>	<i>POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS</i>	1
<i>B1.2</i>	<i>POPULATION FIGURES</i>	1
<i>B1.3</i>	<i>DENSITY</i>	4
<i>B1.4</i>	<i>POPULATION CHANGE</i>	4
<i>B1.5</i>	<i>MIGRATION</i>	5
<b>B2</b>	<b><i>OBJECTIVE 1 - TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE IN A DECENT, SUSTAINABLY CONSTRUCTED AND AFFORDABLE HOME</i></b>	<b>10</b>
<i>B2.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	10
<i>B2.2</i>	<i>AVAILABILITY OF HOUSING</i>	10
<i>B2.3</i>	<i>HOUSEHOLD INCOME</i>	11
<i>B2.4</i>	<i>HOUSEHOLD TENURE</i>	12
<i>B2.5</i>	<i>HOUSING REGISTER</i>	14
<i>B2.6</i>	<i>UNFIT HOUSING</i>	15
<i>B2.7</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	16
<b>B3</b>	<b><i>OBJECTIVE 2 - TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FLOODING AND THE RESULTING DETRIMENT TO PUBLIC WELLBEING, THE ECONOMY AND THE ENVIRONMENT</i></b>	<b>17</b>
<i>B3.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	17
<i>B3.2</i>	<i>RISK OF FLOODING</i>	17
<i>B3.3</i>	<i>FLOOD ZONES</i>	18
<i>B3.4</i>	<i>THE SOUTH EAST PLAN</i>	18
<i>B3.5</i>	<i>CATCHMENT FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLANS</i>	19
<i>B3.6</i>	<i>SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLANS</i>	19
<i>B3.7</i>	<i>FORESIGHT FUTURES REPORT</i>	19
<i>B3.8</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	19
<b>B4</b>	<b><i>OBJECTIVE 3 - TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE POPULATION AND REDUCE INEQUALITIES IN HEALTH</i></b>	<b>20</b>
<i>B4.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	20
<i>B4.2</i>	<i>HEALTH DEPRIVATION</i>	20
<i>B4.3</i>	<i>LIFE EXPECTANCY</i>	21
<i>B4.4</i>	<i>MORTALITY</i>	22
<i>B4.5</i>	<i>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</i>	26
<i>B4.6</i>	<i>TEENAGE PREGNANCY</i>	27
<i>B4.7</i>	<i>INCAPACITY BENEFIT CLAIMANTS</i>	28
<i>B4.8</i>	<i>PHYSICAL ACTIVITY</i>	29
<i>B4.9</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	30
<b>B5</b>	<b><i>OBJECTIVE 4 - TO REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND CLOSE THE GAP BETWEEN THE MOST DEPRIVED AREAS IN THE SOUTH EAST AND THE REST OF THE REGION</i></b>	<b>31</b>

<i>B5.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	31
<i>B5.2</i>	<i>OVERALL DEPRIVATION</i>	31
<i>B5.3</i>	<i>GROSS WEEKLY EARNINGS</i>	32
<i>B5.4</i>	<i>FUEL POVERTY</i>	33
<i>B5.5</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	34
<i>B6</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 5 - TO RAISE EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS ACROSS THE REGION AND DEVELOP THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE TO ACQUIRE THE SKILLS NEEDED TO FIND AND REMAIN IN WORK</i>	35
<i>B6.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	35
<i>B6.2</i>	<i>EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEPRIVATION</i>	35
<i>B6.3</i>	<i>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</i>	35
<i>B6.4</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	38
<i>B7</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 6 - TO REDUCE CRIME AND THE FEAR OF CRIME</i>	39
<i>B7.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	39
<i>B7.2</i>	<i>CRIME AND DISORDER DEPRIVATION</i>	39
<i>B7.3</i>	<i>TOTAL INCIDENCE OF CRIME</i>	39
<i>B7.4</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	42
<i>B8</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 7 - TO CREATE AND SUSTAIN VIBRANT COMMUNITIES</i>	43
<i>B8.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	43
<i>B8.2</i>	<i>SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES</i>	43
<i>B8.3</i>	<i>LIVING ENVIRONMENT</i>	44
<i>B8.4</i>	<i>SATISFACTION WITH LOCAL AREA</i>	44
<i>B8.5</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	45
<i>B9</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 8 - TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY TO ALL SERVICES AND FACILITIES</i>	46
<i>B9.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	46
<i>B9.2</i>	<i>ACCESS TO SERVICES AND FACILITIES</i>	46
<i>B9.3</i>	<i>ACCESS TO SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS</i>	46
<i>B9.4</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	47
<i>B10</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 9: TO ENCOURAGE INCREASED ENGAGEMENT IN CULTURAL ACTIVITY ACROSS ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE SOUTH EAST</i>	48
<i>B10.1</i>	<i>SPORT</i>	48
<i>B11</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 10 - TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY IN LAND USE THROUGH THE RE-USE OF PREVIOUSLY DEVELOPED LAND AND EXISTING BUILDINGS, INCLUDING RE-USE OF MATERIALS FROM BUILDINGS, AND ENCOURAGE URBAN RENAISSANCE</i>	49
<i>B11.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	49

<i>B11.2</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	53
<i>B12</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 11 - TO REDUCE AIR POLLUTION AND ENSURE AIR QUALITY CONTINUES TO IMPROVE</i>	54
<i>B12.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	54
<i>B12.2</i>	<i>DAYS OF POLLUTION</i>	54
<i>B12.3</i>	<i>TOTAL EMISSIONS DATA</i>	58
<i>B12.4</i>	<i>LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT</i>	59
<i>B13</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 12 - TO ADDRESS THE CAUSES OF CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH REDUCING EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES AND ENSURE THAT THE SOUTH EAST IS PREPARED FOR ITS IMPACTS</i>	60
<i>B13.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	60
<i>B13.2</i>	<i>GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS</i>	60
<i>B13.3</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	61
<i>B14</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 13 - TO CONSERVE AND ENHANCE THE REGION'S BIODIVERSITY</i>	62
<i>B14.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	62
<i>B14.2</i>	<i>SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (SSSIs)</i>	64
<i>B14.3</i>	<i>GEOLOGICAL CONSERVATION REVIEW</i>	65
<i>B14.4</i>	<i>SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION</i>	67
<i>B14.5</i>	<i>SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS</i>	68
<i>B14.6</i>	<i>RAMSAR SITES</i>	69
<i>B14.7</i>	<i>WILD BIRDS</i>	71
<i>B14.8</i>	<i>FISH STOCKS</i>	71
<i>B14.9</i>	<i>WOODLAND ASSETS</i>	73
<i>B14.10</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	74
<i>B15</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 14 - TO PROTECT, ENHANCE AND MAKE ACCESSIBLE FOR ENJOYMENT, THE REGION'S COUNTRYSIDE AND HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT</i>	75
<i>B15.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	75
<i>B15.2</i>	<i>LAND COVERED BY AGRI-ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT SCHEMES</i>	75
<i>B15.3</i>	<i>CONDITION OF COUNTRYSIDE PATHS</i>	76
<i>B15.4</i>	<i>ACCESS TO AND ENJOYMENT OF THE REGION'S HISTORIC ASSETS</i>	77
<i>B15.5</i>	<i>CONDITION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS</i>	78
<i>B15.6</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	78
<i>B16</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 15 - TO REDUCE ROAD CONGESTION AND POLLUTION LEVELS BY IMPROVING TRAVEL CHOICE, AND REDUCING THE NEED FOR TRAVEL BY CAR/LORRY</i>	79
<i>B16.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	79
<i>B16.2</i>	<i>MODE OF TRAVEL</i>	79
<i>B16.3</i>	<i>TRAFFIC FLOW</i>	81
<i>B16.4</i>	<i>FREIGHT TRAFFIC</i>	83

<i>B16.5</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	84
<i>B17</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 16 - TO REDUCE THE GLOBAL SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF CONSUMPTION OF RESOURCES BY USING SUSTAINABLY PRODUCED AND LOCAL PRODUCTS</i>	85
<i>B17.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	85
<i>B17.2</i>	<i>ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT</i>	85
<i>B18</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 17 - TO REDUCE WASTE GENERATION AND DISPOSAL, AND ACHIEVE THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WASTE</i>	87
<i>B18.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	87
<i>B18.2</i>	<i>TOTAL MUNICIPAL WASTE</i>	87
<i>B18.3</i>	<i>LOCAL AUTHORITY RECYCLING/COMPOSTING</i>	88
<i>B18.4</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	89
<i>B19</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 18 - TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE WATER QUALITY OF THE REGION'S RIVERS AND COASTS, AND TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT</i>	90
<i>B19.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	90
<i>B19.2</i>	<i>WATER QUALITY</i>	90
<i>B19.3</i>	<i>WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE</i>	93
<i>B19.4</i>	<i>BATHING WATER QUALITY</i>	96
<i>B19.5</i>	<i>WATER CONSUMPTION</i>	96
<i>B19.6</i>	<i>WATER DEMAND</i>	98
<i>B19.7</i>	<i>WATER SUPPLY</i>	98
<i>B19.8</i>	<i>GROUNDWATER</i>	100
<i>B19.9</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	100
<i>B20</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 19 - TO INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY, AND THE PROPORTION OF ENERGY GENERATED FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES IN THE REGION</i>	101
<i>B20.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	101
<i>B20.2</i>	<i>ENERGY CONSUMPTION</i>	101
<i>B20.3</i>	<i>RENEWABLE ENERGY CAPACITY</i>	103
<i>B20.4</i>	<i>CHP</i>	104
<i>B20.5</i>	<i>NEW DEVELOPMENTS</i>	104
<i>B20.6</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	105
<i>B21</i>	<i>OBJECTIVE 20 - TO ENSURE HIGH AND STABLE LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT SO EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT FROM THE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF THE REGION</i>	106
<i>B21.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	106
<i>B21.2</i>	<i>EMPLOYMENT DEPRIVATION</i>	106
<i>B21.3</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	109

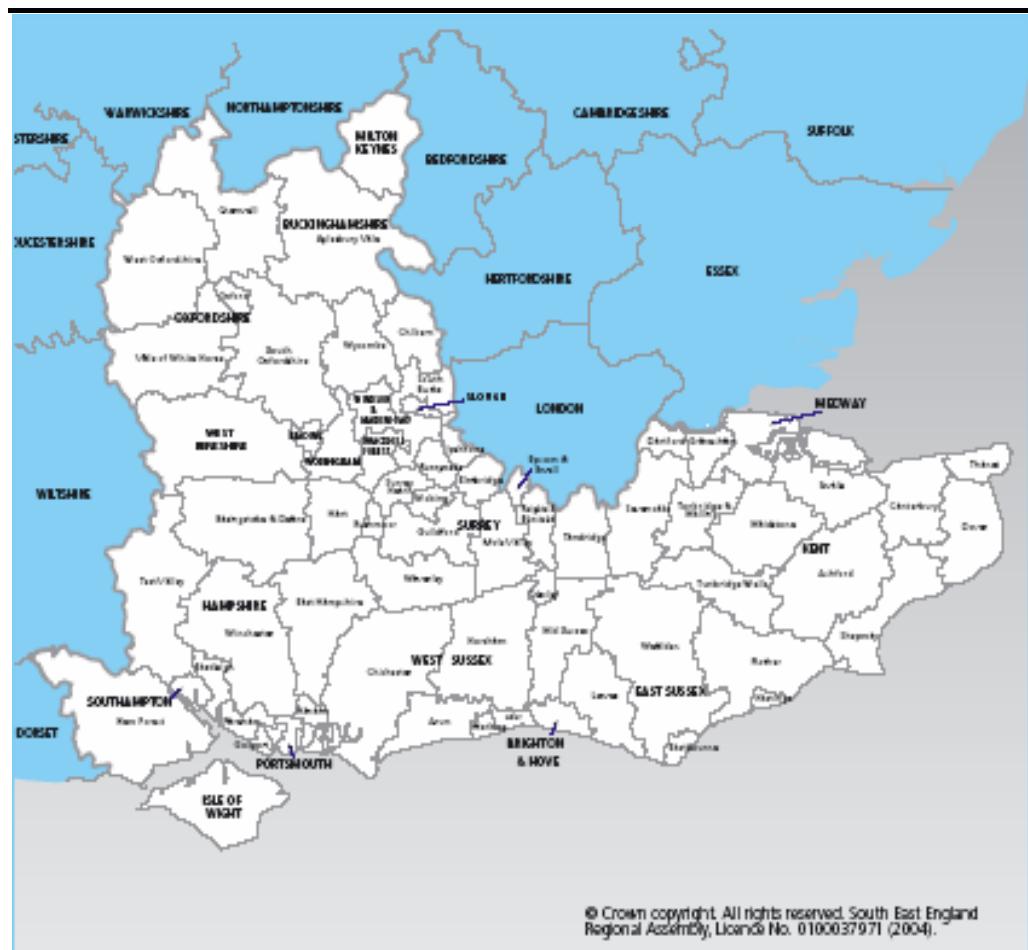
<b>B22</b>	<b>OBJECTIVE 21 - TO SUSTAIN ECONOMIC GROWTH AND COMPETITIVENESS ACROSS THE REGION</b>	<b>110</b>
<i>B22.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	<b>110</b>
<i>B22.2</i>	<i>GVA PER HEAD</i>	<b>110</b>
<i>B22.3</i>	<i>LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY</i>	<b>112</b>
<i>B22.4</i>	<i>BUSINESS START-UPS</i>	<b>115</b>
<i>B22.5</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	<b>118</b>
<b>B23</b>	<b>OBJECTIVE 22 - TO STIMULATE ECONOMIC REVIVAL IN PRIORITY REGENERATION AREAS</b>	<b>119</b>
<i>B23.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	<b>119</b>
<i>B23.2</i>	<i>EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN DEPRIVED COMMUNITIES</i>	<b>119</b>
<i>B23.3</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	<b>121</b>
<b>B24</b>	<b>OBJECTIVE 23 - TO DEVELOP A DYNAMIC, DIVERSE AND KNOWLEDGE -BASED ECONOMY THAT EXCELS IN INNOVATION WITH HIGHER VALUE, LOWER IMPACT ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>122</b>
<i>B24.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	<b>122</b>
<i>B24.2</i>	<i>GROSS VALUE ADDED, PER EMPLOYEE</i>	<b>122</b>
<i>B24.3</i>	<i>EMPLOYMENT IN THE KNOWLEDGE SECTOR</i>	<b>122</b>
<i>B24.4</i>	<i>EXPORTS</i>	<b>123</b>
<i>B24.5</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	<b>124</b>
<b>B25</b>	<b>OBJECTIVE 24 - TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BUOYANT, SUSTAINABLE TOURISM SECTOR</b>	<b>125</b>
<i>B25.1</i>	<i>DATA</i>	<b>125</b>
<i>B25.2</i>	<i>TOURIST TRIPS, NIGHTS AND SPEND</i>	<b>125</b>
<i>B25.3</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	<b>127</b>
<b>B26</b>	<b>OBJECTIVE 25 - TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A SKILLED WORKFORCE TO SUPPORT LONG-TERM COMPETITIVENESS OF THE REGION</b>	<b>128</b>
<i>B26.1</i>	<i>SKILLS STANDARDS</i>	<b>129</b>
<i>B26.2</i>	<i>ISSUES</i>	<b>131</b>

B1.1

## **POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS**

The South East region has the largest population of all regions within England, currently standing at 8,122,200 as of 2004. The region had an estimated growth rate of 1.3% during the period of 2001-2004 which was below the national average.

### *Figure B1.1 South East Region*



Source: South East Regional Assembly, Regional Monitoring Report 2004

B1.2

## **POPULATION FIGURES**

**Table B1.1** *Population estimates and projections: by sub-region*

	1971	1981	1991	2001 <sup>1</sup>	2003 <sup>1</sup>	2006 <sup>2</sup>	2011 <sup>2</sup>	2016 <sup>2</sup>	2021 <sup>2</sup>
United Kingdom	55,928	56,357	57,439	59,113	59,554	60,254	61,401	62,618	63,835
South East	6,830	7,243	7,629	8,023	8,080	8,210	8,435	8,669	8,910
Bracknell Forest UA	66	85	98	110	110	111	112	113	115
Brighton and Hove UA	256	237	241	250	252	256	265	273	281
Isle of Wight UA	107	118	126	133	136	141	148	156	163
Medway UA	229	240	243	250	251	256	263	272	279
Milton Keynes UA	68	126	178	213	216	224	236	248	259
Portsmouth UA	206	191	187	188	189	191	194	197	201
Reading UA	142	137	135	145	144	145	148	150	153
Slough UA	101	101	105	121	119	118	118	119	120
Southampton UA	216	210	205	220	221	223	228	232	237
West Berkshire UA	107	123	139	144	144	145	146	149	151
Windsor and Maidenhead UA	129	135	134	134	135	136	138	140	143
Wokingham UA	103	117	141	150	151	153	156	159	162
Buckinghamshire County	413	444	456	479	478	480	484	489	495
East Sussex County	397	428	469	493	496	507	526	545	565
Hampshire County	979	1,086	1,179	1,241	1,251	1,268	1,295	1,324	1,356
Kent County	1,183	1,245	1,286	1,331	1,349	1,379	1,429	1,479	1,531
Oxfordshire	516	542	576	607	615	631	655	676	697
Surrey	1,014	1,011	1,023	1,060	1,065	1,079	1,104	1,131	1,160
West Sussex	600	668	710	755	759	770	792	816	842

<sup>1</sup> The mid-2001 & mid-2003 population estimates are those published on 9 September 2004.

<sup>2</sup> UK projections are based on 2003 data and are an interim set published on 30 September 2004; 2003-based sub national population projections for the region and local areas are those published on 25 November 2004.

**Source:** Office for National Statistics; Government Actuary's Department

**Table B1.2** *Population estimates and projections: by age*

	South East					United Kingdom			
			Percentages and Thousands					Percentages and Thousands	
	1991	2001	2003 <sup>1</sup>	2011 <sup>2</sup>	2021 <sup>2</sup>	1991	2001	2003 <sup>1</sup>	2011 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Age Group</b>									
0 to 4	6.5	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.5	6.7	5.9	5.7	5.5
5 to 15	13.3	14.0	14.0	12.7	12.1	13.6	14.2	14.0	12.6
16 to 19	5.3	4.8	5.0	5.0	4.5	5.3	4.9	5.2	5.0
20 to 24	7.4	5.8	5.9	6.4	5.7	7.7	6.1	6.2	6.7
25 to 44	29.4	28.9	28.4	26.2	25.4	29.3	29.3	28.8	26.8
45 to 64 (males)/ 45-59 (females)	19.2	21.8	22.1	23.3	23.3	19.0	21.3	21.6	23.1
65 and over (males)/ 60 and over (females)	18.9	18.8	19.0	20.8	23.5	18.4	18.3	18.5	20.2
Pensionable age <sup>4</sup>	18.9	18.8	41.1	17.6	20.4	18.4	18.3	40.1	17.1
All ages (=100%) (thousands)	7,629	8,023	8,080	8,435	8,910	57,439	59,113	59,554	61,401
									63,835

1 The mid-2003 population estimates are those published on 9 September 2004.

2 2003-based subnational population projections for the region and local areas are those published on 25 November 2004.

3 UK projections are based on 2003 data and are an interim set published on 30 September 2004.

4 The pensionable age population is that over state pension age. The 2011 and 2021 figures take account of planned changes in state pension age from 65 for men and 60 for women at present to 65 for both sexes. This change will be phased in between April 2010 and March 2020. These figures do not take account of the gradual implementation of this process.

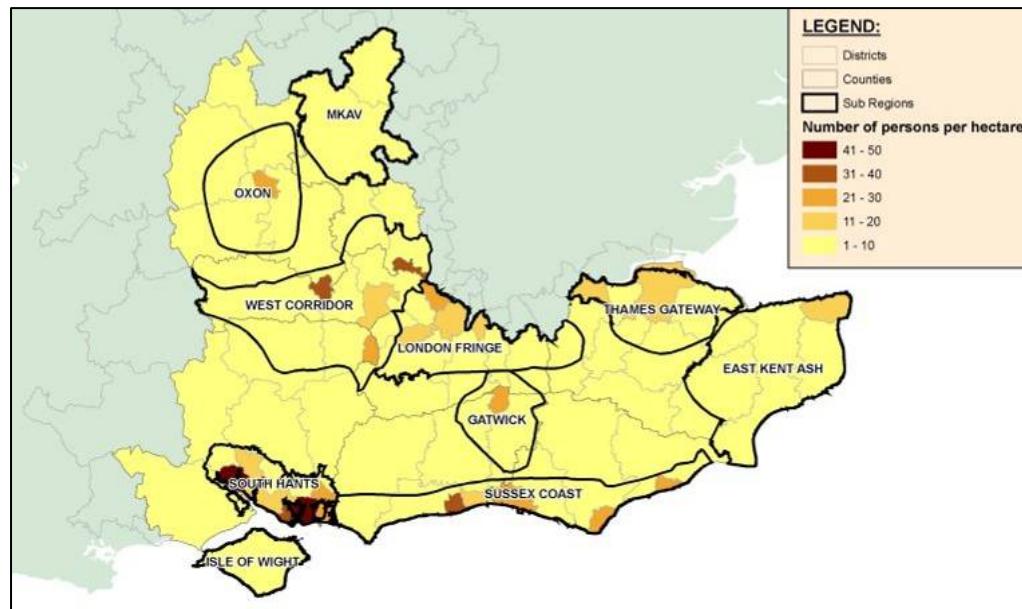
**Source:** Office for National Statistics; Government Actuary's Department

## B1.3

### DENSITY

*Figure B1.2 presents the population density across the region, shown as a measure of the number of people per hectare.*

**Figure B1.2** *Population Density within the Region*



Source: IMD

The map illustrates that for most of the region, population density is between 1-10 people per hectare. There are, however, pockets of high density population in, for example, South Hampshire, where the population is 41-50 people per hectare. Other slightly less dense population pockets exist within several areas, such as the London Fringe, Thames Gateway, Sussex Coast and the West Corridor.

## B1.4

### POPULATION CHANGE

The region has had consistently lower birth and death rates than the UK, on average, this resulting in a lower rate of natural change for most of the period between 1981-2003; the exception is, however, of the latest year analysed, 2003, in which the South East had above average natural rate of change (1.5 per 1000 population, as opposed to 1.4 for the UK average).

**Table B1.3 Births, Deaths and Natural Change**

	South East			UK		
	Live Births	Deaths	Natural Change	Live Births	Deaths	Natural Change
1991	13.0	10.9	2.1	13.8	11.2	1.7
1992	12.9	10.7	2.2	13.6	11.0	2.6
1993	12.7	11.1	1.6	13.2	11.4	1.8
1994	12.6	10.5	2.1	13.0	10.8	2.2
1995	12.2	10.8	1.4	12.6	11.0	1.6
1996	12.2	10.8	1.4	12.6	11.0	1.6
1997	12.1	10.7	1.4	12.5	10.8	1.7
1998	12.1	10.4	1.7	12.3	10.7	1.6
1999	11.8	10.4	1.4	11.9	10.7	1.2
2000	11.3	10.1	1.2	11.5	10.3	1.2
2001	11.0	9.9	1.1	11.3	10.2	1.1
2002	11.0	10.0	1.0	11.3	10.2	1.1
2003	11.4	9.9	1.5	11.7	10.3	1.4

Rates per 1,000 population

Source: Office for National Statistics 2004/2005

## B1.5 MIGRATION

The figures for migration in and out of the region, demonstrate the considerable variability which has existed during the course of the past 13 years for which statistical analysis exists. The region has witnessed a significant drop in terms of internal (UK) inward migration, dropping from an annual peak of 29,000 people in 1996 to 7000 in 2001. The turn of the millennium would appear to have marked a trend of consistently lower inward migration into the region.

**Table B1.4 Migration to and from the South East**

	Thousands					
	Internal <sup>1</sup>			International <sup>2</sup>		
	Inflow	Outflow	Balance	Inflow	Outflow	Balance
1991	198	185	13	53	43	10
1992	202	187	16	50	44	6
1993	206	183	23	48	48	-1
1994	216	190	25	52	31	22
1995	219	196	23	55	41	14
1996	228	199	29	46	56	-10
1997	230	206	24	42	43	-1
1998	226	209	17	60	34	26
1999	229	209	20	74	45	29
2000	224	210	14	64	64	-
2001	224	216	7	65	50	15
2002	229	220	8	69	60	8
2003	220	211	9	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Small differences in individual figures may occur due to rounding and apportionment.

<sup>2</sup> Subject to relatively large sampling errors where estimates are based on small numbers of contacts. See Notes and Definitions.

Source: National Health Service Central Register; International Passenger Survey; Office for National Statistics; Home Office; Irish Central Statistical Office.

Even greater variation exists in terms of international migratory flows to and from the region. 1996 witnessed the highest recorded (for the period of 1991-2003) annual outward migration to international destinations of 10,000 people, yet there was inward migration of 29,000 people in 1999.

In terms of inter-regional migration, *Figure B1.3* highlights the South East was the most popular destination for people relocating within the UK; more than 220,000 people migrated to the South East, the second most favoured destination being London which was the destination of 148,000 people in 2003

**Figure B1.3 Migration**

**Inter-regional movements<sup>1</sup> within the United Kingdom, 2002**

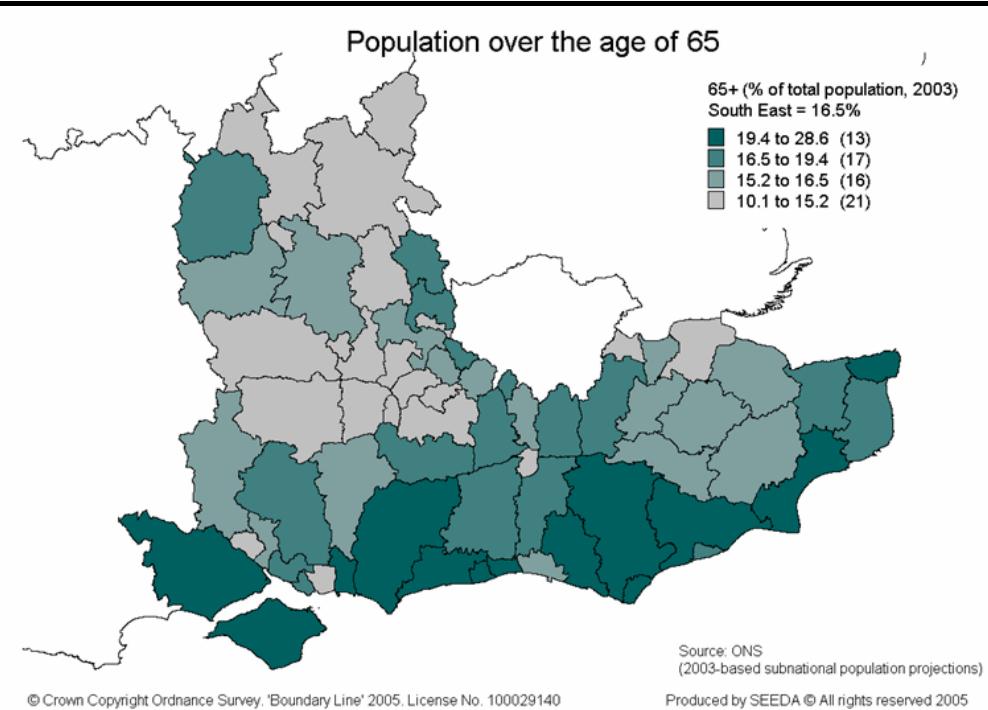
DESTINATION	ORIGIN													
	United Kingdom	England	North East	North West	Yorkshire & the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
United Kingdom	.	119	41	108	95	97	103	130	262	220	111	50	48	11
England	101	.	36	87	86	90	89	120	247	199	94	48	45	9
North East	43	37	.	6	9	3	3	3	5	5	2	1	4	1
North West	109	91	6	.	18	10	13	8	14	14	8	9	7	2
Yorkshire & the Humber	100	91	9	18	.	17	8	9	11	13	6	3	5	1
East Midlands	120	113	3	10	18	.	17	20	15	22	8	3	3	1
West Midlands	99	87	3	12	8	14	.	8	13	16	13	8	3	1
East	150	142	3	7	7	13	7	.	66	28	9	3	4	1
London	155	142	5	12	10	10	11	28	.	51	15	5	7	1
<b>South East</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>98</b>	.	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>
South West	146	132	2	9	6	9	16	14	25	50	.	9	4	1
Wales	64	62	1	11	3	3	10	4	6	11	12	.	2	-
Scotland	53	49	4	8	5	3	3	5	7	9	4	2	.	2
Northern Ireland	11	8	-	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	-	2	.

<sup>1</sup> Based on patients re-registering with NHS doctors in other parts of the United Kingdom. Moves where the origin and destination lie within the same region do not appear in the table. Figures may be revised in the light of the 2001 Census. See Appendix, Part 1: Internal migration estimates.

All figures are in thousands

Source: National Health Service Central Register; General Register Office for Scotland; Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

**Figure B1.4 Distribution of Population Over the Age of 65 (2003)**



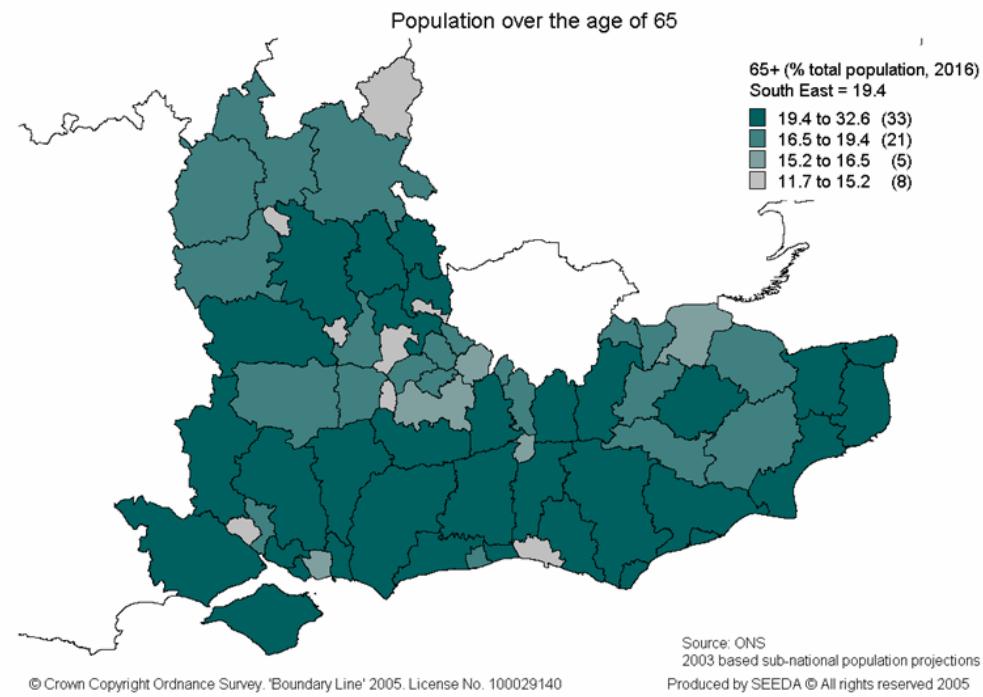
**Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004**

Analysing the region's age profile, *Figure B1.4* highlights that 16.5% of the region's population was aged 65 and over in 2003; this representing an increasing percentage of the population that illustrates the growing trend of an ageing regional demographic. There are clear pockets of clustering of this age group along the South of the region in the Sussex Coast area. The lowest percentage of over 65s are located to the North in areas such as Milton Keynes.

*Figure B1.5* demonstrates that this trend of an ageing population is predicted to continue, with the regions over 65s projected to increase to 19.4% of the overall population by 2016. As the map illustrates, the majority of the region will experience an increase in the percentage of its population of over 65s, with less clustering and more uniformity in terms of population spread throughout the South East and not just in areas such as the Sussex Coast.

The current significant regional variation in terms of population age may impact upon the need for and access to key services, rates of employment and attenuating need in the short term. The greater regional uniformity will, however, make the need for services provision for the over 65s a region wide issue.

**Figure B1.5 Distribution of Population over the Age of 65 in 2016**



**Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004**

**OBJECTIVE 1 - TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY  
TO LIVE IN A DECENT, SUSTAINABLY CONSTRUCTED AND  
AFFORDABLE HOME**

**B2.1****DATA**

Key to delivery of this objective is the provision of affordable housing. Affordability is defined in PPG3 as:

*'Local plan policies for affordable housing should.....define what the authority considers to be affordable in the local plan area in terms of the relationship between local income levels and house prices or rents for different types of households'*

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are, therefore, as follows:

- Net housing completions
- Household income
- Regional house prices
- Household tenure
- Proportion of Working Households unable to purchase at lower quartile house prices
- Shortfall between mortgage (average earnings x3.5) and average price of dwelling
- Households on the Housing Register
- Unfit dwellings

**B2.2****AVAILABILITY OF HOUSING**

**Figure B2.1 Net Housing Completions**

	All Urban Completions 1998/99		All Urban Completions 1999/00		All Urban Completions 2000/01		All Urban Completions 2001/02		All Urban Completions 2002/03	
	Total	% of Total Completions								
Berkshire	n/a	n/a	2,521	87	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Buckinghamshire	1,363	46	1,577	53	948	37	1,277	52	940	42
East Sussex	1,208	62	1,208	61	1,055	57	1,754	66	1,597	67
Hampshire	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,981	83	4,730	84
Isle of Wight	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	279	74
Kent	2,803	54	3,048	55	2,474	48	2,507	49	2,254	41
Oxfordshire	1,032	40	808	42	853	47	940	52	745	47
Surrey	n/a	n/a								
West Sussex	1,492	63	1,197	52	990	55	1,246	51	1,114	57
<b>South East</b>	<b>7,898</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>10,359</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>6,320</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>11,705</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>11,659</b>	<b>60</b>

Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

Net housing completions within the region highlight the strongly urban focus of housing development in the South East; 71% of new completions were built in urban areas and within counties such as Surrey, this rose to 92%. The

figures also indicate the increasing use of PDL as a development location with the region. Just under half of all its new housing is being built on such land and in Surrey, all new housing was built on PDL.

**Figure B2.2 Net Housing Completions by County**

	Total Completions	Total in urban areas	% Total urban areas	Total on PDL	% Development on PDL
Berkshire	324,849	202,286	62	139,791	43
Buckinghamshire	90,844	70,425	78	19,634	22
East Sussex	11,882	9,043	80	6,209	55
Hampshire	274,071	216,478	79	199,320	73
Isle of Wight	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kent	34,676	23,794	69	-14,495	-42
Oxfordshire	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Surrey	94,445	86,704	92	94,445	100
West Sussex	178,082	115,375	65	109,275	61
<b>South East</b>	<b>734,703</b>	<b>522,026</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>350,459</b>	<b>48</b>

Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

The location of housing caters to the demand for urban expansion within the region; it also highlights, however, the potential shortage of new housing within rural areas in the future.

### **B2.3 HOUSEHOLD INCOME**

Analysis of household income within the region provides a key indication as to whether housing is affordable or not; this being used to relate to house prices and, therefore, providing a basis for assessing whether income is in line with house prices.

**Table B2.1 Household Income by Source, 2000/01 to 2002/03**

Source	South East (%)	UK (%)
Wages and salaries	68	68
Self employment	10	8
Investments	5	4
Annuities and pensions	8	7
Social security benefits	8	12
Other income	1	1
<b>Average gross weekly household income</b>	<b>£657</b>	<b>£534</b>

Source: Expenditure and Food Survey, ONS, 2005

The data on household income (*Table B2.1*) illustrates the significant convergence of the region with the national average on most key income sources; the one notable divergence is that of the percentage of people on social security benefits, the South having 4% less people claiming benefit than the UK on the whole. The region enjoys a considerably higher gross weekly household income than the national average at £657, as compared to £534 for the UK as a whole.

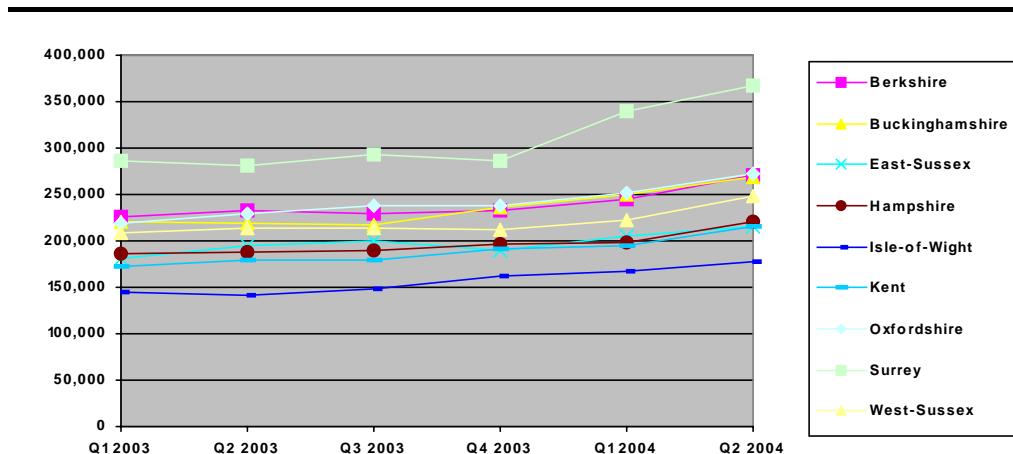
Whilst household income has increased above the national average, regional house prices have also increased substantially, as the data below illustrates. Across the region house prices have increased significantly during the past two years with the highest increases being in Surrey and Kent where the rise were 28.41% and 25.64% respectively.

**Table B2.2 Regional House Prices - Figures**

County	2003				2004		Total increase
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	
Surrey	286,041	281,451	293,407	286,778	339,772	367,307	28.41%
Oxfordshire	219,156	228,925	238,212	237,779	251,129	272,355	24.27%
Berkshire	225,306	232,009	229,918	232,523	244,655	271,439	20.48%
Buckinghamshire	220,327	218,542	217,490	236,859	249,466	268,938	22.06%
West Sussex	208,350	213,973	213,174	211,805	223,041	247,747	18.91%
Hampshire	186,919	187,760	190,002	197,382	198,639	220,021	17.71%
Kent	172,209	178,841	179,393	190,731	194,579	216,368	25.64%
East Sussex	181,812	194,584	200,593	189,401	205,545	215,011	18.26%
Isle-of-Wight	144,068	141,436	148,942	161,359	167,393	177,386	23.13%

Source: Halifax House Price Index, 2004

**Figure B2.3 Regional House Prices - Chart**



Source: Halifax House Price Index 2004

## B2.4

### HOUSEHOLD TENURE

Rising house prices will impact upon the affordability of housing within the region; as those on lower incomes will find it increasingly difficult to purchase houses. The region still enjoys higher house ownership than the UK as a whole, this having risen slightly during the course of the past decade but less than the UK (2% rise in the South East as compared to 4% nationally). Local Authority rentals have dropped in the region, consistent though not as sharply as the national picture.

**Table B2.3 Household Tenure**

Type	South East			England		
	1990/01	1995/6	2002/03	1990/01	1995/6	2002/03
Owner occupied	74	74	76	67	68	71
Rented from LA	12	9	6	20	17	11
Rented from private owners	11	11	11	10	11	10
Rented from registered social landlord	3	6	7	3	5	8

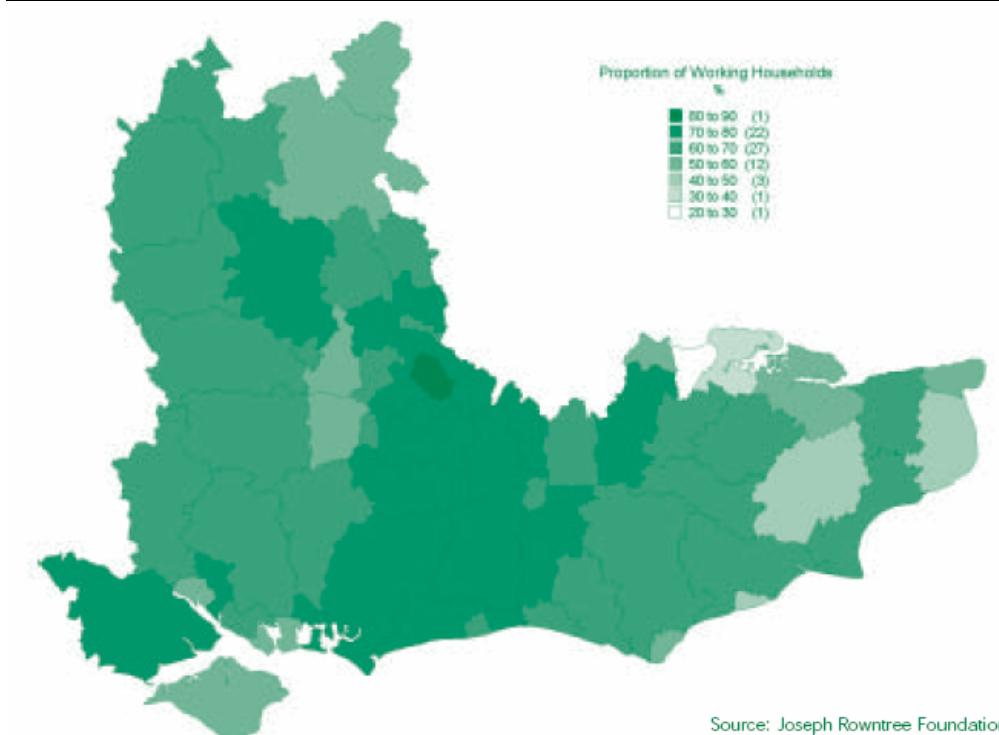
Source: ODPM/ONS 2005

The South East Regional Housing Strategy 2004/5 to 2005/6 highlights the problems of affordability within the South East's housing market. In particular:

- In 63 of the South East's 67 local authority areas, the price of a terraced house is more than four times average earnings, and in a third of these areas the multiple is more than six.
- In no local authority can an average earner afford an average priced terraced house on earnings alone, and in 41 local authority areas the mortgage shortfall is at least £50,000.
- Rural house prices are the highest in the UK.

These problems are illustrated in the maps below.

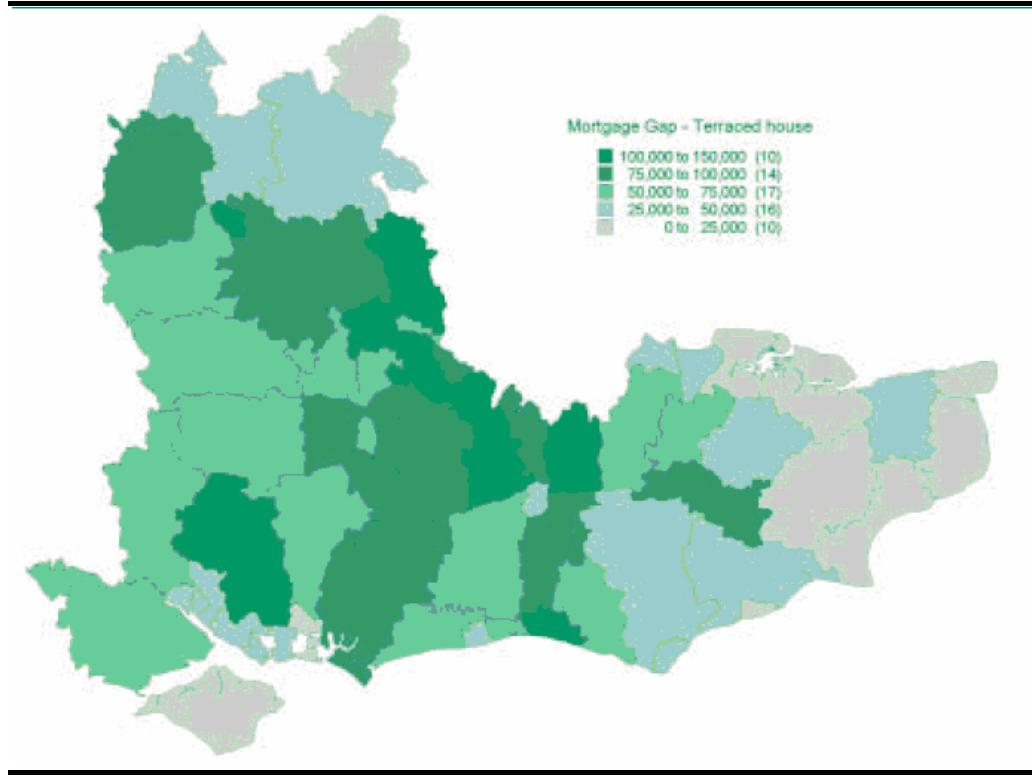
**Figure B2.4 Proportion of Working Households Unable to Purchase at Lower Quartile House Prices**



Source: Joseph Rowntree Foundation

The proportion of working households unable to purchase at lower quartile housing prices is demonstrably high across the region as the map above illustrates. Whilst there are pockets of affordability, such as the Isle of Wight, there are significant issues with affordability within most areas in the South East. The map of shortfall between mortgage capacity and house price reinforces this. Large tracts of the London Fringe and Western Corridor, amongst others, are characterised by sharp shortfalls which demonstrate that affordability is of particular concern in such areas.

**Figure B2.5** *Shortfall between Mortgage (average earnings x3.5) and Average Price of Dwellings*



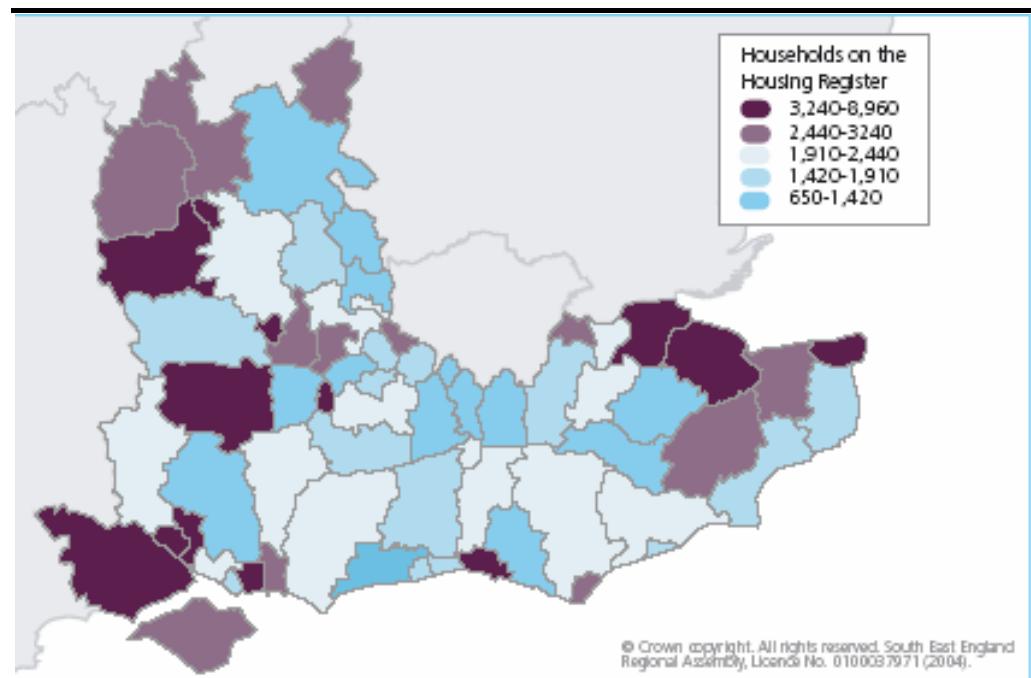
Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

## B2.5

### **HOUSING REGISTER**

Analysing the figures for households on the housing register, there are sharp disparities within the region; there existing small pockets of high household numbers on the register within the Thames Gateway, whilst large areas of, for example, the Sussex Coast having very low levels of households on the register.

**Figure B2.6 Households on the Housing Register**



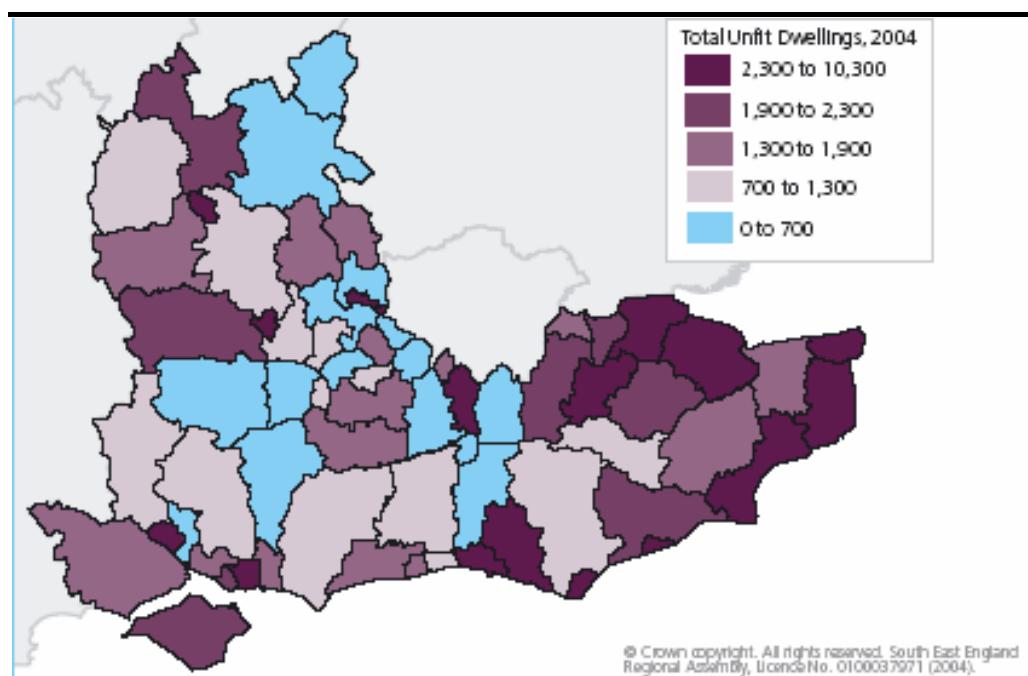
Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

## B2.6

### **UNFIT HOUSING**

Problems with unfit social housing are most acute in Slough, Oxford, West Berkshire, Dover, and Tonbridge and Malling. The map of the region highlights again the significant disparities which exist in unfit housing across the region.

**Figure B2.7 Unfit Dwellings - Public Sector**



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

Whilst the region enjoys above national average household incomes, escalating house prices have created a growing shortfall in terms of household affordability. The gap between house price and the mortgage capacity is increasing, exacerbating the difficulty in purchasing a house, experienced in particular by those on lower incomes.

The South East is characterised by significant disparities in terms of household status. Whilst all counties have experienced new housing development, the predominance of this development has been in urban areas. This has served to enhance the problem of affordability within rural areas. Levels of unfit housing and households on the housing register also vary significantly across the region.

**OBJECTIVE 2 - TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FLOODING AND THE  
RESULTING DETRIMENT TO PUBLIC WELLBEING, THE ECONOMY AND  
THE ENVIRONMENT**

**B3.1**

**DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

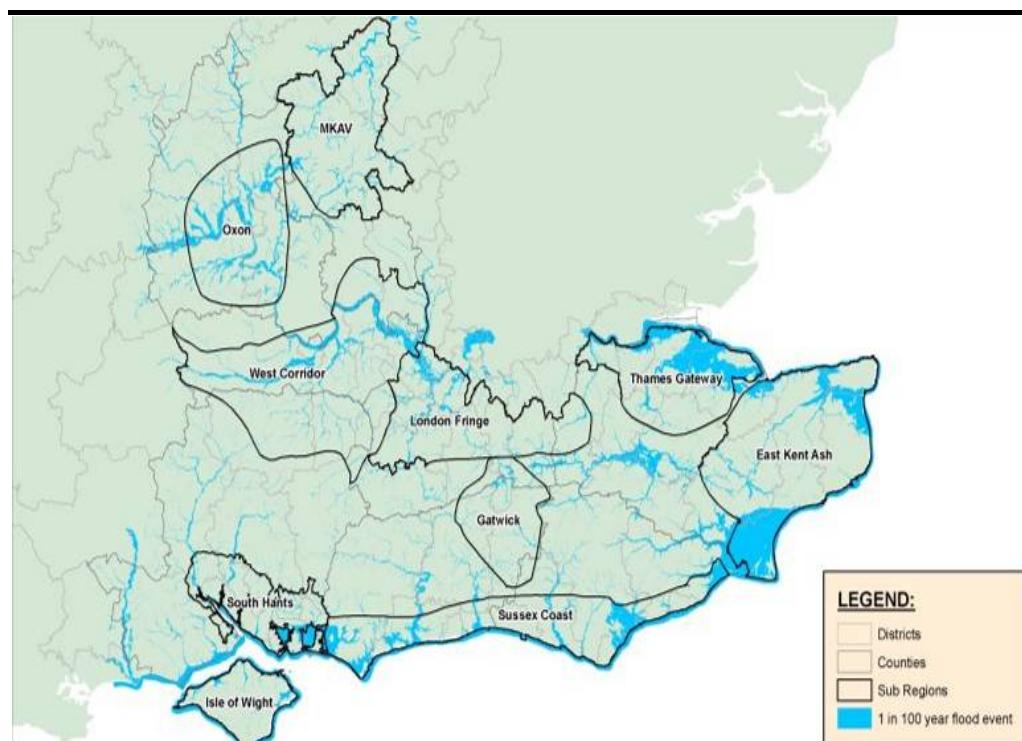
- Flood zones within the region
- Flood Zones
- The South East Plan
- Catchment Flood Management Plans
- Shoreline Management Plans

**B3.2**

**RISK OF FLOODING**

In 2003, 235,602 properties within the region were considered at risk from flooding by the Environment Agency, based on an assessment by the Environment Agency, of area liable to be affected by a 1-in-100 year fluvial flood, and/or 1-in-200 or 1000 year tidal flood.

*Figure B3.1 Flood Zones within the Region*



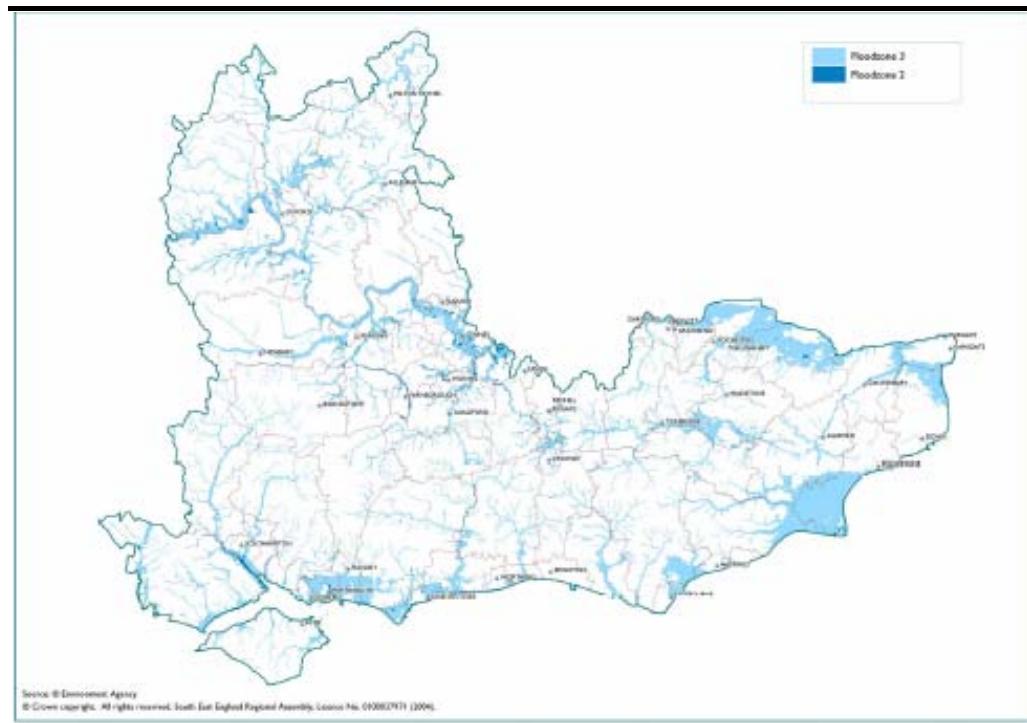
N.B. The data is based on a combination of probability and consequence; the return period of flood reflects the probability of this occurring.

Source: Environment Agency 2005/2005

As *Figure B3.1* illustrates, there is a strong probability that large parts of the region fall within areas at risk from flooding, either coastal or fluvial.

### B3.3 FLOOD ZONES

*Figure B3.2 Flood Zones 2 and 3 (in accordance with PPG25)*



Source: Environment Agency/South East Plan

### B3.4 THE SOUTH EAST PLAN

The South East Plan explores the potential for development and the likely spatial implications of this. It also, explores the issues of particular concern for flood risk management, noting that:

*'Development in flood plains, changing patterns of rainfall, extreme weather, storms and rising sea levels accelerated by climate change, will increase the probability and incidence of flooding of property and land. Development can increase the area of impermeable land and intensive agriculture can increase runoff, both of which can exacerbate the probability and impact of flooding'.*

Noting PPG25's priority for sequential testing of development siting, the South East Plan highlights the importance that future developments will be located where flood impact can be minimised, and if possible, avoided. The importance of conducting Strategic Flood Risk Assessments for developments in flood zones (2 and 3) is also highlighted.

**B3.5****CATCHMENT FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLANS**

Catchment Flood Management Plans will be produced by the Environment Agency by 2007 for the region. The objective of these Plans will be to maximise effective management of fluvial flood risk against flood probability. The Plans will also provide a policy and action based approach to flood risk management.

**B3.6****SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLANS**

Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) are the coastal equivalent to Catchment Flood Management Plans. The objective of the plans is to provide a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal processes. They present a long term policy framework to reduce these risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner. The South East Coastal Group has produced an SMP for the area between the Isle of Grain and Dover Harbour, and is currently consulting on a draft SMP for Beachy Head to South Foreland.

**B3.7****FORESIGHT FUTURES REPORT**

The Foresight Futures 2020 Scenarios Report notes that the South East region, alongside London, will benefit from most new investment in the future. With this brings the increase in development and demand for accompanying housing, which will impact particularly strongly on the South East where 'the distinction between the country and the city blurs'. The increase in construction to supply such demand will have implications for planning policy and require consideration of flooding susceptibility when deciding where to locate such new housing.

**B3.8****ISSUES**

The issue of flood susceptibility is of particular importance given the scope for economic development and restricting the spatial dispersion of commercial and residential housing expansion which the region is likely to be subject to. It is important to ensure that all development is subject to strategic flood risk assessment and that flood risk is minimised when facilitating future development in the region.

#### B4.1 DATA

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

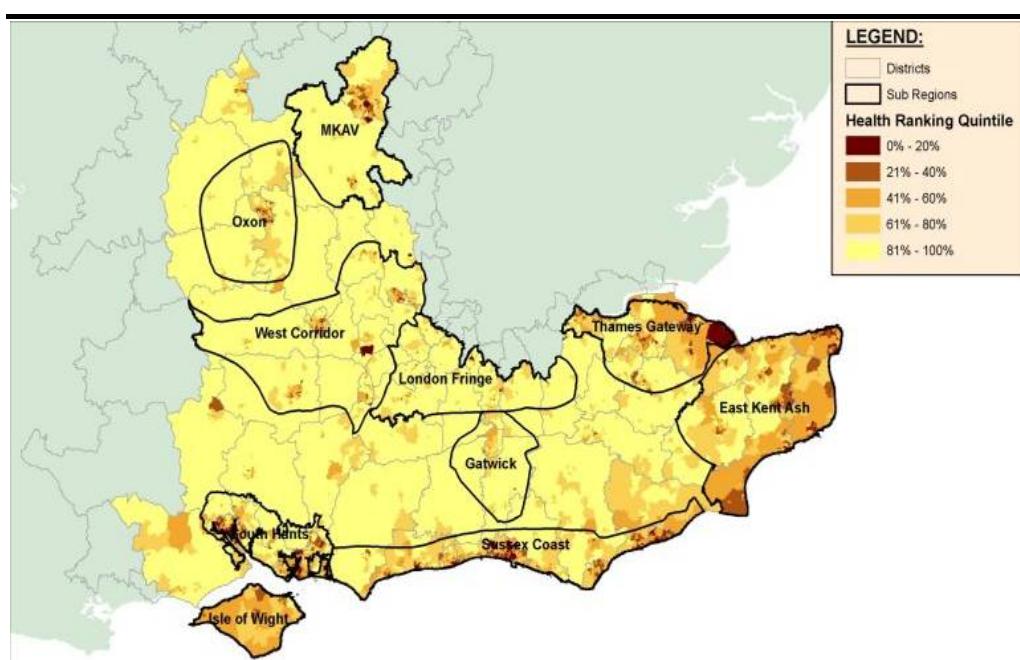
- Health deprivation index
- Life expectancy
- Mortality: Deaths due to circulatory disease, cancer, injury and suicide
- Infant mortality rates
- Teenage pregnancy
- Incapacity benefit claimants
- Levels of physical activity

#### B4.2

#### *HEALTH DEPRIVATION*

The health deprivation and disability index (which is one of seven domains that make up the ODPM Indices of Deprivation 2004 and identifies areas with relatively high rates of people who die prematurely or whose quality of life is impaired by poor health or disability) indicates that, in the national context, much of the South East experiences relatively good health (*Figure B4.1*). However, the picture is not universally favourable and high levels of health deprivation are found across many parts of the region, particularly in Thames Gateway, East Kent and South Hants.

**Figure B4.1** *IMD- Health Deprivation Ranking, 2004*

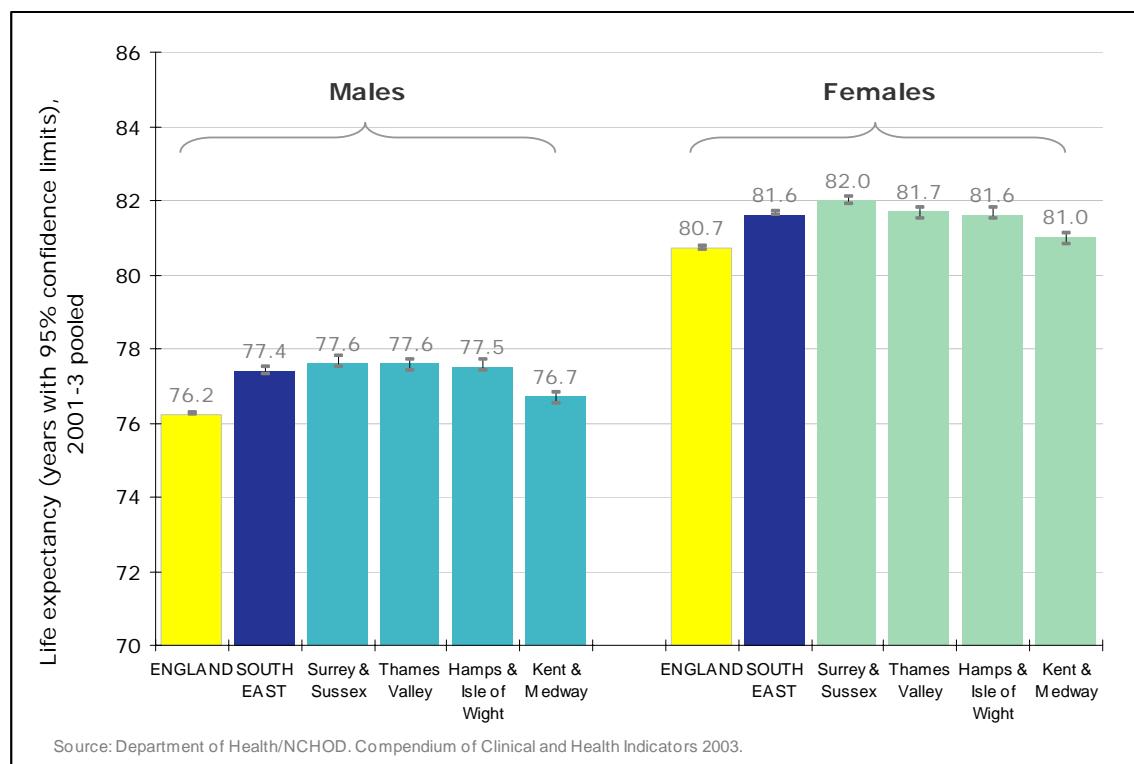


Source: IMD 2004

Both men and women in the South East live one year longer than the national average (*Figure B4.2*). Statistics collated by Eurostat indicate that the South East also fares well for male life expectancy in an international context, with only a small number of countries such as Sweden (77.9 years), Switzerland (77.8) and Japan (77.6) having higher levels. The South East has the second highest female life expectancy in England, but the region's women fare less well than the men when compared against several European countries such as Spain (83.7 years), France, Italy (both 82.9) and Sweden (82.4), as well as Japan (84.3).

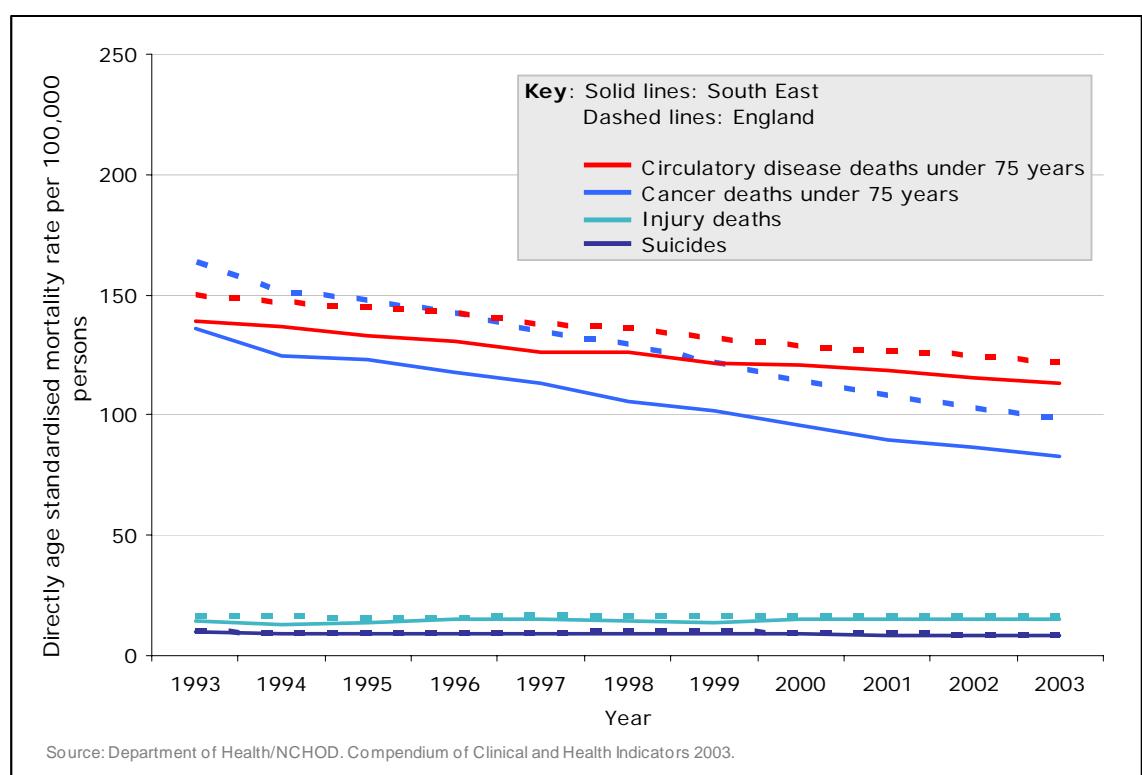
Life expectancy in the South East is increasing: since 1991-3, the figure for males has risen by 2.5 years and for females by 1.5 years. There are, however, marked differences between different parts of the region: male life expectancy in Kent & Medway is eight months lower than in Surrey & Sussex, and for women, the difference is a full year. At local authority level, the inequalities are greater still: for example, males in Thanet live an average of 74.7 years, yet the figure for Hart is over 7% greater at 80 years.

**Figure B4.2** Life Expectancy for Males and Females, 2001-3



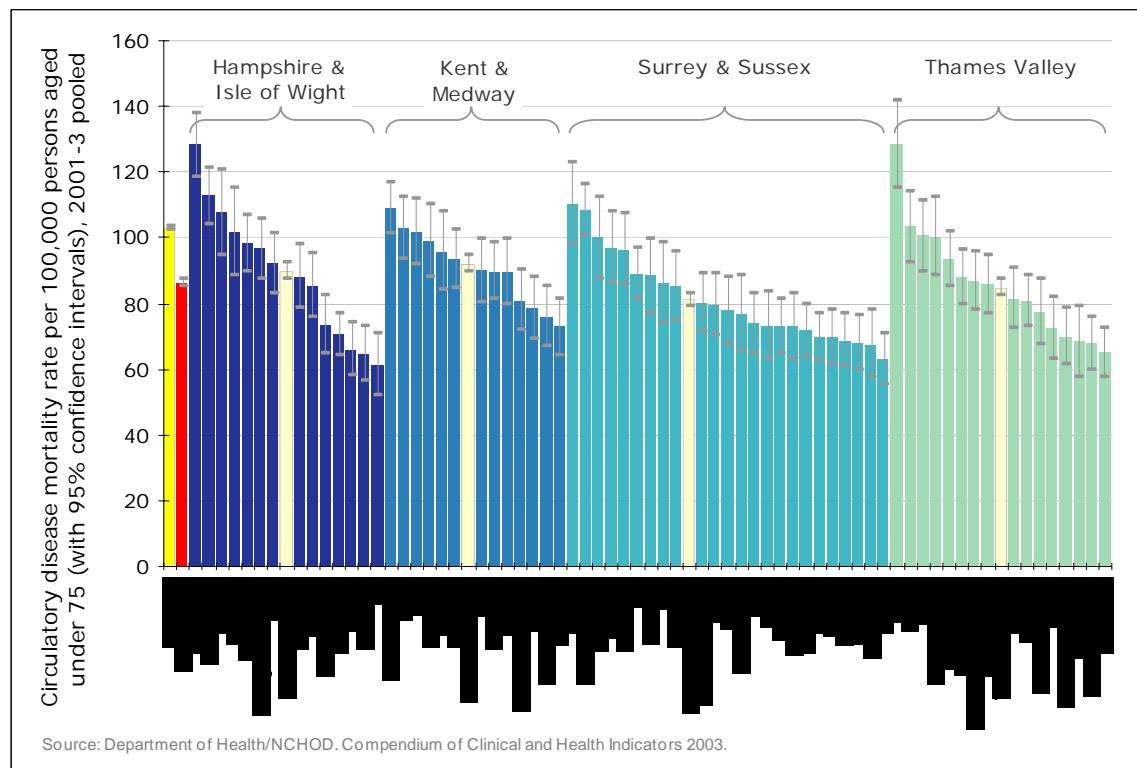
Over the last decade, mortality rates for the two main killers in England and the South East – circulatory disease and cancer – have fallen significantly (*Figure B4.3*). The circulatory disease death rate among those aged under 75 (this age group provides a clearer indication of the extent of premature mortality than the rate for all ages, and this definition also corresponds to that used for the Department of Health PSA target) in the South East has fallen by nearly 40%, while the rate for cancer has dropped by nearly 20%. This degree of improvement is not universal across all causes of death, however, and the mortality rates for injury and suicide have remained largely static at levels broadly comparable to the average for England as a whole.

**Figure B4.3 Trends in Mortality Rates for Circulatory Disease under 75 years, Cancer under 75 years, Injury and Suicide, 1993 to 2003**



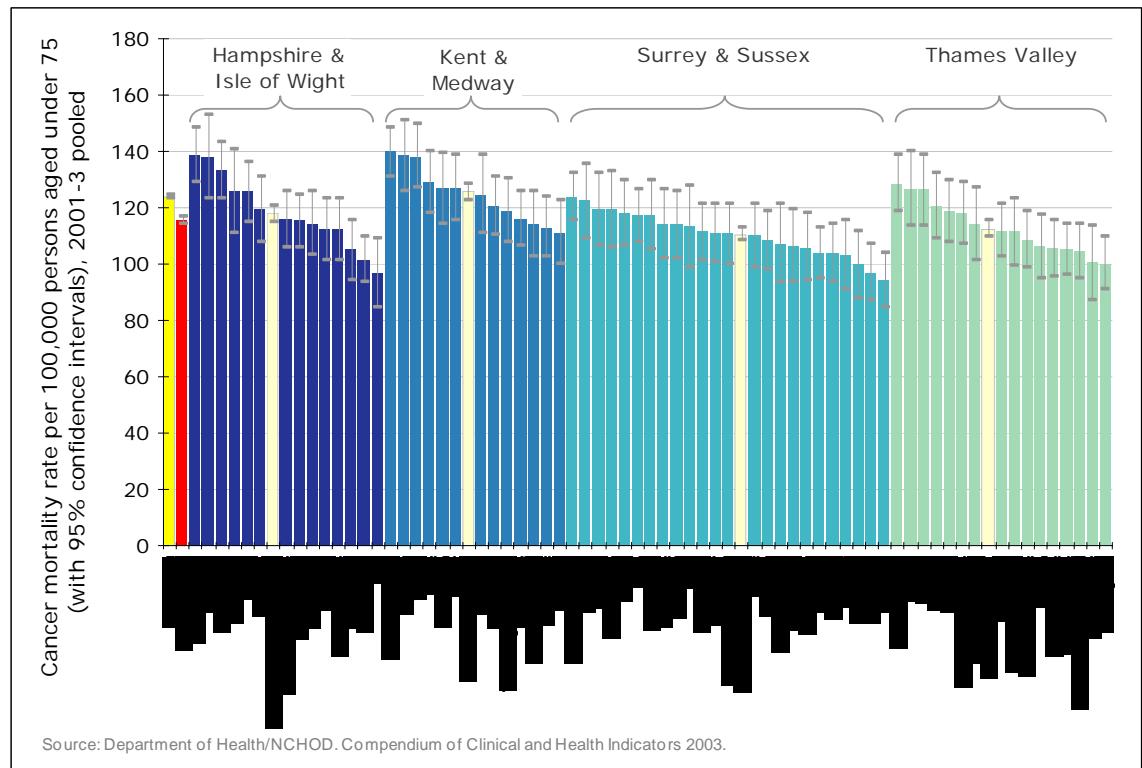
While the circulatory disease mortality rate for the South East has fallen dramatically, there remain significant inequalities between different parts of the region (*Figure B4.4*). In Hampshire & Isle of Wight, for example, the mortality rate in Portsmouth is over twice that in Hart. Rates significantly higher than the national average are also found in Slough and Southampton. Circulatory disease mortality rates across the region are strongly correlated with the distribution of deprivation: in other words, the local authority areas with the highest mortality rates tend to be the most deprived.

**Figure B4.4** *Circulatory Disease Mortality Rate for Persons Aged under 75 by Local Authority, South East England, 2001-3*



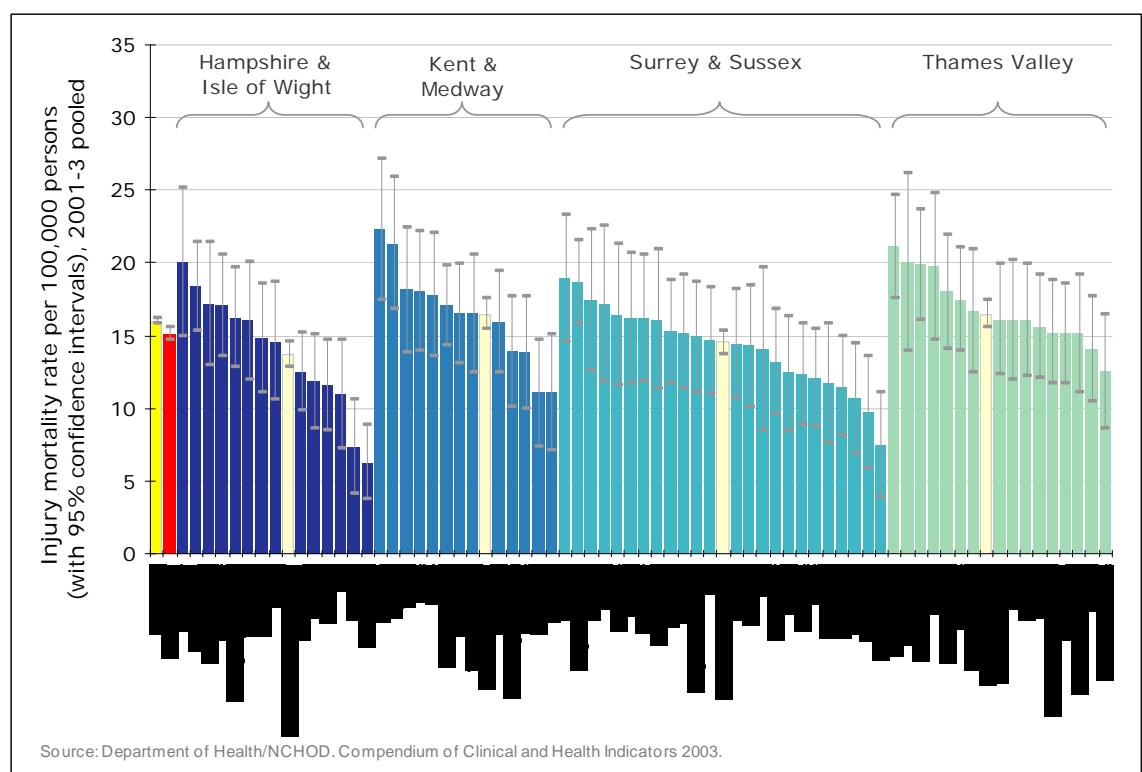
The cancer mortality rate among those aged under 75 in the South East is significantly lower than the national average (*Figure B4.5*). Nevertheless, there are marked inequalities in the rate between different parts of the region: the figure for Southampton is nearly 50% higher than that for Hart. Rates significantly higher than the national average are also found in Medway, Shepway and Thanet. As with circulatory disease, the pattern of cancer mortality across the region is strongly correlated with the distribution of deprivation.

**Figure B4.5** *Cancer Mortality Rate for Persons Aged under 75 by Local Authority, South East England, 2001-3*



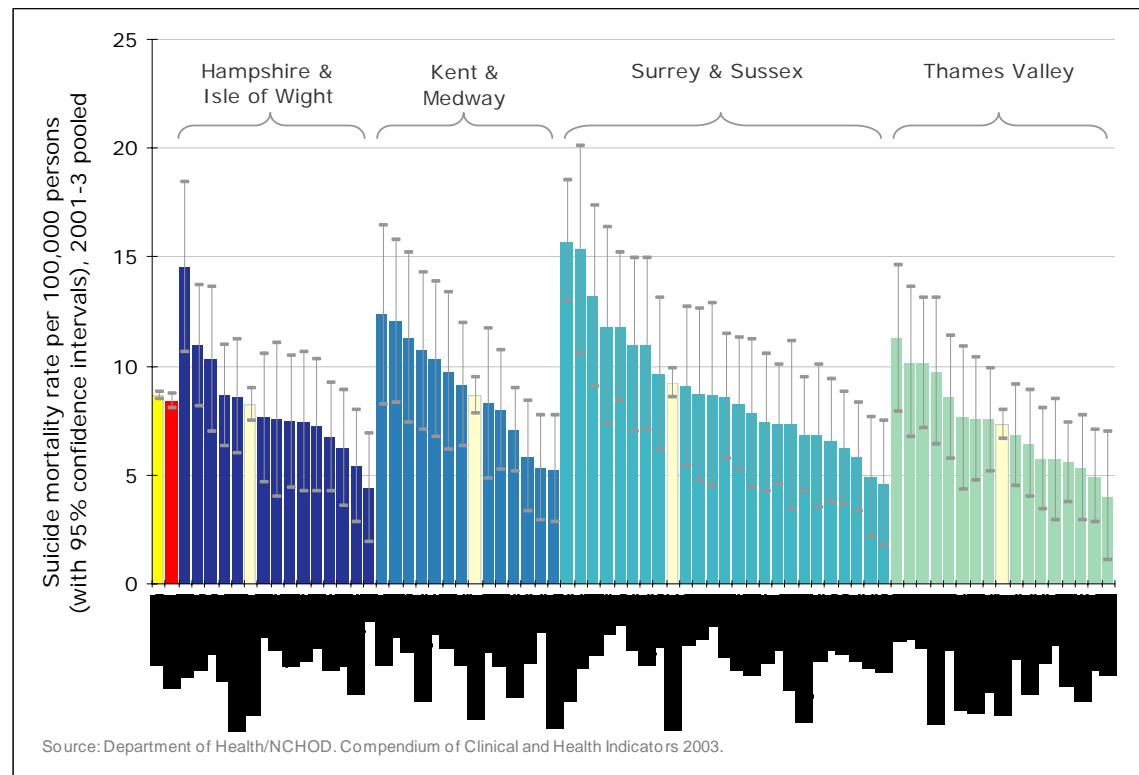
Deaths from injury are among the most avoidable, and hence preventable, of all. Each year in the South East, an average of 1,650 people lose their lives due to injuries caused by accidents. The mortality rate for the region is slightly lower than the national average, but significant differences do exist between different parts of the region: the rates for Kent & Medway and Thames Valley, for example, are both significantly higher than that for Hampshire & Isle of Wight (*Figure 4.6*). At local authority level, Shepway, Ashford and Milton Keynes all have rates significantly higher than the national figure.

**Figure 4.6** *Injury Mortality Rate for All Persons by Local Authority, South East England, 2001-3*



On average there are 710 suicides each year in the South East. The rate for the region is broadly comparable to the national average, although significantly high levels are found in several local authorities in the Sussex Coast area including Brighton & Hove, Eastbourne, Isle of Wight and Worthing (Figure B4.7).

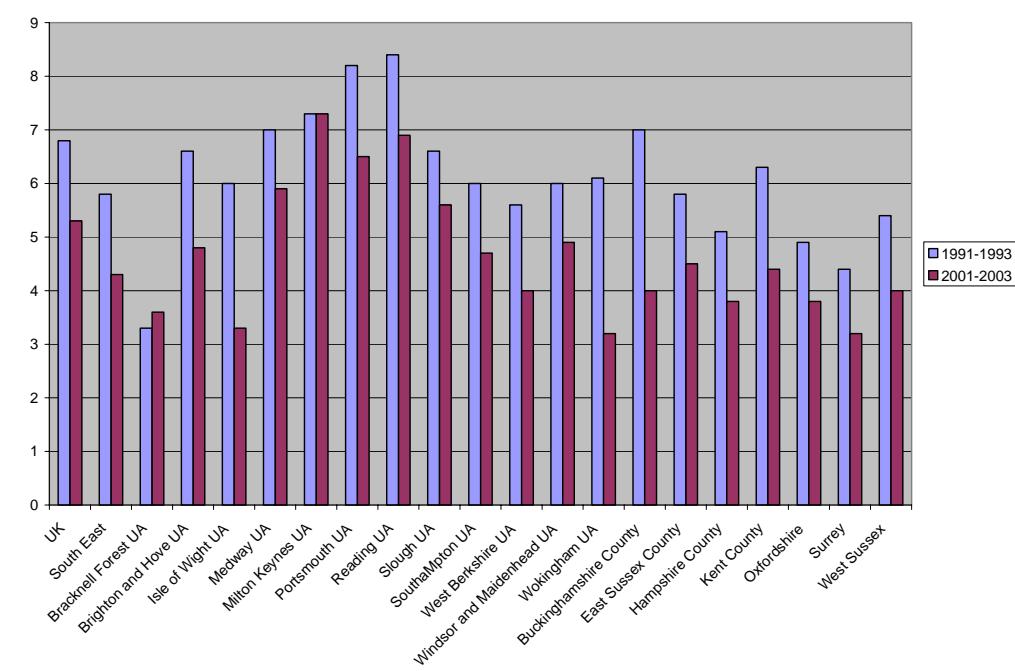
**Figure B4.7 Suicide Mortality Rate for All persons by Local Authority, South East England, 2001-3**



#### B4.5 INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Infant mortality rates across the region demonstrate that the region has consistently reduced such deaths during the course of the past decade; with the one exception of Milton Keynes UA in which mortality rates have remained constant. Of concern, however, is the fact that five areas remain above the national average for infant mortalities: Medway UA, Milton Keynes UA, Portsmouth UA, Reading UA and Slough UA.

**Figure B4.8 Infant Mortality Rates (Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live births) 1991-2003**



Source: Office for National Statistics 2004/2005

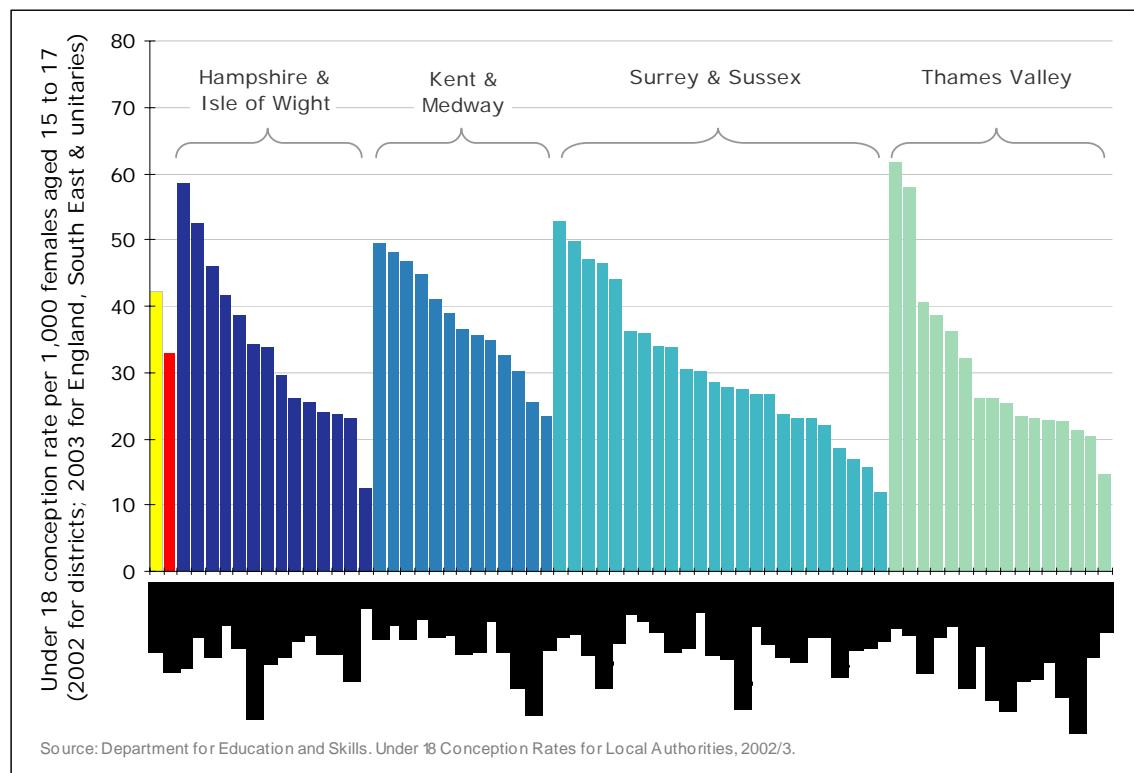
#### B4.6 TEENAGE PREGNANCY

Teenage pregnancy and early parenthood are frequently associated with low educational attainment levels, poor physical and mental health, social exclusion and poverty. Socio-economic disadvantage can be both a cause and a consequence of teenage parenthood, and young women from the lowest social groups are ten times more likely to become teenage mothers than those from the highest social groups.

In 2003, there were nearly 4,930 conceptions under age 18 in the South East. While the rate for the region is significantly lower than the national average, a threefold difference exists between the areas with the highest rates and those with the lowest (*Figure B4.9*). Ten of the 67 local authorities in the region have a rate significantly higher than the national average, including Southampton, Thanet and Reading. There is a very strong association between teenage pregnancy and deprivation across the region.

In common with England as a whole, the trend in the teenage pregnancy rate for the South East is downwards, although whether the national and regional rates of decline are sufficiently rapid to achieve the 50% reduction target set by the Teenage Pregnancy Unit is currently unclear. Within the region, there are considerable differences between areas in the direction of the trend. For example, while the teenage pregnancy rate in Bracknell Forest has steadily improved, the trend for Reading is less clear indicating that further work is required to ensure that the reduction target is achieved.

**Figure B4.9 Under 18 Conception Rate by Local Authority, South East England, 2002/3**

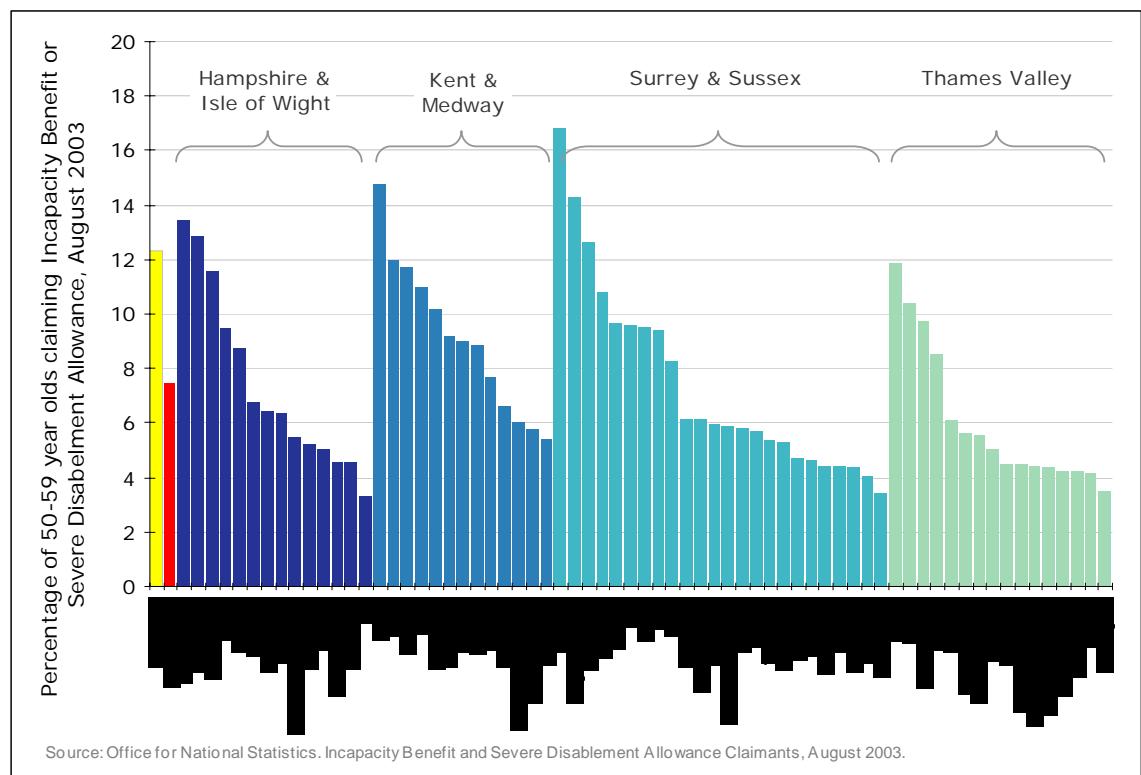


#### B4.7 INCAPACITY BENEFIT CLAIMANTS

One measure of the impact sickness and ill-health has on the economy of the South East is the number of adults aged between 50 and 59 who are not in work and claiming incapacity benefit and severe disablement allowance. Variations in incapacity benefit claimant rates are sometimes attributed to differences in the threshold criteria applied, but the distribution of claimant rates among the older age groups in the South East does very strongly correlate with other measures of poor health such as limiting long-term illness indicating that the number of claimants is a robust indicator of the impact poor health has on the region's working-age population.

Across the South East, 7.5% of 50 to 59 year olds are claiming incapacity benefit (*Figure B4.10*). This figure is lower than the national average, but still accounts for over 76,900 individuals in this age group alone (and nearly 228,200 across all ages). Within the region, there are pronounced geographic differences in the percentage of older adults claiming this benefit: while fewer than 4% of 50 to 59 year olds in Hart, Surrey Heath and Wokingham are not in work due to poor health, the figure in Hastings, Thanet and Brighton & Hove is over 14%. As with the other health indicators considered, there is a very strong correlation between the percentage of incapacity benefit claimants and deprivation.

**Figure B4.10 Percentage of 50 to 59 Year Olds Claiming Incapacity Benefit by Local authority, South East England, 2003**



#### B4.8 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The South East Public Health Observatory produced the report 'Choosing Health in the South East: Physical Activity' in January 2006, to support the delivery of the 'Choosing Health' White Paper. This brings together relevant regional and national data with evidence on the effectiveness of interventions, and relevant national policies. The key messages that were found are described below:

- Only 4 out of 10 men and 3 out of 10 women in the South East are active at the recommended level (5 or more sessions a week of 30 minutes of at least moderate intensity activity).
- In the South East, young people aged 16–24 spend around 2½ hours each day on sedentary activities such as watching TV and videos, listening to the radio and music, and reading. This increases to around 4 hours each day for people aged over 65.
- Lower socio-economic groups have lower levels of participation in sport, but higher levels of overall physical activity (probably due to the contribution of activity at work to overall physical activity levels).
- People in the South East travel further on average than people from any other region, at over 8,000 miles per person per year. Most of this difference is accounted for by travel by car. Three-quarters of people in the South East travel to work by car.
- Among children and young people in the South East, 72% of boys and

- 56% of girls are active at the recommended level of at least an hour a day. Boys are more active than girls <sup>(1)</sup>.

#### **B4.9**

#### **ISSUES**

There are several overarching issues relating to health and economic development which are of note:

- Firstly, whilst the level of economic activity is high in the region, there are, however, sections of the community that cannot engage in such activity and are on long-term incapacity benefit.
- There also exist pockets of the region's population who are unable to access employment because of lack of access to childcare provision, care duties and associated health related responsibilities. This is an area which the region can address to enhance engagement in employment.
- Health inequality is linked to overall economic welfare; areas of economic deprivation are frequently also those of greatest health deprivation. Whilst the relationship between economic and health welfare is not without unconditional, targeting economic deprivation can assist in tackling health inequalities.
- There exist significant disparities in terms of key mortality data with infant mortality rates showing considerable disparity and above national average rates in areas such as Milton Keynes and Medway.

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(1) South East Public Health Observatory (2006) Choosing Health in the South East: Physical Activity

**OBJECTIVE 4 - TO REDUCE POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND CLOSE THE GAP BETWEEN THE MOST DEPRIVED AREAS IN THE SOUTH EAST AND THE REST OF THE REGION**

**B5.1**

**DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

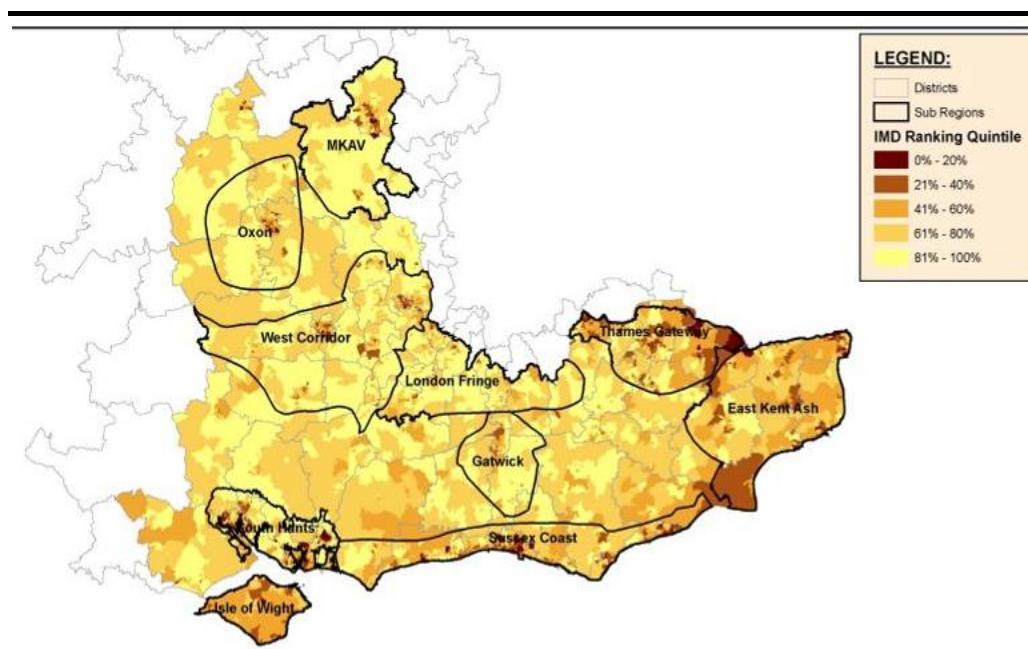
- Overall IMD deprivation
- Average gross weekly earnings across the region
- Proportion of children living in low income families
- Claimant count rates in the South East
- Households in Fuel Poverty

**B5.2**

**OVERALL DEPRIVATION**

In terms of population living in those areas of the region suffering from greatest deprivation (the 20% most deprived areas), *Figure B5.1* below illustrates that areas of very high deprivation, those within the 20% most deprived areas overall, exist within the Isle of Wight, southern parts of East Kent and Ashford, along the Sussex Coast, within the Thames Gateway and in other urban areas across the region. The region as a whole, however, is relatively affluent when compared to the rest of England and Wales.

**Figure B5.1** *Population Living Within the 20% Most Deprived Areas*



Source: IMD 2004

Average weekly earnings are higher in the South East than any other region for people living in rural, urban and 'accessible' communities, and the second highest for 'remote' areas (behind the North West). Earnings have also, broadly speaking, increased at a rate comparable to the rest of England.

Clearly, as *Table B5.1* illustrates, there are wide intra-regional differences in weekly income, with urban dwellers earning over 30% more than those in 'remote' communities. Differences within the South East are generally higher than those in other English regions and for England as a whole (a 24% gap between urban and 'remote' areas).

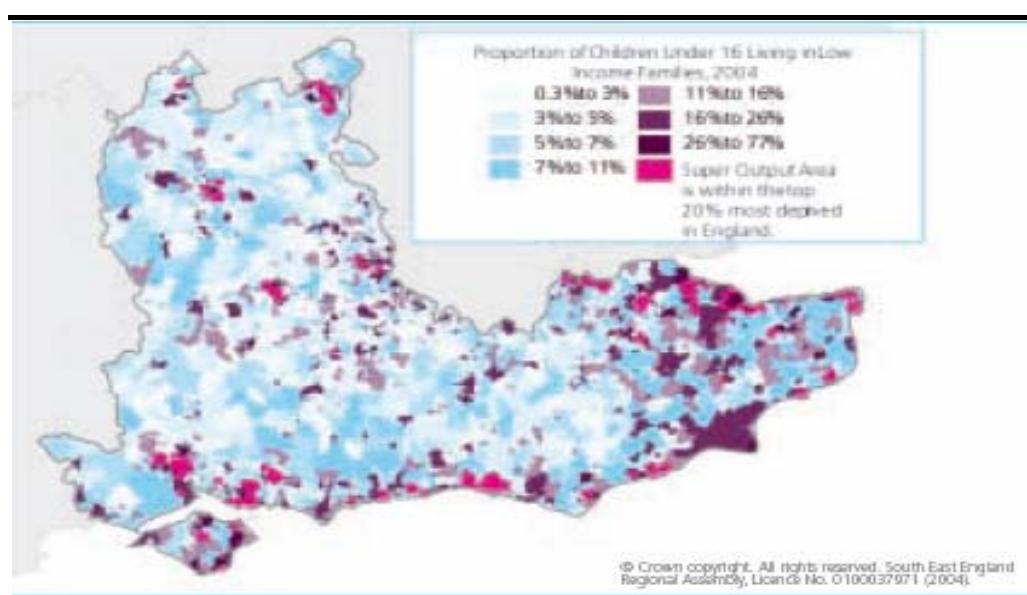
**Table B5.1** *Average Gross Weekly Earnings, 2002*

Region	Rural		Urban		Accessible		Remote	
	£	% increase						
<b>South East</b>	<b>£369.57</b>	<b>10.83</b>	<b>£448.87</b>	<b>13.62</b>	<b>£374.80</b>	<b>10.85</b>	<b>£334.27</b>	<b>10.63</b>
East of Eng	£341.52	10.8	£385.78	11.66	£369.59	12.4	£313.44	8.92
England	£336.37	11.35	£384.27	12.39	£357.74	11.18	£309.65	11.59
South West	£310.91	11.51	£366.70	12.7	£342.84	12.6	£292.43	6.68
North West	£353.45	13.72	£347.96	10.87	£353.85	11.61	£352.99	16.19
W Midlands	£328.95	9.63	£347.25	10.92	£351.08	10.7	£279.17	6.6
Yorks/Humb	£328.95	12.43	£347.25	10.97	£351.08	8.59	£279.17	13.61
E Midlands	£325.72	11.21	£344.15	12.23	£332.51	10.07	£313.12	13.45
North East	£293.54	12.84	£326.62	12.49	N/A	N/A	£293.54	12.84

Source: SEEDA

Mapping the levels of children living in income deprived families, regional disparities are once again apparent. Pockets of high level deprivation are particularly evident within areas such as East Kent and Ashford though smaller pockets are apparent elsewhere such as in the Thames Gateway. Generally, however, the region enjoys widespread low levels of deprivation.

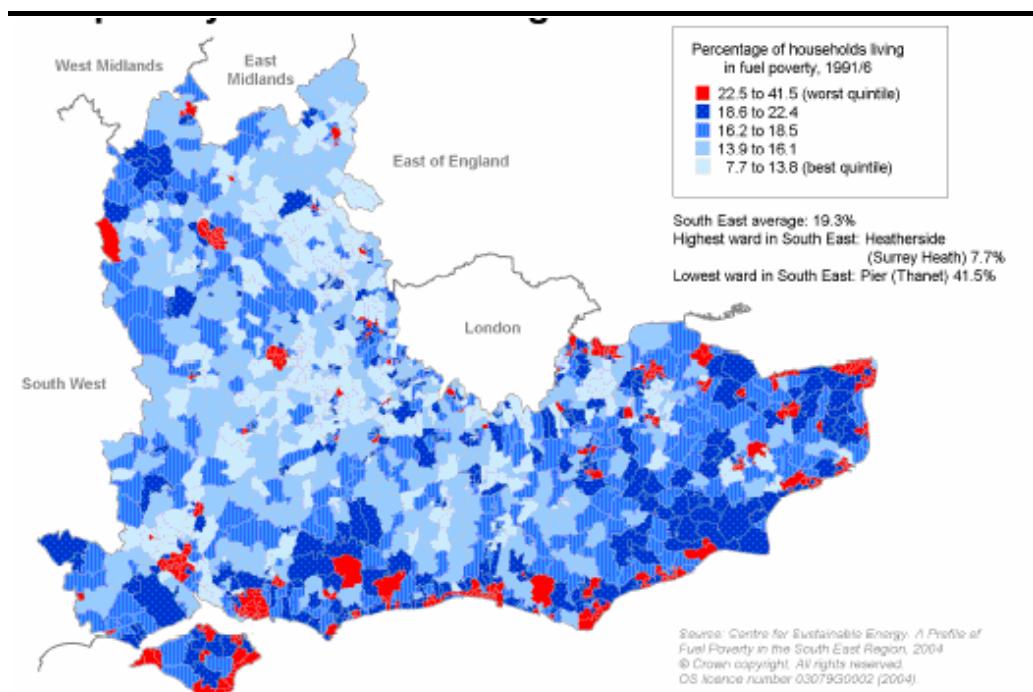
**Figure 5.2** *Children Living in Income Deprived Families, 2004*



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

Mapping of fuel poverty within the region demonstrates the consistency of deprivation endured by certain areas within the region, in particular, East Kent and Ashford and parts of the Thames Gateway. There are also, however, pockets of fuel poverty deprivation along the Sussex Coast. The correlation between the age of the population in such areas and the levels of fuel poverty is noteworthy.

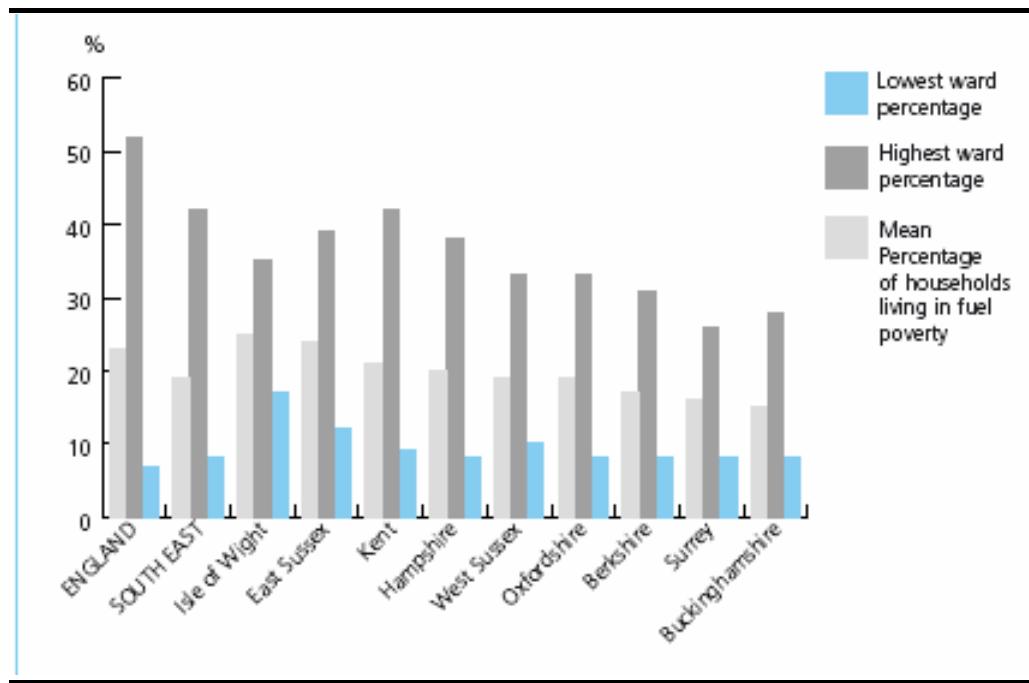
**Figure B5.3** Fuel Poverty



**Source:** Centre for Sustainable Energy 2004

Analysing the levels of fuel poverty within the region and in comparison to the national average, the data below highlights that the region whilst suffering pockets of fuel deprivation, is still consistently below the national average in terms of highest wards. Nonetheless, the mean percentage of households in both East Sussex and the Isle of Wight is higher than the national average, highlighting again the significant intra-regional disparities which exists.

**Figure B5.4 Households in Fuel Poverty**



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

## B5.5 ISSUES

Whilst the region generally enjoys a high standard of living, there exist significant pockets of deprivation across the region. This is particularly apparent in areas of East Kent and Ashford and the Thames Gateway which experience the highest levels of children living in income deprived families and fuel poverty.

In analysing this objective, the baseline data highlights the need for targeted action within the RES and other regional strategies to address such areas which suffer a significantly lower standard of living than elsewhere in the region and in which the challenge of addressing social exclusion and poverty is greatest.

**OBJECTIVE 5 - TO RAISE EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS ACROSS THE REGION AND DEVELOP THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE TO ACQUIRE THE SKILLS NEEDED TO FIND AND REMAIN IN WORK**

**B6.1****DATA**

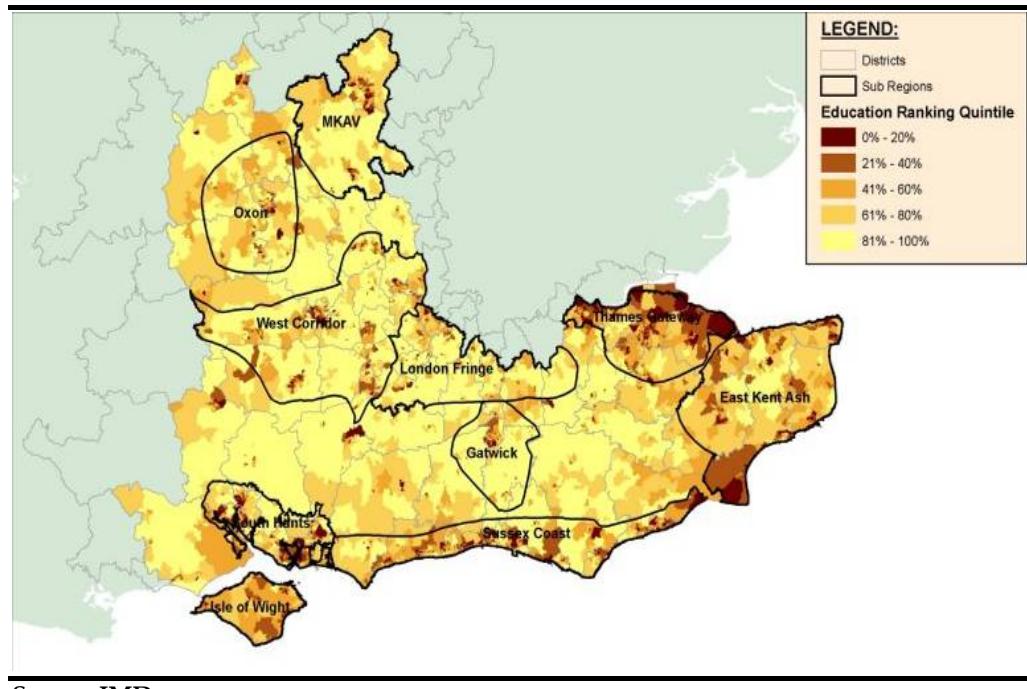
Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Education and skills deprivation across the region
- Progress towards achieving national targets
- NVQ Level 2& 4
- Literacy and Numeracy Skills Levels

**B6.2****EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEPRIVATION**

Many areas of the South East do not suffer from high education and skills deprivation, although there are obvious pockets where these problems persist, particularly the north Kent coastal areas and urban areas across the region.

**Figure B6.1** *IMD – Education and Skills Deprivation*



Source: IMD

**B6.3****EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

The statistics for achievement towards National Targets highlights that the region has performed consistently well against the UK average, out performing the UK on all key categories/demographics. There exists scope to

increase the percentage of males achieving key qualifications in line with female performance; this is, however, a UK wide issue and not specific to the region.

**Table B6.1 Progress Towards Achieving Selected National Skills/Education Targets**

		South East	England
Spring 2003	Percentages and Thousands		
All			
19-year-olds with 5 GCSEs at Grades A*-C or equivalent <sup>4,5</sup>	80	76	
19-year-olds qualified to at least level 3 <sup>5,6</sup>	57	51	
Economically active adults qualified to at least level 2 <sup>7</sup>	73	70	
Economically active adults qualified to at least level 3 <sup>8</sup>	52	49	
Males			
19-year-olds with 5 GCSEs at Grades A*-C or equivalent <sup>4,5</sup>	76	73	
19-year-olds qualified to at least level 3 <sup>5,6</sup>	57	50	
Economically active adults qualified to at least level 2 <sup>7</sup>	75	72	
Economically active adults qualified to at least level 3 <sup>8</sup>	56	52	
Females			
19-year-olds with 5 GCSEs at Grades A*-C or equivalent <sup>4,5</sup>	83	78	
19-year-olds qualified to at least level 3 <sup>5,6</sup>	57	53	
Economically active adults qualified to at least level 2 <sup>7</sup>	70	68	
Economically active adults qualified to at least level 3 <sup>8</sup>	48	45	

Source: Department for Education and Skills

Analysing achievement within the population of working age only, *Table B6.2* illustrates that the region has higher levels of degree qualified workers and lower levels of workers with no qualifications, than the picture across the UK as a whole.

**Table B6.2 Population of Working Age by Highest Qualification**

	Percentages and Thousands	
	South East	United Kingdom
Degree or equivalent	20.2	17.1
Higher education below degree	8.9	8.6
GCE A level or equivalent	24.6	24.1
GCSE grades A-C or equivalent	22.4	21.9
Other qualifications	13.0	13.2
No qualifications	10.4	14.4
All people of working age <sup>3</sup> (thousands = 100%)	4,910	36,239

Source: Department for Education and Skills 2004/2005

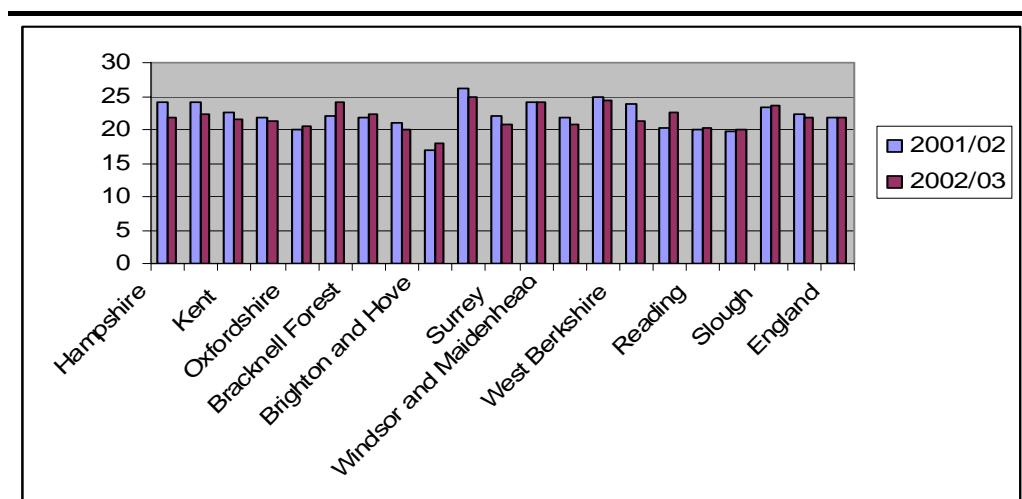
### B6.3.1

### Level 2

Level 2 attainment has increased in the period 2002/03, as compared with 2001/02, across the region, as *Figure B6.2* demonstrates. This is consistent with the performance of England as a whole. There remains, however, variation in performance within the region, with LEAs such as Medway achieving 24.8% attainment, whilst Brighton and Hove only reached 18%. As *Table B6.1* above illustrated, 75% of those economically active within the region, have achieved Level 2 or above; this compares favourably with 72% for England as a whole.

*Figure B6.2*

### Level 2 Attainment

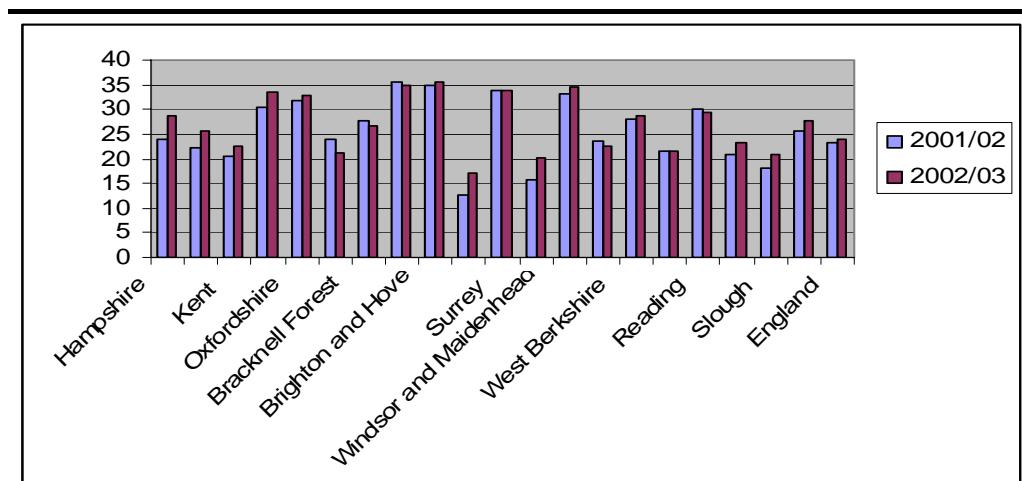


Source: Office for National Statistics 2004/2005

Level 3 attainment as *Table B6.1* also highlighted, is consistently higher on average and for both females and males within the region, as compared with English average. 50% of economically active people within the region have achieved Level 3; this, however, demonstrating that there exists scope for improvement, particularly amongst females in this category of whom only 45% have such qualifications.

*Figure B6.3*

### Level 4 Attainment



Source: Office for National Statistics 2004/2005

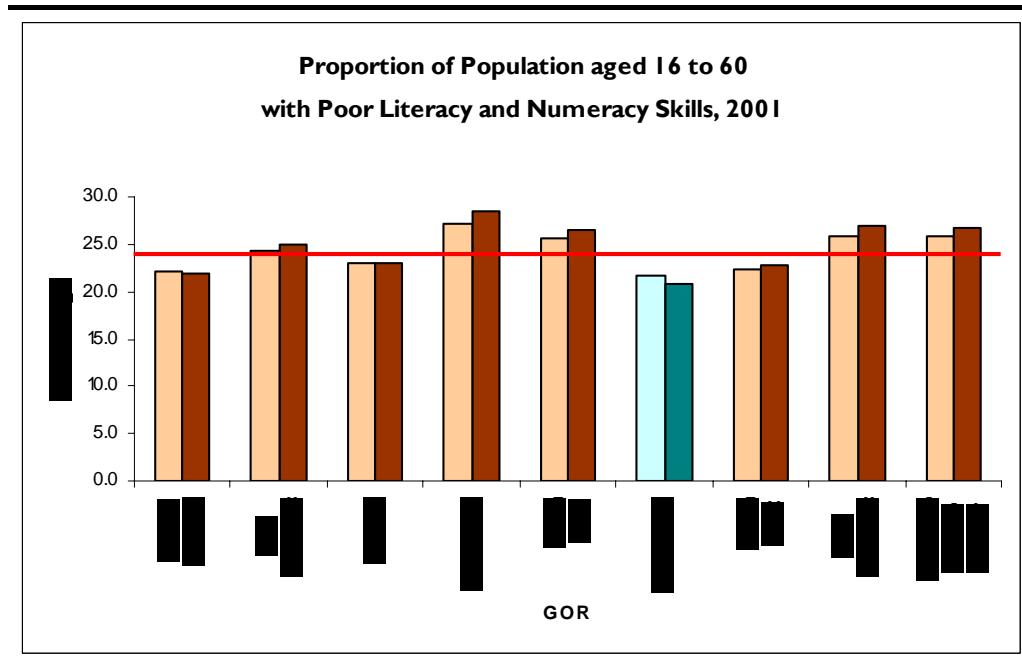
Level 4 attainment within the region also demonstrates the variation in performance across LEAs in the region.

#### B6.3.2

#### *Literacy and Numeracy*

As a region, the South East performs well in terms of literacy and numeracy; the region enjoys the lowest levels of poor literacy and numeracy of all regions. Nevertheless, approximately 20% of the population are classified as having poor literacy and numeracy skills. The South East Assembly has calculated that approximately 548,000 people in the region are failing to meet basic literacy standards and 483,000 are lacking basic numeracy skills.

**Figure B6.4** *Literacy and Numeracy Skills Levels*



**Source:** Department for Education and Skills, from the Labour Force Survey (Office for National Statistics) 2003

#### B6.4

#### *ISSUES*

Whilst the region performs well in relation to other regions, there remains a sizeable section of the population who endure high levels of deprivation; these areas again being within East Kent and Ashford and the Thames Gateway, amongst others, lacking numeracy and literacy skills.

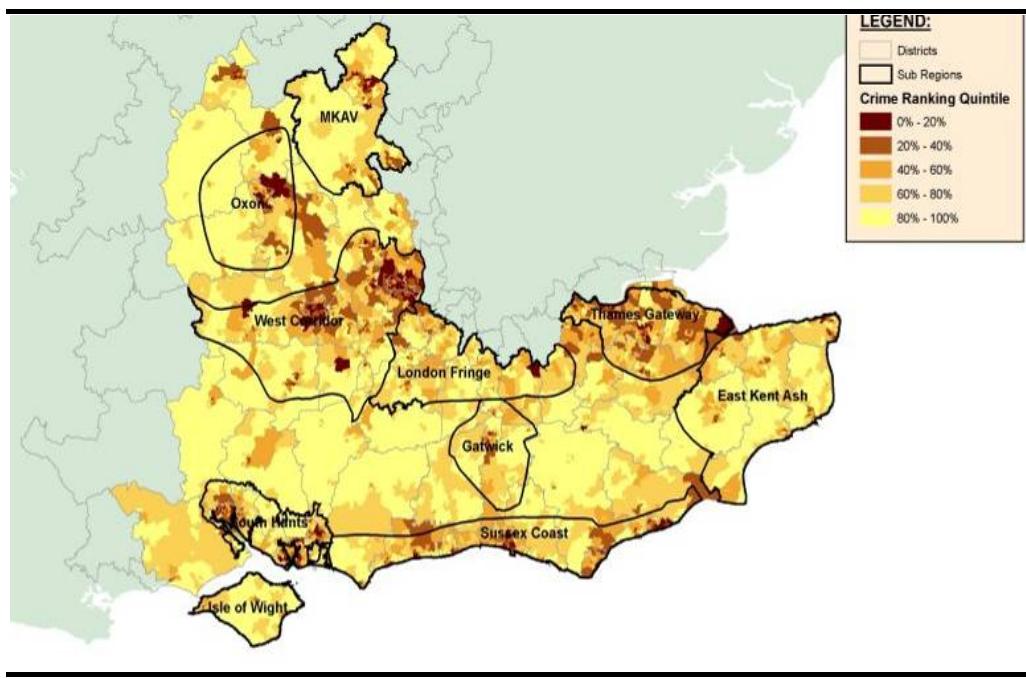
**B7.1****DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Crime and disorder across the region
- Incidences of crime within the region
- Fear of Crime

**B7.2****CRIME AND DISORDER DEPRIVATION**

**Figure B7.1** *IMD - Crime and Disorder Rankings, 2004*



Source: IMD

While there are large areas of the region where the incidence of crime and disorder is relatively low, there are pockets where rates are high – focused around the urban parts of the region.

**B7.3****TOTAL INCIDENCE OF CRIME**

The level of recorded crime across most key crime categories has increased within the region, as is the case nationally with the notable exception of theft and handling stolen goods and burglary. Offences against the person have increased significantly. Whilst crime has generally risen, the levels of detection have, however, fallen, again in line with the national picture.

**Table B7.1 Recorded crimes and percentage detected, 1991 and 2003/04**

	Recorded crimes per 100,000 population				Percentage detected <sup>2</sup>			
	South East		England and Wales		South East		England and Wales	
	1991	2003-04 <sup>3</sup>	1991	2003-04	1991	2003-04	1991	2003-04
Violence against the person	252	1,411	375	1,821	76	54	77	50
Sexual offences	53	83	58	99	76	38	76	39
Burglary	1,776	1,145	2,404	1,560	15	13	23	13
Robbery	33	81	89	193	34	24	23	18
Theft and handling stolen goods	4,957	3,597	5,444	4,322	22	16	28	15
Fraud and forgery	316	490	345	606	52	30	55	26
Criminal damage	986	2,000	1,223	2,297	17	14	19	13
Drug offences	26	210	22	269	96	95	97	93
Other	34	113	46	141	93	64	95	67
Total recorded crime	8,433	9,130	10,007	11,308	24	24	29	23

1 There was a change in the counting rules for recorded crime on 1 April 1998, counting rules for detection of crimes changed on 1 April 1999, which means that figures before and after these dates are not directly comparable. See Notes and Definitions.

2 Some offences detected may have been initially recorded in an earlier year; hence figures can be higher than 100 per cent. See Notes and Definitions.

3 In April 2002, all police forces in England and Wales adopted the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS). See Notes and Definitions.

**Source:** Home Office2005

**Table B7.2 Recorded Crime: by offence group and police force area, 2003/2004**

	Violence against the person	Sexual offences	Burglary	Robbery	Theft and handling stolen goods	Fraud and forgery	Criminal damage	Drug offences	Rates per 100,000 population	
									Other	Total
England and Wales	1,821	99	1,560	193	4,322	606	2,297	269	141	11,308
South East	1,411	83	1,145	81	3,597	490	2,000	210	113	9,130
Hampshire	1,964	114	1,007	58	3,534	478	2,434	222	166	9,976
Kent	1,291	77	1,122	74	3,224	397	2,173	176	107	8,640
Surrey	911	55	915	58	2,735	430	1,563	159	84	6,911
Sussex	1,300	80	1,095	95	3,695	485	1,919	203	97	8,970
Thames Valley	1,362	77	1,432	109	4,299	602	1,778	257	98	10,014

1 Numbers of recorded crimes and detections will be affected by changes in reporting and recording. See explanation on the NCRS in Chapter 7, Notes and Definitions.

**Source:** Home Office

### B7.3.1 *Fear of Crime*

The data on fear of crime within the region illustrates the significant disparity between the sexes in terms of which crimes are feared most. For females, the fear of crimes against the person is greatest, whilst for men, the fear of theft from cars is the most dominant. It is again females who fear crime at night-time most, in particular, the elderly are most concerned at this time. The data for the region as compared with England Wales generally, highlights the generally congruity between levels of fear of crime.

**Table B7.3** *Fear of Crime 2003/2004*

	South East		England and Wales	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Percentage feeling 'very' worried about				
Burglary	9	12	10	15
Mugging	5	12	7	15
Theft of car <sup>1</sup>	12	12	14	15
Theft from car <sup>1</sup>	13	10	13	11
Rape	3	17	4	18
Feelings of insecurity, walking alone at night; percentage feeling 'very' unsafe				
Aged 16 to 59	2	14	2	14
Aged 60 and over	7	26	8	29

<sup>1</sup> Based on vehicle owners only.

**Source:** *British Crime Survey, Home Office*

### B7.4 *ISSUES*

There are pockets of high levels of crime within the region and the incidences of recorded crime provide evidence of the basis for fear of crime. The nature of such fear demonstrates significant disparity between the sexes, with fear of crime against the person being most predominant; the data on recorded crime of this nature indicates that such crimes are increasing.

**B8.1****DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- ODPM/UK SD Guidance on Sustainable Communities
- Ranking of the living environment across the region
- Satisfaction with local area; MORI poll findings

**B8.2****SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES**

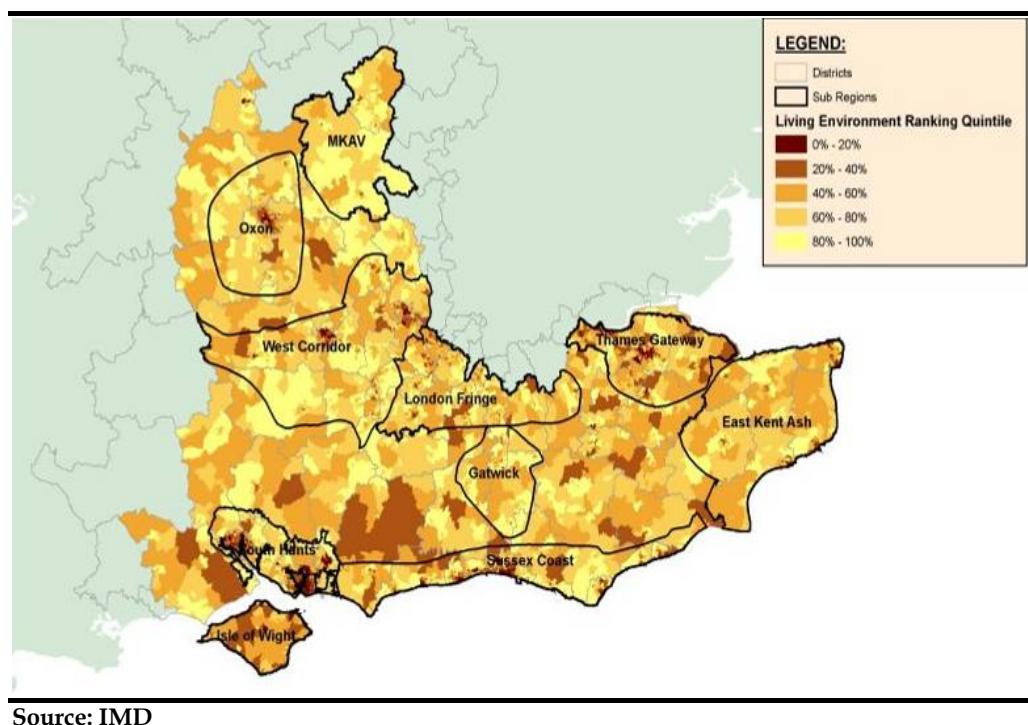
The definition of a sustainable community is one in which the principles of sustainable development are embodied, more specifically that the community can:

- Balance and integrate the social, economic and environmental components of their community
- Meet the needs of existing and future generations
- Respect the needs of other communities in the wider region or internationally, also to make their communities sustainable

Key components or characteristics of such communities are that they should be:

- Active, inclusive and safe
- Well run
- Environmentally sensitive
- Well designed and built
- Well connected
- Thriving
- Well served
- Fair for everyone

Delivery of all of the objectives outlined in the IRF will assist in the creation of a sustainable community; the baseline data outlined throughout this report will, therefore, be of relevance. In addition, however, the condition of the living environment within the region and perceptions of living conditions, are also of relevance.

**Figure B8.1** IMD - Living Environment

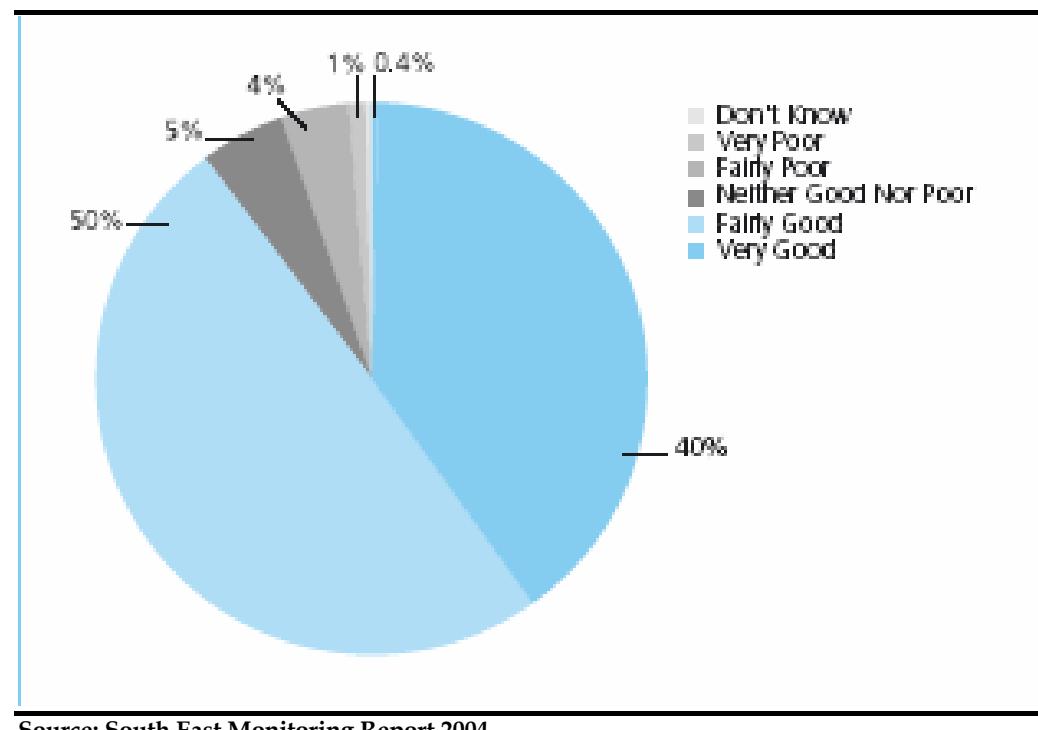
Source: IMD

The IMD ranking of the living environment within the region highlights the disparity in living environment conditions across the region. Pockets of deprivation exist, primarily within the south of the region though there are small pockets within other areas across the region, such as The Thames Gateway.

The region does, however, enjoy a generally high standard of living environment as indicated by the large tracts of the region which are ranked as having the lowest levels of deprivation (80-100%, indicated as yellow on the map).

According to a Mori poll conducted in 2004, 90% of the region's residents consider the area they live in as 'very good', or 'fairly good'; only 5% of the region's population regard the South East as being 'fairly' or 'very' poor indicating the very high level of satisfaction with the living environment of the South East. This augments the IMD ranking of low levels of deprivation in living environment across most of the region.

**Figure B8.2 Satisfaction with Local Area (%)**



Source: South East Monitoring Report 2004

### B8.5 ISSUES

Whilst the region enjoys a generally very good standard of living environment, reinforced by the MORI findings, there do remain pockets of deprivation within the region. Future delivery of this objective will, therefore, involve maintaining the high standard of living environment but also critically targeting the key pockets where the living environment is perceptibly lower and there exists a greater challenge to create sustainable communities.

B9.1

DATA

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

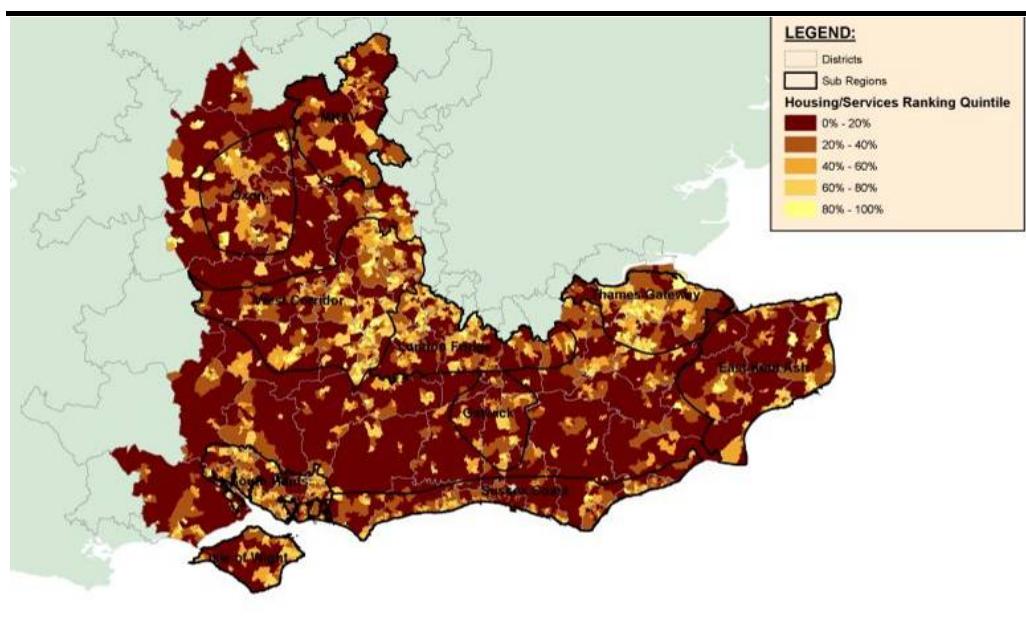
- Ranking of barriers to housing and services across the region
  - Access to local services and facilities; percentage of rural households with access to these services and facilities

B9.2

## ***ACCESS TO SERVICES AND FACILITIES***

Mapping of access to services and facilities within the region illustrates that large parts of the region suffer from relatively high access deprivation – both rural and urban.

*Figure B9.1 IMD, Barriers to Housing and Services Ranking, 2004*



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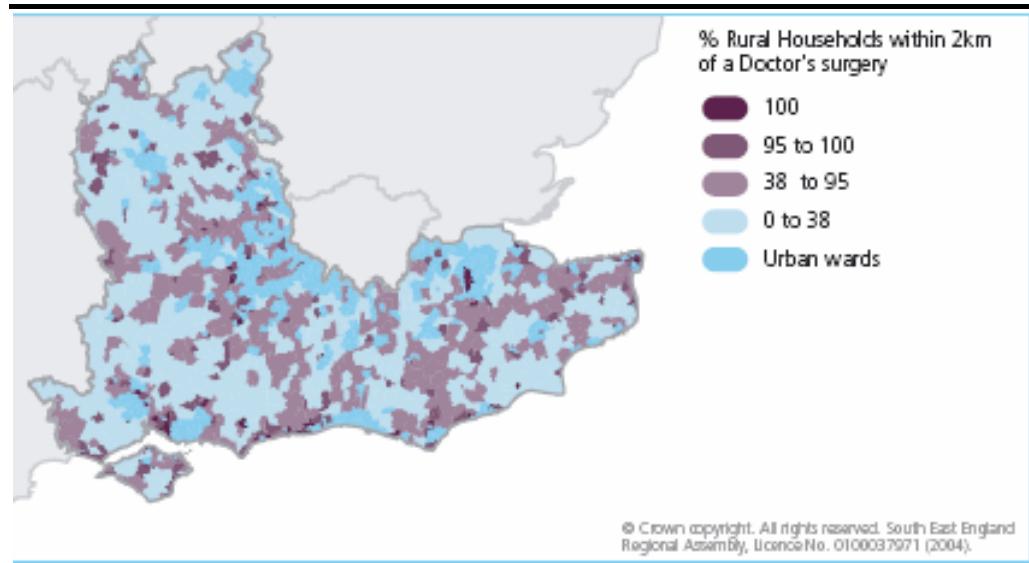
Source: IMD

B9.3

## *ACCESS TO SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS*

The data on access to doctors' surgeries highlights that there exists considerable disparity across the region in rural areas. Pockets of high access deprivation exist alongside areas of very low access deprivation, indicating the clustering of doctors' surgeries and/or segments of the population around such surgeries.

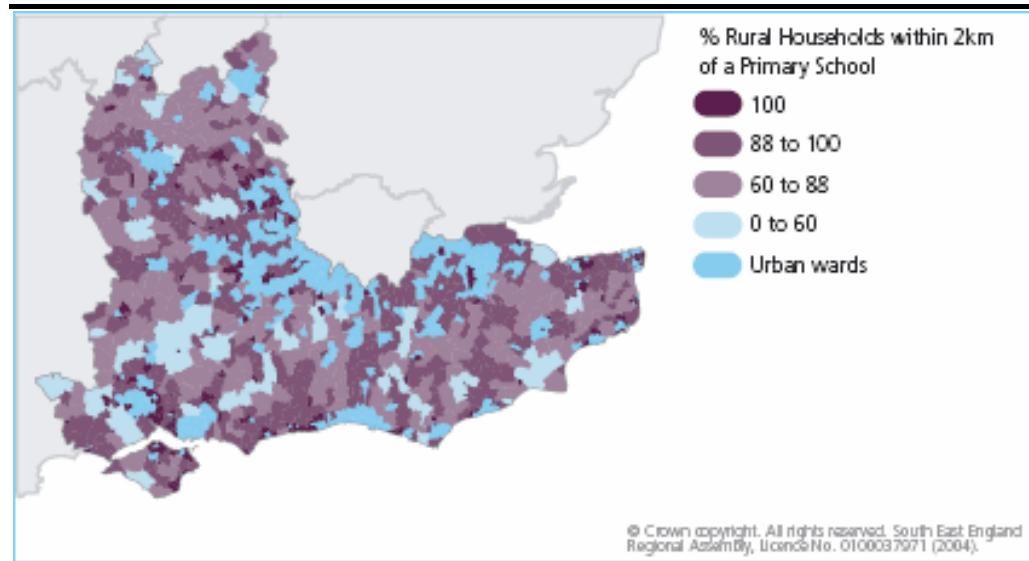
**Figure B9.2 Access to Doctors Surgeries**



Source: Countryside Agency 2003/South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

The picture for access to primary schools demonstrates that there is generally much greater access to schooling across the region in its rural areas. The vast majority of the region's rural communities have above 60% access to such schools though pockets of low level access are evident.

**Figure B9.3 Access to Primary Schools**



Source: Countryside Agency 2003/South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

#### B9.4

#### ISSUES

Access to services and facilities can be an issue of particular concern for rural communities and for deprived communities also. The data illustrates that access to doctors surgeries is of particular concern, this being an issue that will also impinge upon the health welfare of the region as a whole.

**B10.1**

***SPORT***

Sport England has produced Mission: Possible – The South East Plan for Sport 2004-2008. This outlines the vision and priorities for participation in sport. The objectives of this plan are to define the priorities for action on sport until 2008, which in turn will influence investment decisions. The principals of the plan are as follows:

- Raising participation by 1% per annum and making England the best sporting nation in the world;
- Understand what works best, learning lessons and disseminating Best Practice;
- Improve our communication with external partners, stakeholders and the general public;
- Support innovation and find new ways to deliver our core objectives; and
- Develop regional infrastructure, both physical and human, to provide facilities, people and systems within a sustainable and equitable framework.

*Section B4.8* describes levels of participation in physical activity in the South East.

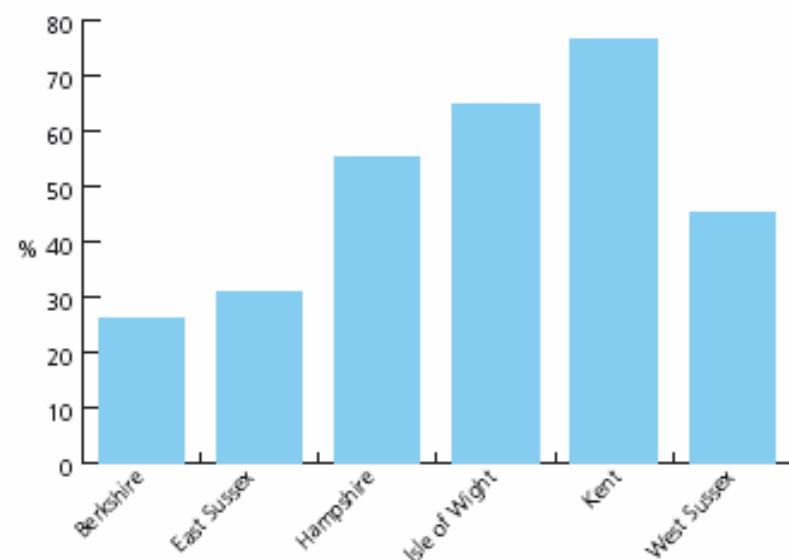
Data on delivery of this objective is being sought.

**B11.1****DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- PDL availability
- Derelict and vacant land use
- Land availability for development in urban and rural areas
- Previously developed land; availability and development
- Housing development on Greenfield land

**Figure B11.1 Availability of PDL**



**Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004**

**Units: %**

Data on the availability of previously developed land within the region highlights the considerable disparity which exists across the region. Kent currently has the highest stock of available land, over twice the level of other areas such as Berkshire and East Sussex.

**Table B11.1 Vacant Land Use**

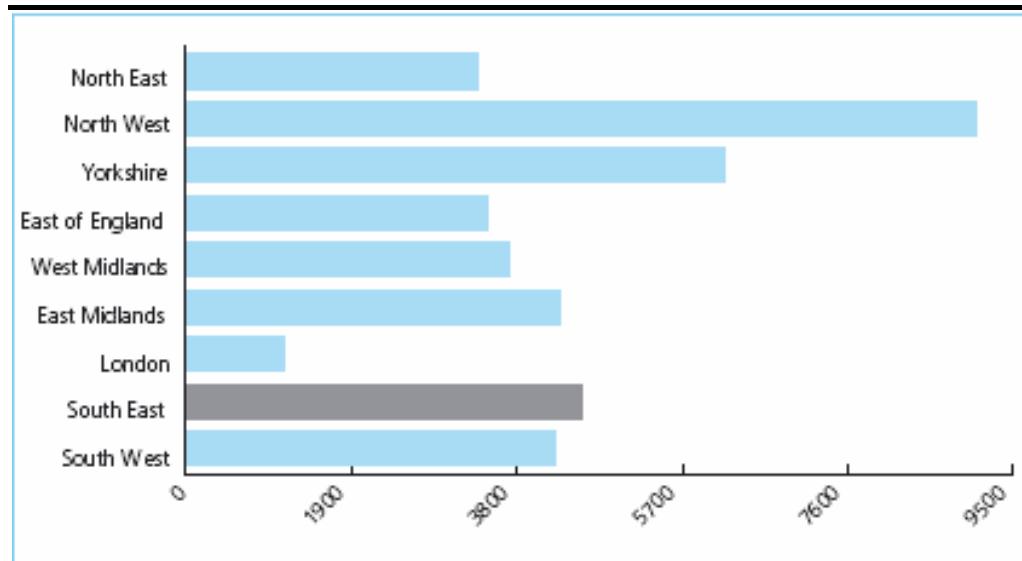
	Previously developed vacant land	Derelict land and buildings	Vacant buildings	Allocated in a local plan or with planning permission	Known redevelopment potential but no planning allocation or permission	
North East	70	64	46	62	50	63
North West	67	72	47	73	78	70
Yorkshire & the Humber	80	78	52	84	62	75
East Midlands	66	83	68	68	77	75
West Midlands	73	53	63	80	37	65
East of England	83	79	69	78	67	77
London	58	55	58	60	60	59
<b>South East</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>68</b>
South West	66	79	33	67	42	64
England	73	72	52	72	60	69

Source: Office for National Statistics 2004/2005

Units: %

Comparative analysis of previously developed land availability and use, indicates that the region has above the national average in terms of vacant land availability though significantly below the average stock of vacant buildings or derelict land and buildings. The region is making reasonable use of its vacant and derelict land stock with relatively high levels of such stock being earmarked for development with planning permission having been sought or granted. There does, however, remain a large stock of such land which is suitable for development but which has not yet been the subject of planning potential assessment.

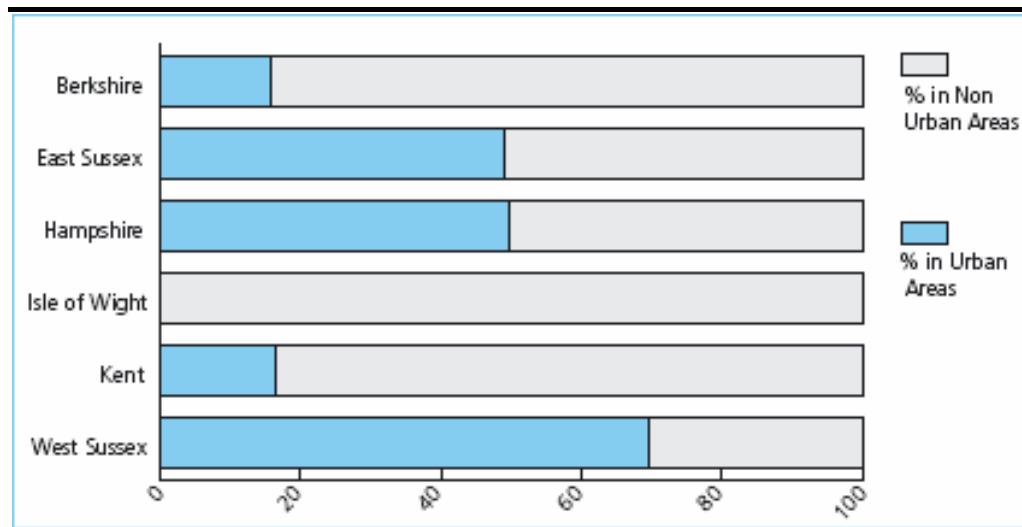
**Figure B11.2 Derelict and Vacant Land**



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

The location of the region's land availability for development highlights considerable disparity within the region. In sub regions such as the Isle of Wight, existing availability is exclusively located within non-urban or rural areas, whilst in West Sussex, approximately 70% of available stock is urban based.

**Figure B11.3 Land Availability for Development in Urban and Rural Areas**

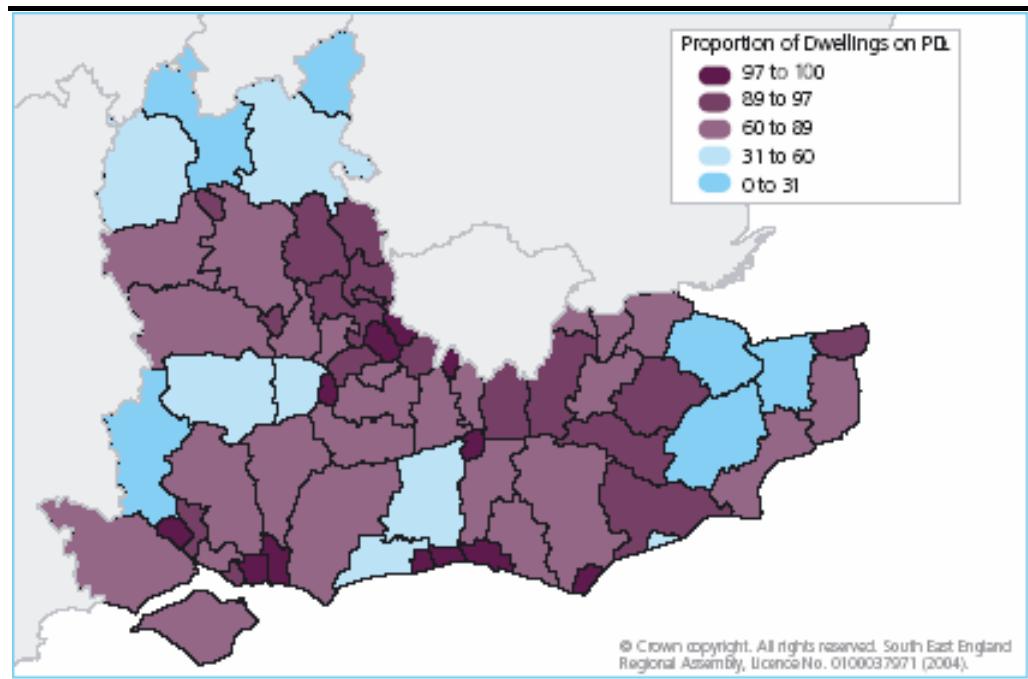


Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

#### **B11.1.1 Development on Previously Developed Land**

The regional picture of development of PDL highlights that large areas of the South East have experienced considerable development on such land, as the region seeks to utilise the potential of such land stock. Areas such as the Thames Gateway, in particular, will be able to make extensive use of PDL.

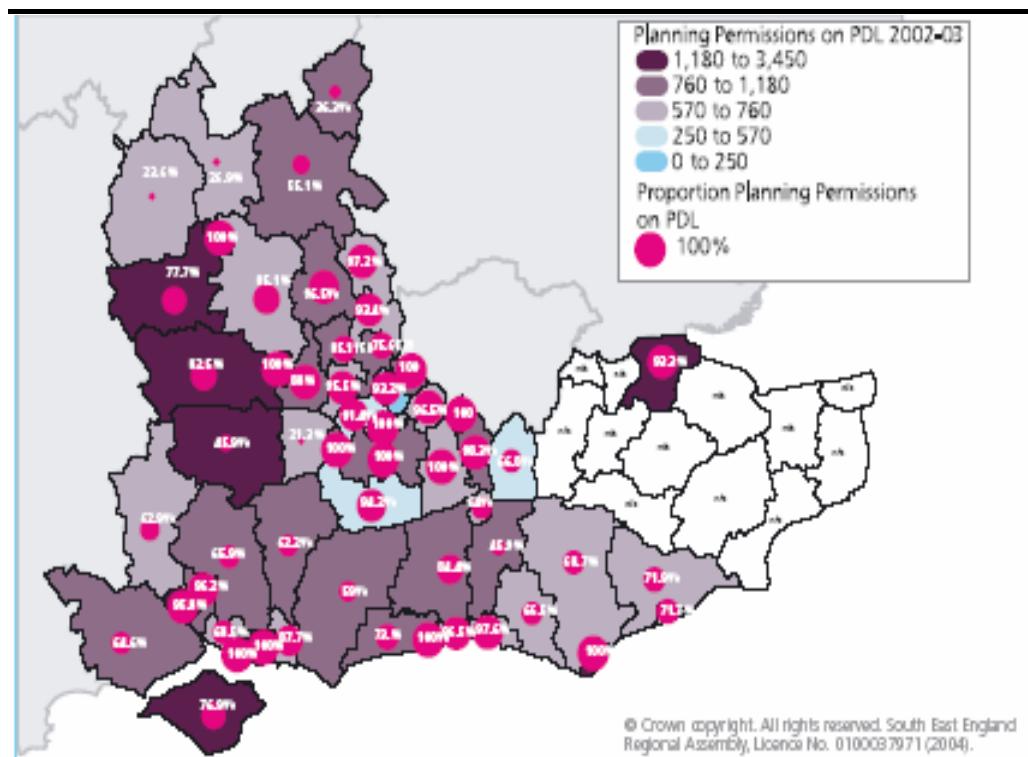
*Figure B11.4 Proportion of Dwellings Completed on PDL*



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

The data on planning permissions on PDL, currently mapped for 2002-2003, illustrates the policy of redeveloping PDL, with a strong focus of new planning permission on PDL; in some areas, all of new planning permission has been PDL based.

*Figure B11.5 Planning Permission on PDL*



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

The focus on PDL land use for new development has enabled less new development to be Greenfield based; the figures for current Greenfield use highlight consistently low levels of overall development in such land. The predominance of current Greenfield land use in nature conservation areas has been in Surrey which has accounted for nearly all of the region's land use for development.

**Figure B11.6 Housing Development on Greenfield Land**

	Group 1 Nature Conservation*	Group 3 Nature Conservation**
Berkshire	n/a	n/a
Buckinghamshire	0.01	0.06
East Sussex	0.1	0
Hampshire	n/a	n/a
Isle of Wight	0	0
Kent	n/a	n/a
Oxfordshire	n/a	n/a
Surrey	0.48	2.57
West Sussex	0.02	0
<b>South East</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>2.63</b>

Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

## **B11.2 ISSUES**

The region is actively seeking to redevelop previously developed land and utilise its existing derelict and vacant land stock. In doing so, this reduces the pressure on Greenfield land and contributes to the protection of the region's natural environment. The challenge for the region will be to continue to exploit the potential of such land stock noting the limitations of where existing stock is located and the non urban locations of the existing stock.

**B12.1****DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

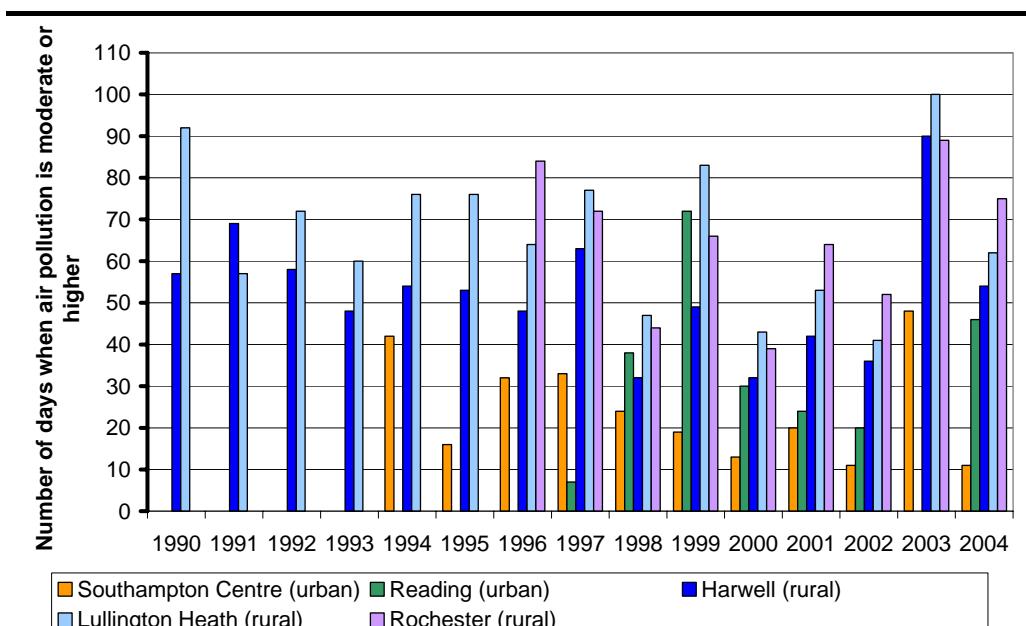
- Days when air pollution is moderate or higher
- Air pollution: NO<sub>2</sub>
- Air pollution: SO<sub>2</sub>
- Air pollution: PM10
- Total emissions data for the year
- Local Air Quality Management

Analysing these key sources of air pollutants provides a more detailed picture of the nature of air pollution within the region and a means of assessing progress towards delivery of this objective.

**B12.2** **DAYS OF POLLUTION**

The data on days when air pollution is ranked as moderate or higher, illustrates that significant variability exists within the region in terms of both urban and rural settings, but also in the number of days of such pollution across the region. 2003 saw the highest number of pollution days for all four of the sites for which data was available.

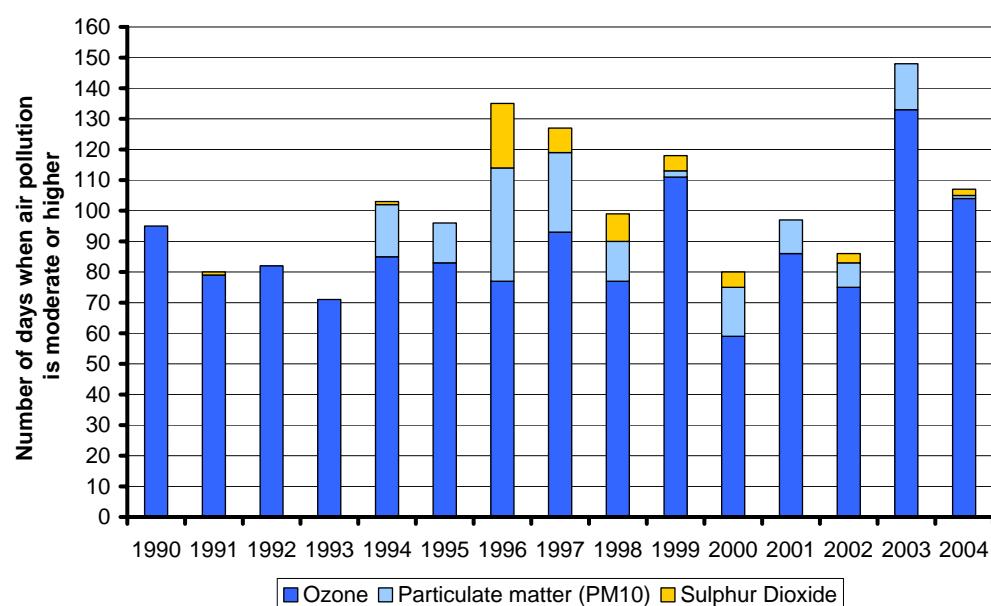
**Figure B12.1 Days When Air Pollution is Moderate or Higher, 1987-2003**



Source: Environment Agency 2005

Analysing the source of this pollution, the chart below identifies ozone as being the primary contributor of such pollution in 2003 and indeed for all years monitored. Incidences of high sulphur dioxide pollution are apparent sporadic though 1996 witnessed the largest numbers of days when this pollutant was in moderate to high levels.

**Figure B12.2 Pollution Days**

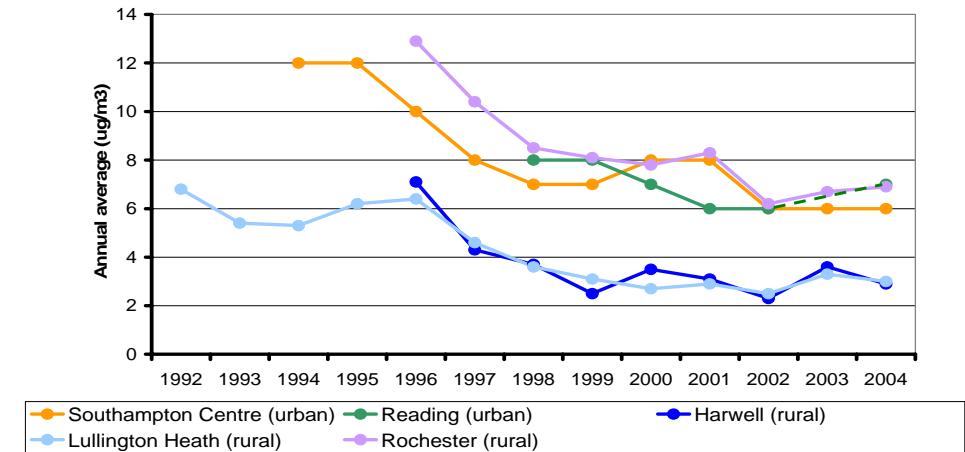


Source: Environment Agency 2005

### B12.2.1 $SO_2$

$SO_2$  levels within the region are relatively low for most parts of the region and the figures for 2004 illustrate the significant drop in such levels relative to 1992. Monitoring stations at the five key sites indicated in *Figure B12.3*, testify to the differing levels of  $SO_2$  in the region with the rural areas of Harwell and Lullington Heath having comparatively low levels, whilst the urban areas of Southampton and Reading are high; the one key exception to this urban/rural divide being Rochester.

**Figure B12.3 SO<sub>2</sub> Levels within the Region**

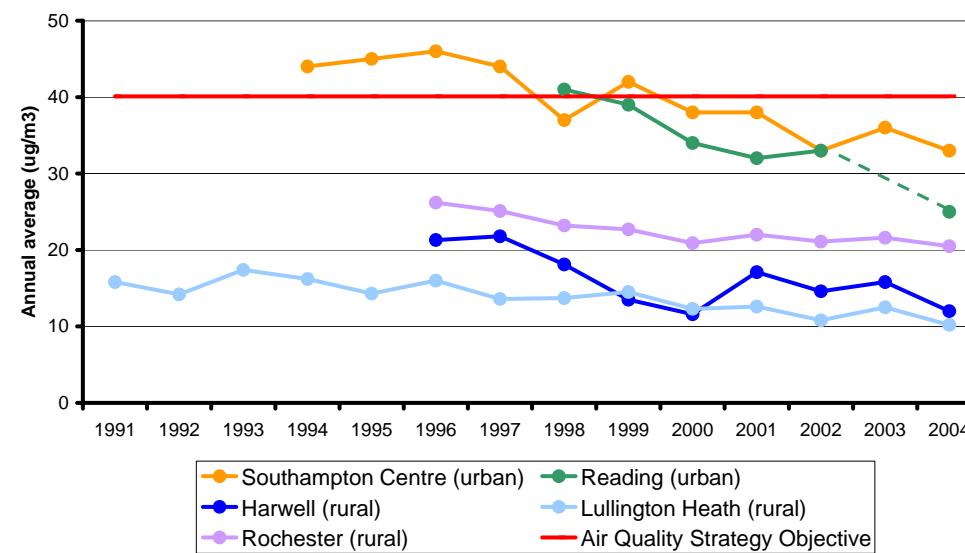


Source: Environment Agency 2005

#### B12.2.2 NO<sub>2</sub>

Data on NO<sub>2</sub> levels within the region demonstrates that in both Reading and Southampton, NO<sub>2</sub> levels have exceeded the Air Quality Strategy objective in 1998/1999. Subsequent to this, levels have dropped with all five sites registering their lowest levels of this pollutant in 2004.

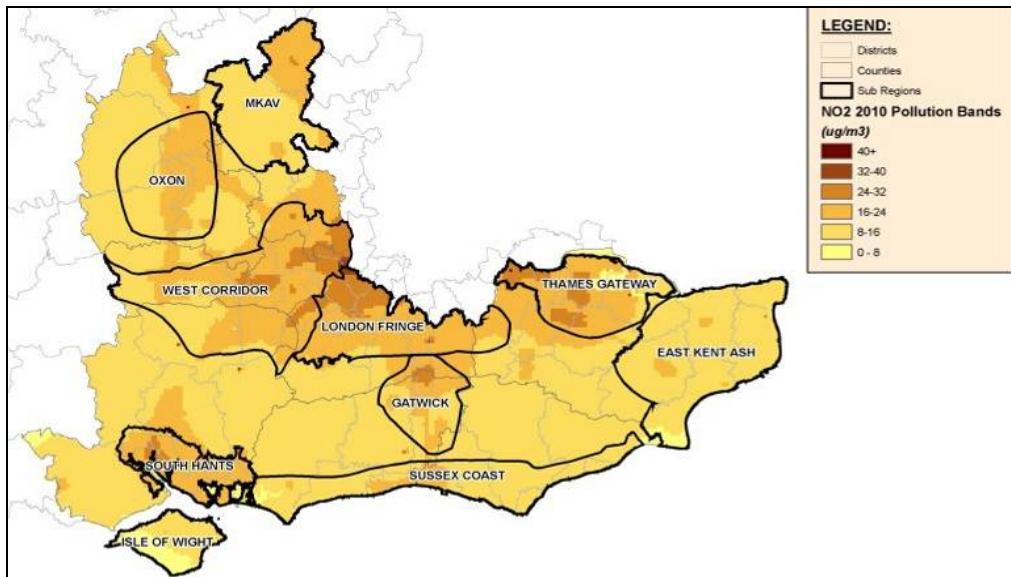
**Figure B12.4 NO<sub>2</sub> Levels (Annual average concentrations in the region, 1991-2004)**



Source: Environment Agency 2005

Predicted levels of NO<sub>2</sub> within the region for 2010 suggest that the Air Quality Strategy objective will not be exceeded in any part of the region; indeed, many parts of the region will benefit from very low levels of this pollutant.

**Figure B12.5 Predicted NO<sub>2</sub> Levels within the Region -2010**

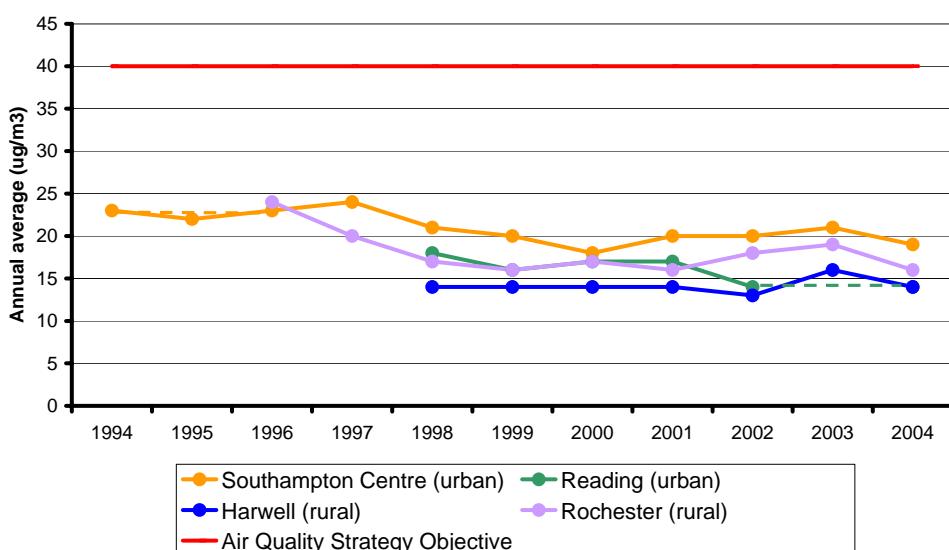


Source: Environment Agency

#### B12.2.3 PM<sub>10</sub>

Data on current and projected air quality is also available for PM<sub>10</sub>.

**Figure B12.6 PM<sub>10</sub> Emissions**



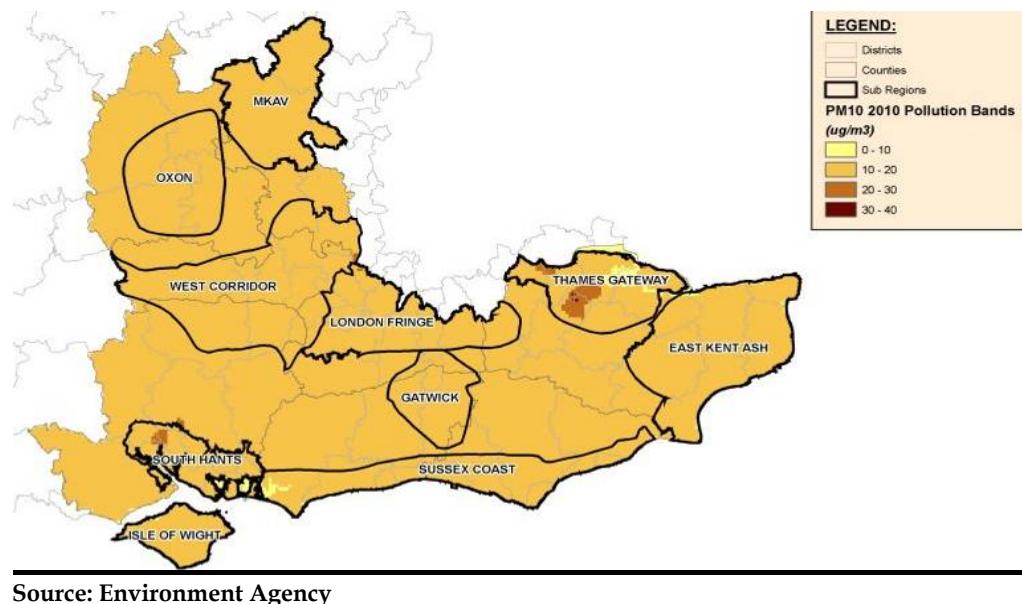
Source: Environment Agency 2005

Data from the monitoring stations indicates that PM<sub>10</sub> emissions levels across the region have remained well within the Air Quality Strategy objective and have remained relatively constant throughout the years they have been monitored.

The map of predicted PM<sub>10</sub> levels for 2010 show that, although the national air quality objective of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  is not being breached in any areas, air quality

is close to the national objective in the areas around London and near Southampton.

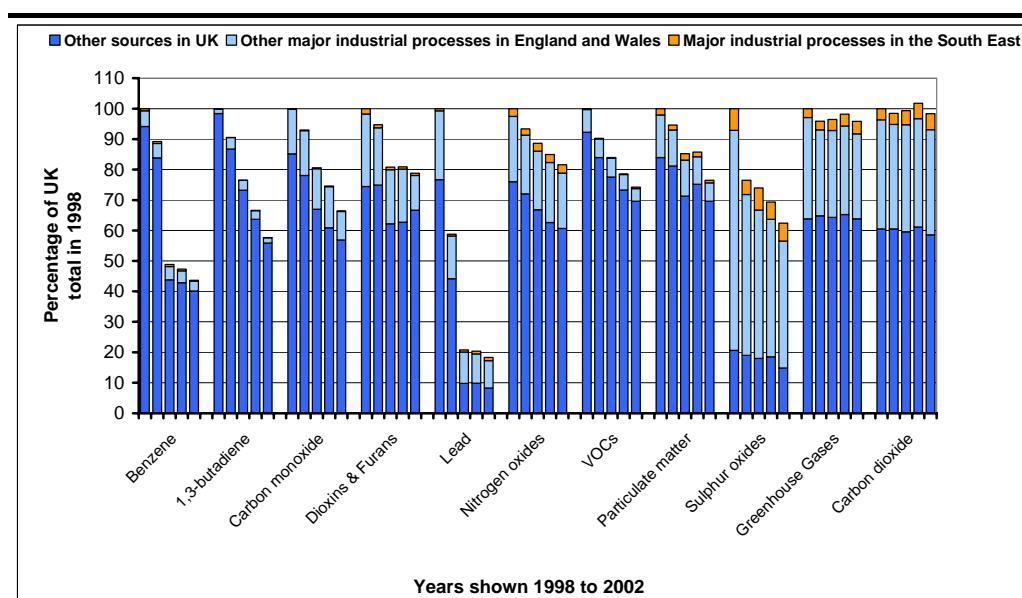
**Figure B12.7 Predicted PM<sub>10</sub> Levels within the Region -2010**



### B12.3 TOTAL EMISSIONS DATA

Emissions data for all key air pollution sources emanating from industrial processes in the region and in the UK is outlined in *Figure B12.8* below. This notes air pollution emissions from major industrial processes regulated by the Environment Agency and other sources in the UK between 1998-2002.

**Figure B12.8 Total Emissions Data for the Region**



Source: Environment Agency 2005

Local Authorities are charged with the responsibility of reviewing the air quality in their respective areas, with the aim of meeting national air quality objectives. Where a Local Authority finds that local air quality will not meet such targets, it establishes an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).

Within the region, there are many such AQMAs, these include:

- Brighton and Hove
- Medway Council (6)
- Portsmouth City Council (13)
- Slough Borough Council (2)
- Southampton City Council (6)
- Royal Windsor and Maidenhead (2)
- Wokingham District Council

Action Plans are devised on the basis of the AQMAs, to help ensure that air quality progressively improves in such areas.

### B13.1

#### DATA

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Greenhouse gas emissions
- CO<sub>2</sub> by user

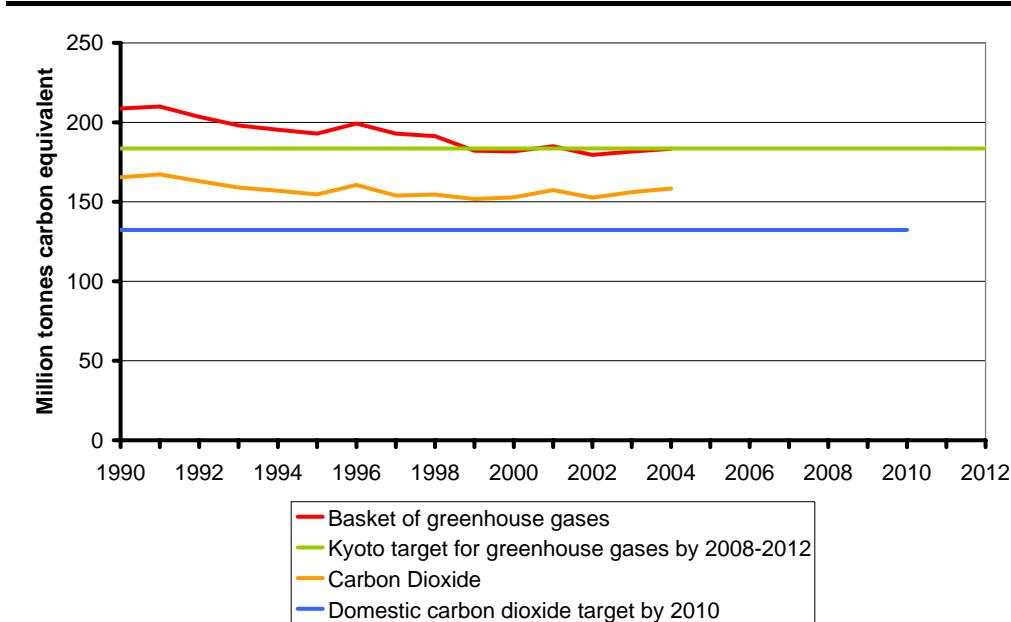
This section should also be cross-referenced with data under Objective 19 on use renewables for energy provision within the region.

### B13.2

#### GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Environment Agency data on greenhouse gas emissions within the UK highlights that there has been a slight reduction in GHG emissions, relative to 1990 base levels. This reduction has been in line with the UK's commitments under the Kyoto Protocol yet highlights the significant scope/need for reduction in such emissions levels, if the Government's own domestic target is to be achieved.

*Figure B13.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions (UK) 1990-2003*

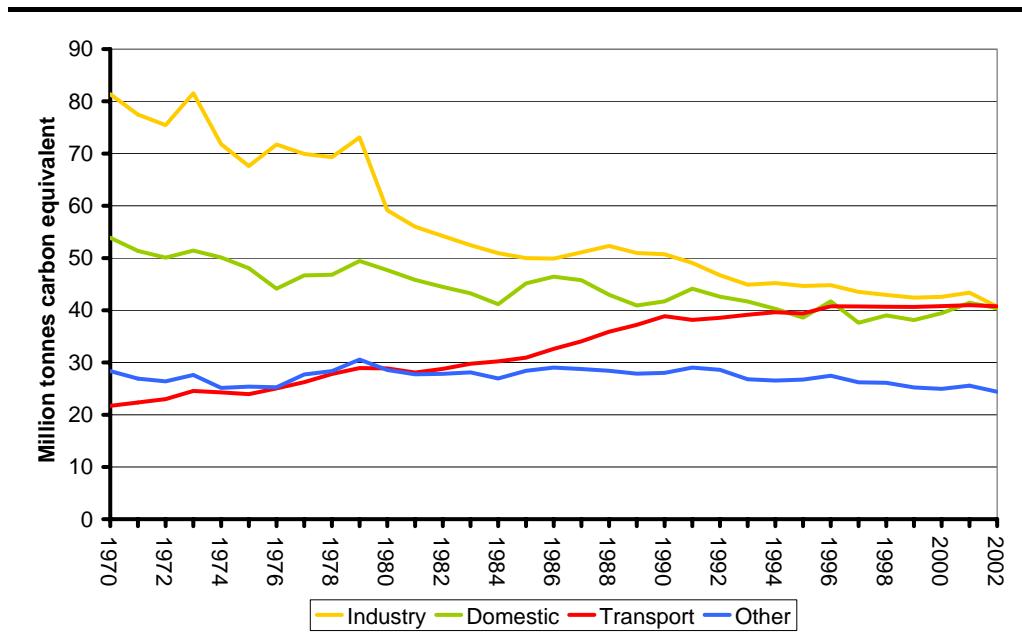


Source: Environment Agency 2005

Whilst the basket of GHG emissions has declined, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have shown greater variability. The primary source of continuing levels of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions has been from transport, as the mapping on key CO<sub>2</sub> sources below highlights. Industrial based CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have declined sharply, as key measures such

as the Climate Change Levy have sought to influence business behaviour. The picture for domestic emissions levels is not, however, so clear, with continuing variability in emissions levels during the course of the past decade and more. Domestic emissions now roughly equate with those of industry, highlighting the importance of also targeting this sector in reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions levels.

*Figure B13.2 CO<sub>2</sub> by User*



Source: Environment Agency 2005

### B13.3

### ISSUES

The national picture on emissions levels highlights the challenge of addressing all key sectors in reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The current regulatory focus is industry based, yet the domestic sector is currently an equal contributor in terms of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Addressing the wider basket of GHG gases and emissions levels, the contribution of industry to tackling this will remain a key focus for both the region and the UK.

The continuing escalation of car use, which the region amongst others is experiencing, highlights the dilemma of how best to tackle transport based CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Car use is, however, only one key source of such emissions, with increasing flight travel constituting a further, if not primary, source of such emissions. Whilst this is not solely an issue for the region, it is one which the region has a responsibility to contribute to.

B14.1

## DATA

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Regional Landscapes
  - Priority habitats in the region: SSSIs, GCRs, SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites
  - Extent and condition of key habitats
  - Wild birds and fish stocks
  - Woodland assets

\*Further woodland data is being sought\*

### *Figure B14.1 Key Regional Landscapes*



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**Source: Countryside Agency**

The map of the region's key landscapes highlights the wealth of natural, semi-natural and historic assets which the South East enjoys. The region has a broad diversity of lowland wildlife habitats, including chalk rivers, ancient woodland, wood pastures, downland and heath. The South East also benefits from rich forestry assets, heritage coastline and designated landscapes such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Areas of Conservation, Specially Protected Areas and Ramsar sites. These landscapes provide the rich biodiversity base which the region is keen to protect.

'Action for Biodiversity in the South East' outlines the range of priority habitats in the region, these being listed in ***Box B14.1***.

***Box B14.1 Priority Habitats in the South East***

---

Grassland Habitats

- Lowland acid grassland
- Lowland meadows
- Lowland calcareous grassland
- Coastal and floodplain grazing meadow
- Lowland heath
- Cereal field margins

Woodland Habitats

- Lowland beech and yew woodland
- Wet woodland
- Ancient semi-natural woodland
- Lowland wood pasture and parkland
- Ancient and/or species rich hedgerow

Wetland Habitats

- Reedbeds
- Fen
- Purple moor grass and rush pasture

Freshwater Habitats

- Chalk rivers
- Mesotrophic standing water
- Eutrophic standing water

Coastal and Maritime Habitats

- Sand dunes
- Saltmarsh
- Coastal vegetated shingle
- Salting lagoons
- Maritime cliffs and slopes
- Seagrass beds
- Littoral and sub-littoral chalk
- Intertidal mud flats

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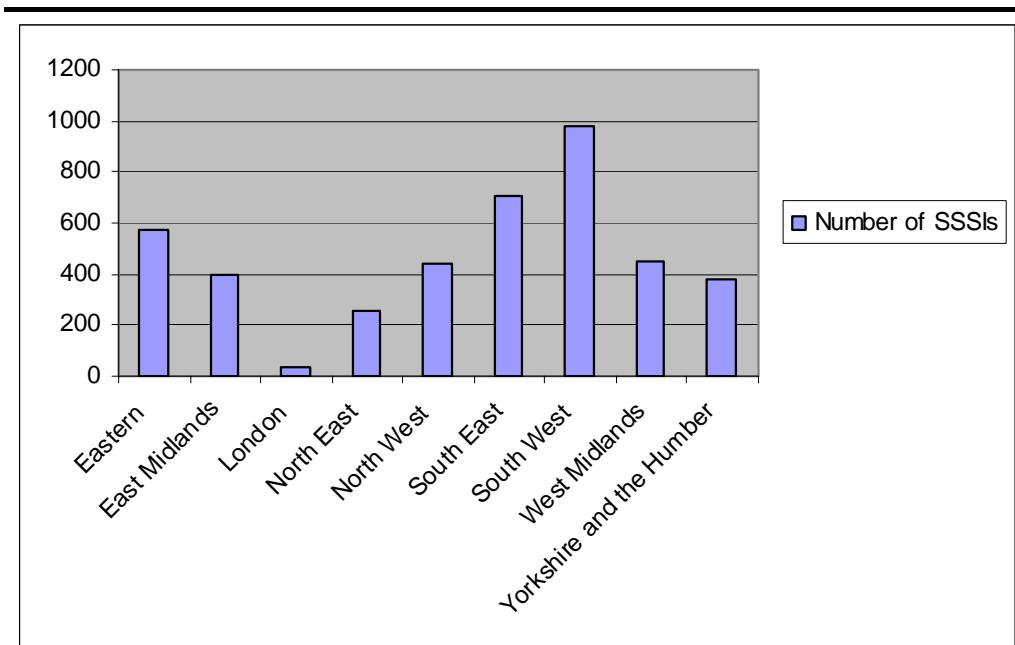
**Action for Biodiversity in the South East, 1999**

It is not possible, nor the function of the SEA/SA Scoping Report, to address all of these priority habitats, though they are all highly significant biodiversity assets and the range of objectives and targets established in the Regional Biodiversity Strategy is of obvious importance for the region and attainment of this IRF objective. Analysis within this report will focus on a range of key habitats and designated landscapes, monitoring of which provides a good indication of how progress towards protection and enhancement of biodiversity in the South East is being achieved.

The South East Local Biodiversity Record Centres play an important role in collating and disseminating more extensive information on the region's biodiversity assets.

The South East enjoys the second highest number of SSSIs of all English regions, with 133,415.38 hectares being designated as of this status; only the South West has a higher area coverage of SSSIs.

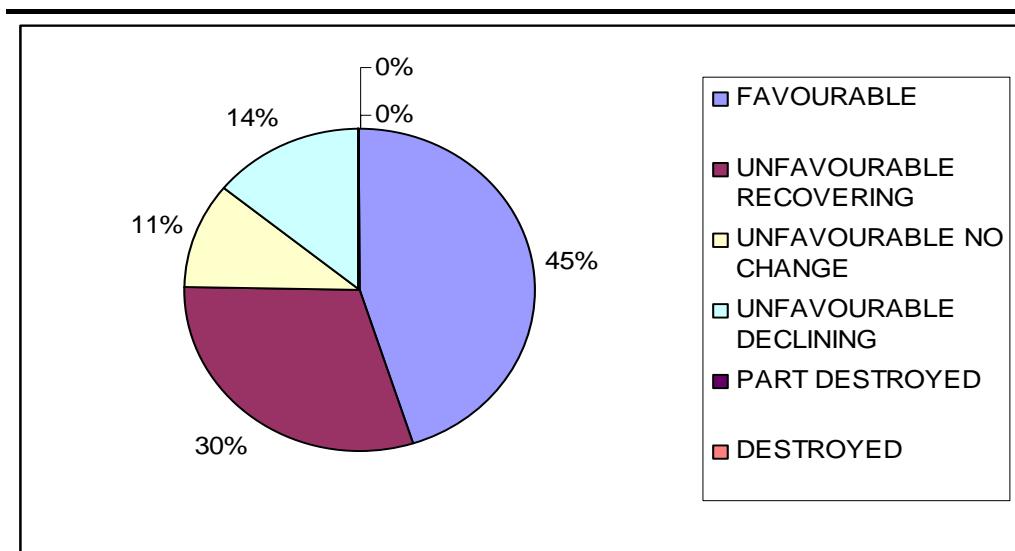
*Figure B14.2 Regional Comparison of SSSIs*



Source: English Nature 2005

Of this, 45% are regarded as being in a favourable state and a further 30% unfavourable but recovering. There remains, however, just over a third of the region's SSSIs which are unfavourable and either not improving or actively declining; this constitutes a sizeable percentage of SSSIs which require improvement.

*Figure B14.3 Condition of SSSIs in the Region*



Source: English Nature 2005

The table below details the range of adverse management conditions within the SSSIs, which are varied and numerous. The most common condition is that of the adverse state of forestry and woodland management in just over 11,000 hectares of the region's SSSIs. As with other designated sites, coastal squeeze is a common adverse condition, highlighting the impacts of climate change on the region.

**Table B14.1 Detailed Overview of Adverse Conditions within SSSIs**

Adverse Condition Description	Unit Area (ha)
FORESTRY AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT	11,122.86
OTHER - SPECIFY IN COMMENTS	10,310.10
INAPPROPRIATE SCRUB CONTROL	6,869.20
DRAINAGE	6,367.96
UNDERGRAZING	5,081.11
COASTAL SQUEEZE	4,467.54
INAPPROPRIATE COASTAL MANAGEMENT	4,172.70
INAPPROPRIATE DITCH MANAGEMENT	3,362.70
INAPPROPRIATE WEED CONTROL	2,148.51
PUBLIC ACCESS/DISTURBANCE	1,599.92
MILITARY	892.06
DEER GRAZING/BROWSING	871.36
FIRE - OTHER	664.41
OVERGRAZING	626.42
AGRICULTURE - OTHER	437.29
SILTATION	390.93
INAPPROPRIATE CUTTING/MOWING	387.19
PLANNING PERMISSION - GENERAL	267.95
PLANNING PERMISSION - OTHER MINERAL AND WASTE	222.04
VEHICLES - ILLICIT	206.57
VEHICLES - OTHER	197.03
GAME MANAGEMENT - PHEASANT REARING	179.9
EARTH SCIENCE FEATURE OBSTRUCTED	88.63
INAPPROPRIATE STOCK-FEEDING	88.02
FERTILISER USE	87.72
PESTICIDE/HERBICIDE USE	49.85
INAPPROPRIATE CSS/ESA PRESCRIPTION	36.32
INAPPROPRIATE PEST CONTROL	26.7
GAME MANAGEMENT - OTHER	21.83
EARTH SCIENCE FEATURE REMOVED	4.34
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>61,249.16</b>

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Source: English Nature 2005

#### **B14.3 GEOLOGICAL CONSERVATION REVIEW**

Geological Conservation Review sites are nationally important sites and are recognised as such. All English GCR sites currently have SSSI status and are, therefore, considered within the general context of the SSSIs, listed above.

There are many such sites within the South East, the full details of which can be obtained from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee. **Table B14.2**, below, details GCR sites within the region:

**Table B14.2 Geological Conservation Review Sites**

Area	GCR Site
Brighton and Hove	Black Rock, Newhaven to Brighton, Saltdean
Medway	High Halstow, Lower Upnor Sand Pit, Upnor
Isle of Wight	Alum Bay (and Totland Bay), Atherfield to Rocken End, Bouldnor Cliff, Bouldnor Cliff and Hamstead Cliffs and foreshore, Chapel Corner, Colwell Bay, Compton Bay, Compton Bay-Brightstone Bay, Cimopton Chine, Compton to Atherfield, Gurnard, Hamstead Lodge, Hanover Point, Headon Hill, King's Quay, Lacey's Farm Quarry, Lucombe Chime, Priory Bay, Prospect Quarry, Redcliffe, Sandown Bay, Shanklin Chine to Monks Bay, South-West Isle of Wight, St Helens, Thorness Nay, Thorness Nay and Gurnard, Whitecliffe, Whitecliffe Bay, Bembridge, Yaverland,
Berkshire	Boxford Chalk Pit, Brimpton, Cannon Court Farm Pit, Cold Ash, Fognam Quarry, Hamstead Marshall, Pincent's Kiln, Winterbourne Chalk Pit
Buckinghamshire	Bernton, Bolter End, Bugle Pit, Chalfont St Giles, Fern House Pit, Muswell Hill, Pitstone (Marsworth Quarry), South Lodge Pit, Stone, Warren Farm
East Sussex	Asham Quarry, Battle, Beachy Head-Seaford, Birling Gap, Blackhouse Quarry, Brede, Chailey, Cliff End, Covehurst, Cow Gay, Cuckmere to Seaford, East Grinstead, Fairlight, Fairlight Cove& Haddocks, Hadlow Down, Hare Farm, Hastings, Hasting-Pett Level, High Rocks, Iden, Lower Dicker, Nothian, River Line, Rye Harbour, Southerham (Lime Kiln Quarries), Southerham Grey Pit, Tunbridge Wells, Waldron, Winchelsea
Hampshire	Barton Cliff, Calshot Cliff, Cranes Moor, Downend Chalk Pit, Dunbridge Pit, Duncroft Farm Pit, Highland Water, Hillhead Cliffs, Hordel, Hordle-Beacon Cliffs, Hordle Cliff, Hurst Castle Spit, Keyhaven Marsh, Hurst Castle, Lee-on-Solent, Mark Ash Wood, Paddy's Gap, Park Hill Enclosure, Rake Bottom, Shepherd's Gutter, Stone Point, Studley Wood, Upper Hale, Wood Green Gravel Pit
Kent	Ellington Quarry, Aylesford, Bakers Hole, Barn field Pit, Blue Bell Hill Pits, Copland Pits, Devil's Kneading Trough, Dover to Kingstown Cliffs, Dry hill, Dungeness, East Wear Bay, Folkestone, Folkston Warren, Norwich Pit, Fore ness Point, Hart hill, Horne Bay, Holy well Coomb, Hubbard's Hill, Kingstown Dover, North Cliff-Broad stairs, Oaken Wood, Otter pool Manor, Peg well Bay, Penury, Irvington Quarry, Rust hall Common, Sevenoaks, Sheppetey, South borough, Starry Gravel Pits, Swanscombe-Barnfield Pit, Thanet Coast, Upper Halling, Walpole Bay Cliffs and Grenham Bay Cliffs, Wansunt Pit, Warden Point, Warden Point, Wateringbury
Oxfordshire	Ardley Cuttings & Quarries, Aston Rowant Cutting, Chawley Brickpits, Chinnor Chalk Pit, Cothill Fen, Cross Roads Quarry, Cumor, Ditchely Road Quarry, Dry Sanford Pit, Highlands Farm Pitt, Hook Norton, Horesay Quarries, Kirtlington, Kirtlington Cement Works, Lamb & Flag, Littlemore, Littleworth Brick Pitt, Long Hanborough, Lyehill, Magdalen Grove, Magdalen Pit, Neithrop Fields Cutting, Priest's Hill, Sharps Hills, Shellingfor Crossroads, Shipton on Cherwell, Stant Harcourt, Stonefield, Stratton Audley, The Manager, Wicklesham and Coxwell Pits, Wicklesham Pit, Woodeaton
Surrey	Auclaye, Brook Brick Pit, Capel, Chiddington, Clock House, Hambleton, Mountain Wood, Newdigate (North), Newdigate (South), Seale Chalk Pit, Smokejake, Stock Farm, The Mole Gap, Upper Common

Area	GCR Site
West Sussex	Benbridge, Billingshurst, Bognor Regis, Backlesham Bay, Chantry Mill, Chiddingly Wood, Coneyhurst Common, Devil's Dyke, Earnley, Eartham Pit, Boxgrove, East Head, Felpham, Fernhurst, Horsted Keynes, Horton Clay Pit, Marehill Quarry, Pargham Harbourt, Park Farm Cutting, Scaynes Hill, Selsey, Slinford, Turners Hill, Warnham, West Hoathly (Hook) West Hoathly (Philpots), West Hoathly (Sharphorne) Wittering to Selsey

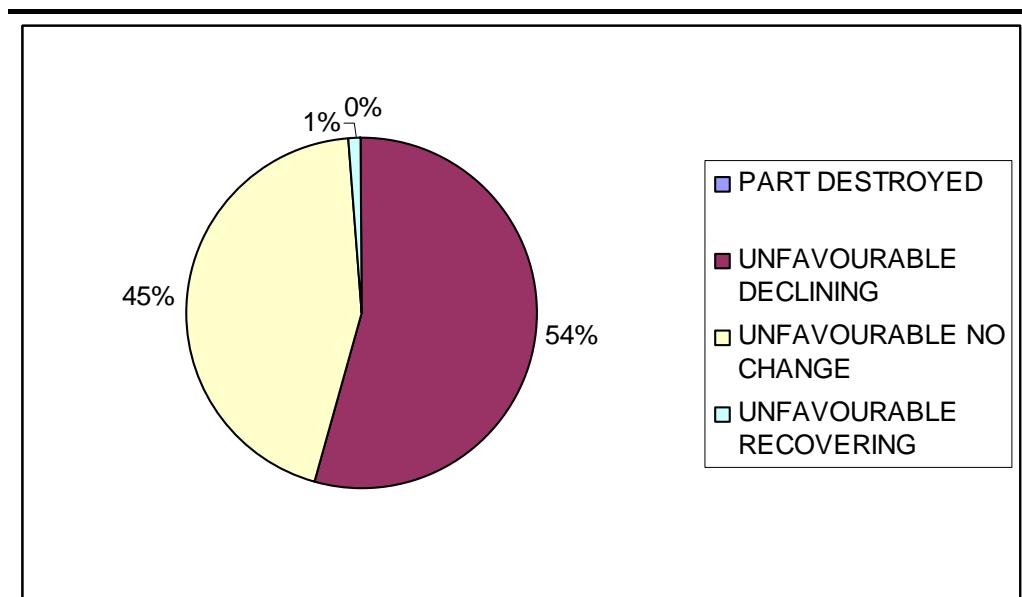
Source: JNCC 2005

#### B14.4

#### SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION

The region has just over 12,300 hectares of land designated as Special Areas of Conservation. The current state of such key habitats is of concern, with over half of the region's SACs in an unfavourable state and declining and nearly all of the remaining sites unfavourable though not actually declining.

*Figure B14.4 State of Special Areas of Conservation*



Source: English Nature 2005

The detailed overview of the adverse conditions which are affecting the SACs is listed in the table below. The most common adverse condition is that of drainage problems which affects just under 3300 hectares of SAC land; conditions such as inappropriate pest control constitute the least common detrimental condition affecting SACs in the region. As with other designated areas, coastal squeeze is a common adverse condition.

**Table B14.3 Detailed Overview of Adverse Conditions of Special Areas of Conservation**

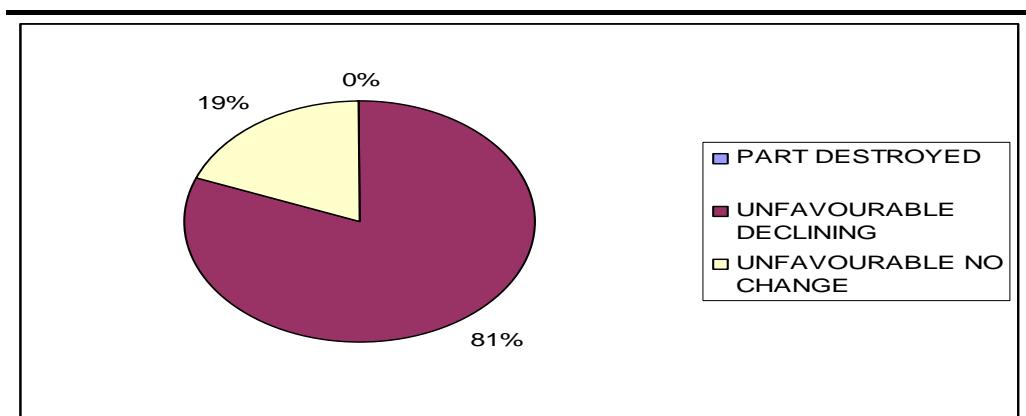
Adverse condition description	Unit Area (ha)
DRAINAGE	3,293.26
OTHER - SPECIFY IN COMMENTS	3,180.72
INAPPROPRIATE SCRUB CONTROL	1,926.41
COASTAL SQUEEZE	1,888.13
FORESTRY AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT	1,763.27
UNDERGRAZING	1,001.09
MILITARY	887.92
INAPPROPRIATE DITCH MANAGEMENT	806.01
FIRE - OTHER	337.89
PUBLIC ACCESS/DISTURBANCE	313.95
INAPPROPRIATE COASTAL MANAGEMENT	259.10
WATER POLLUTION - AGRICULTURE/RUN OFF	236.51
WATER POLLUTION - DISCHARGE	155.50
WATER ABSTRACTION	150.01
PLANNING PERMISSION - GENERAL	126.72
SILTATION	93.18
VEHICLES - OTHER	86.40
OVERGRAZING	86.29
INAPPROPRIATE WEED CONTROL	85.41
INAPPROPRIATE DREDGING	43.81
INAPPROPRIATE CUTTING/MOWING	33.80
AGRICULTURE - OTHER	28.89
INAPPROPRIATE WEIRS DAMS AND OTHER STRUCTURES	23.72
INLAND FLOOD DEFENCE WORKS	23.72
INVASIVE FRESHWATER SPECIES	23.72
GAME MANAGEMENT - PHEASANT REARING	18.80
DEER GRAZING/BROWSING	18.44
FERTILISER USE	7.38
INAPPROPRIATE PEST CONTROL	1.13
Grand Total	16,901.18

Source: English Nature 2005

#### B14.5 SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS

Of note is the poor condition of all of the Special Protection Areas within the region, with a significant 81% of SPAs designated as unfavourable and declining. None of the region's SPAs are in a favourable state and this is evidently an issue of concern for the region.

**Figure B14.5 Condition of SPAs**



Source: English Nature 2005

The specific adverse conditions which affect the SPAs range considerably with the largest specific adverse condition being that of coastal squeeze which currently affects just under 4,500 hectares of SPA land in the region. This has clear links to the effects of climate change on the region. It also highlights the need for the region to be proactive in planning for adaptation to climate change.

**Table B14.4 Factors of Affecting the Condition of SPAs**

Adverse condition description	Unit Area (ha)
OTHER - SPECIFY IN COMMENTS	4,515.96
COASTAL SQUEEZE	4,467.54
INAPPROPRIATE COASTAL MANAGEMENT	3,952.95
INAPPROPRIATE SCRUB CONTROL	1,538.87
UNDERGRAZING	1,282.17
FORESTRY AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT	1,090.13
INAPPROPRIATE WEED CONTROL	667.30
INAPPROPRIATE DITCH MANAGEMENT	520.98
WATER POLLUTION - AGRICULTURE/RUN OFF	327.76
DRAINAGE	248.66
FIRE - OTHER	203.33
PUBLIC ACCESS/DISTURBANCE	167.78
OVERGRAZING	149.65
VEHICLES - ILLICIT	120.92
INAPPROPRIATE STOCK-FEEDING	67.77
INAPPROPRIATE WATER LEVELS	66.75
PLANNING PERMISSION - GENERAL	61.69
VEHICLES - OTHER	61.69
WATER POLLUTION - DISCHARGE	60.60
PLANNING PERMISSION - OTHER MINERAL AND WASTE	45.10
INAPPROPRIATE DREDGING	43.81
WATER ABSTRACTION	42.23
AGRICULTURE - OTHER	19.15
DEER GRAZING/BROWSING	8.83
INAPPROPRIATE CUTTING/MOWING	6.54
GAME MANAGEMENT - PHEASANT REARING	4.01
INAPPROPRIATE PEST CONTROL	1.13
Grand Total	19,743.30

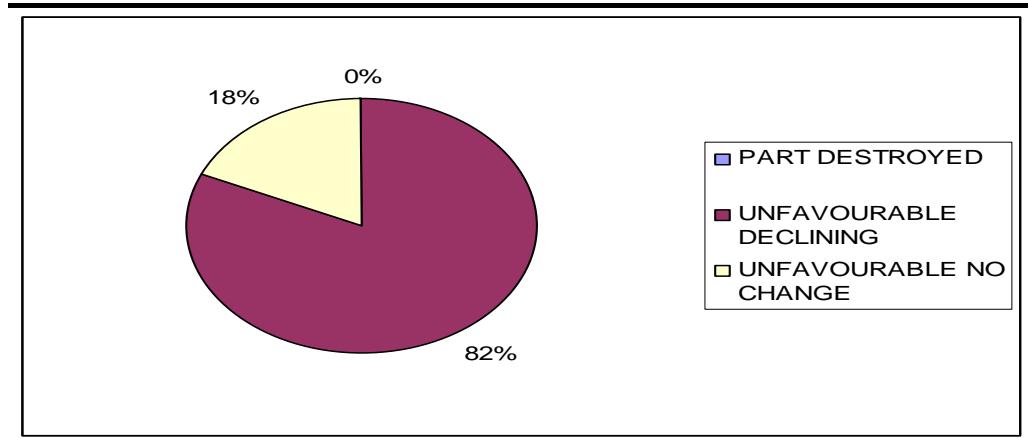
Source: English Nature 2005

#### B14.6

#### RAMSAR SITES

As with the region's SPA sites, Ramsar sites within the South East are not in a favourable condition with all of the region's 10,888 hectares of Ramsar sites being in an unfavourable or partially destroyed state. A highly significant 82% of all Ramsar sites in the region are in an unfavourable and declining condition.

**Figure B14.6 Condition of Ramsar Sites**



Source: English Nature 2005

Analysing the factors causing this unfavourable condition, it is apparent that coastal squeeze is a key contributor to Ramsar site deterioration, as with SPA sites in the region. Other key factors of note are inappropriate coastal and ditch management which collectively comprise approximately 5,500 hectares of land.

As was noted in connection with SPAs, climate change is a major contributory factor to the current and likely future status of Ramsar sites in the region. Steps need to be taken to address planning for adaptation to climate change.

**Table B14.5 Overview of Condition of Factors Affecting the Ramsar Sites**

Adverse condition description	Unit Area (ha)
COASTAL SQUEEZE	4,467.54
OTHER - SPECIFY IN COMMENTS	4,052.24
INAPPROPRIATE COASTAL MANAGEMENT	3,952.95
INAPPROPRIATE DITCH MANAGEMENT	1,424.64
DRAINAGE	620.04
INAPPROPRIATE SCRUB CONTROL	604.83
UNDERGRAZING	438.34
WATER POLLUTION - AGRICULTURE/RUN OFF	368.13
INAPPROPRIATE WEED CONTROL	298.96
PUBLIC ACCESS/DISTURBANCE	167.78
OVERGRAZING	146.98
WATER POLLUTION - DISCHARGE	133.77
VEHICLES - ILLICIT	131.17
AGRICULTURE - OTHER	80.33
WATER ABSTRACTION	69.38
INAPPROPRIATE STOCK-FEEDING	67.77
FORESTRY AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT	67.01
INAPPROPRIATE WATER LEVELS	66.75
PLANNING PERMISSION - GENERAL	61.69
VEHICLES - OTHER	61.69
PLANNING PERMISSION - OTHER MINERAL AND WASTE	45.10
INAPPROPRIATE DREDGING	43.81
INAPPROPRIATE CUTTING/MOWING	15.75
INAPPROPRIATE PEST CONTROL	8.14
GAME MANAGEMENT - PHEASANT REARING	4.01
Grand Total	17,398.80

Source: English Nature 2005-11-15

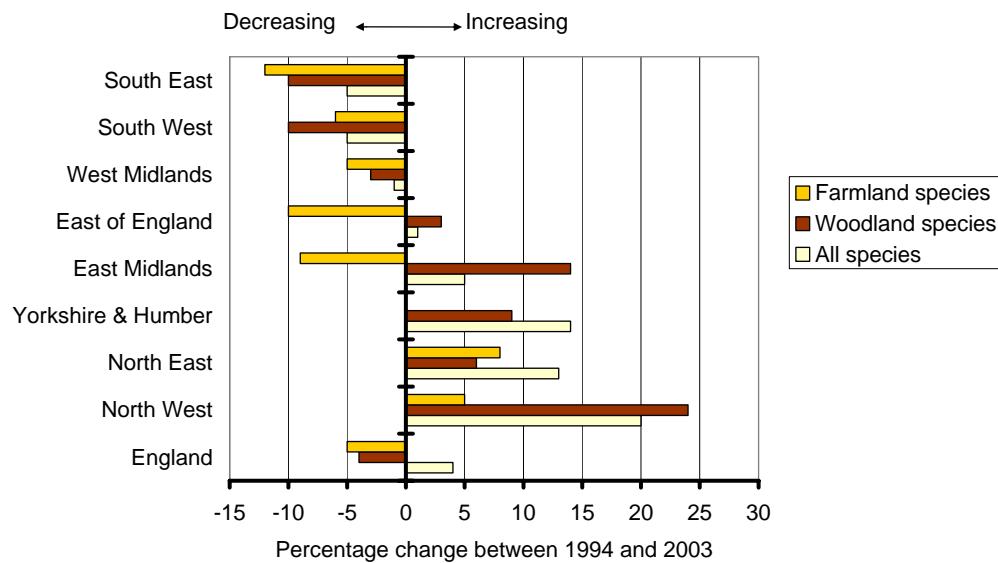
It is important to note that the scope exists for double counting with the data on designated landscapes.

#### B14.7

#### *WILD BIRDS*

A key indicator of the state of the region's biodiversity is the state of its populations of wild birds, both farmland and woodland groups of species. This is a nationally significant indicator of sustainable development. A regional comparison of these groups of species highlights the declining populations of both farmland and woodland birds within the South East. The region has experienced the largest loss of farmland birds of all regions, far exceeding the national average and in sharp contrast to regions such as the North East which have benefited from an increase in population of such species. Woodland species have also suffered a decline, though marginally less marked than that of farmland species. As with the farmland species, the decline in woodland species surpasses the national rate of decline and is only equalled by the South West which has suffered a comparable reduction. Other regions such as the North West have enjoyed significant increases in populations.

**Figure 14.7** *Regional Comparison of Populations of Farmland and Woodland Birds*



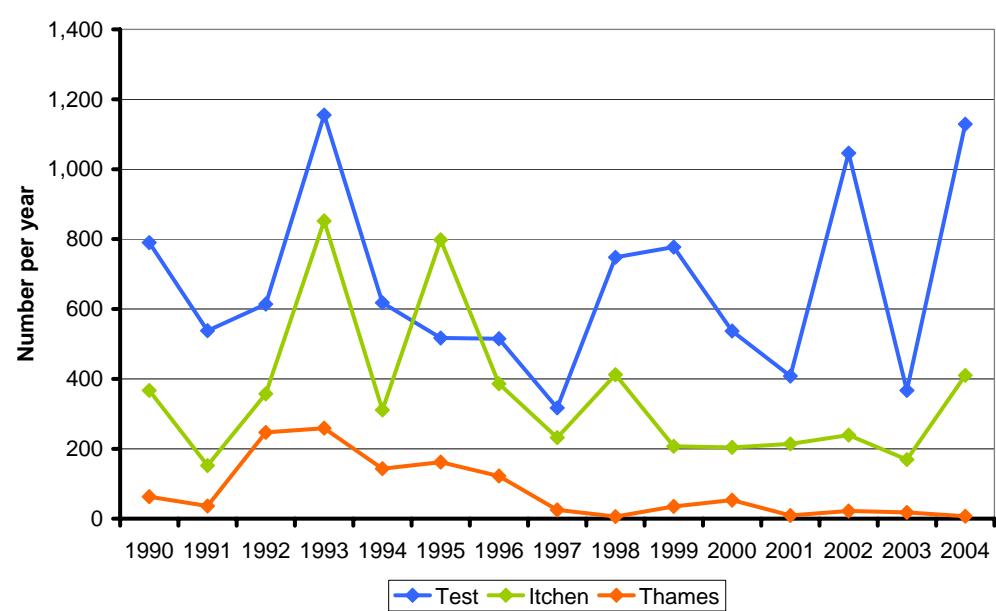
Source: English Nature 2005

#### B14.8

#### *FISH STOCKS*

Salmon stock within the region, as monitored by sampling in key rivers, has experienced considerable variability over the period of 1990-2004; stock being particularly high in years such as 1993, yet reaching its lowest levels in 1998, 2001 and 2004 in the Thames.

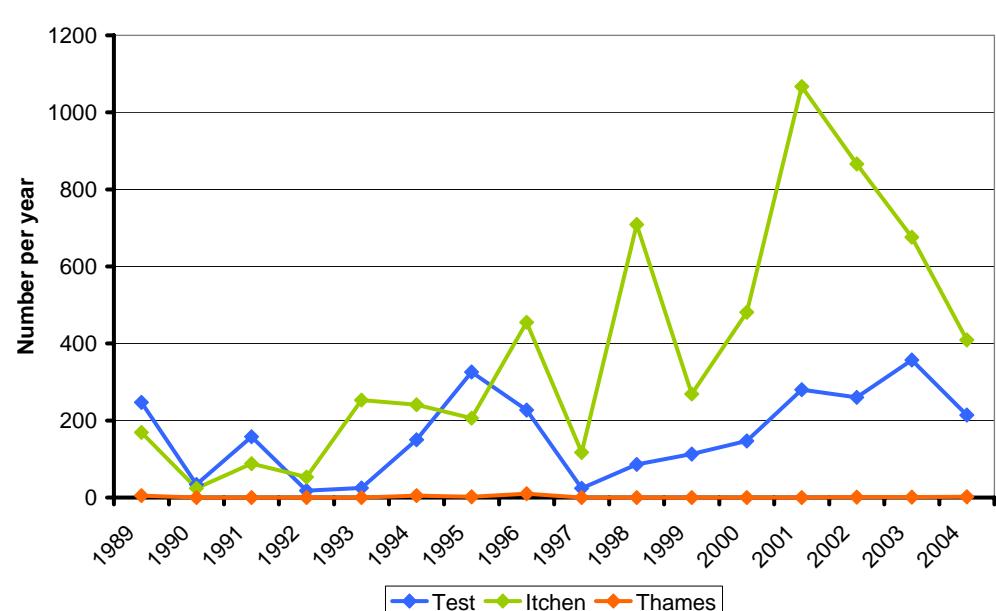
**Figure 14.8** *Salmon Stock*



Source: English Nature 2005

Sea trout stocks in the region also demonstrate variability with levels in the Thames being negligible whilst levels in the Itchen have fluctuated significantly during the past two decades. The current data for 2004 highlights a significant decline in stock from 2001, this decline being consistent during the course of the past three years and indicating current stock is lower than 1996 levels.

**Figure 14.9** *Stocks of Sea Trout*

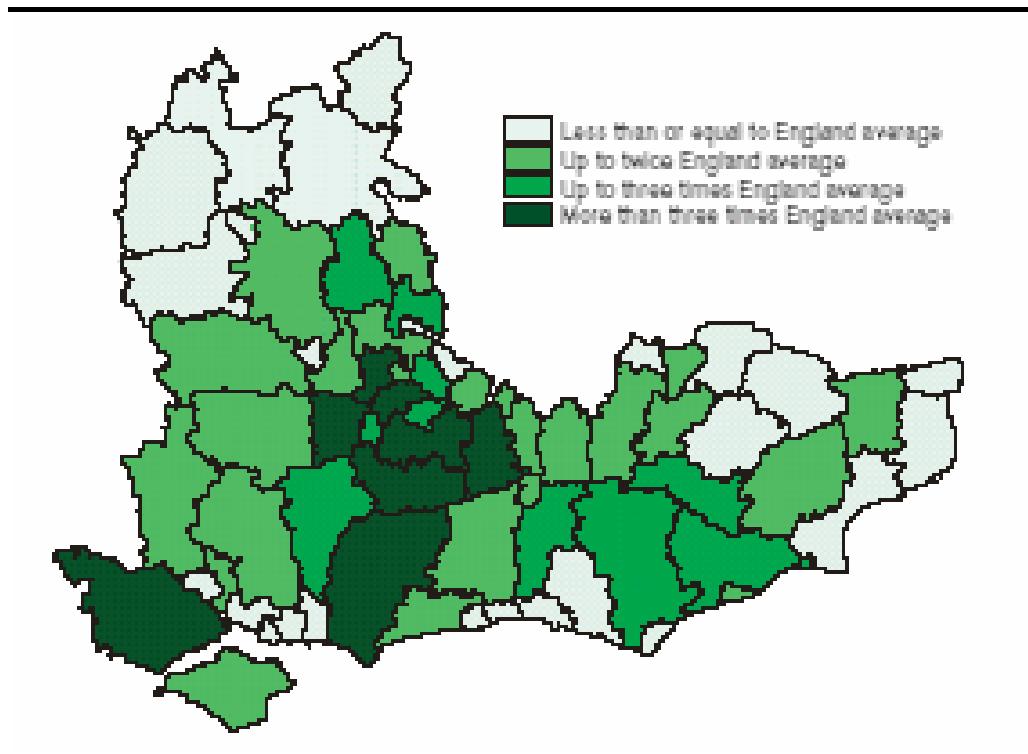


Source: English Nature 2005

The total area of woodland (greater than 0.1 hectare) within the region is 270,084 hectares, this representing 14.6% of the region's land area in total. The South East benefits from having the largest area of woodland of all regions, with the national average being significantly lower at 8%. There exists considerable sub-regional variation, however, with Oxfordshire having below average woodland cover whilst Surrey Hills comprises 32% woodland.

In terms of absolute woodland, the South East has experienced an increase in woodland area; during 1980-1996 there was a regional increase of 18500 hectares, this being primarily native woodland in composition (55%).

**Figure 14.10 Woodland Density**



Source: Forestry Commission: South East England Strategy 2004

The South East has 40% of England's ancient woodland of which 80,000 hectares is ancient semi-natural woodland; the remaining 46,685 hectares having been replanted with non-native species at some stage

**Table 14.6 Ancient Woodland**

	Berks	Bucks	E.Sussex	Hants	Isle of Wight	Kent	Oxon	Surrey	W.Sussex
% Cover	14.5	9.4	16.7	17.7	12	10.6	7	22.4	18.9
Ancient Woodland	5370	8795	18190	27970	1510	27060	7725	9280	16830
Other Woodland	12938	8777	11734	38969	3039	12427	10510	28284	20677

Source: Forestry Commission

The region has a rich biodiversity asset base. It has, however, experienced significant decline in key indicator species such as farmland and woodland birds. Key designated habitats also demonstrates significant scope for improvement with the level of SPA and SAC sites being designated as in an unfavourable state of condition, being of particular concern.

Whilst there is no detailed data, it is estimated that approximately two-thirds of the region's woodlands are privately owned, this raising issues of land management control and protection. It is important that the region ensures monitoring of both private and publicly owned woodland assets to safeguard against the potential loss or deterioration of such key biodiversity assets.

**B15.1****DATA**

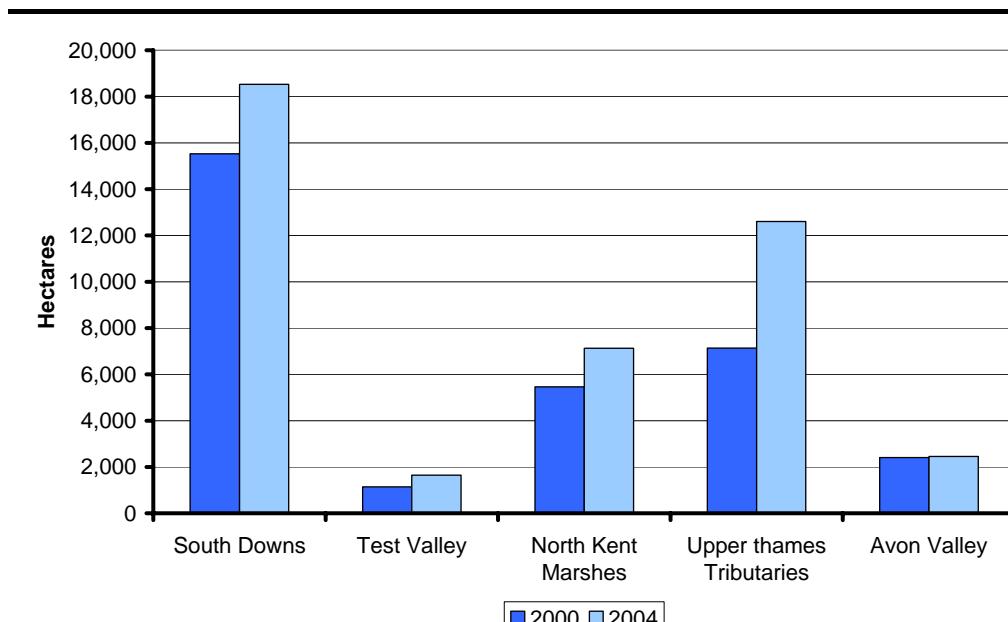
Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Proportion of ESA areas with tier coverage
- Proportion of county areas covered by CSS
- Condition of countryside paths in the South East
- Condition of historic buildings

**B15.2****LAND COVERED BY AGRI-ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT SCHEMES**

Land within designated Environmentally Sensitive Areas within the South East is outlined within the chart below. The South Downs represents a key ESA base, its total land coverage significantly greater than that of any other key area within the region. In absolute terms, the area of land managed under the scheme has increased in all key locations with the Upper Thames tributary area experiencing the single largest relative increase.

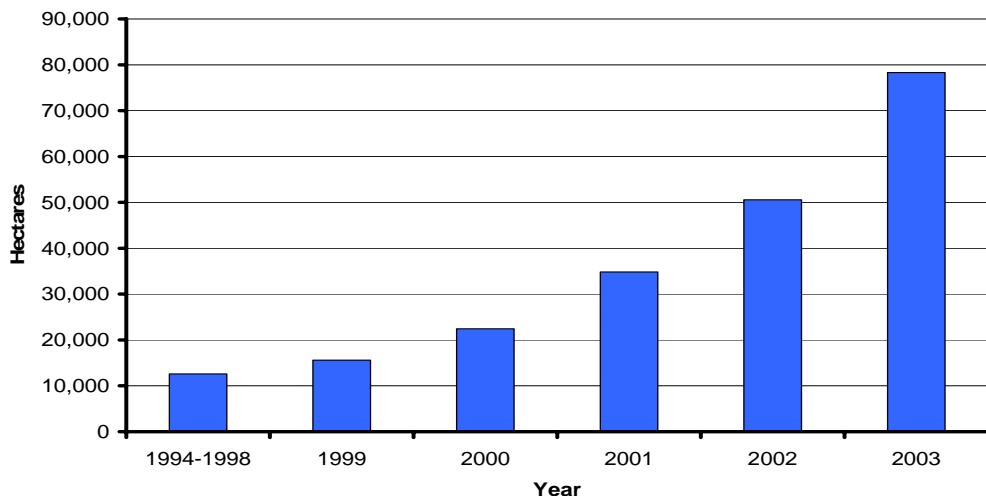
*Figure B15.1 Environmentally Sensitive Areas*



Source EA 2005

Land managed under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme within the region has also increased significantly, with year on year increases being evident since 1994.

**Figure B15.2 Countryside Stewardship Schemes**



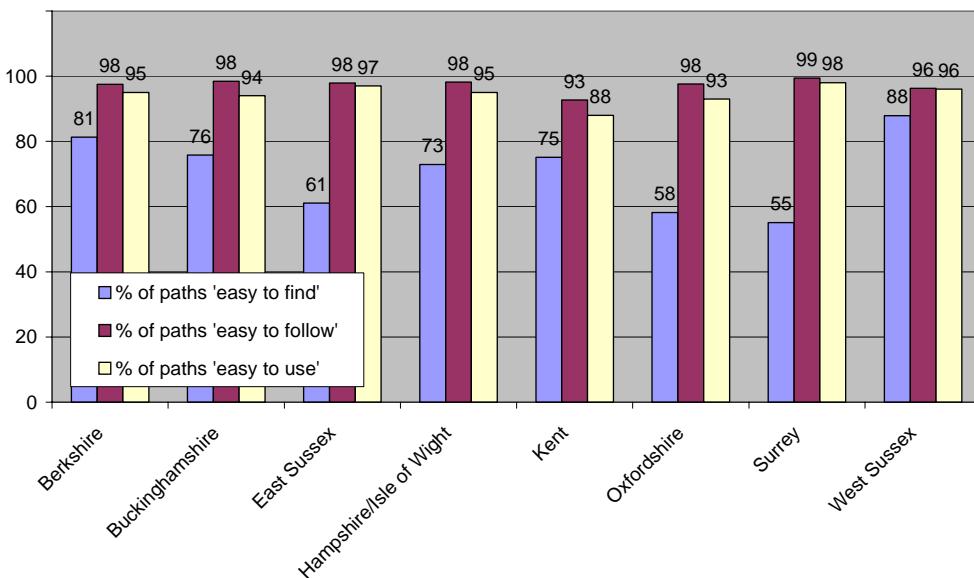
Source: EA 2005

The importance of land management under these schemes resides in the high environmental standards which the schemes seek to deliver, this contributing to the region's attainment of both its biodiversity base but also enjoyment of a rich, protected countryside.

### B15.3 CONDITION OF COUNTRYSIDE PATHS

Data on the condition of countryside paths is available from 2000. According to this data, much of the region is close to or achieving the national target of 95% of paths being easy to follow and easy to use. The region has been less successful at meeting the 95% target for paths easy to find.

**Figure B15.3 Condition of Countryside Paths in the South East**



Source: Countryside Agency (2001) The Rights of Way Condition Survey 2000, Countryside Agency Cheltenham (CA94)

**B15.4****ACCESS TO AND ENJOYMENT OF THE REGION'S HISTORIC ASSETS**

The South East has the highest percentage of visitors of sites owned by English Heritage in any English region. The region itself has a rich historic environment with more registered historic parks and gardens than any other region, and more conservation areas. The number of scheduled monuments in the region has increased by 59 since 2004.

**Table B15.1 Historic Areas and Open Spaces**

<b>Historic Assets and Open Spaces</b>	<b>Number of Assets in Region</b>
Conservation Areas	2,132
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	9
National Parks	1
Designated Heritage Coastlines	5
Ancient Woodland	123,600ha

**Source:** Heritage Counts 2005

The historic environment is, however, undergoing significant change with English Heritage noting that just under 10% of listed building stock is subject to a listed building consent decision (2004/2005) and the region has the greatest number of notifications about planning consents concerning registered parks and historic gardens, of any region (2004/2005). The region has also experienced the greatest level of farm building conversion of any region since the 1980s.

**Table B15.2 Designated Historic Assets**

<b>Asset</b>	<b>Number in Region</b>
World Heritage Sites	2
Scheduled Monuments	2,669
Listed Buildings	76,242
Registered Historic Parks and Gardens	374
Battlefields	6
Registered Historic Vessels	9
Protected Wreck Sites	17
Military Remains	3

**Source:** Heritage Counts 2005

Data on the region's scheduled monuments is outlined in the table below, highlighting the region's rich historic asset base. Areas such as Kent enjoy significantly higher numbers of historic buildings than elsewhere in the region, whilst Hampshire has a particularly large wealth of scheduled monuments. Initiatives aimed at protecting and enhancing the region's historic environment, and access and enjoyment thereof, reflect the geographical spread of the South East's historic assets.

**Table B15.3 Distribution of Historic Environment Assets by Unitary Authority**

UNITARY AUTHORITY	DISTRIBUTION OF LISTED BUILDINGS	DISTRIBUTION OF SCHEDULED MONUMENTS	DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTERED PARKS & GARDENS AND BATTLEFIELDS	DISTRIBUTION OF CONSERVATION AREAS
BRACKNELL FOREST	259	12	6	3
READING	503	2	5	13
SLough	63	2	4	4
WEST BERKSHIRE	1,883	85	15	52
WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD	993	17	12	27
WOKINGHAM	638	18	7	16
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	5,791	145	33	177
MILTON KEYNES	1,076	48	3	26
EAST SUSSEX	6,342	303	36	120
BRIGHTON & HOVE	1,220	15	6	17
KENT	17,321	345	58	585
MEDWAY	610	72	2	15
HAMPSHIRE	11,503	677	56	338
ISLE OF WIGHT	1,944	119	8	25
OXFORDSHIRE	12,081	292	60	242
SURREY	6,494	165	41	238
WEST SUSSEX	7,521	352	33	234

Source: Heritage Counts 2005

## B15.5

### CONDITION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

According to Heritage Counts 2005, the South East has endured the greatest loss of historic parkland of any region and lost more recorded archaeological sites than any other region since 1945. In terms of its historic buildings, the region has also more entries on the Buildings at Risk Register, of which it also has the greatest number of buildings at risk which will require funds in excess of £250,000 to restore (2004/2005). The region's coastal historic assets are also under threat from sea level change.

## B15.6

### ISSUES

The region enjoys a rich historic environment, with a broad base of listed buildings and scheduled monuments. Access to these assets will be key in delivering this objective, however, equally important is the protection and enhancement both of these assets and the countryside generally. Increasing land management of the region's countryside under the ESA scheme will serve to assist in achieving such protection. The state of the region's historic assets is, however, an issue of concern with the region having suffered significant losses to its archaeological sites and an escalating number of Buildings at Risk. The increasing number of Heritage Champions in the region, currently within 25 Local Authorities, will serve an important role in pushing the protection of these assets within local and regional agendas.

**B16.1****DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

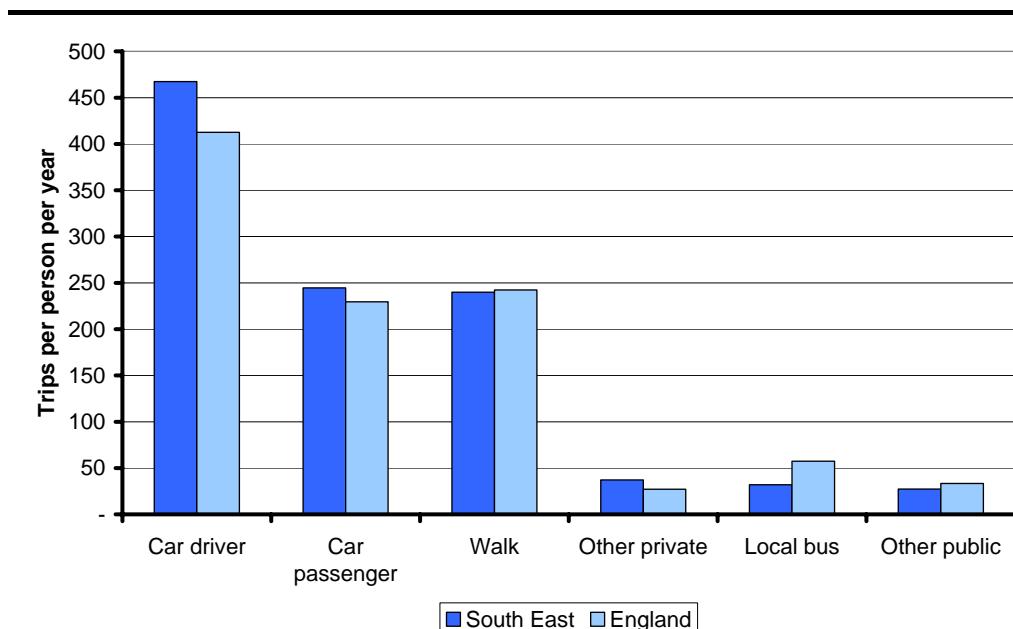
- Mode travelled
- Time taken to travel to work
- Kms travelled by motor traffic
- Daily traffic flow
- Investment in public transport
- Freight traffic

**B16.2****MODE OF TRAVEL**

Key to reducing road congestion will be the diversification of transport options taken by people within the region, in particular, through encouraging public transport use.

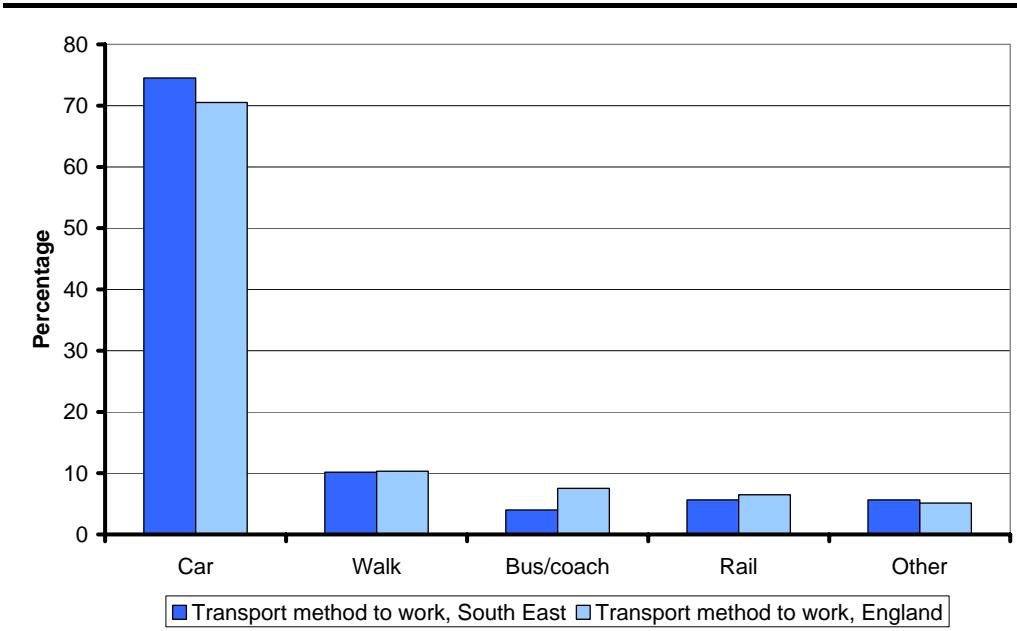
The DTI figures for the main transport mode taken by people within the region and nationally, demonstrates the continuing predominance of car use, by driver and as a passenger. Public transport options are significantly in the minority though trips by walking do exceed those taken as a car passenger.

**Figure B16.1 Trips by Main Mode**



**Source: Department for Transport 2005**

**Figure B16.2 Mode of Travel to Work**



Source: Department for Transport 2004/5

Analysing transport modes as related to work, the chart above reiterates the heavy reliance upon car use which far exceeds any other form of transport mode; interestingly, walking as a means to travel to work is far less common than walking as a general transport option, perhaps highlighting the disparity in transport modes between employed and unemployed/retired sections of the community and the leisure transport options taken by the region's population.

**Table B16.1 Usual Time Taken to Travel to Work**

	Percentages	
	South East	United Kingdom
10 minutes or less	33.7	31.3
Between 11 and 20 minutes	29.7	28.5
Between 21 and 30 minutes	17.5	18.2
Between 31 and 40 minutes	5.1	5.6
Between 41 and 50 minutes	5.6	6.3
Between 51 minutes and one hour	4.2	5.6
More than one hour	4.2	4.4

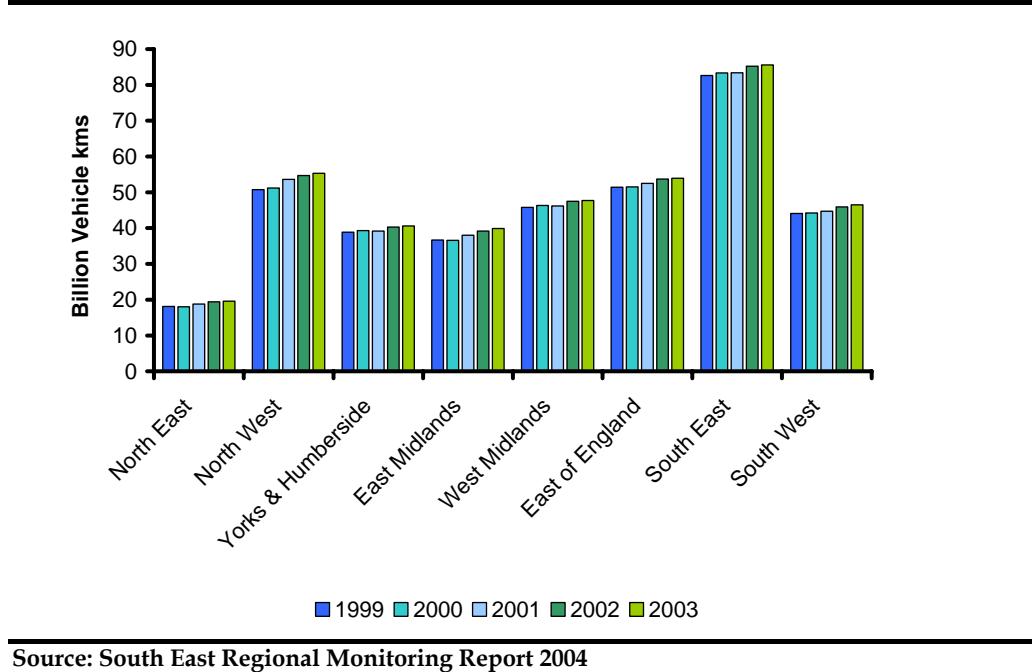
Source: Department for Transport 2004/5

Contrasting the transport mode to work and the time taken to reach work, it is apparent that a large percentage of the region's population are making short car journeys to work with less than a fifth of the population having to travel more than a half an hour to their work.

In terms of the distance travelled by car, the data below reinforces the heavy reliance placed by the region's population on car use (and other forms of motor transportation). The South East by far exceeds all other regions in

terms of kilometres travelled by motor traffic with the North West a distant second.

**Figure B16.3 Kilometres Travelled by all Motor Traffic**

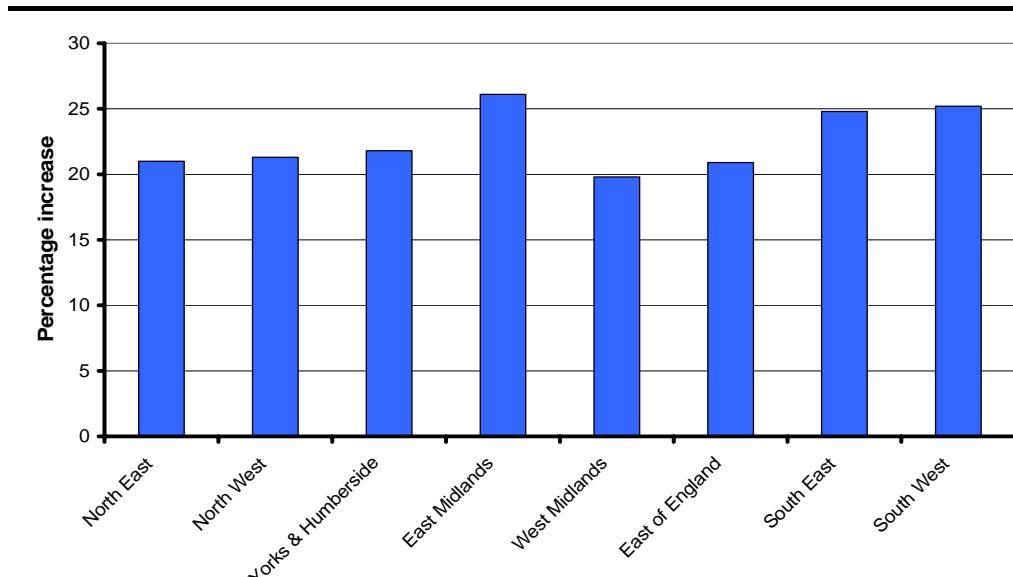


Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

### B16.3 TRAFFIC FLOW

Given the reliance on car use it is unsurprising that the South East is amongst the regions experiencing the highest percentage increases in traffic. The region is only surpassed by the East Midlands and the South West in terms of traffic increase; the overall volume of motor transportation is, however, still relatively low in both regions when compared to the South East.

**Figure B16.4 Increases in Traffic in the English Regions**



Source: Department for Transport 2004/5

Analysis of the average daily traffic flow for the region illustrates that it is significantly higher in terms of all roads, motorway, rural major roads and both rural and urban minor roads use; only major urban roads have less traffic flow in the region than the national average.

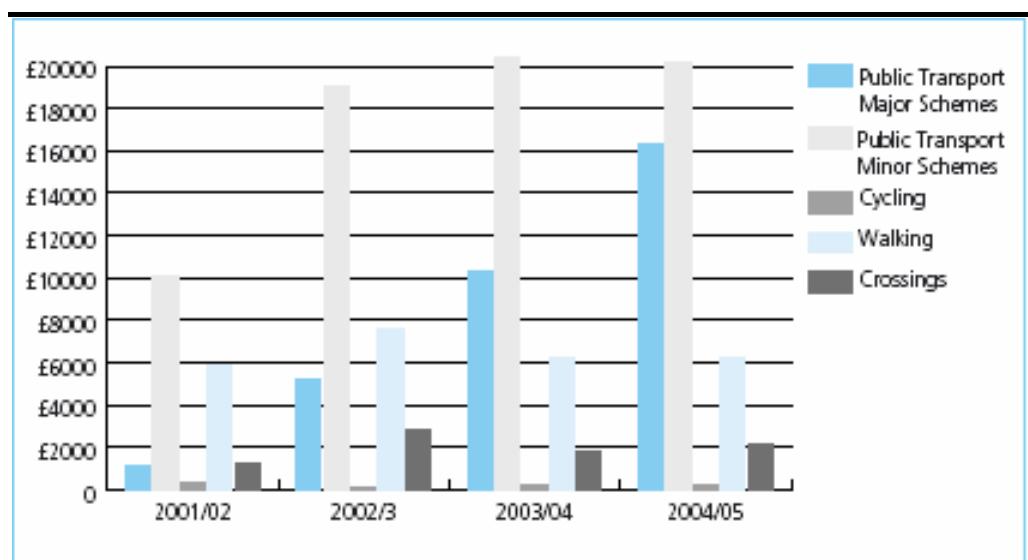
**Table B16.2 Average Daily Traffic Flows**

Thousand vehicles per kilometre per day		
	South East	England
Motorway	91.0	78.0
Major roads		
Rural <sup>2</sup>	17.9	13.7
Urban	19.5	20.7
Minor roads		
Rural <sup>2</sup>	1.4	1.0
Urban	2.5	2.4
All roads	4.9	3.9

Source: Department of Transport 2004

Investment in public transport within the region has risen in terms of major schemes and continued to be high in relation minor schemes. Cycling route investment continues to attract little investment and walking paths/footpaths have had relatively little investment, when contrasted to major and minor public transport schemes. Given the heavy car use in the region, investment in public transport will be required to assist in encouraging people to switch from private transport options when travelling to work, in particular.

**Figure B16.5 Investment in Public Transport**



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

## B16.4 FREIGHT TRAFFIC

### B16.4.1 Road Freight

The data on freight movement by road illustrates that the South East is amongst the top destinations for freight amongst the UK; approximately 201 million tonnes of freight was transported by road into the region in 2004. The region was also a large exporter of freight to the rest of the UK; approximately 194 million tonnes of freight was transported by road out of the region.

**Table B16.3 Freight Transported Road - Regional Comparison by**

Origin	Destination										All regions <sup>3</sup>	
	North East	North West	Yorkshire & the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East of England	London	South East	South West	Wales		
North East	56	4	8	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	76
North West	4	139	13	8	11	4	1	3	2	6	7	200
Yorkshire & the Humber	6	19	152	18	7	6	1	3	2	2	3	220
East Midlands	2	12	16	87	21	15	4	9	3	2	2	172
West Midlands	2	11	6	14	105	7	3	6	6	7	1	168
East of England	1	4	5	13	7	126	17	18	4	2	1	197
London	0	1	1	3	2	13	64	15	2	0	0	101
South East	1	3	3	7	5	14	19	131	9	2	1	194
South West	0	2	1	3	5	2	2	13	122	5	0	157
Wales	0	8	2	1	6	1	0	3	5	59	0	86
Scotland	2	6	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	158	173
All regions <sup>3</sup>	74	209	208	157	172	189	113	201	157	86	176	1,744

Source: Department for Transport 2004/2005

The significant transportation of freight by road in and out of the region adds to the region's traffic flow, whilst also contributing to the region's emissions levels.

**Table B16.4 Sea Freight Travel- Regional and UK Comparison**

Region	2001			2002		
	Inwards	Outwards	All	Inwards	Outwards	All
North East	20,772	34,967	55,739	18,919	36,302	55,221
North West	29,665	15,298	44,963	29,423	13,911	43,334
Yorkshire & the Humber	58,103	20,386	78,489	59,241	20,485	79,726
East Midlands	1,239	348	1,587	1,088	347	1,434
West Midlands	-	-	-	-	-	-
East <sup>1</sup>	51,118	20,563	71,681	50,354	19,478	69,832
London <sup>1</sup>	7,629	1,117	8,746	7,289	1,052	8,341
<b>South East<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>61,072</b>	<b>25,401</b>	<b>86,473</b>	<b>61,855</b>	<b>25,133</b>	<b>86,988</b>
South West	14,011	4,955	18,966	12,729	5,182	17,911
England	243,609	123,036	366,645	240,897	121,889	362,786
Wales	36,584	18,150	54,734	32,478	19,542	52,020
Scotland	33,741	90,079	123,820	32,717	89,439	122,156
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>313,934</b>	<b>231,265</b>	<b>545,199</b>	<b>306,092</b>	<b>230,870</b>	<b>536,962</b>

Source: Department for Transport 2005

Sea freight travel for the region was the highest of all the English regions, significantly larger than any other region, reflecting the region's geographical location.

The heavy reliance upon car use and the rising levels of traffic flows in the region with a challenge to change the transport habits of the population. Whilst there continues to be investment in public transport schemes, the level of public transport use remains very low. Given the region's commitment to reducing its ecological footprint and to addressing the threat of climate change, changing the population's use of short and long trips by car will be a key issue.

**B17.1**

**DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Ecological footprint

\*Updated data on the ecological footprint of the region will be included\*

**B17.2**

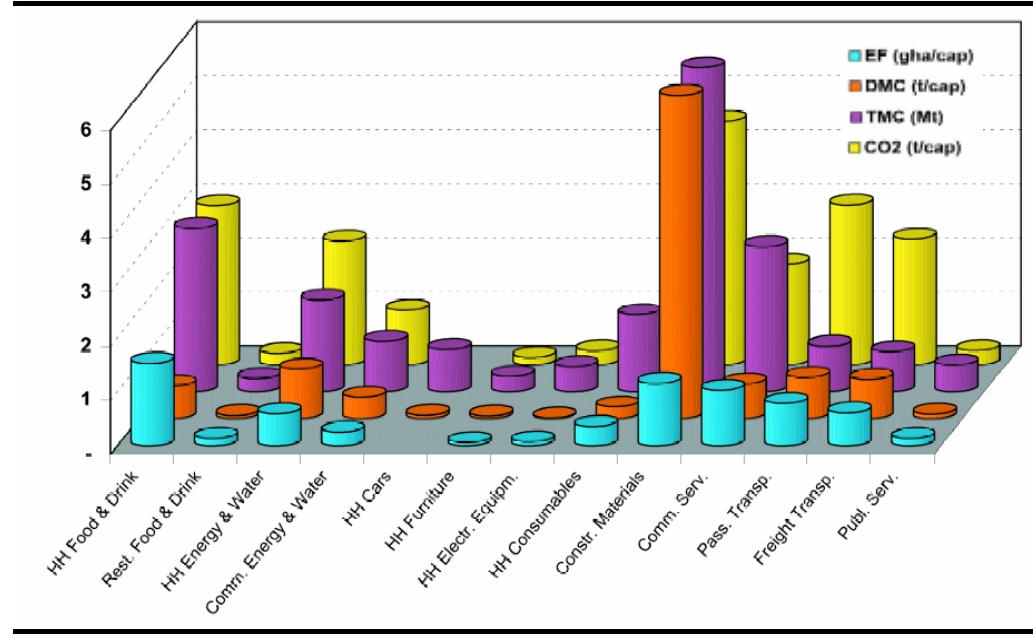
**ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT**

A recent study entitled 'Taking Stock' set out to analyse the material and resource flows of the residents of the South East.

According to the study, Direct Material Consumption (DMC, the total amount of materials directly used in the regional economy and consumed in the region, i.e. excluding exports) for the South East region in 2000 was 88 million tonnes, which equates to 11 tonnes per person. Total Material Consumption (the total material use associated with the regional consumption activities, including DMC and the indirect or 'hidden' material flows associated with it) was 211 million tonnes, or 26 tonnes per person, 2.5 times the direct material input to the regional economy. The direct outflow of materials in solid waste form amounted to 36.8 million tonnes in 2000, 25 million tonnes of which goes into the waste management system.

*Figure B17.1* sets out the relative impacts of different sectors within the region. According to the report, the construction sector has the biggest impact in terms of direct materials consumed, total materials consumed and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The material requirements of this sector are clearly large at 100 million tonnes (Mt) out of 211 Mt total materials consumed. But energy consumption of building activities is also high and the ecological footprint of the construction sector is the second highest apart from food consumption at 1.17 gha per person.

**Figure B17.1 Ecological Footprint of Key Sectors**



Source: 'Taking Stock'

The ecological footprint (EF) from all consumption-related activity in the South East in 2000 shows a total of 55 million global hectares (gha). This equates to 6.8 global hectares per person. (Built-up areas, gardens etc account for another 0.1 gha per person). This total EF is 29 times the physical land area of the region. By comparing this with the available global capacity mentioned earlier of 1.9 gha per person, we can see that if all the world's population were to live like the average South East England resident we would need three and a half planets.

Total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within the region are 58 million tonnes per year, about half of which comes from private transport and home heating. Total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions due to consumption by the region, however, are 158 million tonnes per year, or 20 tonnes per person. These are the emissions involved in delivering the level of affluence of the SE region. This shows around 3 times as much CO<sub>2</sub> involved in 'consumption' with impacts spread around the world, as in 'production' within the region.

**B18.1****DATA**

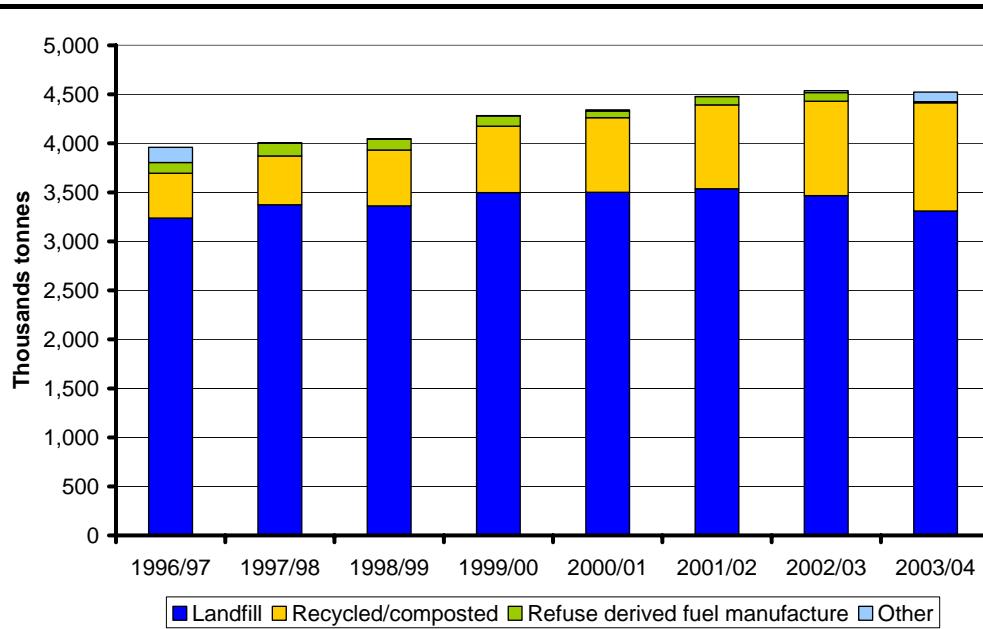
Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Total municipal waste
- Waste arisings by source
- Local Authority waste management
- Local authority recycling/composting rates

**B18.2****TOTAL MUNICIPAL WASTE**

The data for municipal waste generation and disposal in the region, highlights that relative to 1996/1997, waste generation is still high though it would appear to have levelled off in the past three years. Disposal options have, however, changed slightly with marginally less waste going straight to landfill in 2003/2004, relative to previous years, and more being diverted into recycling and composting activity.

*Figure B18.1 Municipal Waste Arisings and Disposal*

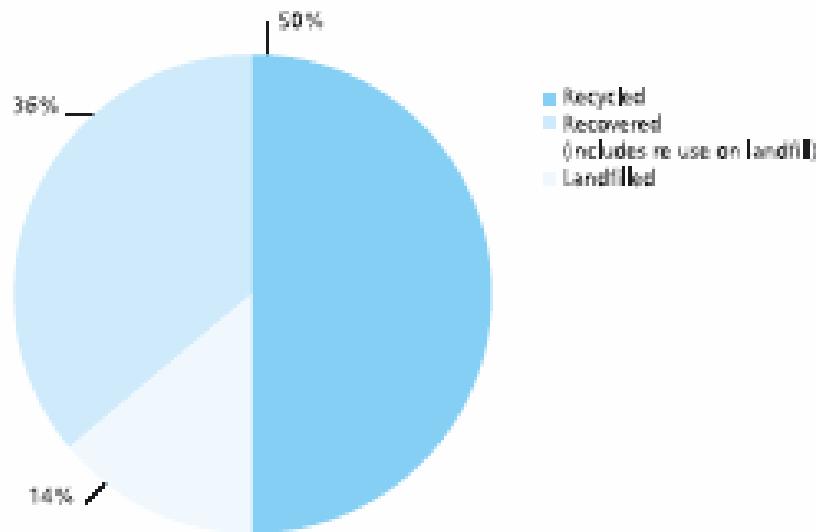


Source: Environment Agency 2005

Data on waste disposal from construction arisings demonstrate the much greater recycling activity that is being undertaken within this sector. Approximately half of all such waste is being recycled, with only 15% going to landfill.

**Figure B18.2 Waste Arisings: Construction**

**Construction and Demolition Waste 2002/03 (total 15.23mt)**



Source  
ODPM, 2004.

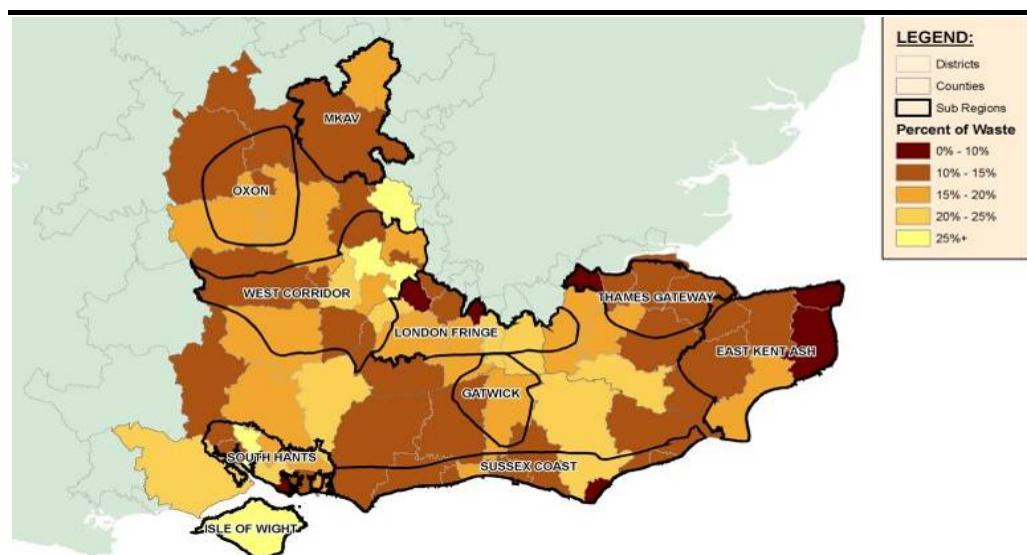
Source: ODPM 2004

### B18.3

#### LOCAL AUTHORITY RECYCLING/COMPOSTING

Figure B18.3 below presents local authority recycling/composting rates within the region. As can be seen from the map, there is significant variation in rates achieved varying from 5.9% in Runnymede to 30.6% on the Isle of Wight. Across the region as a whole, 19% of Municipal Solid Waste was recycled in 2002, and the region now has the highest rate of all English regions.

**Figure B18.3 Waste Management within the Region: Rates of Recycling**



Source: IDM

Whilst it is positive that greater recycling activity is being undertaken in terms of waste, it is important to ensure that this is not undermined by increasing waste generation from both municipal and industrial sources.

Municipal waste disposal continues to offer significant scope for greater recycling activity and efforts aimed at targeting this have the potential to offer considerable gains; this will, however, involve both providing the necessary recycling infrastructure as well as arguably the more problematic challenge of changing established behavioural patterns.

**B19.1****DATA**

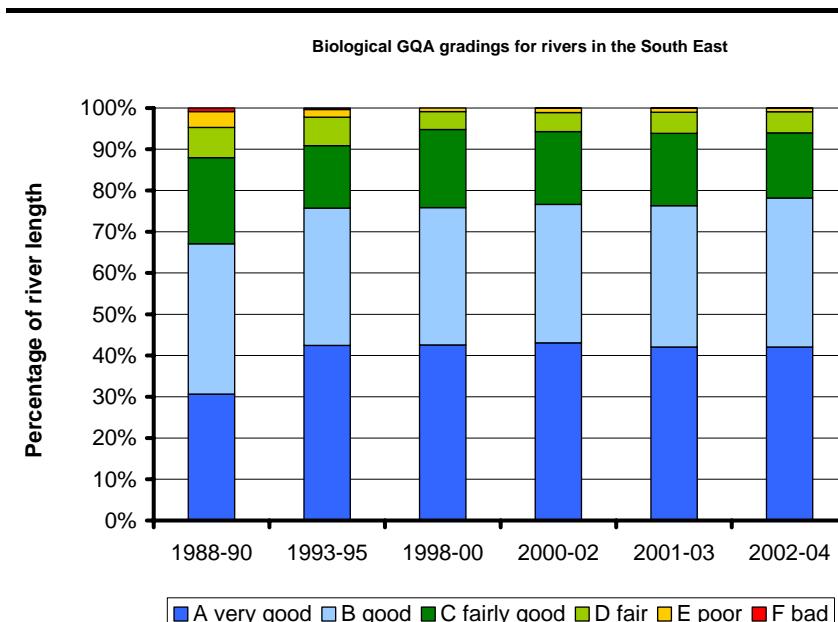
Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Water quality -Biological and chemical river quality
- River Length Compliant with River Quality Objective
- Pollutants and incidents of river pollution
- Compliance with the EC Bathing Water Directive
- Water resource management and key issues
- Groundwater

**B19.2****WATER QUALITY**

Two key aspects of water quality are assessed to determine the state of river quality, that of the biological and chemical quality of the river. The data on biological river quality illustrates the improvement in such quality during the period 1988-2004. Whilst the number of rivers ranked 'A' or 'B', very good or good, has remained roughly the same for the past few years, rivers ranked Grade E or 'poor', have decreased, indicating a general upward harmonisation of river quality standard.

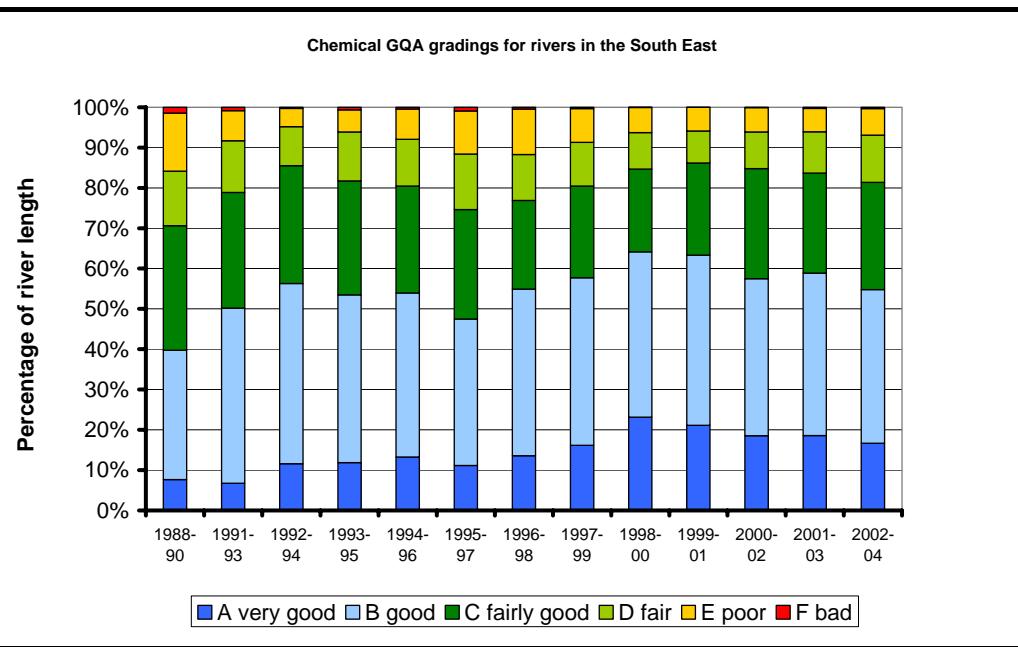
*Figure B19.1 Biological River Quality in the South East*



**Source: Environment Agency 2005**

N.B. % length in each assessment class. Only designated river stretches have been assessed.

*Figure B19.2 Chemical River Quality in the South East*

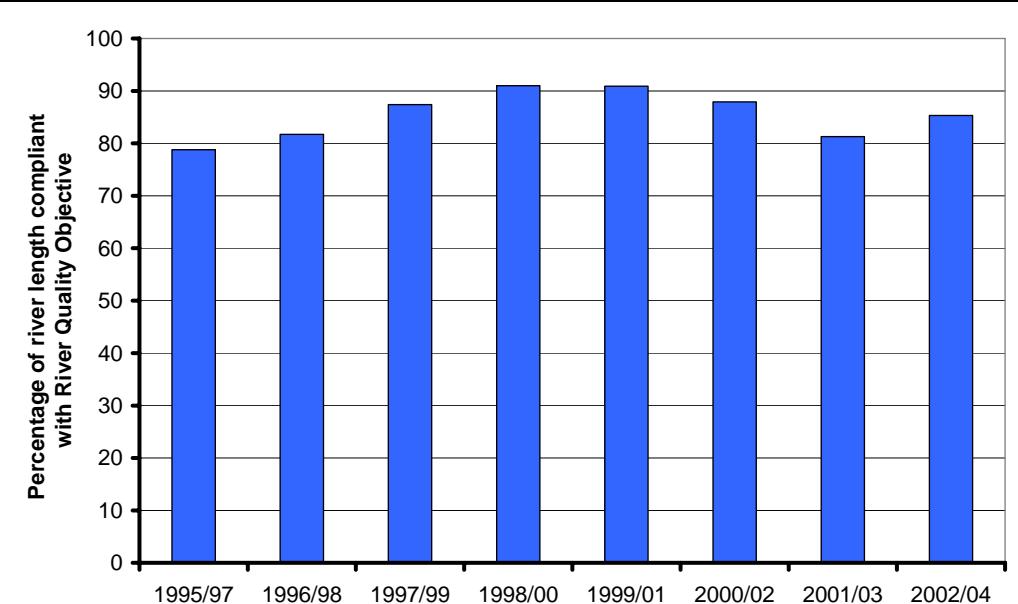


Source: Environment Agency 2005

N.B. Only designated river stretches have been assessed.

Data on chemical river quality indicates some fluctuation in terms of percentage composition for each Grade over the course of 1988-2004 but there appears to be some stabilisation during the course of the past four years. Unlike biological water quality, there remains a constant section of the region's rivers (approximately 6/7%) which are graded as 'poor', indicating the scope for improvement in this context.

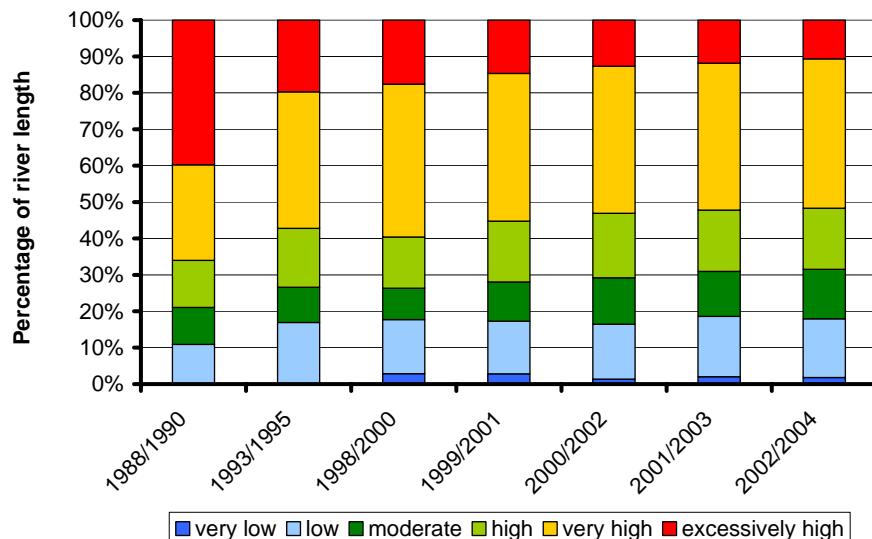
*Figure B19.3 River Length Compliant with River Quality Objective*



Source: Environment Agency 2005

Data on river length compliance with the River Quality objective, illustrates the variability characteristic of chemical water quality in the region's rivers. Over 90% of rivers in the region were compliant in 1998-2000, this then dropping to approximately 85% in 2002-2004.

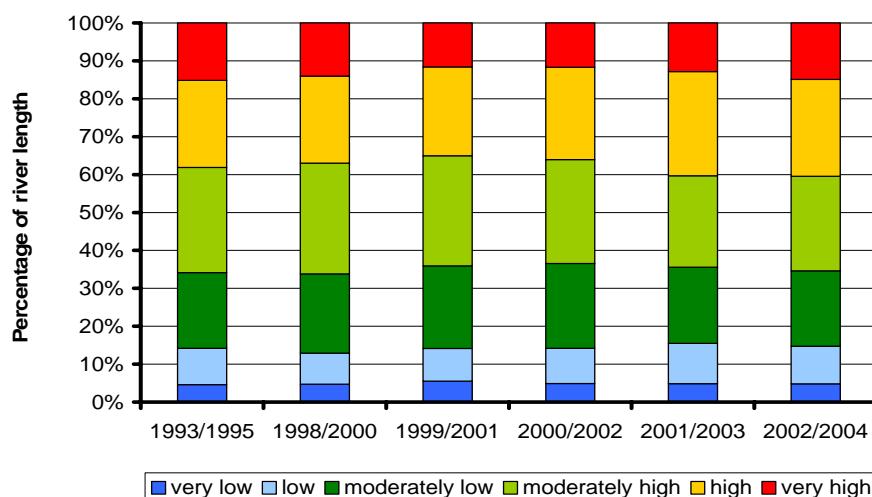
*Figure B19.4 Phosphate GQA Chart*



Source: Environment Agency 2005

Two key pollutants, phosphate and nitrates, are monitored in terms of their levels in river waters; these being two key indicators of river contamination from polluting activities such as agricultural run off. The level of excessively high phosphate pollution has dropped since 1993 though a persistent 40% of rivers remain polluted with very high levels of phosphate and a nominal percentage of the region's rivers benefit from very low levels.

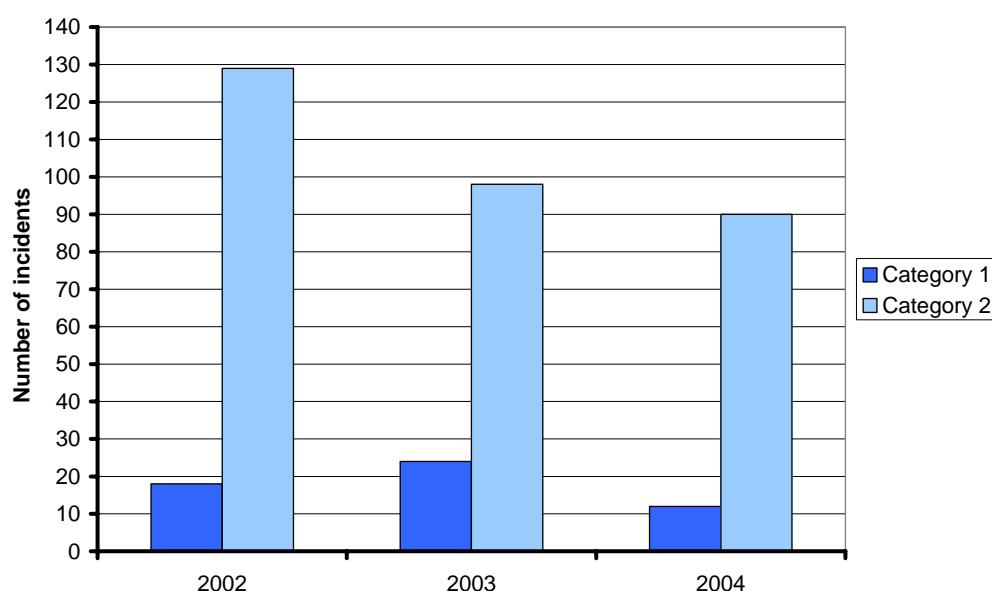
*Figure B19.5 Nitrate GQA Chart*



Source: Environment Agency 2005

The data on nitrate pollution indicates that the region's rivers similarly suffer from high levels of nitrate pollution, ranked 'very high', 'high' or 'moderately high'. Just over 10% of the region's rivers benefit from low or very low levels of nitrate levels; this again highlighting the scope for action to reduce such pollution.

**Figure B19.6 Incidents of River Pollution**



**Source:** Environment Agency 2005

The overall picture of river pollution incidents is reassuring for its depiction of a reduction in incidents of either Category 1 or 2 severity. Category 2 incidents remain comparatively higher but have nonetheless decreased during the course of the past two years.

### B19.3

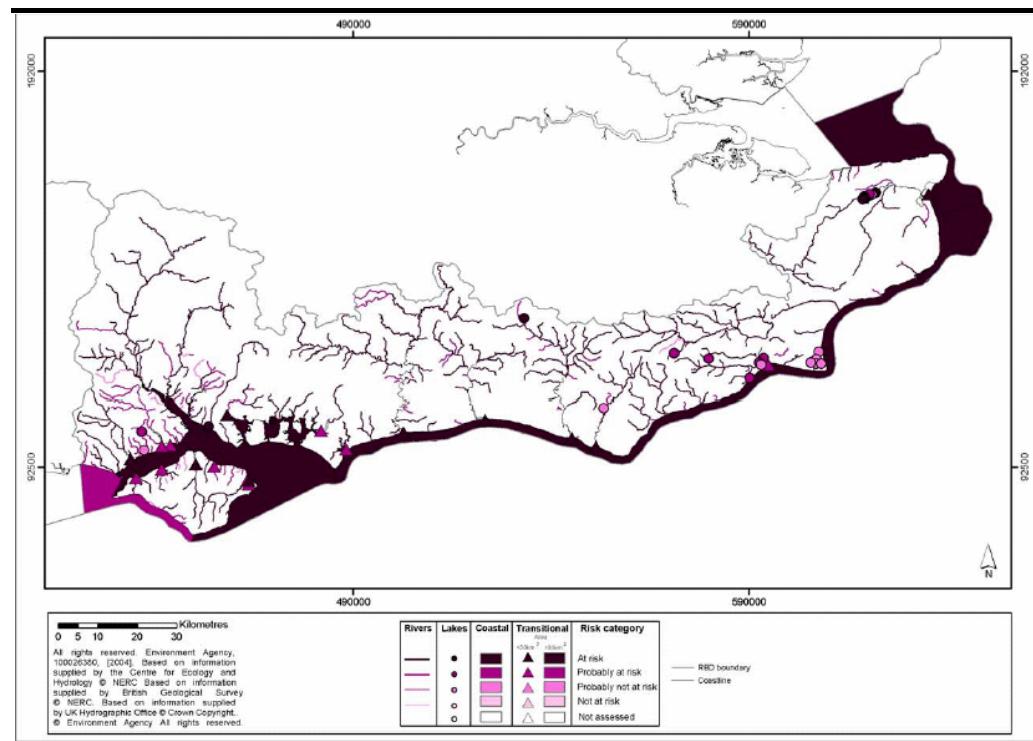
### WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

Under the Water Framework Directive, water-bodies should achieve good status. In the south east, some rivers, lakes, coastal and transitory waters and groundwater bodies are at risk of not achieving this due to the following:

- Point sources;
- Diffuse (urban) pollution;
- Abstraction; and
- Morphological changes.

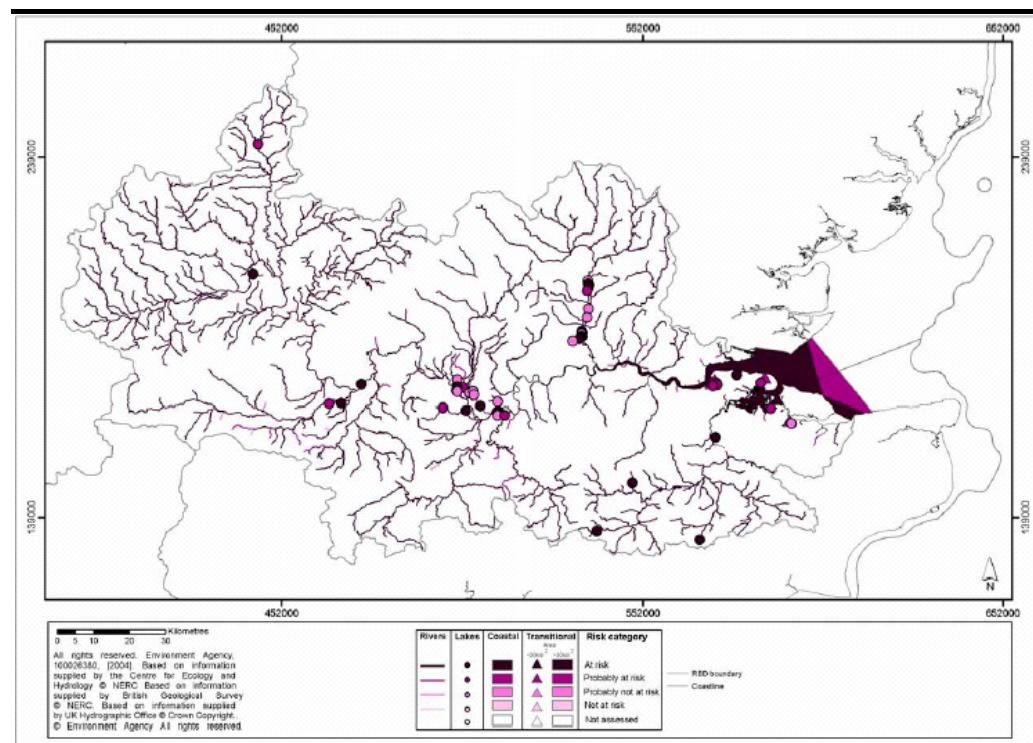
**Figure B19.7 to Figure B19.10** show the surface and groundwater bodies that are at risk of not achieving good status in the south east region. These have been divided into the Thames and South East River Basin Districts (RBDs) as these are the units used by the Environment Agency.

**Figure B19.7 Summary of Surface Waters at Risk in the South East RBD**



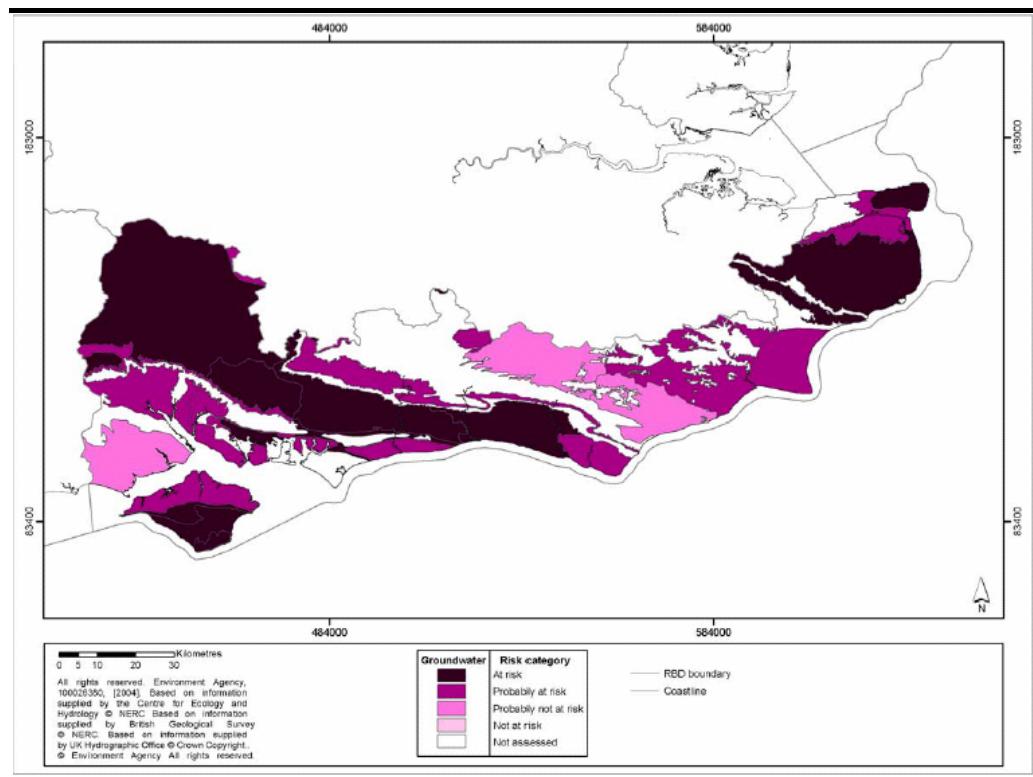
Source: Environment Agency

**Figure B19.8 Summary of Surface Waters at Risk in the Thames RBD**

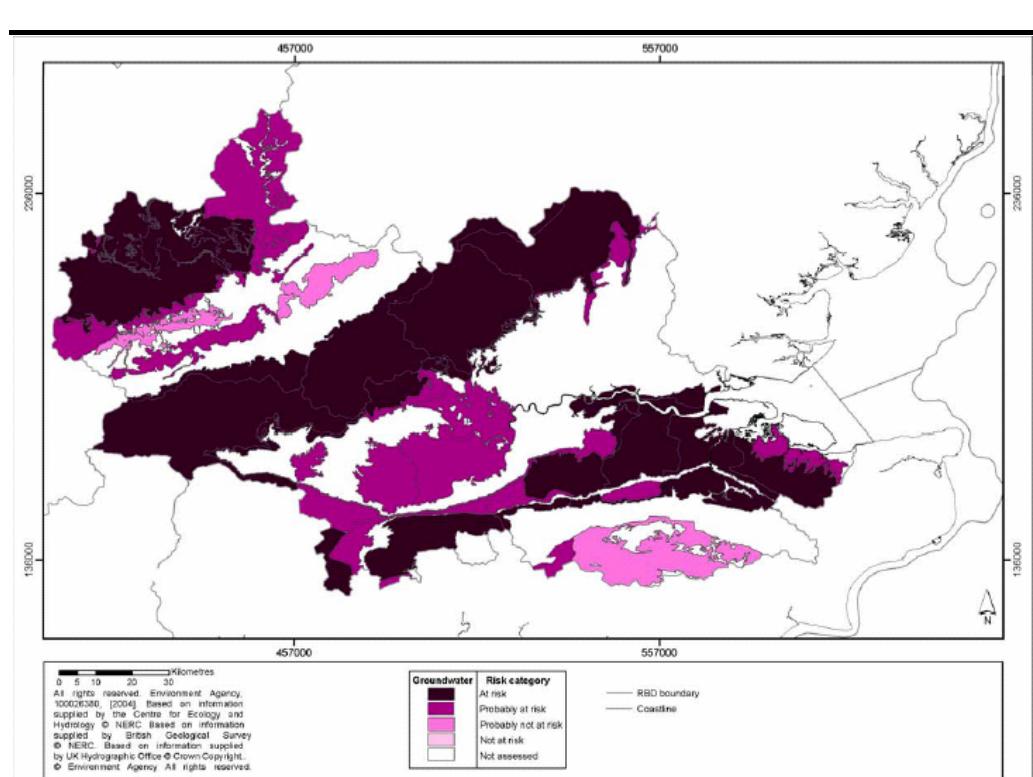


Source: Environment Agency

**Figure B19.9 Summary of Groundwater Bodies at Risk in the South East RBD**



**Figure B19.10 Summary of Groundwater Bodies at Risk in the Thames RBD**

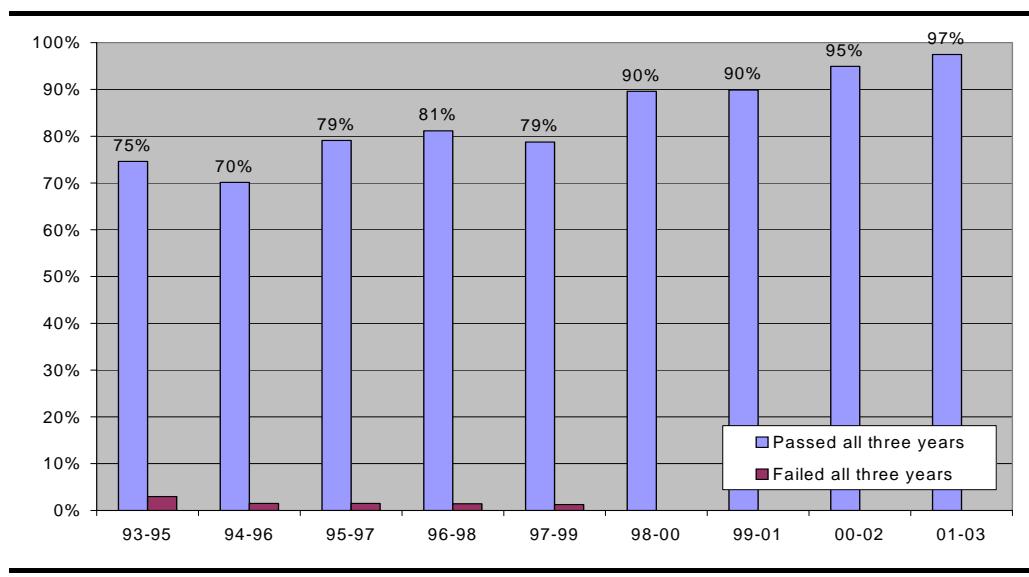


## B19.4

### BATHING WATER QUALITY

Analysing bathing water quality in the region, the data illustrates the gradual improvement in such quality with 97% of all designated bathing waters now complying with mandatory standards.

**Figure B19.11 Compliance with EC Bathing Water Directive in the South East  
(Percentage of bathing waters complying)**



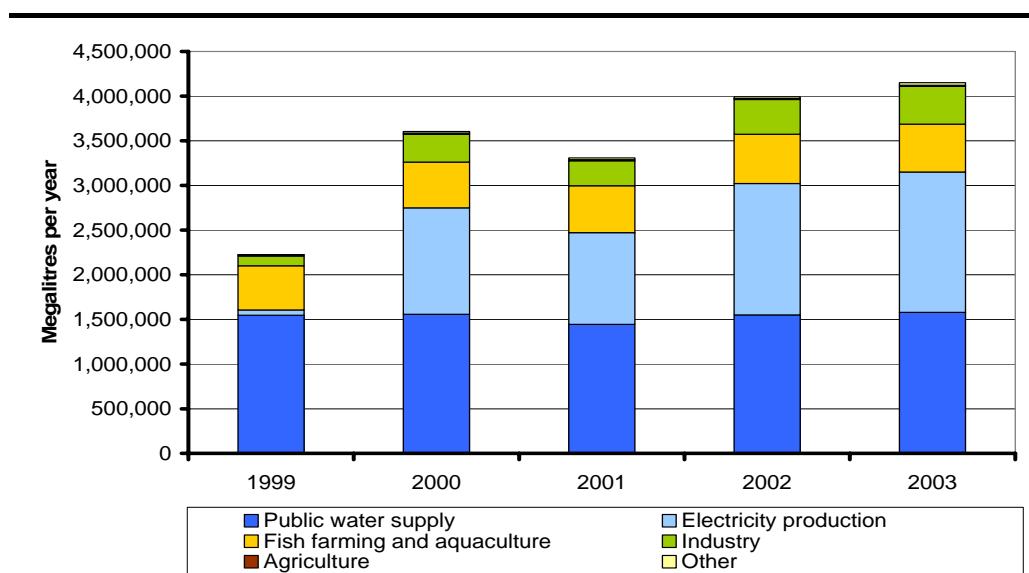
Source: Environment Agency 2005

## B19.5

### WATER CONSUMPTION

Overall water consumption has risen during 2002-2003 with total water consumption edging over the 4,000,000 megalitre level in 2003. Public water consumption has risen slightly, the largest increase in consumption has been for electricity production which has risen significantly since 1999.

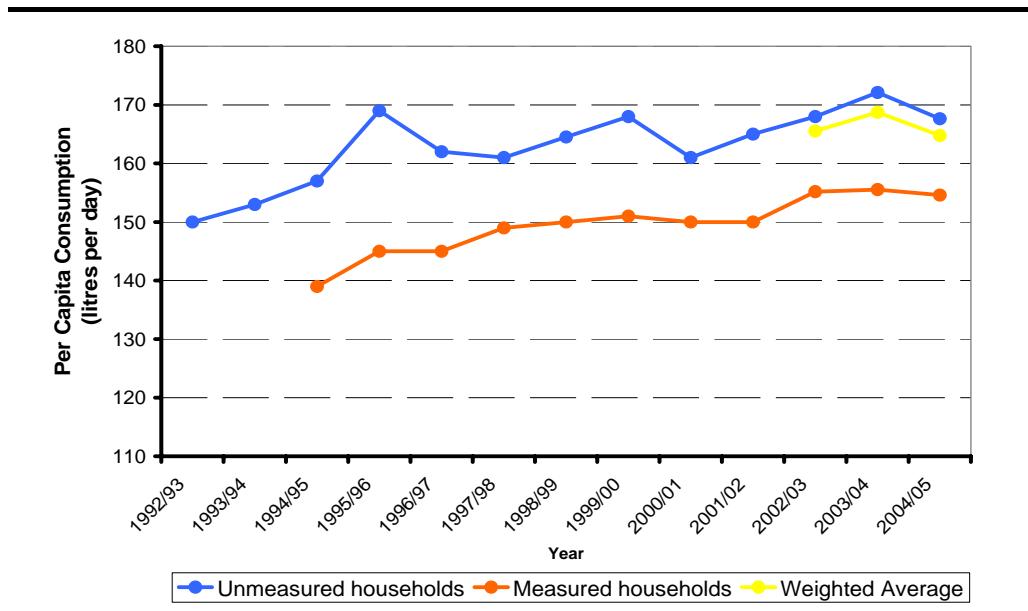
**Figure 19.12 Water Consumption by User**



Source: Environment Agency 2005

Domestic per capita consumption (PCC) has steadily increased year on year since 1992/1993; with slight exceptions around 2000/2001 and 2004/2005. The South East's PCC is at an all time high. Of note is the fact that water consumption in metered households is significantly less than in unmetered homes, highlighting the water conservation benefits which meters would appear to bring.

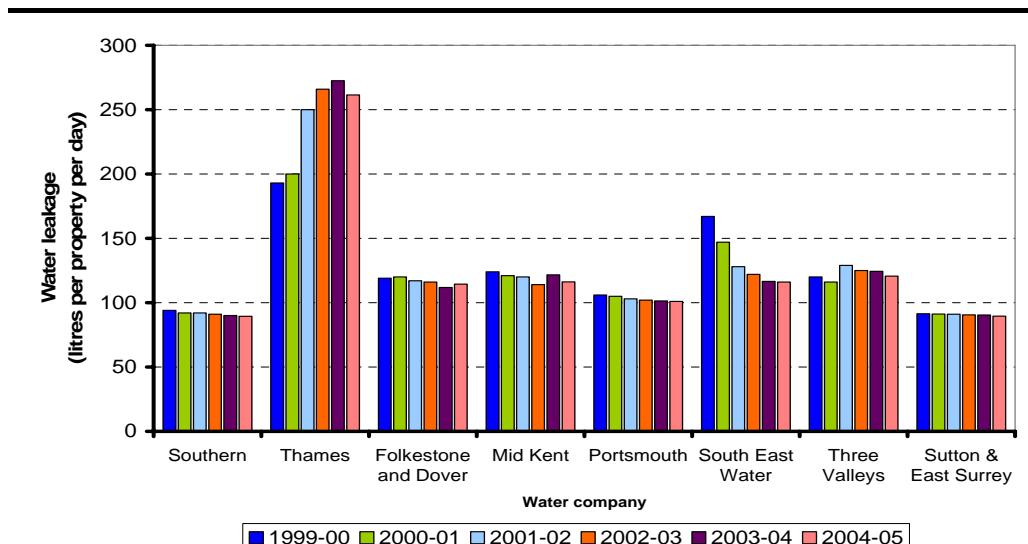
*Figure B19.13 Per Capita Consumption*



Source: Environment Agency 2005

Analysing water leakage rates across the region illustrates that across most areas there has been a general stabilisation in leakages. Of note, however, is the Thames region within which leakages are significantly higher than anywhere else within the region. Whilst the water companies are investing in improving the old and struggling water infrastructure, leakages remain an issue of concern , particularly given escalating water demand in the region.

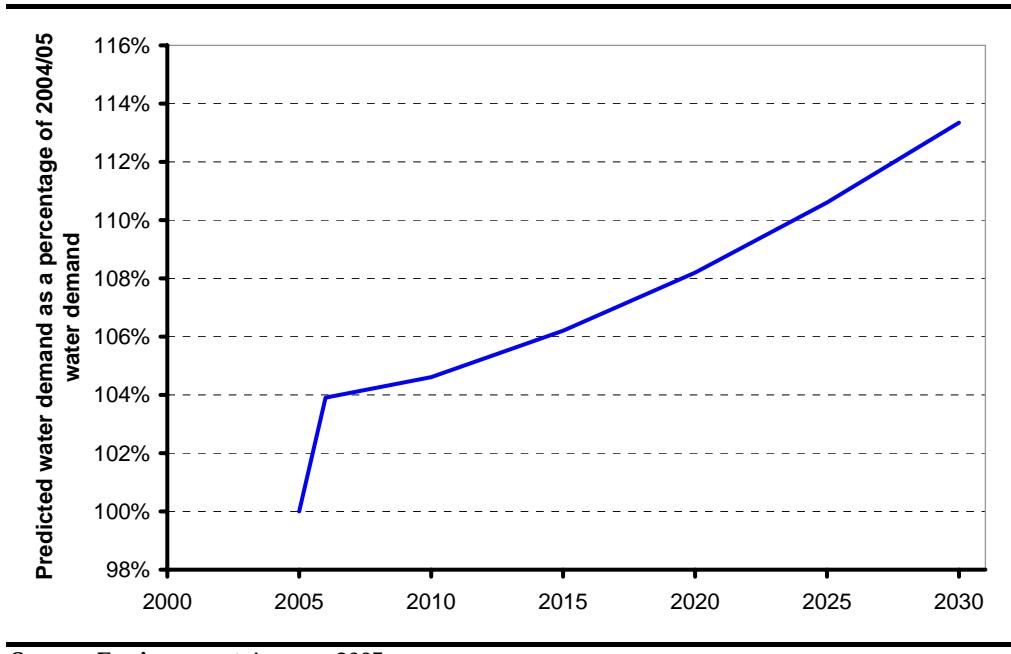
*Figure B19.14 Water Leakage*



Source: Environment Agency 2005

The escalating trend for water consumption noted in the historic context, is predicted to continue during the next two decades with water demand soaring to just under 114% of current water demand.

*Figure B19.15 Water Demand*

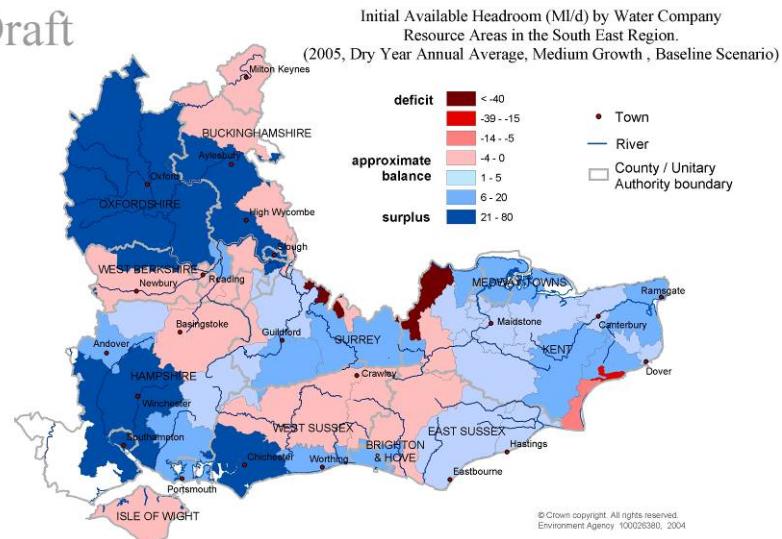


Water resource modelling has been undertaken to identify areas of the region (water resource zones) where there could be surplus or deficit of public water supply 'headroom' (in simple terms, the difference between water available for use and demand at a given time) under different scenarios. The target headroom of water company plans allows for a margin of error to encompass uncertainties of forecasting.

*Figure B19.16* shows modelled maps for 2005, 2015 and 2025, where housing development rates from the RSS are delivered with no new water efficiency measures and no development of new water capacity. The 2005 map shows that, while some areas currently have a surplus of supply (eg Oxfordshire, parts of Hampshire), some parts of the region are already in deficit, in particular in the parts of North West Kent which border on London. However, 2025, at current rates of development, most of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Surrey, East and West Sussex and Kent will be in deficit.

**Figure B19.16 Water Resources, 2005, 2015 and 2025**

Draft



Groundwater quality is a key indicator of the state of the region's water quality and integral to its delivery of sustainable water resource management.

There are currently many pressures impacting upon groundwater resources and quality. Since approximately 70% of the regional public drinking water supply is sourced from groundwater, it is critical that both quality and resources are maintained for this purpose. In addition, private water supplies are often sourced from groundwater. The source of this water provision is typically chalk and lower greensand aquifers which are vulnerable to contamination; this is exacerbated by thin soil cover which enables little attenuation can occur.

A range of activities can impact negatively upon ground water quality, including: land contamination, industrial activity, hydrocarbon storage, diffuse pollution from agricultural activities, liquid and solid effluent application and disposal, development infrastructure, mineral extraction and over abstraction. Protection of groundwater supplies from these sources of contamination is particularly important, given that groundwater is such a key provider of domestic water supplies in the region.

Requirements under the Water Framework Directive also demand groundwater quality monitoring and potential land use changes to halt and reverse the deterioration in groundwater quality.

Groundwater supply is of critical importance in the provision of domestic water supplies for the region. Given the current and predicted continuing increase in demand for such water supply, it is important that the quality and quantity of such provision if maintained. The issue of increasing water supply is also one which must be considered in light of proposed new developments and the South East Plan outlines how careful planning is required to ensure regional water supply and demand is carefully regulated.

**B20.1****DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

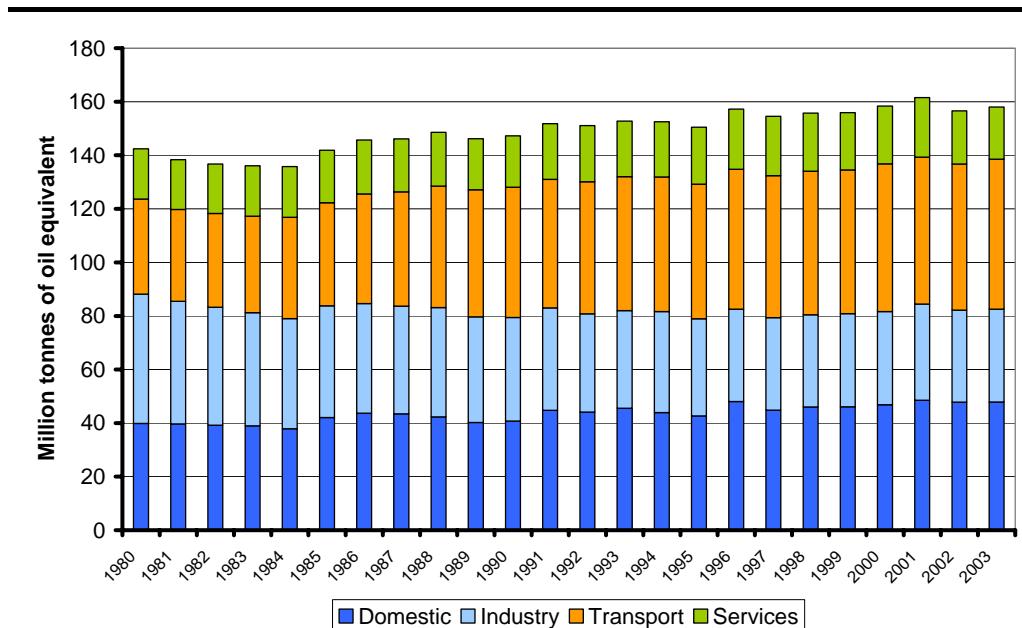
- Energy consumption by user
- Renewable energy capacity
- Renewable and sustainable energy developments

\*Data on energy efficiency is being sought\*

**B20.2****ENERGY CONSUMPTION**

Whilst there have been some fluctuations in energy consumption by user, the overall trend has been one of an increase in the quantity of oil used during the course of 1980-2003 but a slight drop in overall consumption in 2003, relative to 2001. The key users of this energy have been the domestic and transport sectors, though industry and the services sectors are also important. The transport sector represents the single largest energy consumer.

*Figure B20.1 Energy Consumption by User*

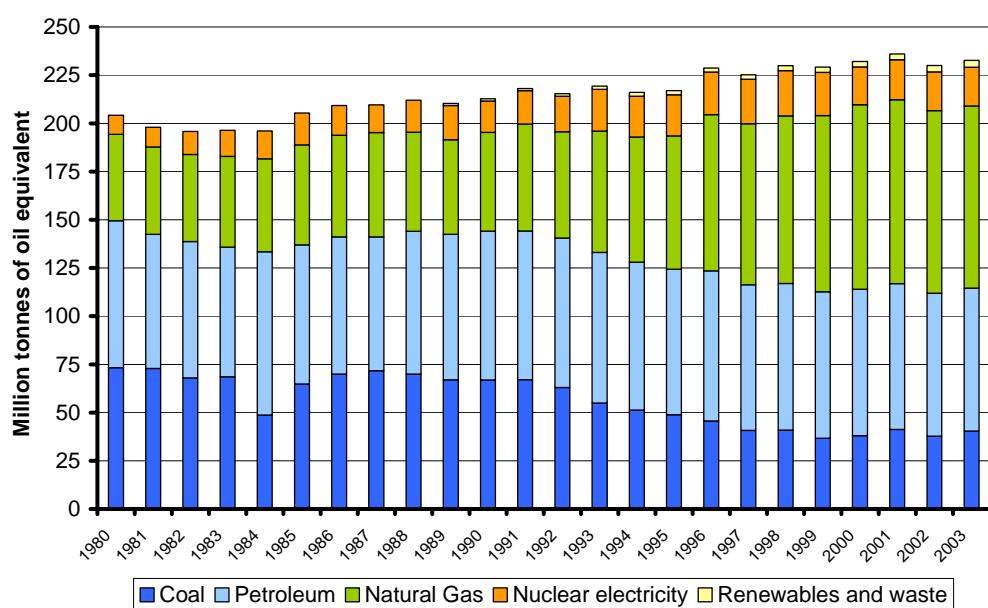


Source: Department of Trade and Industry, Digest of UK Energy Statistics 2004; Cambridge Econometrics

The data on consumption of fuels outlines what the key sources of this energy consumption are, demonstrating the increasing importance of natural gas to meeting energy demand in the UK. Nuclear electricity remains a relatively

stable but small source of energy provision whilst coal continues to decline. Of note is the continuing small contribution which renewables make to overall energy provision, highlighting the potential for significant expansion in this context.

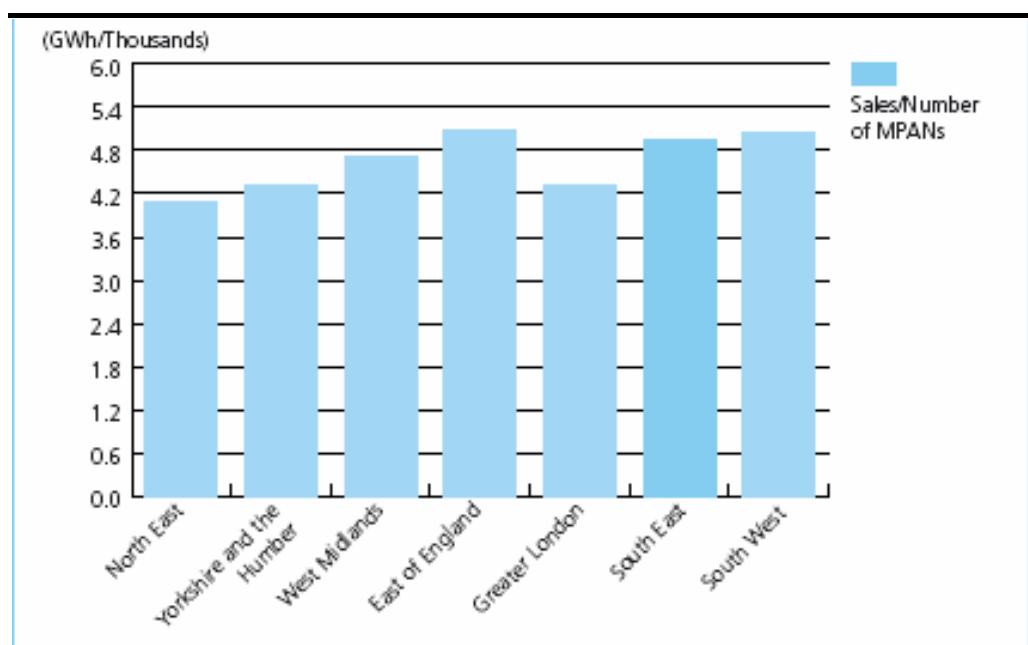
**Figure B20.2 Consumption of Fuels**



Source: Department of Trade and Industry, Digest of UK Energy Statistics 2004.

Electricity consumption by households in the region remains high relative to most regions; though not as high as that of the South West or East of England.

**Figure B20.3 Electricity Consumption by Household**

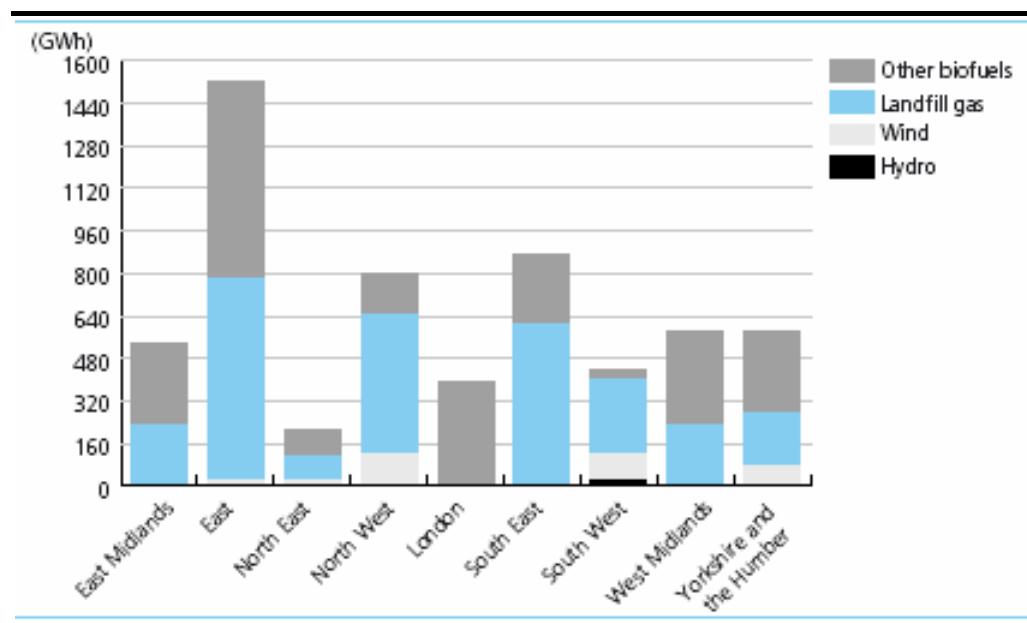


Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

Analysing the source of such household electricity consumption, the South East is second only to the East of England for renewable energy provision for

electricity consumption. The largest single source of such renewable energy is from landfill gas, with other biofuels comprising the remaining significant renewable energy provider for the region.

**Figure B20.4 Electricity Consumption from Renewable Energy Sources**



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

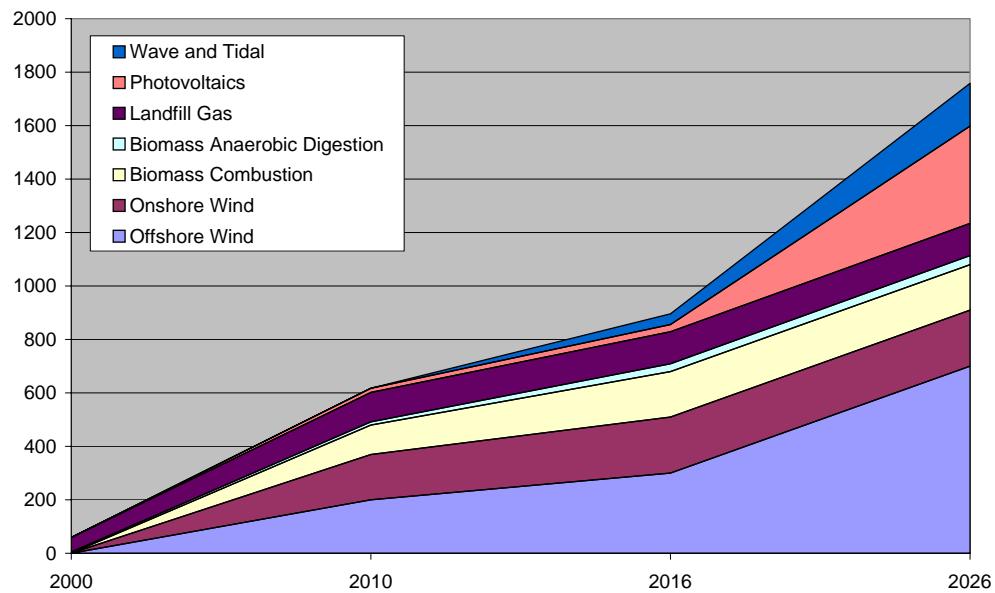
### B20.3

### RENEWABLE ENERGY CAPACITY

In 2003, 0.65% of electricity in the South East was derived from renewable sources (compared to around 2.5% for the UK as a whole), amounting to a total of 73MW of installed capacity. Almost all of this total is derived from 'energy from waste', mostly landfill gas.

Renewable energy capacity is projected to increase significantly from its current low base, under targets that expect renewables to provide 16% of generation capacity by 2016.

**Figure B20.5 Renewable Energy Targets for the South East (Installed Capacity, MW)**



**Source: South East Regional Assembly**

N.B. X-Axes scale of above chart is slightly misrepresentative due to inconsistent date intervals

## B20.4

### CHP

Current CHP electrical capacity in the region, as of 2003, is 814MWe; this placing the region second in terms of a regional comparison of such provision. Generation of electricity from renewable sources was 870.4GWh; this also representing the second largest regional provider of electricity from this source (Source: Progress on Regional Implementation of the Energy White Paper, July 2005).

## B20.5

### NEW DEVELOPMENTS

There have been a number of new and important developments in the provision of renewable and sustainable energy provision within the region, as noted within the Government report on 'Progress on Regional Implementation of the Energy White Paper' published in July 2005:

- The region has now its first solely community owned wind cluster at Westhill Farm in Oxfordshire which was given provisional planning permission in February this year.
- A District Heating scheme for 3000 houses in Millbrook is being progressed by Southampton CC; this being done in association with a 49MW biomass power plant.
- SEEDA is in discussion with the London Array partners to maximise the benefit which can accrue from its predicted provision of 1GW of power from 270 wind turbines offshore.
- A two year Kent Renewables Programme began in January this year (2005) which will evaluate social housing stock for potential sustainable energy installations and support projects.

- The Kent Energy Centre is assisting householders with obtaining installations for vulnerable households and assisting with energy efficiency and fuel poverty alleviation measures.

## B20.6

### ISSUES

The region is striving to increase its provision of renewable energy as a source for electricity consumption and wider energy use. The data shows that there exists considerable scope across all the regions to increase renewable energy provision, the challenge being to provide sources which will be economical, whilst also encouraging consumers to diversify into such renewable sources as an alternative to their existing source of energy provision.

**B21.1****DATA**

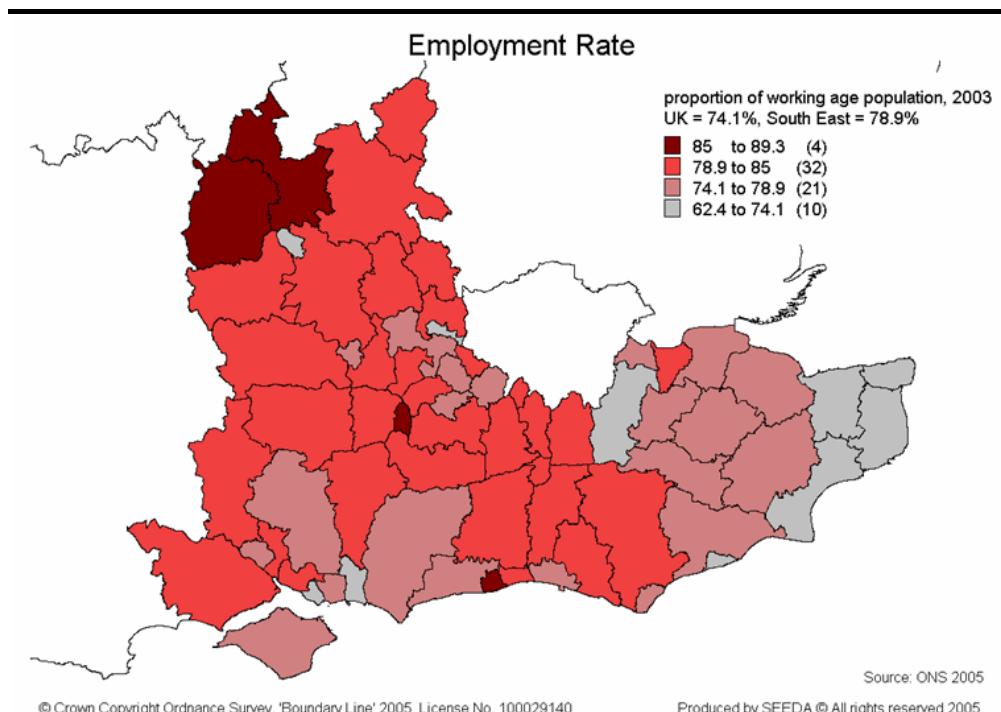
Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Regional employment deprivation ranking
- Proportion of people of working age in employment
- Employment by sector
- Employment in manufacturing
- Employment inactivity
- Inactive and looking for jobs

**B21.2****EMPLOYMENT DEPRIVATION**

Much of the region enjoys relatively low levels of employment deprivation, according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation. Relative to the rest of the South East, the Isle of Wight, the North Kent Coast and parts of East Kent suffer the worst employment deprivation.

*Figure B21.1 IMD - Employment Rankings, 2004*

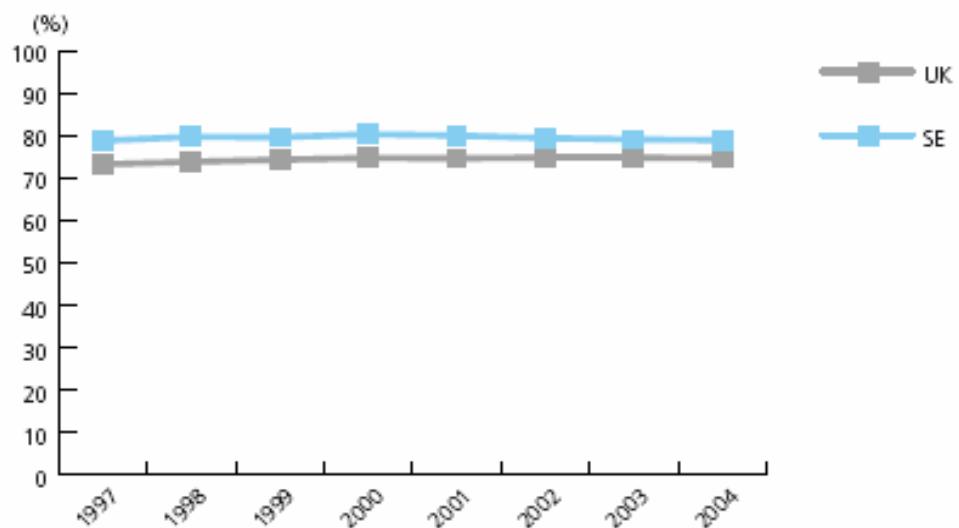


**Source: ONS 2005**

## B21.2.1 Employment

Relative to other parts of the UK, the South East as a whole has the highest percentage of working age population in employment, taken as an average of local authority scores.

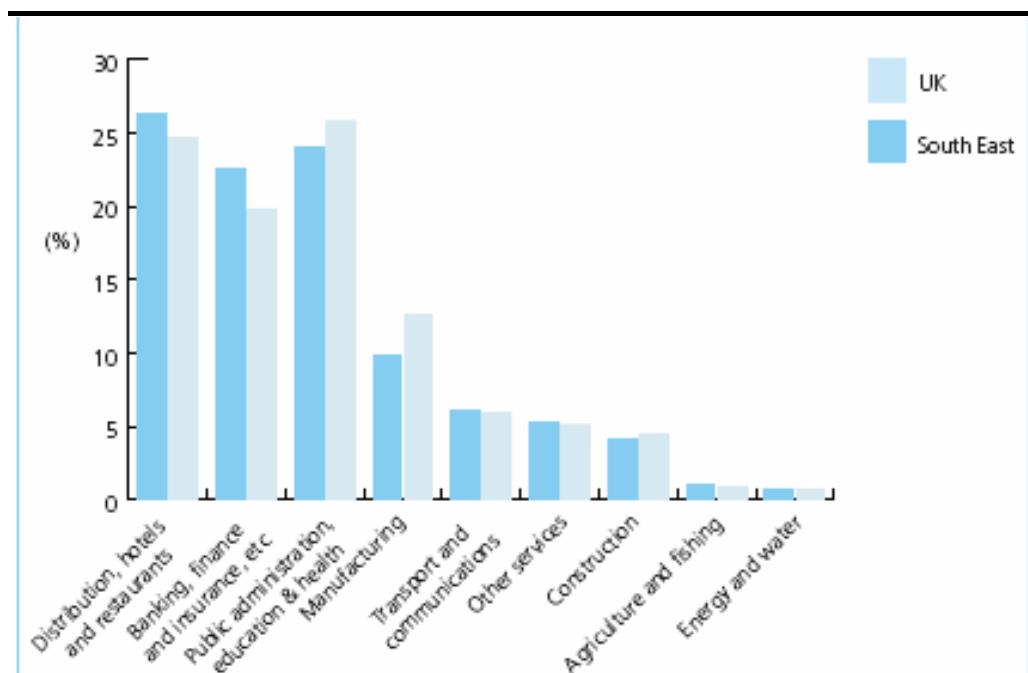
**Figure B21.2 Proportion of people of working age in employment**



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

Analysis of the key sectors for employment illustrates that distribution, hotels and restaurants constitutes the key employment base for the region; the second largest sector is that of public administration, education and health.

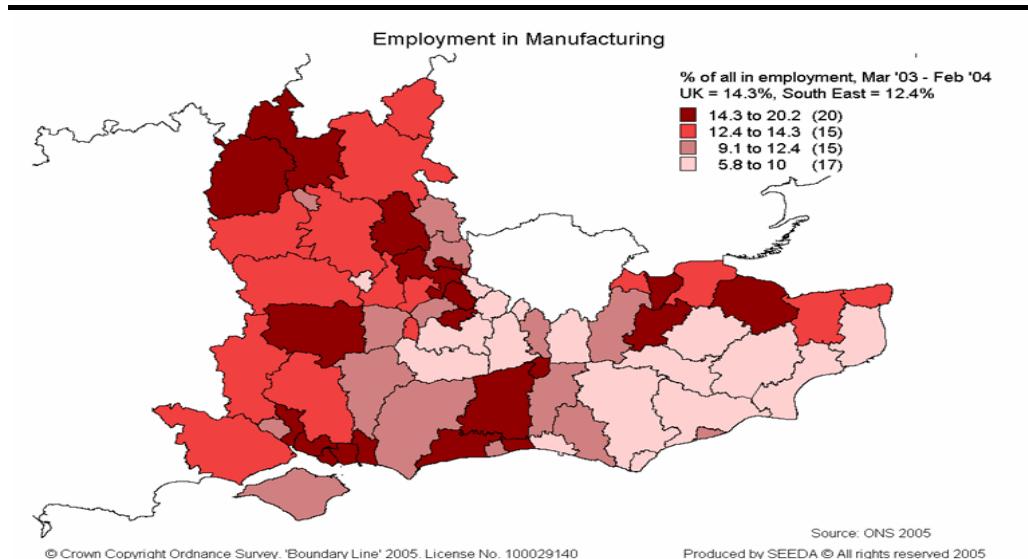
**Figure B21.3 Employment by Sector**



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

Employment in manufacturing within the region is lower than the UK average and is predicted to continue to decline within the region. There remain, nonetheless, pockets of relatively high manufacturing employment as the map below, highlights.

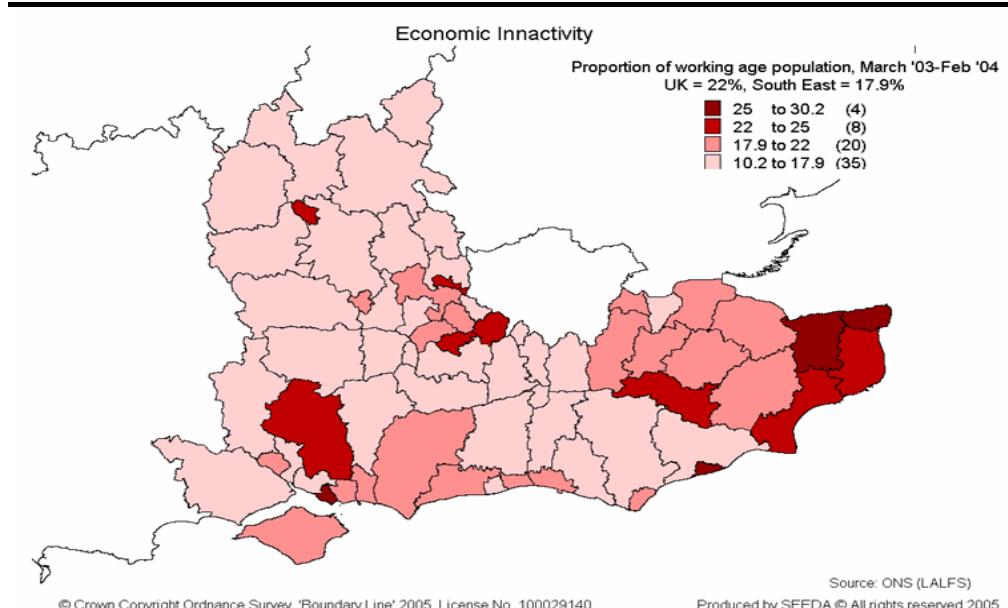
*Figure B21.4 Employment in Manufacturing*



Source: ONS 2005

Whilst the region benefits from overall high levels of employment, there remain approximately 820,000 people of working age who are economically inactive. Mapping this economic inactivity, it is apparent that the largest clusters of such inactivity are located in East Kent and Ashford, though pockets exist elsewhere in the region.

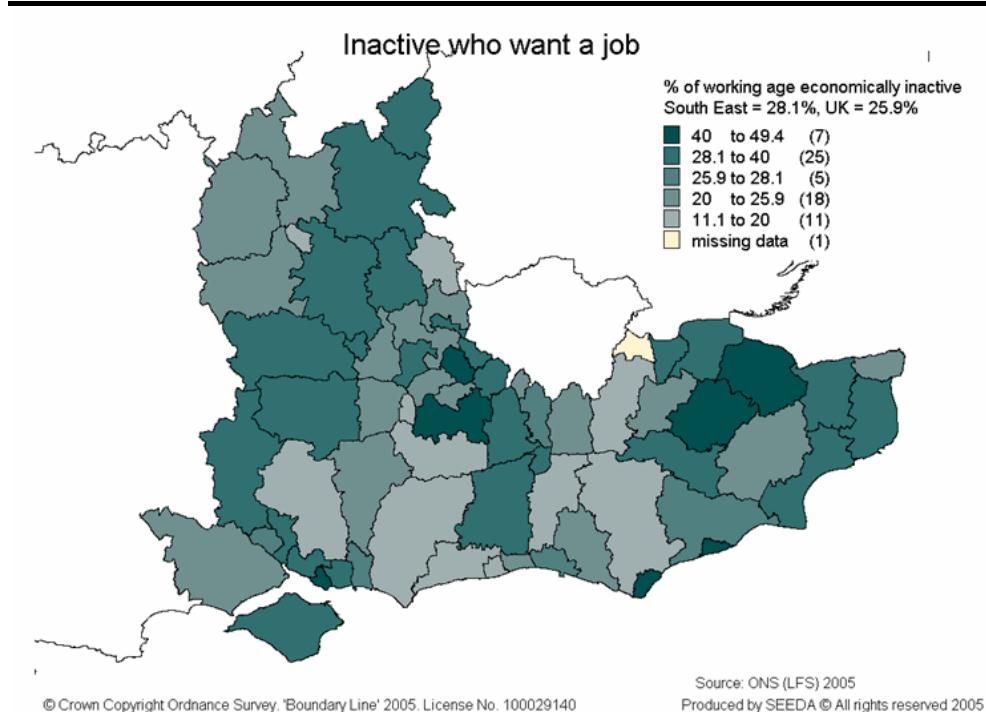
*Figure B21.5 Economic Inactivity*



Source: ONS 2005

There are many reasons why people remain economically inactive. In the South East, the primary reason is that of 'looking after the family', which accounts for approximately 35% of all those economically inactive. The second largest inactive group is that of students, at 160,500 people, followed by the long term sick and the disabled (160,000) and the retired (75,000).

**Figure 21.6** *Inactive Population Who Want Jobs*



**Source:** ONS 2005

Whilst a large section of the economically inactive are not seeking employment for the reasons noted above, there remain those who are attempting to gain employment. Mapping this section of the region's population, it is apparent that the highest levels of potential take-up are located in the North and South East, in areas such as East Kent and Ashford.

### B21.3

### ISSUES

Addressing the causes of economic activity will be important to delivering this objective and to addressing inter-related objectives such as improving health and well being and skills. Whilst employment is high, the challenge will be to retain this employment base despite predicted changes in employment sectors such as manufacturing.

**B22.1****DATA**

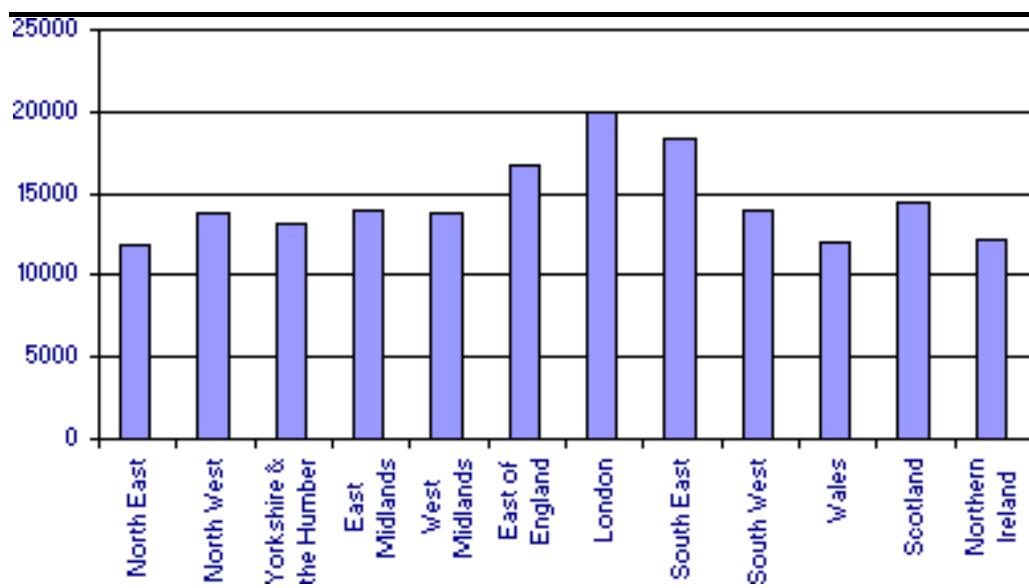
Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- GVA per head
- Labour productivity – sectoral output and output per hour worked
- Business start-ups
- Business density
- Relationship between economic inactivity and business/job density
- Business start up rates
- New business survival rates

**B22.2****GVA PER HEAD**

In 2002, GVA (the total net product measured at market prices) per head for the South East was approaching £18,000, second only to London among UK regions.

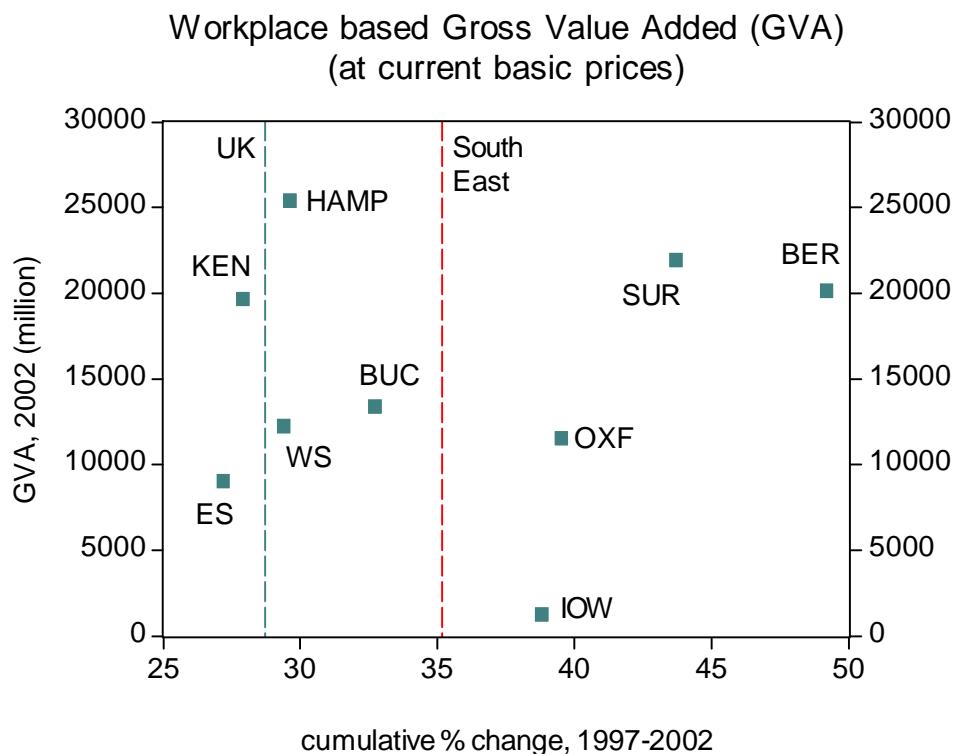
*Figure B22.1 Regional Comparison of GVA per Head of Population*



Source: ONS 2004

Within the region, however, there are significant variations both in GVA per head and in GVA growth rates in recent years. *Figure B22.12* below shows that GVA per head in Berkshire has grown by almost 68% over the period 1995-2001, and is now more than double that for the Isle of Wight, Medway and East Sussex.

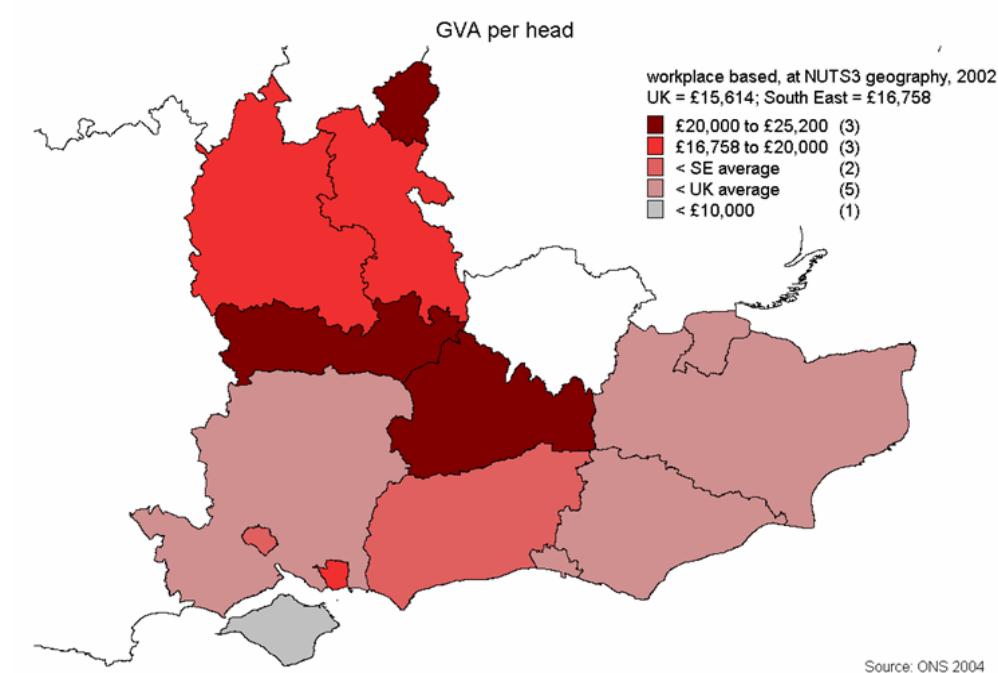
**Figure B22.2** Gross Value Added, average in the South East, and by local authority (£ per head, 1997 and 2002)



Source: SEEDA estimates derived from ONS data

Source: SEEDA/ONS

**Figure B22.3** GVA per head

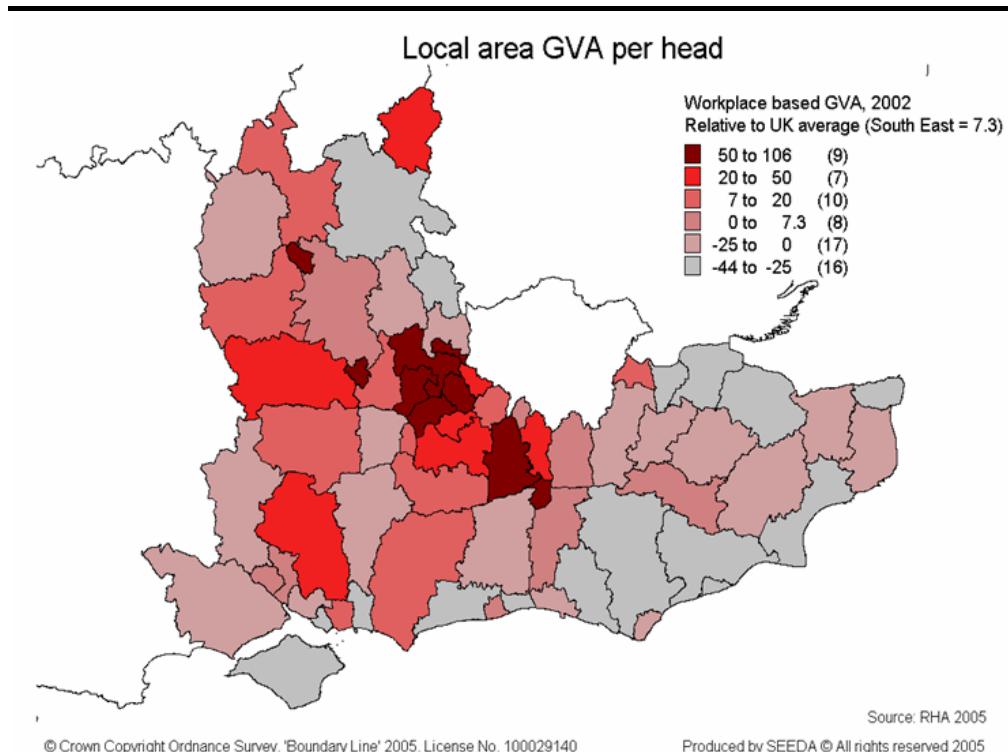


Source: ONS 2004

Mapping GVA per head illustrates that large areas of the South East achieve above national average GVA per head though again significant regional disparities are apparent.

In terms of local area GVA per head, the picture is more complex with less clustering and more significant localised GVA disparities across the region. Along the Sussex Coast and in areas such as East Kent and Ashford, the disparity with areas such as the Thames Gateway are strongest; this reflecting factors such as high economic inactivity and high levels of retired population respectively within such low local area GVA per head areas.

*Figure B22.4 Local Area GVA per head*



**Source: ONS 2004**

In terms of the RES, a range of scenarios have been examined but the two central scenarios depict historic levels of productivity at a GVA of +/- 2.32% per year or a more ambitious scenario of 2.39% a year (against a baseline of 2.27%). Research for the RES has also looked at a scenario of a GVA of 2% per annum. This, it is currently felt, would lead to a decline in wellbeing in the region. It should be noted that these scenarios all require higher levels of housing provision than those currently proposed in the RES.

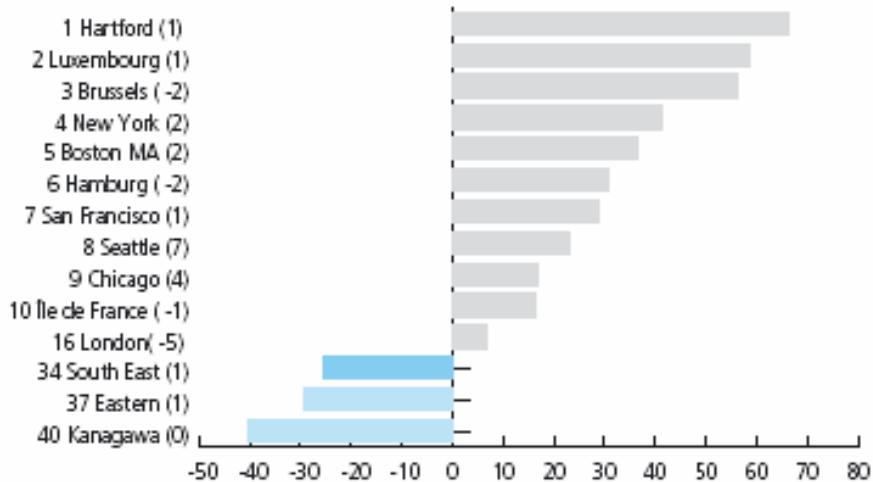
### B22.3

#### **LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY**

In seeking to improve its standing within the world's top 40 regions in terms of productivity, the South East has raised its position but remains within the lower tiers of these regions. The gap in terms of labour productivity between the South East and the top performing regions, is considerable, reinforcing the

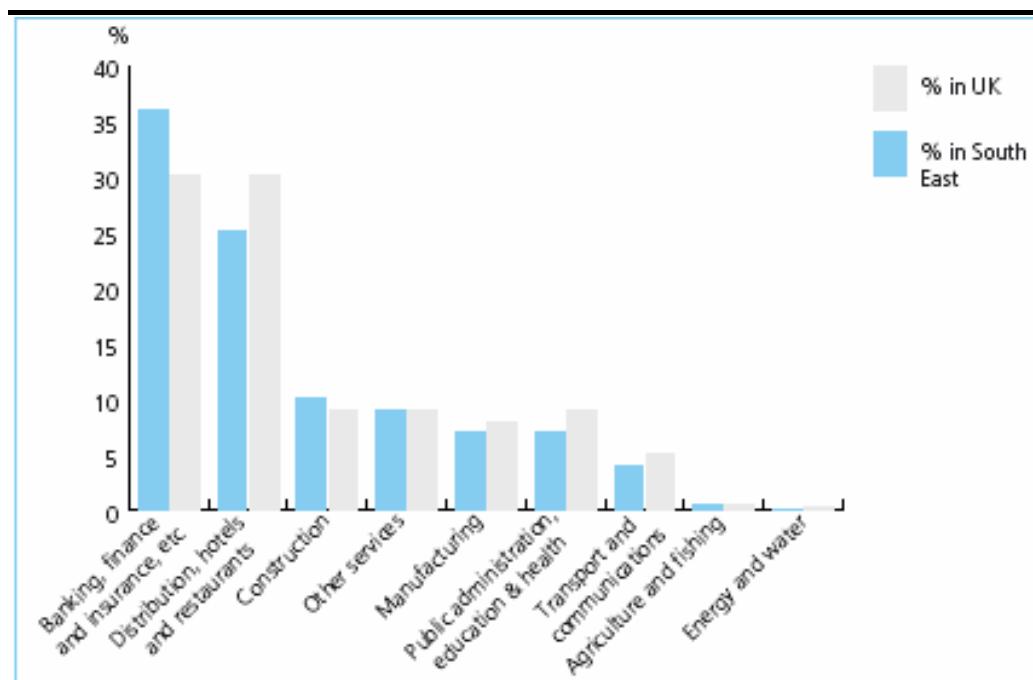
scope for improvement in productivity and the challenge of enhancing competitiveness and economic activity generally.

**Figure B22.5 Labour Productivity: World's Leading Regions**



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

**Figure B22.6 Sectoral Output**

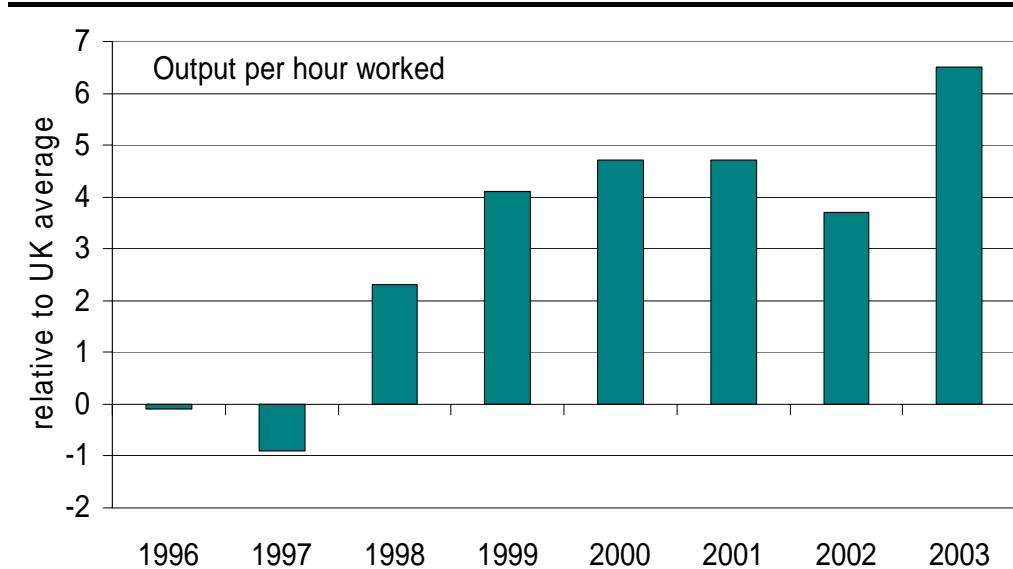


Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

The data on sectoral output in the region, as compared with the UK as a whole, illustrates the importance of the banking, finance and insurance sector to the regional economy. This output exceeds that of the distribution, hotels

and restaurants sector despite the latter comprising the highest employment source (of all sectors) in the region. Output from the banking sector exceeds that of the UK; only the construction sector in the region doing similarly.

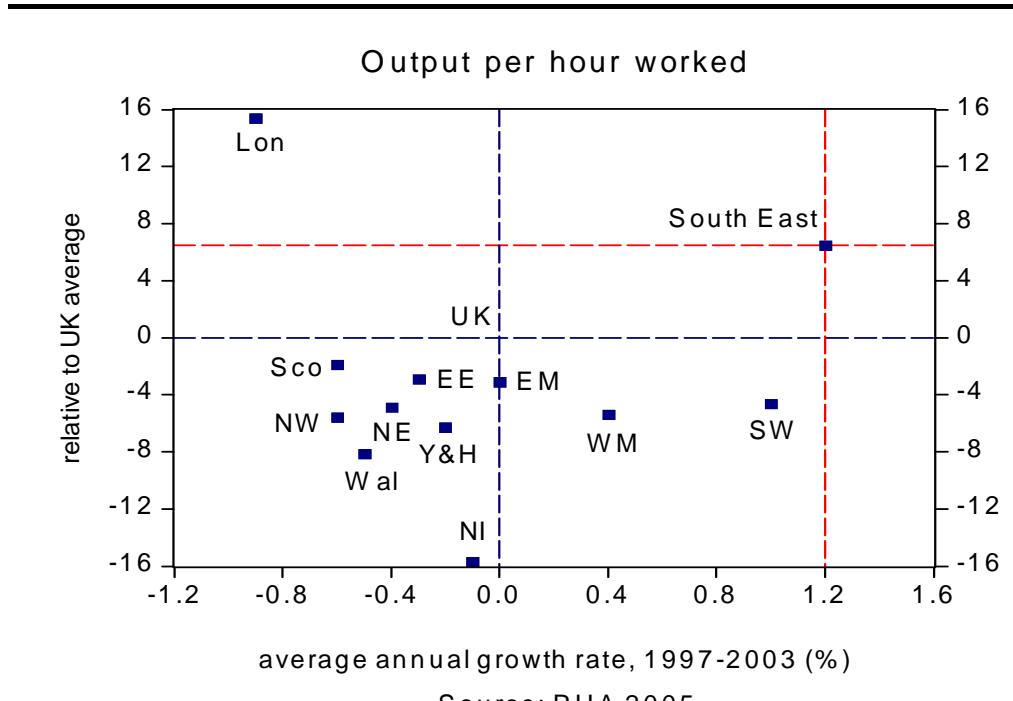
*Figure B22.7 Output per hour worked*



Source: RHA 2005

The figures on output per hour worked illustrate that the region has experienced significant increase in the period 1998-2003, with output at an all time high in 2003. The average growth rate for the region has outperformed the UK, as the chart below demonstrates.

*Figure B22.8 Output per hour worked*



Source: RHA 2005

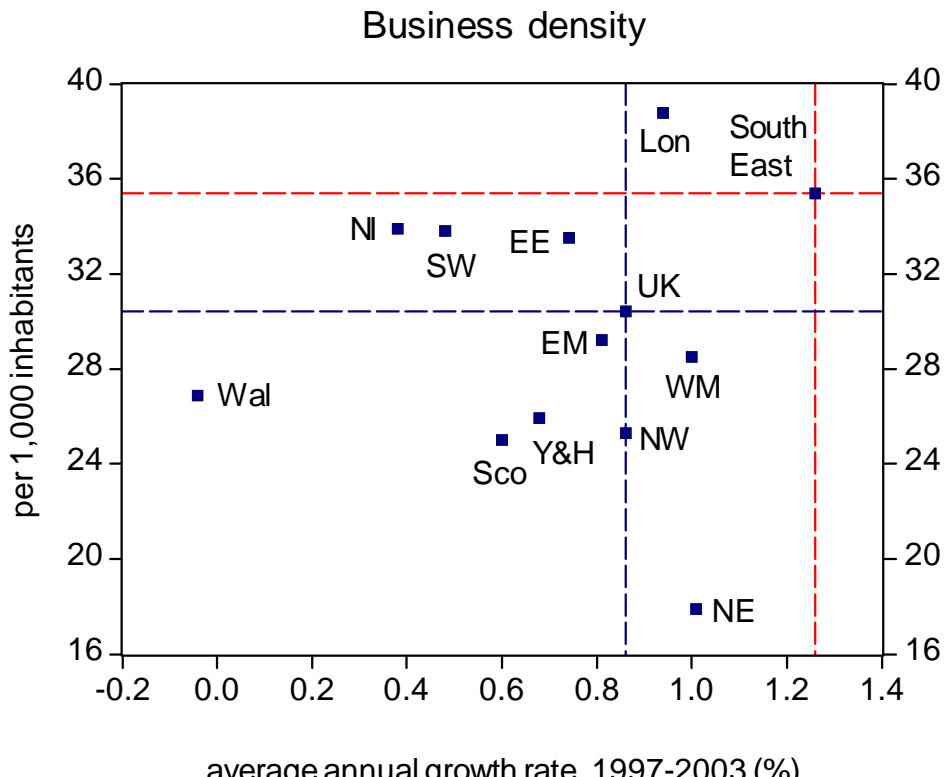
Irrespective of the GVA scenario adopted in the RES, labour productivity will remain a key issue for the region, especially in disadvantaged areas and deprived communities. Housing supply has also a very close relationship with productivity and the current mismatch between options in the RSS and the growth scenarios that are likely to influence the RES is of concern.

#### B22.4

#### **BUSINESS START-UPS**

The rate of growth in VAT registered businesses in the South East has fallen since the late 1990s, but continues to outstrip rates for the UK as a whole and is second only to London.

*Figure B22.9 Business Density*

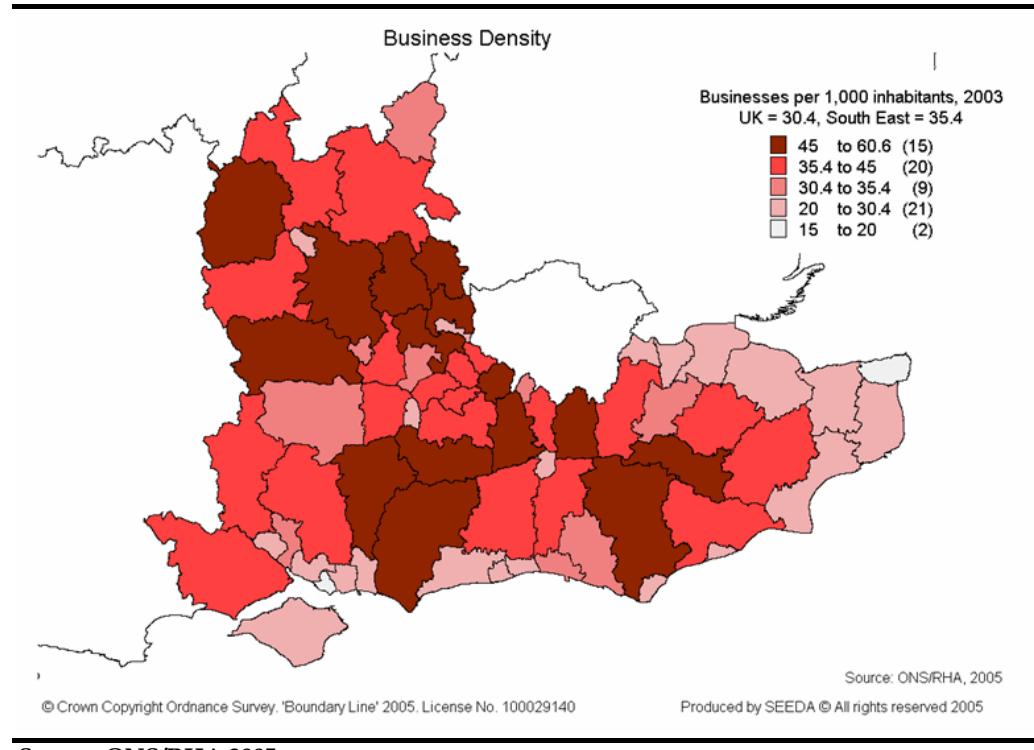


Source: RHA 2005

Source: RHA 2005-11-15

Mapping business density within the region, it is apparent that the region experiences sharp disparities between low level business densities in areas such as the Isle of Wight and high levels in areas such as the London Fringe, amongst others.

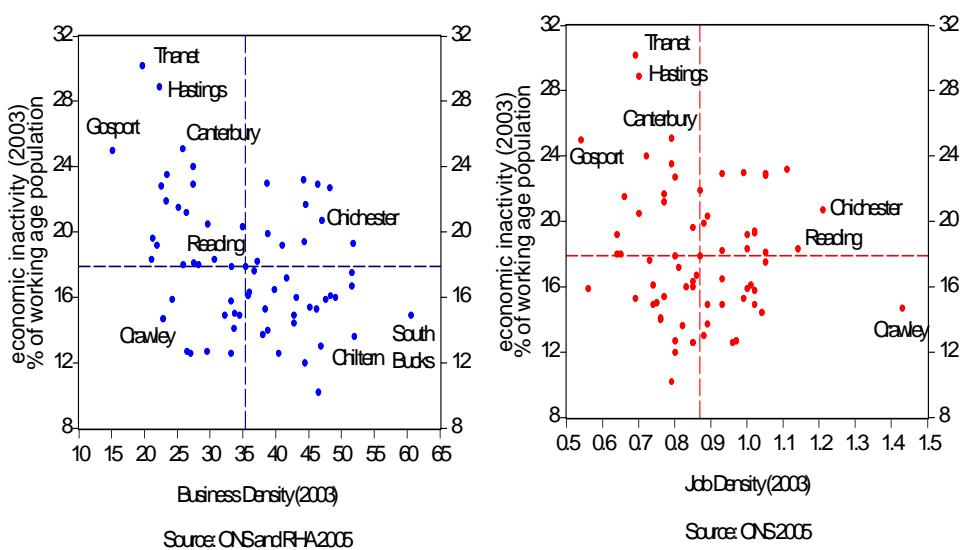
*Figure B22.10 Business Density*



Source: ONS/RHA 2005

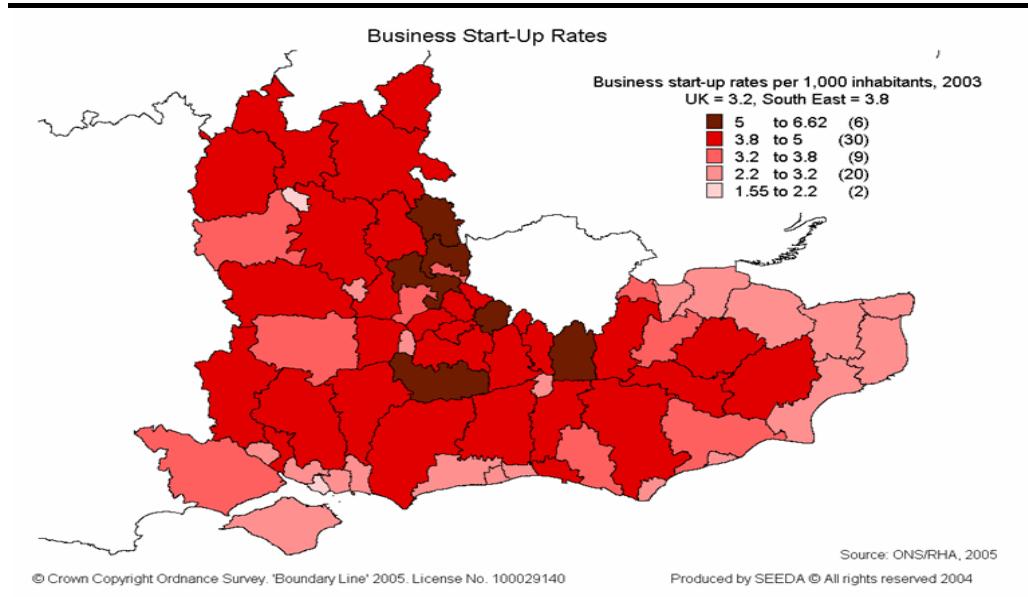
Mapping economic inactivity against business and job density, the data reinforces the relationship between low business density and high levels of unemployment. Thanet, one of the most deprived areas in the region, illustrates how low business density directly correlates with high economic inactivity.

*Figure B22.11 The Relationship between Economic Inactivity and Business/Job Density*



Source: ONS/RHA 2005

**Figure B22.12 Business Start Up Rates**

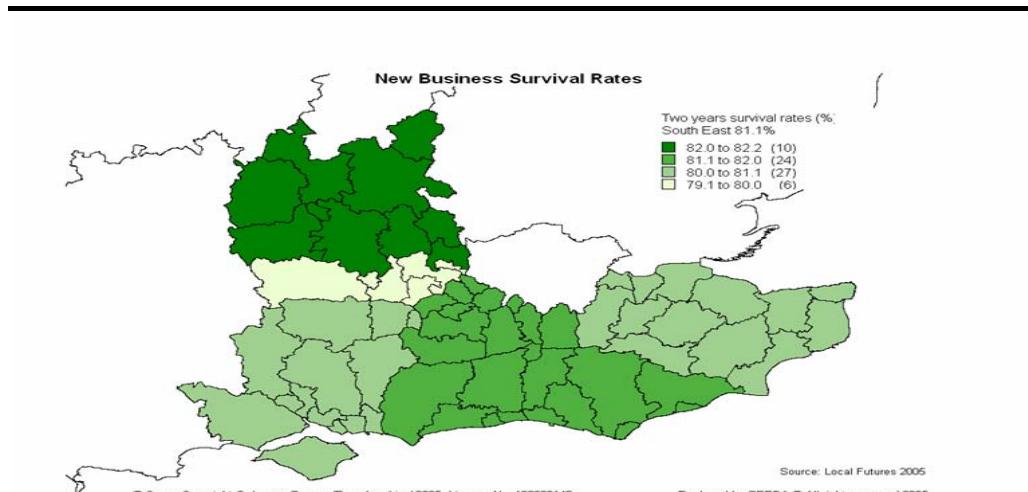


Source: ONS/RHA 2005

The rate of business start ups in the region varies significantly between the low level of start ups in areas such as the Isle of Wight and the highest level of start ups in areas such as the London Fringe, where start up rates can be high as 6 start ups per 1000 of the population.

Whilst start up rates are a positive sign of economic activity, the rate of survival of such businesses is another significant indicator of the health of the region's economy. Mapping of business survival rates in the region highlights the strong clustering which occurs across the South East. Whilst the average survival rate of businesses (for two years and more) is 81.1% for the region, large areas of the region, such as the Isle of Wight or East Kent and Ashford have much lower rates of survival. The Western Corridor shows a high rate of business 'deaths'. This may relate to specific sector issues for businesses, in sectors such as IT.

**Figure B22.13 New Business Survival Rates**



Source: Local Futures 2005

The region enjoys a strong economy but is faced with increasing pressures from international trade and development. In seeking to enhance its competitiveness and overall economic development, it is being challenged to strengthen its economic activity base, developing strong businesses within the region whilst increasing productivity in both the public and private sectors.

**B23.1****DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Proportion of people in the most deprived areas of working age in employment.
- Proportion of people in the most deprived area of working age, not in work based employment

**B23.2****EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN DEPRIVED COMMUNITIES**

The data on employment/unemployment in the most deprived areas in the region illustrates there exists varying levels of long-term unemployment in those of working age within these areas; a key characteristic of deprivation. Unemployment is highest in areas such as Thanet, Medway, Shepway and Ashford; the highest level of unemployment being in Thanet, where 3.43% of the working age population are long-term unemployed.

The data on those in full time education within the most deprived areas, highlights the highest concentrations of students in areas such as Brighton and Hove and Southampton; this being expected given that they are University towns/cities. Other areas within the region evidence extremely low levels of students within their population; the nexus being low level student status and high unemployment being characteristic of the challenge faced when seeking to tackle economic deprivation within these key areas.

**Table B23.1 Employment in the Most Deprived Areas in the Region**

	Total People Aged 16-74 in Deprived Areas*	All People in Deprived Areas* Aged 16 to 74, Economically Active		All People in Deprived Areas* Aged 16 to 74, Economically Inactive	
		Total People Employed**	% of Total People Aged 16-74 in Employment**	Long-Term Unemployed***	% of Total People Aged 16-74 who are Long-term Unemployed***
Arun	5,840	3,486	59.69	72	1.23
Ashford	1,107	613	55.37	28	2.53
Brighton and Hove	35,624	19,613	55.06	684	1.92
Canterbury	5,666	3,033	53.53	75	1.32
Cherwell	2,839	1,710	60.23	41	1.44
Crawley	1,002	607	60.58	14	1.40
Dartford	3,041	1,636	53.80	51	1.68
Dover	7,095	3,987	56.19	176	2.48
Eastbourne	6,704	3,915	58.40	99	1.48
Fareham	985	542	55.03	11	1.12
Gosport	3,944	2,276	57.71	76	1.93
Gravesend	6,149	3,321	54.01	139	2.26
Hastings	21,671	11,726	54.11	531	2.45
Havant	19,306	11,116	57.58	255	1.32
Isle of Wight	7,812	4,279	54.77	176	2.25
Maidstone	4,212	2,434	57.79	81	1.92
Medway	13,906	7,830	56.31	289	2.08
Milton Keynes	13,985	8,404	60.09	163	1.17
New Forest	1,994	1,161	58.22	20	1.00
Oxford	13,419	7,427	55.35	148	1.10
Portsmouth	27,942	15,257	54.60	454	1.62
Reading	8,801	5,405	61.41	113	1.28
Rother	800	434	54.25	14	1.75
Rushmoor	1,754	1,025	58.44	17	0.97
Shepway	6,032	3,376	55.97	159	2.64
Slough	5,051	3,007	59.53	114	2.26
Southampton	31,401	16,974	54.06	413	1.32
Swale	14,994	7,876	52.53	290	1.93
Thanet	19,671	9,842	50.03	675	3.43
Wealdon	826	466	56.42	18	2.18
Worthing	2,790	1,636	58.64	40	1.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>296,363</b>	<b>164,414</b>	<b>55.48</b>	<b>5,436</b>	<b>1.83</b>

Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

**Table B23.2 Proportion of Those in Most Deprived Areas in Full Time Education and Employment**

	Total People Aged 16-74 in Deprived Areas <sup>a</sup>	Total People in Full-Time Employment or Self Employed	Student	Student Total Employed % and Student	All People in Deprived Areas* Aged 16 to 74, Economically Inactive	All People in Deprived Areas* Aged 16 to 74, Economically Active	% of Total Employed or Student
	Aged 16-74 in Deprived Areas <sup>b</sup>	Economically Active					
Arun	5,840	2,742	112	164	3,018	51.68	
Ashford	1,107	459	25	36	520	46.97	
Brighton and Hove	35,624	14,443	1,339	2481	18,263	51.27	
Canterbury	5,666	2,101	188	351	2,640	46.59	
Cherwell	2,839	1,281	58	59	1,398	49.24	
Crawley	1,002	453	35	40	528	52.69	
Dartford	3,041	1,282	37	70	1,389	45.68	
Dover	7,095	3,023	128	274	3,425	48.27	
Eastbourne	6,704	2,893	249	455	3,597	53.65	
Fareham	985	402	29	18	449	45.58	
Gosport	3,944	1,716	59	121	1,896	48.07	
Gravesham	6,149	2,612	97	187	2,896	47.10	
Hastings	21,671	8,893	444	721	10,058	46.41	
Havant	19,306	8,267	398	617	9,292	48.13	
Isle of Wight	7,812	2,987	128	251	3,366	43.09	
Maidstone	4,212	1,857	92	118	2,067	49.07	
Medway	13,906	6,055	249	486	6,790	48.83	
Milton Keynes	13,985	6,451	396	545	7,392	52.86	
New Forest	1,994	811	36	65	912	45.74	
Oxford	13,419	5,290	399	1,885	7,574	56.44	
Portsmouth	27,942	11,001	829	1,557	13,387	47.91	
Reading	8,801	4,116	245	243	4,604	52.31	
Rother	800	306	18	17	341	42.63	
Rushmoor	1,754	767	28	47	842	48.00	
Shepway	6,032	2,666	107	157	2,930	48.57	
Slough	5,051	2,396	116	204	2,716	53.77	
Southampton	31,401	12,148	1,397	2,535	16,080	51.21	
Swale	14,994	6,095	221	467	6,783	45.24	
Thanet	19,671	7,376	391	769	8,536	43.39	
Wealdon	826	345	12	23	380	46.00	
Worthing	2,790	1,297	68	104	1,469	52.65	
<b>Total</b>	<b>296,363</b>	<b>122,531</b>	<b>7,930</b>	<b>15,067</b>	<b>145,528</b>	<b>49.10</b>	

Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

### B23.3 ISSUES

Whilst the South East overall enjoys a high standard of living, pockets of economic deprivation exist across the region, where long-term unemployment and low third level education take-up are endemic. In seeking to deliver upon this objective, the region is faced with the challenge of addressing the factors which contribute to such deprivation and which perpetuate long-term unemployment.

The RES will need to adopt a growth model that targets the needs of deprived areas and communities within the region. Unless these areas are successfully developed then intra-regional differences will continue to affect the overall performance of the economy.

**B24.1****DATA**

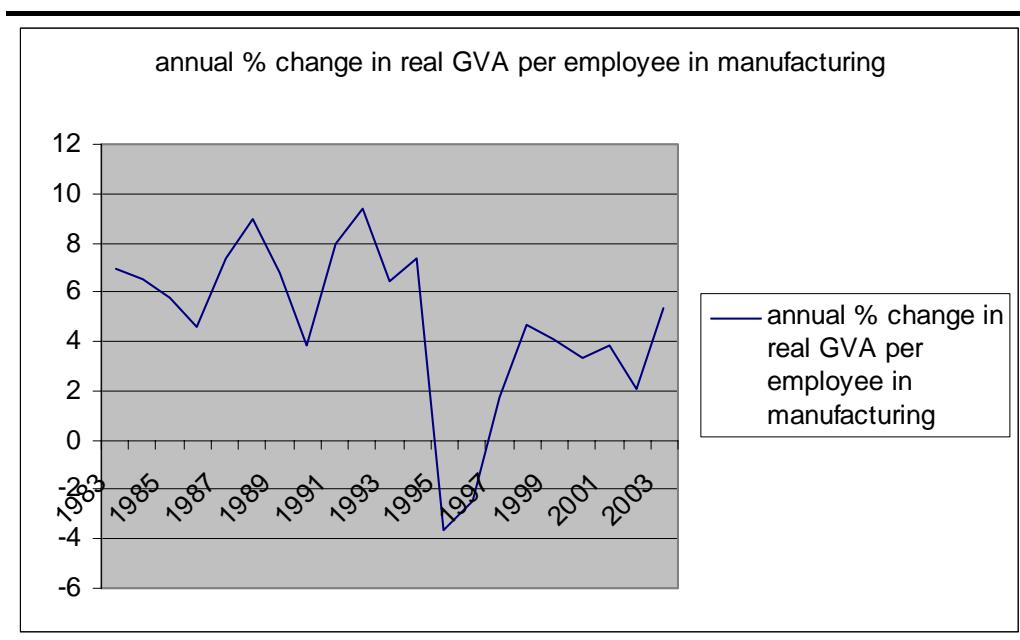
Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Annual percentage change in GVA per employee
- Employment in the knowledge sector
- Export of goods

**B24.2****GROSS VALUE ADDED, PER EMPLOYEE**

The average annual growth in GVA per employee in manufacturing from 1982-1992 was 6.8%, a rate that declined to 2.7% over 1992-2002. The most recent growth rate is back towards 5.5% per annum.

*Figure B24.1 Annual Percentage Change in GVA per employee*

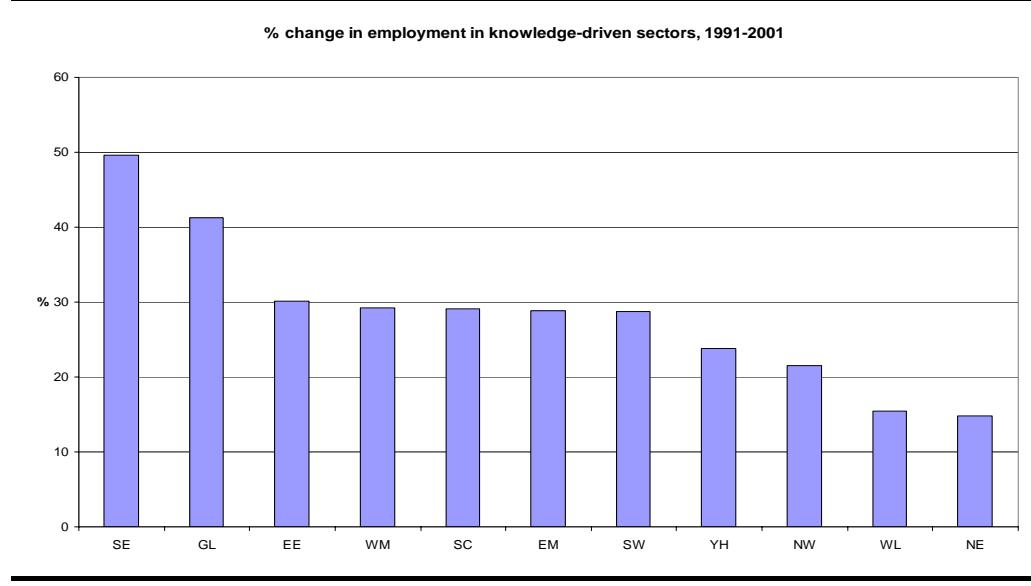


Source: ONS

**B24.3****EMPLOYMENT IN THE KNOWLEDGE SECTOR**

Comparable figures for GVA per employee are not available for the 'knowledge sector'. However, an alternative indicator is the percentage change in employment for this sector. *Figure B24.2* below illustrates that between 1991 and 2001, employment within this sector in the region grew by 49.6%, the highest growth rate of any English region.

**Figure B24.2 Percentage Change in Employment in the Knowledge Sector**



Source: ONS

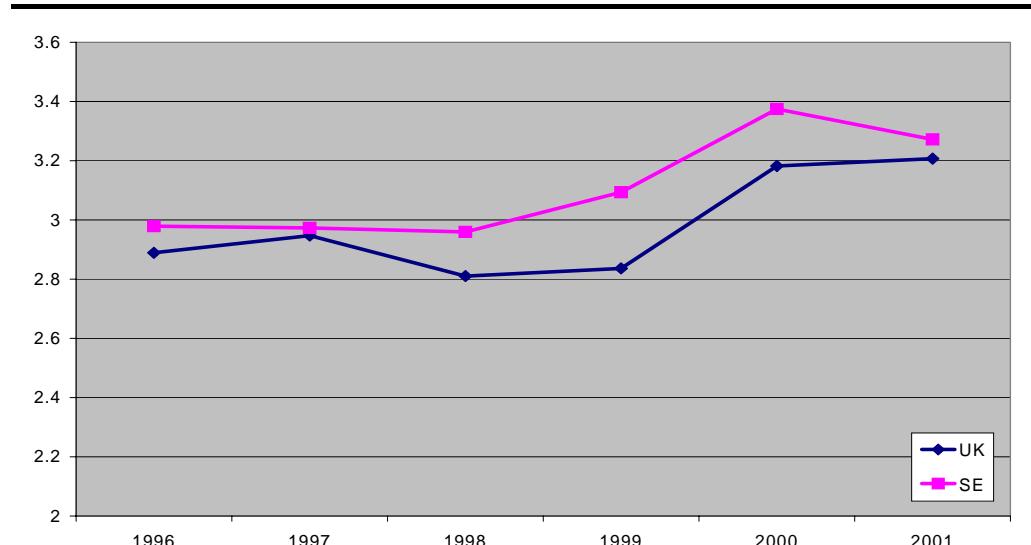
The region is aware of the importance of future growth in the knowledge sector and the importance of a skills base suitable for addressing the needs of this sector. The RES will need to identify what the knowledge sector means in the specific context of the South East and what the priorities for action should be.

#### B24.4

#### EXPORTS

The value of manufacturing exports per head has been approximately £3,000 over the period 1996-2001, slightly above the UK average over the same period.

**Figure 24.3 Export of Goods, 1996-2001** *(To be Updated for Final Sustainability Appraisal Report)*



Source: ONS

The issues relating to the continuing development of the South East economy raise a wide range of issues connected with the location of the region and its support for innovative businesses. The RES will need to set out clear actions for grow innovation and retain reasonable levels of manufacturing capacity in sectors that are likely to contribute to the overall growth of the economy over the lifetime of the RES. The relationship between employment capacity, housing provision and target sectors will also need to be made explicit in the RES and the RSS. Prioritisation of investments will need to be clearly set out in the RES.

**B25.1****DATA**

Key data/indicators that have been used to illustrate conditions for this objective are as follows:

- Trips, nights and spend
- Occupancy levels

\*Data on measures of sustainable tourism is being sought\*

**B25.2*****TOURIST TRIPS, NIGHTS AND SPEND***

Almost £3bn was spent by tourists in the South East in 2003, making the region the third biggest earner among English regions, and contributing 11.3% of the UK total. The region was also the second most popular, in terms of both trips and visitor nights. Tourism in the region as a whole is, however, experiencing a decline over recent years with a year-on-year decline of 11% in spend over January to August 2004.

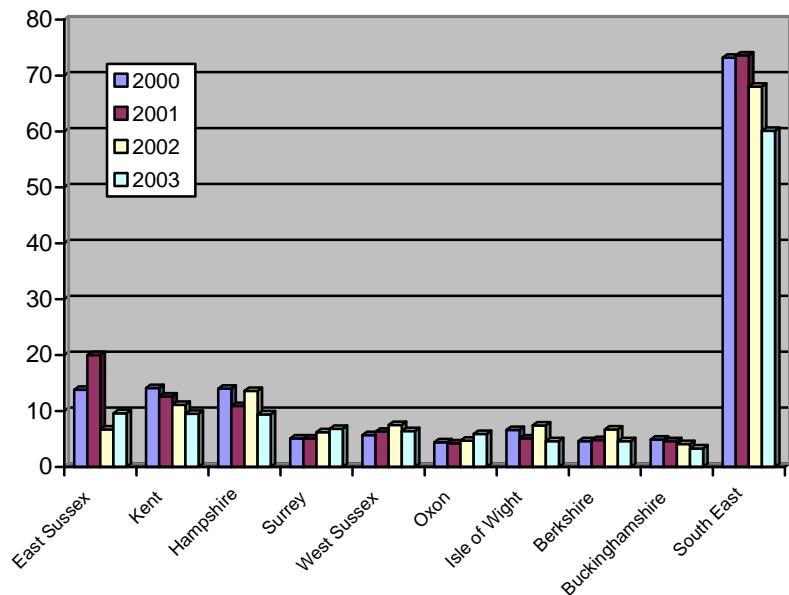
**Table B25.1** *Tourism Trips, Nights and Spend, 2003*

Region	Trips (millions)	Nights (millions)	Spend (£m)
South West	22.8	92.1	4,263
London	14.3	32.8	3,212
<b>South East</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>2,999</b>
North West	16.0	44.4	2,615
Yorkshire & the Humber	13.1	35.8	1,930
East of England	11.8	37.6	1,654
West Midlands	10.8	25.9	1,633
East Midlands	9.6	28.0	1,352
North East	4.8	13.3	824
Total England	121.3	371.9	20,560
Total UK	151.0	490.5	26,482

Source: ONS

The steady decline in tourism within the region (down 17.9% in terms of nights spent by tourism from 2000-2003) is also mirrored for most counties with decline as high as 32% in Kent, Hampshire and Buckinghamshire, although tourism in Oxfordshire, Surrey and West Sussex has grown over the period 2000-2003.

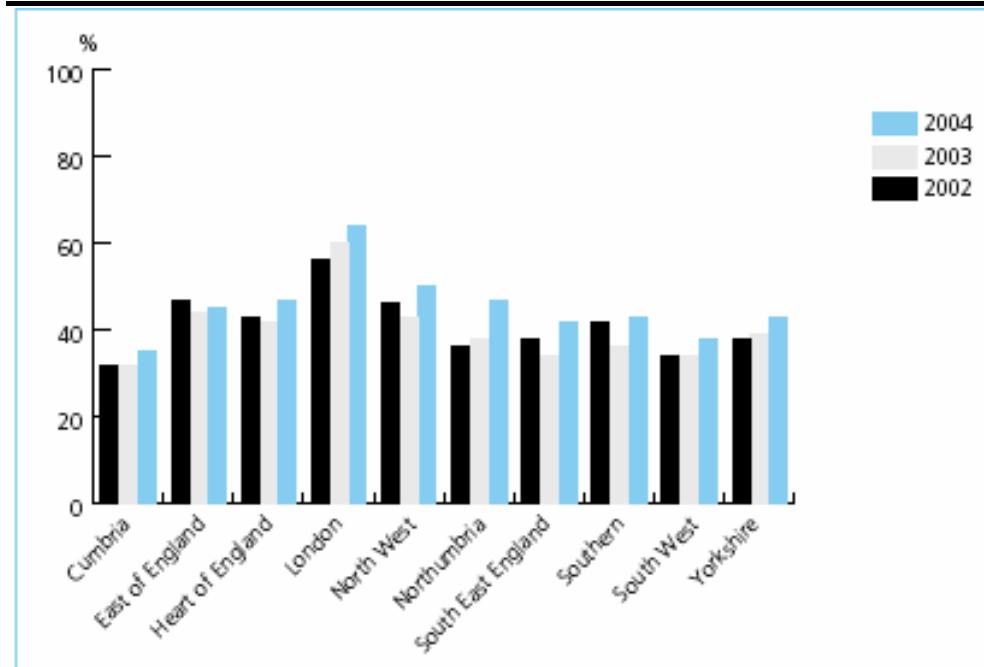
*Figure B25.1 Nights Spent by Tourists 2000-2003 (millions)*



Source: ONS 2004

The data on regional occupancy levels demonstrates that the region has enjoyed an increase in tourist occupancy levels since 2002, as with the majority of English regions. The region remains however behind many other regions, in terms of absolute levels of occupancy; London constituting the highest occupancy levels of all regions.

*Figure B25.2 Occupancy Levels*



Source: South East Regional Monitoring Report 2004

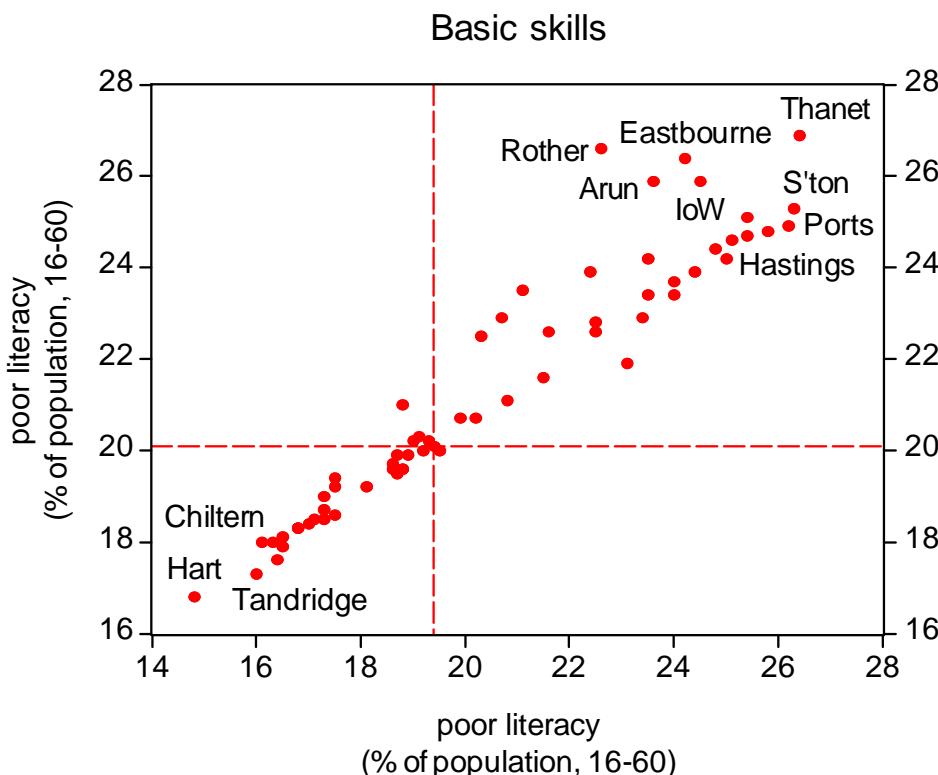
There exists scope to increase the tourist base for the region, though it is important that in enhancing the buoyancy of the tourist economy, this is done in a sustainable manner that safeguards the environmental and historic environment of the region. Delivery of this objective is closely inter-related to that relating to enhancing access to the historic environment and countryside.

Key data indicators for delivery of this objective are:

- Basic skills
- Population with no qualifications
- Proportion of working age with NVQ+
- Advanced skills

Enhancing the skills base amongst the employed and the economically inactive within the region will have positive knock on effect in terms of employment and productivity within the region.

**Figure B26.1 Basic Skills**

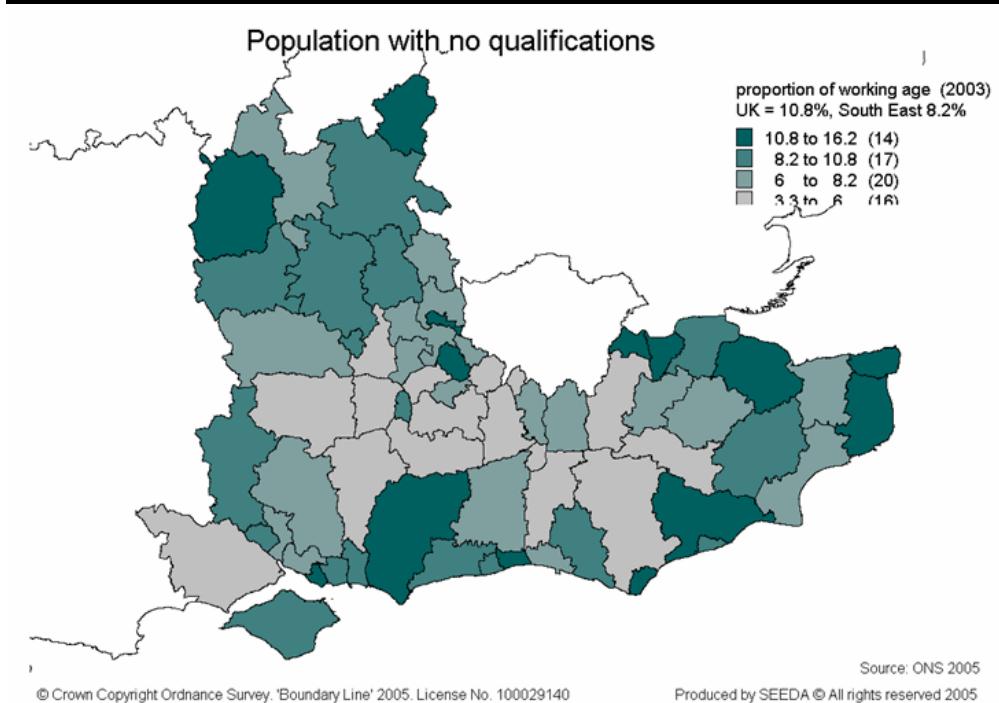


Source: Basic Skills Agency 2004

Source: Basic Skills Agency 2004

Mapping the basic skills levels across the region, the significant disparities between areas within the region are apparent. Whilst places such as Chiltern and Tandridge have low levels of poor literacy, other areas within the South East such as Eastbourne and Thanet, have much higher levels, at over 26% of the working age population. Tackling low levels of literacy will significantly contribute to delivering a skilled workforce.

**Figure B26.2 Population with No Qualifications**



**Source:** ONS 2005

Mapping the level of working age population with no qualifications, as with addressing levels of low literacy, highlights the significant regional disparities within and across the region. Clusters of the population with no qualifications exist across the region, these exceeding the national average of 10.8% of the population in this bracket. In contrast, large tracts of the region enjoy significantly below national average of working age population with no qualification, with only 3-6% of people in these areas falling into this category.

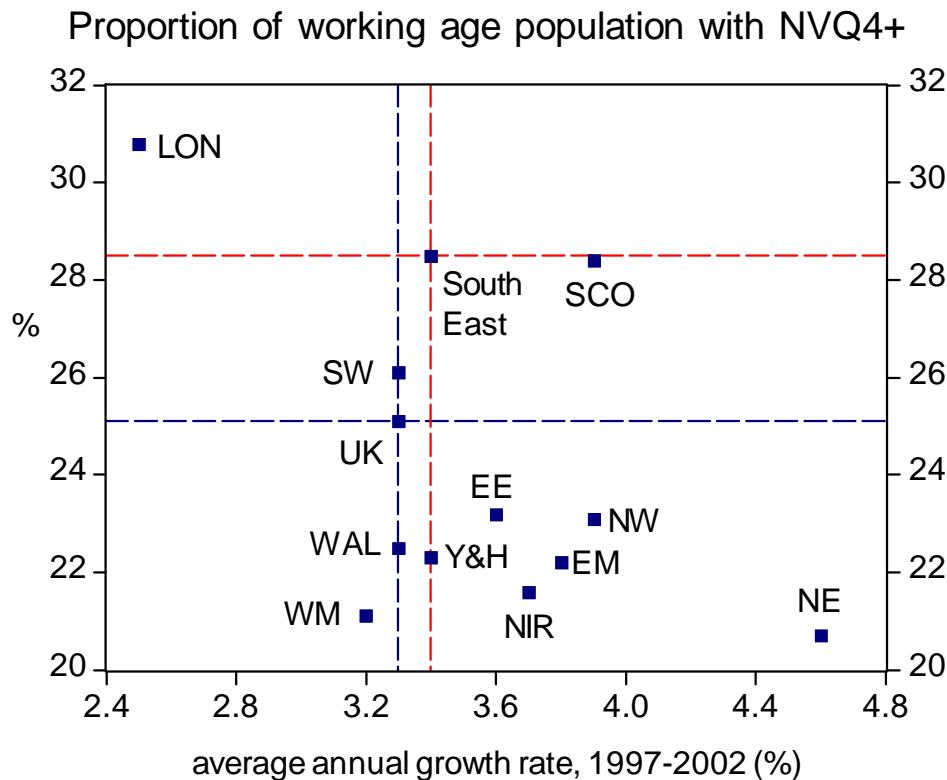
## B26.1

### SKILLS STANDARDS

Data on skills standards has` already been discussed previously in this report. Building upon this data, analysis of NVQ4 and advanced skills amongst the working age population provides an indication of just how advanced the skills base of the potential employment base within the region is.

The data on comparative NVQ4 skills base within the region, relative to the rest of the UK, demonstrates that the region is on a par with Scotland and second only to London in terms of this level of skills qualification amongst the working age population.

**Figure B26.3 Proportion of Working Age Population with NVQ4+**



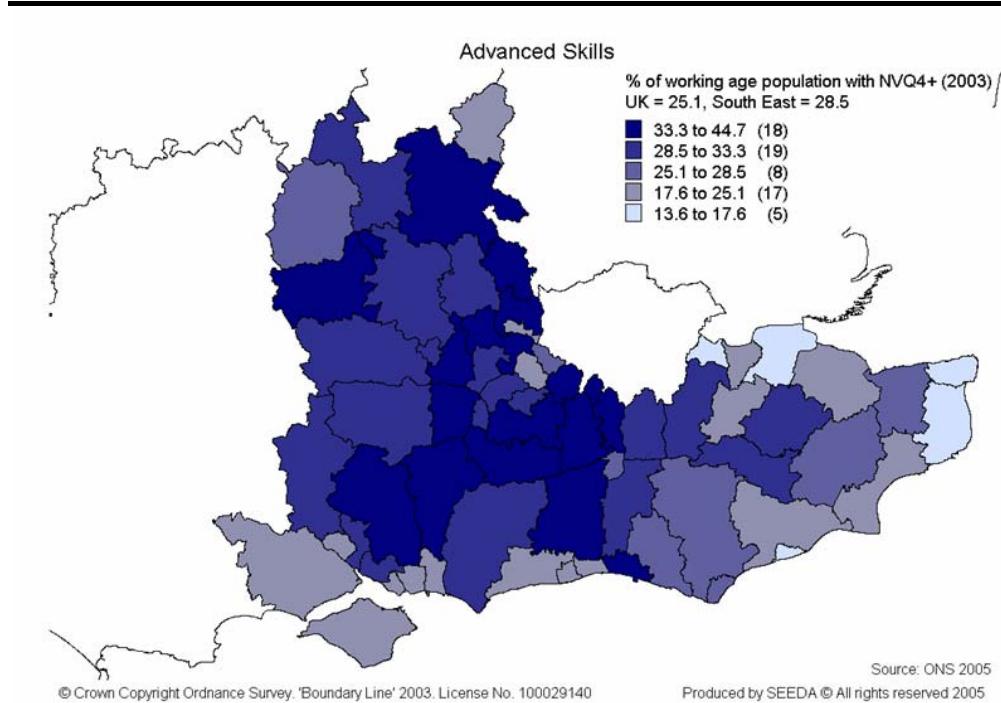
Source: RHA 2005

Source: RHA 2005

Focusing on the South East, mapping the advanced skills base of the working age population highlights the clustering of both the highest and lowest concentrations of skills across the region. Areas such as the London Fringe have clusters of high concentration of skilled workforce whilst clusters of low levels of advanced skills are evident in areas such as East Kent and Ashford.

The map also illustrates that the gap between average advanced skills levels within the region is considerable; from a low of 13.6% to a high of 44.7% of the working age population having such a skills base. Such a gap illustrates the challenge of ensuring a skilled workforce across the region and recognising the disparities which exist within the region and the factors which contribute to this.

**Figure B26.4 Levels of Population with Advanced Skills (NVQ4+)**



Source: ONS 2005

## B26.2

### ISSUES

Skills levels amongst the working age population in the region are generally high. There remains, however, a challenge in tackling the pockets of low levels skills base within the region and the adverse knock on effect this has for economic activity, health and welfare for both the population concerned and the region as a whole.

The RES will need to focus on meeting 'demand' for skills rather than focusing on issues of supply. It is vital that training focuses on skills that are likely to increase activity levels but also assist in tackling economic and social exclusion.



Annex C

## Detailed Appraisal Outputs

## Appraisal Framework

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
1	ensure that everyone has the opportunity to live in a decent, sustainably constructed and affordable home?	✓/x	✓/x	✓/x	✓/x	<p>As the RES notes 'the region is characterised by high demand and inelastic supply, with household growth in the South East Exceeding house building rates.... . The problems of house prices and of a lack of affordable housing have been widely publicised. The research and analysis carried out within the region in the context of the South East Plan has highlighted that at the proposed rate of supply set out in the Plan it is unlikely that current issues relating to affordability will be resolved. The targeted completion rates for affordable housing represent a considerable increase in terms of current completion rates and there is considerable doubt that they will be met'.</p> <p>There are also concerns that the rate of housing supply does not correspond to real need and is at odds to the likely levels of demand that would be generated by the growth scenarios in the Draft RES.</p> <p>In terms of the existing housing stock in the region, there are concerns over the resource efficiency of much of this and the intention spelt out in the Draft RES to develop and implement a strategy to upgrade existing private sector housing is a positive step. It will require close coordination with the South East Plan and will also require significant levels of funding to achieve meaningful impact.</p> <p>The Draft RES contains a wide range of actions aimed at improving the new and quality of existing housing and other developments.</p> <p>Without a significant improvement in the performance of existing housing any gains made from new housing in the region will be significantly diminished and the prospects for stabilising let-alone reducing the region's ecological footprint appear remote.</p>

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
1.1	<i>ensure the provision of housing for key workers and key sectors in the region?</i>	✓/x	✓/x	✓/x	✓/x	SEEDA and the Regional Assembly will need to ensure that they work closely on the integration of the requirements of the RES and the South East Plan. Given the well known issues concerning house prices and the availability of affordable housing there must be genuine concerns that sufficient housing will be provided for key workers and key sectors in the region.
1.2	<i>ensure that housing and economic development policies deliver housing and jobs in an integrated fashion</i>	?	?	?	?	Concerns have been raised over the ability of the South East Pan and the RES to deliver housing and employment in tandem – especially in the more deprived areas of the region. It is not necessarily the case that the provision of housing will automatically lead to job creation. Housing development that does not relate to local or sub-regional employment opportunities is only likely to fuel the commuter economy and add to the regions emissions and its ecological footprint.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
1.3	ensure the provision of a range of economic opportunities in, or accessible to, rural areas?	✓	✓	✓	✓	<p>The Rural South East is recognised as being a vital component of the region in the Draft RES. The Draft RES states that:</p> <p>It is essential that enterprise and accompanying skills development continues to be encouraged in rural areas which can make use of new market opportunities through local products and local assets; adding value, and climate change. Investment in infrastructure is critical to providing sites for rural enterprise; the development of supply chains for the food, fishing, farming and forestry sectors, as well as an adequate supply of affordable housing to maintain vibrant communities that can maintain a working population, particularly young people and young families.</p> <p>Rural communities remain places where people both live and work and provide services and offer opportunities to improve the work life balance and more sustainable travel patterns through home or remote working. Deprivation and economic exclusion can be found in small pockets in most rural communities, and its dispersed nature requires that take place in it.</p> <p>The Draft RES also recognises the key challenges faced by the rural areas in the South East. The RES sets out a series of key priorities for rural areas that directly address the provision of services, training, affordable housing, ICT and business access to quality infrastructure. Action 18 of the Draft RES relates to stimulating enterprise in rural areas. Article 20 also addresses rural businesses.</p>
1.4	promote the adoption of sustainable design and construction practices in development (eg energy/water/land/materials efficiency, incorporation of biodiversity/natural assets etc)?	✓	✓	✓	✓	Actions 51 and 55 of the Draft RES in particular support the promotion of sustainable design and construction and address issues of resource efficiency.
1.5	ensure that the mix/type of new developments can reflect changes in population (size, demographics etc) and household structure in the region?	✓	✓	✓	✓	Actions 49 and 50 of the Draft RES are designed to address the issues of concern to this IRF Objective.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
1.6	Take account of existing conditions that affect minority and excluded groups	✓/✗	✓/✗	✓/✗	✓/✗	It is not clear from the actions in the Draft RES relating to housing take into account the specific needs of minority and excluded groups although the minority and excluded groups although the broader socio-economic needs of these groups are recognised as being impact.
2	<b>reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public wellbeing, the economy and the environment?</b>	0	0	0	0	<p>The RES recognises that the 'region is affected by a range of flooding issues - tidal, rivers and groundwater. Over 200,000 existing houses and workplaces are in areas of high flood risk'.</p> <p>It is important the economic development of the region does not increase the risk of flooding and of the human, economic and environmental losses associated with it. This will require regional partners including SEEDA to work closely with the Environment Agency and also to act in accordance with the relevant policies in the South East Plan. It is not easy, however, to establish any direct relationship between the strategy and actions put forward in the Draft RES and flooding.</p>
2.1	<i>prevent all inappropriate development in the flood plain?</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This is essentially a planning function and is addressed by the South East Plan and will also need to be addressed by LDFs. Economic developments carried out as part of the implementation of the RES should not be supported if they are likely to increase flood risk.
2.2	<i>require that all new development applications show that sustainable drainage has been considered and implemented wherever practicable?</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Whilst Action 55 of the Draft RES might be used to address this issue it is also directly addressed by policies in the South East Plan. It will be important to ensure that actions arising from the RES area supportive of those policies.
2.3	<i>ensure that development located in the floodplain is designed to be flood resilient?</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Action 55 may be of relevance but again this issue is addressed by a number of policies with the South East Plan. It will be important to ensure that actions arising from the RES are supportive of these policies and that SEEDA continues to work with key regional partners such as the Environment Agency on this issue.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
2.4	ensure that development does not increase flood risk to others?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	See comments under 2.3
3	improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health?	?	?	?	?	<p>Health is recognised as a key issue for the region in connection with a number of issues such as the impacts of an ageing population, the links between poor health status and economic participation and the links between social, economic and environmental exclusion and economic deprivation. The Draft RES notes that - 'Health is a key dimension of disadvantages. The region's most disadvantaged areas, where unemployment is highest, often feature higher than average ill health and mortality. Initiatives which target worklessness will also lead to higher standards of living and other factors which influence quality of life. As well as being a route out of poverty and benefit dependency, employment and training programmes can lead to a healthier lifestyle. There are business benefits in developing a healthy and skilled local workforce and a better workplace environment, reducing absence through illness and improving efficiency and productivity.'</p> <p>While the 'skills' actions within the Draft RES may assist in improving health and well-being more actions targeting the determinants of health are still required.</p>
3.1	<i>substantially diminish inequalities in mortality, health and well-being across the region?</i>	?	?	?	?	Whilst increasing participation in the economy and the community is likely to improve the health status and reduce the exclusion of some people it is not clear how far the Draft RES seeks to tackle these issues.
3.2	ensure the accessibility of healthcare services by non-car means, eg through the incorporation of services in new developments?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Issues of accessibility to health care services are addressed in the South East Plan. It will be important that developments funded in response to the RES adhere to these policies.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
3.3	promote healthy, active lifestyles as part of the well-being of the region and as a means of reducing economic and social exclusion	✓	✓	✓	✓	Health is recognised as a key dimension of economic disadvantage. The Draft RES is also keen that the 2012 Olympics should be used to encourage Sport and Leisure are also seen as an element of Sustainable Prosperity. More could be made in the RES of the benefits to the region's economy and working population of its extensive natural assets and rural areas which have a major potential to encourage healthier lifestyles.
3.4	Take account of the specific health and wellbeing issues of minority and excluded groups	?	?	?	?	It is not clear that the specific need of minority and excluded groups will be addressed by the RES although it does seek to address some of the social determinants of health which should assist in addressing their needs.
4	<b>reduce poverty and social exclusion and close the gap between the most deprived areas in the South East and the rest of the region?</b>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓/?	This is one of the principal objectives of the Draft RES which seeks to address the barriers to economic participation. It is also focused on the spatial distribution of poverty and exclusion within the region and seeks to address the specific needs and potential of more deprived sub-regions such as some of the coastal areas of the South East.
4.1	<i>contribute towards a halving the gap between the most disadvantaged communities and the average position of the region by 2010?</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES is focused on reducing the intra-regional gaps in the performance of the South East's economy since these are a source of local and regional disadvantage. The economic difficulties of some areas of the region in terms of attracting new employment opportunities will need to be tackled.
4.2	ensure the provision of employment land and housing in, or accessible to, the most deprived areas of the South East?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This issue is more directly related to the implementation of the South East Plan. However, it is important to note that the Draft RES does note the need to ensure that housing provision and employment opportunities are provided in a coordinated fashion.
4.3	Promote the economic and social inclusion of deprived and minority groups?	✓/✗	✓/✗	✓/✗	✓/✗	The RES recognises the specific economic and social exclusion issues confronting deprived and minority groups in the region. There are, however, limited specific actions of relevance to these groups – this needs to be reviewed.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
5	raise educational achievement levels across the region and develop the opportunities for everyone to acquire the skills needed to find and remain in work?	✓	✓	✓	✓	The RES contains a number of actions aimed at raising educational and skills levels across the region. It promotes this idea of a Regional Skills Escalator and also the need for whole life learning and actions targeted at the ageing population of the region.
5.1	ensure the accessibility of educational/training opportunities by non-car means?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This issue is not addressed by the Draft RES but is addressed by policies in the South East Plan. Issues of access are important for deprived and socially excluded groups and the implementation of the Skills actions with the RES will require a review of how opportunities are to be accessed. ICT has a potentially significant role in facilitating access and this is recognised by the Draft RES.
5.2	ensure the accessibility of educational/training opportunities for the most deprived communities and excluded and minority groups?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	See the comments for 5.1 above
5.3	ensure the accessibility of educational/training opportunities for rural communities?	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES does discuss the issue of making educational and other opportunities accessible to rural residents. The role of ICT may be very important but there are also issues to do with the provision of public transport links to key educational and training centres.
6	reduce crime and the fear of crime?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Whilst fear of crime is an issue of significance for the region's residents it is not an issue that is especially linked to the RES. There is a link between reduction in deprivation and worklessness which could in turn reduce levels of some types of crime.
6.1	promote the incorporation of 'secured by design' principles as part of good urban design in economic development sites?	?	?	?	?	The Draft RES does contain actions to encourage the adoption of sustainable design and construction and promote sustainable communities - these may well assist in the promotion of 'secured by design' objectives.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
7	<b>create and sustain vibrant communities?</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	Quality of life and sustainable prosperity are both key components of the Draft RES. A wide range of actions are proposed to assist the region conserve and enhance its quality of life for residents and businesses. The Draft RES (in co-ordination with the South East Plan) also target the regeneration of communities.
7.1	encourage the involvement of communities in the planning and management of their neighbourhoods?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This is an issue of more direct relevance to the South East Plan and to LDFs.
8	<b>improve accessibility to all services and facilities?</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES recognises that the region needs substantial economy investment in infrastructure if it's to continue to grow and to perform. The RES and the South East Plan must pursue an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure – this must help to reduce congestion which has an accessibility. It should also make significant improvements to access via public transport.
8.1	promote compact, mixed-use development with good accessibility to local facilities and services (eg employment, education, health services, shopping, leisure, green spaces, culture etc), that reduce the need to travel?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Although the RES does address some aspects of the development and design the South East Plan provides the policy framework for these issues and it will be important that actions funded in response to the RES adhere to those policies.
8.2	ensure that facilities and services (eg employment, education, health services, shopping, leisure, green spaces, culture, outdoor recreation etc) are accessible to rural communities?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	The needs of rural communities and the rural economy are clearly recognised by the Draft RES which contains clear actions to support the rural areas of the region. Delivery of these actions should be co-ordinated within the South East Plan and other strategies.
8.3	Ensure the provision of the services and facilities of most relevance to excluded and minority groups.	?	?	?	?	It is not clear from the Draft RES that this issue will be directly addressed although the specific issues facing excluded and minority groups in relation to economic participation are highlighted in the document.
9	<b>encourage increased engagement in cultural activity across all sections of the community in the South East?</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES recognises the importance of cultural activities to sustainable prosperity and to quality of life. It also recognises the economic significance of the region's cultural assets and the role that these play in making the region a 'leader'.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
9.1	ensure that existing facilities and locations for cultural activities are protected and that new facilities are provided in areas targeted for development?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This is essentially a question of planning policy but the Draft RES does emphasise the importance of such facilities to Sustainable Communities and Quality of Life.
9.2	Ensure that cultural needs of minority groups are addressed?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	See comments for 9.1
10	<b>improve efficiency in land use through the re-use of previously developed land and existing buildings, including re-use of materials from buildings, and encourage urban renaissance?</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	The RES is keen that the region's performance on the re-use of PDL is maintained and that planning authorities are able to make the best use of the resources of PDL in the region.
10.1	<i>ensure the provision of employment land and housing on previously-developed land, as opposed to greenfield sites (in line with the sequential approach) and through conversion of existing buildings, to ensure that 60% of all forms of development (not just housing) occurs on previously used land by 2008?</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	See comments for 10 above.
10.2	encourage the reuse of materials in construction?	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES encourages sustainable design and construction and resource efficiency. This, if allied to the policies within the South East Plan, should help to ensure that the reuse of materials is promoted within the development and construction sectors in the region.
10.3	promote the adoption of sustainable design and construction practices in non-housing developments (eg energy/water/land/materials efficiency, incorporation of biodiversity/natural assets etc)?	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES does promote the adoption of sustainable design in both residential and commercial developments.
10.4	require good design to create attractive, high quality environments where people will choose to work and live?	✓	✓	✓	✓	See comments in 10.3 above. This will also require integration of the actions of the RES with the policies and actions within the South East Plan.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
10.5	ensure that the historic urban environment and the distinctiveness/character of urban areas is protected as part of urban developments?	✓/?	✓/?	✓/?	✓/?	Whilst the Draft RES recognises the importance of the region's historic environment assets, its historic towns and high quality urban fabric and the contributions they make to the region's economy it is not clear how economic development and the historic environment will interface in detail with development and regeneration. Policies on these issues are contained in the South East Plan and it will be important that investments respect these policies. The RES does not contain specific actions of relevance to this issue.
10.6	ensure that the historic rural environment and its distinctiveness and character is protected as part of the development of rural areas?	✓	✓	✓	✓	The rural environment of the region is recognised as a significant economic asset which must be conserved and enhanced. The Draft RES does not contain specific action of relevance to this issue.
11	reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve?	✗	✗	✗	✗	Whilst the RES recognises the need to tackle pollution, especially from transport it is difficult to see how the RES will lead to any reduction in air pollution without a massive investment in public transport and a similarly significant shift in behaviour. The current policy and funding framework in the UK does not appear conducive to the scale of change required.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
11.1	promote more sustainable transport patterns in all economic development areas, particular those of low air quality (eg AQMAs), including provision for public transport, walking and cycling (see also Objective 15)	x	x	x	x	<p>Road transport in the region has consistently increased and is a significant source of atmospheric pollution. Both the Draft RES and the South East Plan identify transport infrastructure as a key investment need and, whilst the need for improvements to public transport and the provision of improved public transport access to major urban and transport hubs is highlighted in the RES, it is unclear how the Region can reduce transport emissions without massive investment and equally significant and unparalleled behavioural change. To achieve a decoupling of transport infrastructure from an increase in transport emissions seems unlikely under present policy and funding conditions. It will require a significant commitment from Central Government to achieve any significant progress on this issue.</p> <p>Whilst the intentions of the RES and the South East Plan are in some respects laudable it is difficult to see how emissions and the region's footprint will not increase under current proposals.</p>
11.2	address the air quality impacts arising from specific development activities (eg airports, energy generation etc)?	x	x	x	x	The RES recognises the need, for instance, to address major sources of emissions such as airports and to provide improved public transport access but it is not clear what measures will be put in place to curb the consumer and business demands that lead to air quality impacts. These rely on strong incentives towards behavioural change. These incentives will need to be supplied by Central Government and will need to be applied at national level to have any real prospect of being effective. Even if such measures are introduced their impact is only likely to become apparent towards the end of the time period considered by the RES.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
12	address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and ensure that the South East is prepared for its impacts?	x	x	x	x	<p>The RES notes that 'while striving to avoid future climate change through mitigation measures, we must recognise that some climate change is unavoidable and to plan for adaptation. Climate risks and costs need to be incorporated into business decision making and policy making. Whilst inevitably there are some uncertainties over the degree and pace of climate change, proper forward planning will generate costs savings, reduce exposure to risk and losses, enhance reputation, improve regulatory relationships and increase opportunities for market leadership'.</p> <p>It is important the RES highlights the opportunities arising from climate change and also that it is very much a business and competitiveness issues as well as a sustainable development one.</p> <p>The RES sets a target for the reduction of greenhouse gases in line with government targets. It is also seeking to stabilise and then reduce its ecological footprint, this too will require a concerted effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions significantly. Whilst the RES proposes a wide range of resource efficiency and management measures it will require a significant increase in awareness and sensitivity within the private, public and domestic sectors to bring about a cultural shift in the management of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the region. The RES does address the causes of climate change and it is entirely correct that it sets a target for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions but it is questionable whether all of the other targets set out in the Draft RES are likely to lead to a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>In terms of making sure that the South East is prepared for climate change – this will require integration of the actions of both the RES and the South East Plan as well as other regional strategies. Climate change needs to be more effectively embedded into regional thinking in terms of both adaptation and proactive engagement within the opportunities.</p> <p>Consultees have also highlighted the need to look at Climate Change in a holistic fashion so that issues such as 'coastal squeeze' which are likely to affect many of the region's coastal environmental assets can be planned for.</p>

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
12.1	ensure a 20% reduction in CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 2010 (from 1990 levels)?	✗	✗	✗	✗	<p>The RES sets a clear target to achieve a 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2016. This is a more relaxed target than the current government commitments – even though it is recognised that the UK is unlikely to achieve its targets in this area. So the region is unlikely to achieve this objective – its attainment is only partially within the gift of the RES and there needs to be a broad regional consensus as to what is an appropriate target for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction and what key actions are required to give the region a chance of meeting the target. The wording of the target also requires clarification – it is not immediately apparent what is included in ‘attributable’ emissions.</p> <p>As with other aspects relating to the overall sustainability of the economic growth model put forward in the RES, it will not be sufficient to look for the technical fixes to deliver on a CO<sub>2</sub> reduction target it will require enormous and sustained behavioural change. This in turn will provide many business opportunities but the whole process requires a clear commitment from Central Government.</p>
12.2	require that development proposals are guided by ‘climate proofing’ principles?	✓	✓	✓	✓	<p>It is important that activities funded by SEEDA and other regional partners are resilient to the effects and likely implications of climate change. The promotion of the work already carried out within the region on climate proofing should be a key aspect of encouraging innovative developments both business and residential. SEEDA and other regional bodies need to demonstrate leadership in this area via their own actions and investments. The South East Plan contains a number of policies that promote such actions.</p>
12.3	promote actions that will favour a shift towards a ‘low carbon’ economy	✓	✓	✓	✓	<p>The RES recognises the sustainability and business gains to be made from resource efficiency and management of resource consumption. Whilst the Draft RES does not focus on the low carbon economy per se its promotion of CO<sub>2</sub> and eco-footprint targets and the selection of the environmental technology sector as one of the priority sectors for the region also indicate that low carbon products and services could be supported by the region alongside innovative R+D in this area.</p>

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
12.4	Provide business with support to address the challenges and opportunities of climate change	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	Action 67 of the Draft RES addresses this issue as an integral part of moving towards the target reduction of 20% of CO <sub>2</sub> emissions. Action 70 also seeks to promote the considerable business opportunities arising from climate change. This when combined with the region's aspirations to become a global leader in environment technologies appears to indicate that this is a priority for the RES.
13	conserve and enhance the region's biodiversity?	?	?	?	?	The importance of the natural environment, to the region, not least in economic terms, is clearly spelt out in the Draft RES. The importance of Green Infrastructure and its contribution to Quality of Life and Sustainable Prosperity is also made clear.  However, the evidence base for the SA/SEA highlights the current levels of threat to many of the region's most valuable areas. Investment in new biodiversity assets and improved conservation of existing sites should be promoted as an integral part of Sustainable Prosperity.
13.1	protect, enhance and restore the region's (international, national and local) designated sites recognizing the contributions they make to the region's economy and the wellbeing of residents and visitors?	?	?	?	?	See comments in 13 above.
13.2	protect, enhance and restore the region's priority habitats and species, and take account of the need to deliver regional biodiversity targets so as to maintain the region's natural asset base?	?	?	?	?	See comments in 13 above.
13.3	encourage the development of new biodiversity assets within/alongside developments? (Including encourage the linkage of habitats and the provision of wildlife corridors?)	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES does recognise the need to create new areas of habitats and Green Infrastructure and contains actions to promote these types of investments.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
14	<b>protect, enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the region's countryside and historic environment?</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	The RES recognises the important role played by the region's countryside and historic environment. It does not promote actions that will necessarily have negative impacts on these assets but stakeholders are concerned about the apparent lack of clarity on this issue in the Draft RES. Consideration needs to be given to this in the ongoing development of the RES. Clearly the South East Plan contains policies to prevent damage to these assets and to promote their balanced use. The RES needs to support these polices.
14.1	recognise the importance to the region's economy of its natural environmental assets (eg the green belt, parks and green spaces, common land, woodland and forests, National Parks, AONBs, ESAs etc) and seek to protect, restore and enhance them as an integral part of the region's quality of life	✓/✗	✓/✗	✓/✗	✓/✗	See comments on 14 above.  The RES recognises the value of the environmental economy but does not contain many clear actions designed to further enhance its contribution.
14.2	recognise the importance to the region's economy of the region's cultural and heritage assets (eg Heritage Coasts, World Heritage Sites, SAMs, Listed Buildings, Historic Parks and Gardens, Conservation Areas, Registered Battlefields etc and their role in the region's quality of life and seek to protect, restore and enhance them)?	✓	✓	✓	✓	The value of the historic environment is recognised by the Draft RES although it contains no clear actions to enhance its contribution although regeneration activities e.g.in the Coastal Towns may have some impact.
15	<b>reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choice, and reduce the need for travel by car/lorry?</b>	✗	✗	✗	✗	The Draft RES explicitly recognises the need to reduce road congestion and pollution. However, it is not clear that the strategy and the actions proposed both by the RES and the South East Plan are likely to lead to any reduction in pollution - the reverse seems more likely since investment in infrastructure seems more likely to generate journeys than reduce them.
15.1	promote more sustainable transport patterns in all areas, particularly those with high congestion?	✗	✗	✗	✗	See comments in 15 above

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
15.2	promote public transport, walking and cycling?	?	?	?	?	The RES does promote public transport – it is not specific about walking and cycling. The real question is to what extent can the RES and the South East Plan make a significant difference – this is heavily reliant on policy and behavioural change and levels of funding.
15.3	promote more sustainable transport patterns in connection with developments in rural areas?	?	?	?	?	The needs of rural communities and business are addressed in the Draft RES. However, no mention is made of the significant role of transport in rural areas and there are in consequence no specific actions on this issue. Co-ordination with the South East Plan will be necessary.
16	<b>reduce the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced and local products?</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES is committed to improving resource efficiency and resource consumption in the region and stabilising and then reducing the region's ecological footprint. However, it is not clear how the region intends to move towards this target. The RES and the South East Plan need to develop a co-ordinated approach to this strategic challenge. Once again, behavioural change will be a key component of any strategy that is likely to produce significant change.
16.1	promote the use of locally and sustainably-sourced, and recycled, materials in construction and renovation?	✓	✓	✓	✓	Local procurement and sustainable procurement are both targeted in the Draft RES.
16.2	Promote measures to reduce the overall ecological footprint of the region	✓/?	✓/?	✓/?	✓/?	The Draft RES does set out a target for the region's ecological footprint but it does not set out any specific steps to achieve this target which provides any sense of the target being achievable. Here too behavioural change will be fundamental as will strong leadership from the public sector.
16.3	Promote resource efficiency measures within the region's businesses	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES sets out a number of actions to raise awareness of resource efficiency among the region's businesses.
16.4	Promote the region's strengths in the environmental goods and services industry	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	The Draft RES wished to see the region in a position of Global Leadership in this sector and clearly identifies it as one of the four priority sectors for the region.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
17	<b>reduce waste generation and disposal, and achieve the sustainable management of waste?</b>	✓/✗	✓/✗	✓/✗	✓/✗	The Draft RES contains a targets designed to improve the overall efficiency of businesses use of materials and waste generation. This does not contain any clear way forward and it is not clear how the region will achieve anything more than a slower rate of increase in waste generation. The evidence for how this target will be achieved needs to be included in the Draft RES.
17.1	promote sustainable waste management practices in all sectors and at all levels through the provision of a range of appropriate waste management facilities?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This is an issue for the South East Plan, LDFs and the relevant waste strategies. The RES can contribute, however, via the promotion of good practice and innovation in the waste management sector – this is also a sector with strong growth and export potential. This potential will be targeted, it is assumed via the environmental technology sector – a priority for the RES.
17.2	promote waste minimisation?	✓	✓	✓	✓	The RES promotes waste minimisation via its focus on resource efficiency and the reduction of resource consumption.
18	<b>maintain and improve the water quality of the region's rivers and coasts, and achieve sustainable water resources management?</b>	?	?	?	?	The work being carried out by the Environment Agency in preparation for the Water Framework Directive is highlighting key issues for water quality management in the region. This work needs to be reflected in the RES in terms of its implications for Sustainable Prosperity. It is not clear how the region will reach the targets in the RES on water consumption. Policies in the South East Plan and actions in the RES are not likely to lead to sustainable water resources without a significant investment in demand management, supply efficiency and overall behavioural change of both consumers and suppliers. At present the policy context is not favourable to such change - or not at the scale required to move towards sustainability.
18.1	Promote measures to reduce water demand by business	✓	✓	✓	✓	This issue is an integral part of the Draft RES action relating to resource efficiency.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
18.2	Promote pollution control and reduction measures by business	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES seeks to promote sustainable development, CSR, the environmental technologies sector and improved resource efficiency this should improve the environmental performance of business.
19	increase energy efficiency, and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources in the region?	✓	✓	✓	✓	<p>The Draft RES established clear targets for the development and deployment of the renewable energy in the region. As with the other targets in the RES more information is required as to how these targets will be delivered.</p> <p>Some references are made to the use of specific feedstocks but this too requires a greater level of detail.</p>
19.1	<i>provide for the establishment of renewable energy developments at a regional level, to ensure that renewable energy targets are achieved (eg 16% of generation capacity by 2026)?</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This issue is not addressed directly within the Draft RES although targets are set for renewables. Co-ordination between the RES and the South East Plan on the planning issues surrounding renewables development will be required.
19.2	Promote the uptake of renewable energy sources by business	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Draft RES is generally supportive of this objective and the use of renewables by business offers both and business opportunities to the private sector in the region.
19.3	promote the incorporation of small-scale renewables in developments?	?	✓	✓	✓	While the Draft RES does encourage the use of sustainable construction and design and the deployment of renewables it does not really enter into this level of detail. Co-ordination with the South East Plan should enable opportunities to exploit small-scale renewables to be provided and exploited.
20	<b>ensure high and stable levels of employment so everyone can benefit from the economic growth of the region?</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓/?	The Draft RES is directed at improving the economic performance of the region and increased levels of economic participation and increased employment in growth sectors with strong potential for the future are fundamental to that. At lower levels of growth these objectives may be harder to achieve. Ensuring higher levels of employment in the more deprived areas of the region is also a key objective of the RES.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
20.1	Promote actions to deliver employment to all sections of society in the region especially deprived minority and excluded groups	✓	✓	✓	✓/?	The Draft RES recognises that deprived, minority and excluded groups are key targets sectors of society if economic participation rates are to be improved.
20.2	Target employment growth in areas where social and transport infrastructure capacity exists	✓/?	✓/?	✓/?	✓/?	It is not clear that it will be possible to 'orchestrate' employment growth in those areas where infrastructure capacity exists.
21	<b>sustain economic growth and competitiveness across the region?</b>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓/?	Current and proposed economic strategy for the South East looks to maintain and improve the economic profile and performance of the region. A particular focus of the Draft RES is the need to reduce and move towards the elimination of significant intra-regional disparities. At lower levels of growth this objective may be harder to achieve.
21.1	<i>Promote actions to narrow the gap in GVA per capita between the best and worst performing parts of the region?</i>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓/?	The actions within the Draft RES have as one of their key outcomes the narrowing of the gap in GVA per capita between sub-regions of the South East. At lower levels of growth this may be harder to achieve.
22	<b>stimulate economic revival in priority regeneration areas?</b>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓/?	The Draft RES recognises a number of sub-regions within the South East one of the objectives being the targeting of areas in need of economic and social regeneration. Actions to assist these areas will require co-ordination between the RES and the South East Plan. The Draft RES identifies key priorities for each area to address their needs.
22.1	Identify priority areas for economic regeneration and their needs?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓/?	See comment for 22 above.
22.2	Promote actions to develop less-favoured areas within the region?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	See comment for 22 above.
23	<b>develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities?</b>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓/?	The development of the knowledge-based economy and a focus on innovation are both key priorities with the Draft RES - both are viewed as key elements of the forward strategy for the economy of the South East and the Greater South East.

	Does the Regional Economic Strategy...	Baseline	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	2% Scenario	
23.1	support the development of access to broadband infrastructure, particularly in rural and deprived areas and among excluded and minority groups?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	The Draft RES sees the development of broadband coverage and access and the reduction of 'Digital Exclusion' as key components of the growth strategy for the region. ICT and broadband are mentioned in the context of both the rural South East and the excluded groups of the region.
23.2	Identify actions to promote innovation and research and development in the region?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	Innovation and R+D are key elements of the Draft RES and are seen as being fundamental to the economic growth and continued success of the region.
23.3	Identify clear priorities for investment in new services/technologies	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	The Draft RES identifies four priority sectors for investment – one of these being the environmental technologies sector.
24	<b>encourage the development of a buoyant, sustainable tourism sector?</b>	?	✓	✓	✓	The role of the cultural, sport and creative sectors in the regional economy is clearly set out in the RES. Sustainable tourism needs clearer support with the Strategy.
25	<b>develop and maintain a skilled workforce to support long-term competitiveness of the region?</b>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	The Draft RES contains a wide range of actions relating to skills and the skills and training needs of the region in relationship to retaining and building on its competitiveness.
25.1	Promote business support measures/skills programs that meet the demands of the region's businesses	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	Business support actions features in several sections of the RES and cover a wide range of issues relevant to competitiveness including CSR and sustainable development.
25.2	Identify key skills sets/skills gaps to be developed/managed	?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	The evidence base for skills requirements is clear in terms of current levels of educational attainment etc and also in terms of priority sectors and their likely needs. The role of 'Skills Escalator' is also clearly set out'.
25.3	Identify key sectors that provide 'skills escalators' that create opportunities for less-skilled individuals in the region's economy	✓/✗	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	The Draft RES contains useful information on the role of a Skills Escalator in the Regional Economy. It would be useful to have even greater detail on key sectors/skills and the key initiatives for particular groups.
25.4	Identify the skills needs/demands for skills amongst minority and excluded groups?	✓/?	✓/?	✓/?	✓/?	This issue is not as clearly set out as other skills related issues and requires additional work.



Annex D

Detailed Analysis of  
Consultation Responses to  
Sustainability Appraisal of  
RES Consultation  
Document



**Table D1.1** *Comments on Scoping Report*

<b>Issue Raised by Respondents</b>	<b>Responses to Issues Raised</b>
For comments on the baseline data in Annex B, please make reference to English Nature's advice dated 25 October 2005 and 21 December 2005 Please see previous comments on the Review of Baseline Conditions and Review of Key Plans, Strategies and Programmes submitted by Environment Agency on 28th October 2005.	The majority of the issues raised have been addressed by the Sustainability Appraisals and the appropriate information included in <i>Annexes A and B</i> of the Sustainability Report. Work is still ongoing on the finalisation of both the Review of Baseline Conditions and the Review of Key Plans and aspects of the Consultation Responses on these aspects of the Appraisal are still being researched.

**Table D1.2** *Additional Data for Baseline (Annex B)*

<b>Issue Raised by Respondents</b>	<b>Responses to Issues Raised</b>
Effect of coastal squeeze on Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) should be noted in Baseline Data and Policy Review. Also Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites. Links between biodiversity and flood risk management (FRM) options, spatial planning and economic development should be strengthened.	This has been added to <i>Annex B</i> of the Sustainability Report.
Include reference to Shoreline Management Plans (the coastal equivalent to Catchment Flood Management Plans) in Section B3 (Obj 2)	This has been added to <i>Annex B</i> of the Sustainability Report.
Additional information for Sections B4 and B10 (Objectives 3 and 9) can be found in the SEPHO report 'Choosing Health in the South East: Physical Activity'	This has been added to <i>Annex B</i> of the Sustainability Report.
Include spatial information regarding water quality from the Environment Agency's Water Framework Directive risk assessment maps.	This has been added to <i>Annex B</i> of the Sustainability Report.
Include new results from the River Basin characterisations that are available from the Environment Agency should be included.	This has been added to <i>Annex B</i> of the Sustainability Report.

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>The following data on sustainable tourism should be included under Objective 24:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Method of travel by people to and within the region for tourism and leisure activities</li> <li>• Traffic management and the promotion of sustainable access and reduction of reliance on cars</li> <li>• Visitor management plans for identified areas</li> <li>• Green audits of tourism related businesses</li> <li>• Sensitive investment in tourism that considers the needs of local communities, skills and the environment.</li> </ul> <p>The Countryside Agency's publication called 'People's Landscapes' should be referred to.</p>	<p>The SA will research this data and it will (subject to availability) be added to the next SA report.</p>

**Table D1.3** *Comments on Baseline Data*

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
Under Objective 14, more references to measures promoting access and enjoyment including 'access for all' should be included.	This comment has been taken on board for the SA as a whole.
In Section B17.2, does the 88 million tonnes of waste include material used in producing exports less the actual material exported?	This is being checked and will be clarified in the next SA report.
Re-word the first sentence of paragraph 2 in Section B 19.8 on groundwater to clarify that at present good groundwater quality should be maintained so that it does not impact on public water supply.	Amended in this report.
Change tense to present in paragraph 3, section B 19.8 to show that groundwater quality monitoring is already happening.	Amended in this report.
Objectives 24 and 14 could be linked with Objective 15 on transport.	
The draft SA recognises the potential for impact on the built and historic environment (Table 4.1) but data on this is not included under Objective 10.	Data on this issue is being researched.
Under Objective 14, protection/enhancement beyond designated assets is required for the urban environment where the pressure for development and change is even greater, not just the countryside.	Data on this issue is being researched.

**Table D1.4 Additional data to be included in review of plans and programmes**

<b>Issue Raised by Respondents</b>	<b>Responses to Issues Raised</b>
Objective 3 should also refer to initiatives to increase levels of physical activity, see amongst the population. See South East Public Health Observatory (SEPHO) report 'Choosing Health in the South East: Physical Activity'	This has been added to the SA report.
Reference should be made to 'Mission: Possible The South East Plan for Sport 2004 -2008' under Objective 9	This has been added to the SA report
There is scope to refer to the Rural Urban Fringe vision: 'proactive management of a multi-functional rural urban fringe' and its scope to contribute towards sustainability objectives. The Countryside Agency's work on countryside in and around towns has moved this area forward, further details can be found on our website at <a href="http://www.countryside.gov.uk/lar/landscape/ciat/index.asp">http://www.countryside.gov.uk/lar/landscape/ciat/index.asp</a>	Further research on this issue is being carried out by the SA team and will be reflected in the next SA report.

**Table D1.5 Comments on review of plans and programmes (Annex A)**

<b>Issue Raised by Respondents</b>	<b>Responses to Issues Raised</b>
Change wording of 3 <sup>rd</sup> bullet point under 'No time to waste' in Objective 17 to "To provide a policy framework to enable the provision of sufficient capacity and infrastructure for the management of the region's waste..."	Checked and amended
Is the Farming and Food delivery plan relevant to Objective 17?	Checked and amended
Should the reference to the EU Framework Directive on Water Resources be the Water Framework Directive (WFD), which includes water quality, not just water resources?	Amended in the SA report
Under Objective 14, reference should be made to PPGs 15 /16 and 'The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future' (DCMS) as agreed in the draft Sustainability Report Table 2.1.	These have been added to the SA Report
Under Objective 13 it should be noted that 'Action for Biodiversity in the South East' will be the subject of review by SEEBF during 2006. As part of this review targets will be revisited. It should also be noted that targets for beyond 2010 have been produced by SEEBF for inclusion in the draft SE Plan.	These have been added to the SA Report
Under Objective 13 the reference to PPG9 should be replaced by a reference to PPS9.	This correction has been made.

**Table D2.1** *Proposed changes to objectives and indicators*

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
Under Objective 13, additional objectives and targets should be included on Regional Priority Habitat targets and Areas of Strategic Opportunity for Biodiversity as included in the draft South East Plan.	In general the SA Report on the Draft RES has attempted to incorporate these suggested amendments insofar as they relate to the appraisal framework and its questions. We have not, however, changed the wording of any of the IRF objectives or their indicators since we feel that it would be inappropriate to do so since the IRF has a wider regional relevance.
'1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> bullet points under Objective 17 should be changed to "to increase recovery of all waste in the region to x% by 2010" and "to increase recycling and composting of all waste to x% by 2010", so the objectives are not dependent on baseline figures.'	
'Commercial' should be included in the types of waste in the IRF Indicators column under Objective 17	
Objectives and targets on groundwater should be included under Objective 18.	
The first bullet point under Objective 18 on 91% of river length to achieve compliance with Environment Agency River Quality Objectives does not have a corresponding IRF indicator. Recommend an additional IRF indicator is used 'River Length Compliant with River Quality Objective'. As this is already reported in the Baseline, this would improve continuity within the report.	
Objective 1 - Appraisal questions relate specifically to new builds. The existing housing stock needs to also be highlighted to provide well-built, efficient, affordable homes.	
Objective 2 - Questions do not fully address the objective - should also include reducing flood risk for all premises, rather than just reducing the risk of flooding of new developments.	
Objective 3 - A question should be included as to whether the RES promotes access for all to open space to improve people's quality of life.	
Objective 8- there is scope to include access to public transport.	
Objective 10 - also need to take account of the positive attributes of the historic environment as a stimulus to urban/rural regeneration. The draft South East Plan includes cross-cutting Policy CC12 that applies here. The sub-questions associated with IRF Objective 14 do not cover the desirability of increasing access.	

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
Objective 13 - should be amended to incorporate "social and economic opportunities resulting from biodiversity/ environmental outcomes". This can be illustrated by the need for local markets or an abattoir to address management but will also have direct social and economic benefits.	
Objective 13 - biodiversity should be viewed as a regional asset in its own right, an economic asset and a social asset, eg natural flood control, contribution to quality of life.	
Objective 13 – should cover the development of new assets	
Objective 18 - Questions should be expanded to include industrial and domestic, as well as business consumption of water. Groundwater quality and resource management must be considered as this is our major public water supply source in the South East.	
Objective 19 – Appraisal questions must be included to assess whether the RES increases energy efficiency. Currently they only assess the RES's impact on the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources	
Objective 21- there is scope to include reference to the monetary contributions of the environmental economy in the South East to overall economic prosperity (reference: 'The environment, economic growth and competitiveness: the environment as an economic driver')	
Objective 23 - The RES consultation document mentions that there is 100% coverage of broadband to the region. The questions should relate to removing barriers to uptake rather than development of access to broadband	

**Table D2.2** *Comments on objectives*

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
IRF welcomed as the basis for the SA/SEA. Appraisal must be expanded beyond the core 25 IRF objectives if all sustainability issues within the region are to be addressed.	We note this response but do not feel that it is appropriate for an individual SA to add to the IRF Objectives. The SA has, however, sought to broaden the scope of the appraisal work to cover all of the sustainability issues highlighted in research and reports on the region.

**Table D3.1** *Comments on Process*

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Detailed Appraisal Outputs for Objective 13 are disappointing and inconclusive due to the lack of detail of targets, actions etc in the RES Consultation Document.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>The SEA/SA concludes that the likely impact of the RES on National Parks is positive in that the document recognises the importance of the region's countryside and that the RES "scores well" (page 32). CNP objects to this conclusion since it has not made an assessment of the actual impacts which would arise out of other proposals or policies in the RES, eg RES is clearly planning for hard infrastructure and large population growth which could inevitably have a negative impact on the National Parks. Here major transport projects listed, including the A3 and A27 are of particular concern. SEA/SA fails to make the link between both the direct impacts of projects and plans which are of concern, as well as indirect effects of proposals that may exacerbate pressures on these landscapes, be it through noise pollution, light pollution, encouraging car borne travel across these areas, and increased pressure from recreation.</p>	<p>The SA notes this response and will revisit these issues in its appraisal of the Draft RES. The issues raised are of relevance to both the South East Plan and to the RES.</p>
<p>This places the RES as odds with the Sustainability Appraisal of the South East Plan which recognises that any of the growth options will inevitably increase pressure on these resources. At best the lack of detailed actions and proposals can only lead to conclusion that the impact of the RES will be difficult to assess, and strides should be made to make the RES much more spatially aware and receptive to the sensitivity of National Parks and other environmental designations in the region.</p>	<p>See response above.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>It is essential that there is a proper, robust methodology for measuring impacts on the National Parks from the RES. At present the IRF framework indicators offer no comprehensive measurement, and for landscape quality focuses on % of land in agricultural schemes. A much more appropriate methodology in use for measuring countryside quality, with readily available data is available from the "Countryside Quality Counts" project. The data has been published for regional change 1990-1998 and further work is being done to link tranquillity into the methodology. The project clearly shows that the quality of countryside in the South East is diminishing. CNP recommends the inclusion of indicators for the RES which provide a measurement of the state of the countryside and its tranquillity and which will more readily provide an indicator of how SEEDA is performing in its duty towards the National Parks.</p> <p>It is recommended that SA/SEA process is transparent and have a clear audit trail.</p>	<p>The SA notes this comment and will liaise with CNP to ensure that these issues are incorporated into the next SA report.</p>
<p>Full involvement is encouraged from all interested parties. SEA/SA steering group should continue to be closely involved in the SA/SEA process.</p>	<p>Noted. An 'audit trail' of how the SA has influenced the RES is being kept and will be presented in the next SA report.</p>
<p>It is recommended that the Environment Agency's Strategic Environmental Assessment Good Practice Guidelines pages on our website be referred to for advice and examples of good practice: <a href="http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/seaguidelines">http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/seaguidelines</a>.</p>	<p>Noted. The Steering Group will continue to be involved in the development of the SA.</p>
<p>Recommended that evidence of adherence to the SEA Directive be demonstrated at all stages of the SA/SEA process</p>	<p>Noted. This has been referred to by the SA team.</p>
<p>Recommended that outputs from the REEIO model and recent workshop feed directly into the processes of drafting the RES and developing the SA/SEA.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report presents information on how the SA process is adhering to the requirements of the SEA Directive.</p>
<p>There should be a separate paragraph in the final Sustainability Report outlining the conclusions of the SEA/Environmental Report and recommendations for the RES.</p>	<p>The SA report makes reference to the ongoing work being carried out by SEEDA using the REEIO Model</p>
<p>A detailed record is being created of how the SA/SEA has influenced the RES - this should be included in the final Sustainability Report.</p>	<p>This report and the next SA report will both contain a separate section setting out conclusions and recommendations for the RES.</p>
<p>Scoring Framework is missing the '✓/?' symbols often used within the table. Whilst it is recognised that Table 1.1 seeks to comply with guidance by 'signposting' where SEA provisions are addressed, subsequent versions should assist that process by the use of more specific referencing.</p>	<p>Noted. See comment on 'audit trail' above.</p>
	<p>Noted and amended.</p>
	<p>Noted. This report seeks to provide more specific referencing.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>The undertaking of an appraisal of options or alternatives (based on the broad economic scenarios) is welcomed but it is recommended that the process be translated down to the spatial component and detail of the strategy. There should be a clear storyline of how alternatives have been appraised and why in the consideration of alternatives certain options have been preferred or eliminated. There is concern that the tight timetable will constrain innovative thinking in relation to alternatives. Ideally the draft Strategy should evolve out of an evaluation of alternatives and their appraisal. This in turn needs to be documented.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA team and the SEEDA team are continuing to work on the sustainability aspects of the alternatives being considered for the RES. Work on the REEIO model and other research is being used to assist this process.</p>
<p>Acknowledgement of the need for assessment of cumulative impacts as a key component of the SA/SEA (to be included in the final report) is welcomed. However, it would have been preferred if at a minimum an outline of process/approach to be undertaken could have been included at this stage, if a draft assessment itself was not feasible. Inclusion in the final report limits opportunity for comment and feedback into strategy formulation.</p>	<p>Noted. Progress on the cumulative Impact Assessment is reported on in this SA report.</p>
<p>The RES SEA/SA process should go through a quality assurance exercise (for example like the application of a quality checklist applied to the SE Plan by the Sustainability Appraisal Sounding Board) as a matter of good practice.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA will be applying the SDA/SEA QA/QC checklist.</p>
<p>The need for an Implementation Plan (including actions and targets on how the strategy will be delivered) and monitoring of the strategy is highly recommended.</p>	<p>Noted: The SA report also raises this issue in its analysis of the monitoring and implantation of the RES.</p>
<p>The sign-posting table (table 1.1) is welcomed but more detailed posting such as the relevant section/ sub-section of draft or final report are recommended. The lack of assessment of cumulative effects is currently a failing of the draft SA/SEA. However, the intention is noted that this will be addressed in future iterations of the appraisal process. It is also recommended that English Nature's work/ draft publication Cumulative Effects Toolkit (A Practical Toolkit for Assessing Cumulative Effects of Spatial Plans and Development Projects on Biodiversity in England) be referred to aid the cumulative effects assessment.</p>	<p>Noted. See comment above on Table D1.1  Noted: Progress on the Cumulative Impacts Assessment is reported on in this SA report. The assessment will be completed during the next phase of the SA with the assistance of the Steering Group. English Nature's work on Cumulative Impact Assessment will be reflected in the work of the SA.</p>
<p>The current lack of mitigation measures is a failing of the draft SA/SEA. The intention is noted to address this omission, based on the draft RES and its implementation plan, in future iterations of the process. There is concern that it will only be available at the final SEA/SA Report stage and not before.</p>	<p>Noted: This report does include proposed integration measures.</p>

**Table D4.1** General comments on SA Process

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>The key issue for a sustainability appraisal is whether the regional economic strategy will be achievable without impact on climate change. The SA is not in a position to realistically answer this question due to the lack of detail within the RES but concerns are raised as to the likelihood of there being a negative impact on climate change.</p>	<p>Noted: The SA report does identify concerns with regards to both the challenges and the opportunities facing the region as a result of climate change. It also comments on the treatment of climate change within the Draft RES.</p>
<p>The challenge for the RES will be to turn aspirations into reality. A strong implementation plan with clear actions is needed in order for the RES to deliver its objectives. The SA/SEA undertaking assessments of proposals for implementation and monitoring of the RES is supported.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>If there is a criticism of the process to date, it relates to the fact that the draft SA is of a 'consultation document' that lacks the detail of a RES, raising concerns about the time that will be left to consider the detail of the proposals.</p>	<p>Noted: The current SA report is of an appraisal of the Draft RES – an entirely new document that has been assessed as such.</p>
<p>In the absence of specific policies, or firm actions normally associated with a RES, it has had to focus on 'the direction of travel' of the document. This defers serious consideration of the RES until later stages.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Countryside Agency feels that the review does not fully consider the overall sustainability impact of the RES consultation document. The proposed revisions to the RES as they currently stand will not deliver sustainability benefits overall, and may result in considerable environmental damage, and the SA/SEA needs to reflect this impact.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>The scoring system for the appraisal findings was rather complicated, and in some cases a score had not been given. For several objectives the impact was given as being generally positive/unclear; the reasons for this allocation were not always particularly clear.</p>	<p>Noted: The SA report on the Draft RES makes its assumptions in terms of the appraisal clear. It has also reviewed the 'scoring' system.</p>
<p>SEEDA hosted a workshop on the 2nd of March 2006 on the Regional Economy and Environment Input Output (REEIO) model. Those at the meeting agreed that further effort should be invested into ways of demonstrating the de-linking of economic growth and environmental damage, particularly through using evidence to show what opportunities there are for reducing damage without impacting economic growth. This aspect should be included in the SA/SEA of the RES, as the RES would benefit from more quantitative evidence demonstrating what is achievable.</p>	<p>Noted: The SA team is continuing to work with SEEDA on the interface between the REEIO model and the RES.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Without a realistic action plan the sustainable appraisal can only assess the generality of the strategy and as a result it is difficult to make realistic comments on the real impacts of the RES. Thus at this point it is difficult to make anything other than broad brush statements when to understand the real impact more in depth analysis is required.</p>	Noted
<p>The tight timetable surrounding the SEA/SA process continues to be of concern, in particular ability for comments, conclusion and recommendations from the SEA/SA process to be incorporated into the draft Strategy.</p>	Noted. The SA team and the SEEDA team are committed to implementing an SA process that is fully compliant with the Regulations.
<p>Close links to the draft SE Plan are stated but this is not always apparent. For example how the economic spatial areas relate to the draft SE Plan sub regions.</p>	Noted. One of the key messages coming from the SA of the Draft RES is the need for effective integration between the RES and the South East Plan.

**Table D4.2** *Recommendation section*

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Recommendations section could go further to explain how the SA/SEA process will progress. There are several recommendations throughout the Sustainability Report on actions that will be completed for the final Sustainability Report. For example, the SA/SEA team will develop detailed mitigation measures based on the RES and its implementation plan. These should be included under the recommendations</p>	Noted. The SA report contains a section that sets out the process going forward and recommendations for the SA as well as for the RES.
<p>Currently, the recommendation section of the draft SA/SEA Report is disappointing and weak. All of the recommendations made under section 6.2 are valid but do not go far enough at this stage of the process.</p>	Noted. See above.
<p>Based on the current RES Consultation document and the appraisal work to date, a clear statement should be made on the “sustainability” of the RES and the direction it is sending the Region in terms of delivering sustainable development and smart growth. Such a statement will give a clear indication to SEEDA on how to appropriately develop the draft RES.</p>	Noted. The SA report has set out in its section on ‘Significant Effects’ and on ‘conclusions’ what it considers the likely effects of the Draft RES on sustainability will be and how these can be addressed.

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Due to the omission of an assessment of cumulative effects, a lack of consideration of alternatives, a lack of mitigation measures and lack of an Implementation Plan, the current RES Consultation Document does not comply fully with the SEA Directive. It is important that SEEDA understand the need to comply with this Directive and the essence of the process is to understand the environmental consequences of plans and programmes in support of economic development and regeneration. In the situation that a RES was considered non-compliant with the SEA Directive the Strategy could be subject to judicial review.</p>	<p>Noted. Both the SA/team and SEEDA are committed to an SA process that is fully compliant with the SEA Directive.</p>
<p>The recommendations section should include an awareness of the fact that a further element of assessment may be necessary under the Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC – Conservation of Natural Habitats – Wild fauna and flora) and Habitats Regulations 1994, in the form of an Appropriate Assessment. This requirement has come about following the European Court Judgement made against Great Britain on 20 October 2005, stating that as a Member State the provisions of the Directive were not being correctly transposed. This includes the meaning of Article 6, which relates to appropriate assessment of plans and programmes including various Regional Strategies. English Nature is currently waiting guidance from Government on this matter on how it wishes competent authorities and others to proceed. Once Government advice is available SEEDA will be informed. However, in the meantime we recommend that a precautionary approach is taken with regards to the South East Regional Economic Strategy.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report makes specific mention of the need to take into account the potential need to carry out an Appropriate Assessment once government guidance is available.</p>
<p>A strong recommendation should be made on the need for the RES to include an Implementation Plan and monitoring framework.</p>	<p>Noted. This is included in the SA report.</p>

**Table D4.3** *Appraisal Findings*

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Overall the impacts were mainly assessed as being positive against the IRF objectives. Given the lack of detailed objectives and strategies in the RES, these positive scores seem to have been given mainly on the basis of the RES consultation document giving consideration to sustainability issues. More information is needed on detailed strategies and outcomes before the RES can be considered to be positive in sustainability terms.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA has carried out its appraisal of the Draft RES based on its being a completely new document.</p>
<p>Point 24 in Table 4.2 could be usefully highlighted for further work in the RES: this is a key area of opportunity for sustainable development.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Impact of the public sector- there is considerable scope for the RES to provide signposts to further information and examples of best practice on sustainability within public organisations. The advocacy of, for example, green purchasing, environmental reporting and sustainable transport policies should be within the remit of the RES and therefore the SA should be urging the RES to consider these issues.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report does highlight the significant role that can be played by the public sector in the field of SD.</p>
<p>There will certainly be opportunities and impacts of the RES on the landscape, but as the SA/SEA notes, these are difficult to assess in the absence of detailed actions. It will be important that the final SA/SEA looks at the overall landscape impacts of the RES and that detailed actions and policies are fully analysed.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA will continue to assess the likely landscape impacts of both the RES and the South East Plan since there are closely linked.</p>
<p>The consultation document does not clearly demonstrate how it will deliver on the environmental strand of sustainable development. English Nature stresses the need for the Strategy to have an Implementation Plan and to define some of the "hows". The aim of the Strategy should be for "win-win-win" outcomes ie covering all elements of SD. The strategy should also strive to deliver biodiversity or environmental benefits across the range of economic activity/ development as well as the converse (ie environmental outcomes to have social and economic benefits). This points in the direction of innovative solutions and the SE / SEEDA being a true champion of integrated SD.</p>	<p>The SA addresses the issue of implementation of the RES.</p>
<p>English Nature agrees that the contribution from stakeholders is paramount in the success of the delivery of the strategy. However, the strategy also needs to be explicit in how SEEDA will delivery its vision of sustainable prosperity. It is therefore recommended that a clear delivery or implementation plan be explicit in SEEDA's role as an exemplar of sustainable development.</p>	<p>Noted. See comments above.</p>
<p>Concur with the SA/SEA Report that the consultation document lacks targets, indicators and monitoring. It is recommended that this is addressed in the Draft RES and covers the full spectrum of sustainability issues.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report comments on how the Draft RES addressed these issues.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Significant Effects - English Nature concurs with the conclusion of the SA/SEA Report that the likely significant effect on biodiversity of the South East RES consultation document is currently difficult to assess. With clear outcomes and action assessment of the impact of the RES would potential be more achievable. Furthermore, the adoption of the Areas of Strategic Opportunity for Biodiversity Improvement framework (as developed for the draft SE Plan) would provide a mechanism for the strategy and SEEDA to promote opportunities for biodiversity. The proposal by the SA/SEA to carry out further detailed assessment as part of the assessment of the Draft RES is welcomed.</p>	<p>The SA has reviewed the likely biodiversity implications of the RES as well as the potential opportunities it creates for biodiversity gains.</p>
<p>While the erosion to quality of life is recognised as a serious threat to the South East Economy (p12) the ambition of the strategy is clearly focussed on maintaining continued economic growth at a GVA of 3.2% and the SEA/SA accepts this unquestioningly. Yet the commission for Sustainable Development in the South East has real concerns over the fate of the south east at present levels of economic growth even based at 2.8% GVA. It states "as an illustration of scale of the effect, household water consumption could rise by 16%, air pollution by 7% and traffic levels by 23% by 2015". It is a well known fact that if everyone lived similar lives to those in the south east we would need 3.5 planets to sustain us. Therefore at the higher rate of GVA planned it is difficult to see how the ecological footprint of the region will be stabilised or ultimately reversed as stated on p14. Nor are there any apparent ways of measuring how this will happen alongside the monitoring of GVA.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report does recognise that the growth targets that underpin the RES will have significant effects on, among other things, water resources. It also raises concerns as to the likely deliverability of the target for the region's ecological footprint. These are issues that also apply to the South East Plan and should be seen in a regional context.</p>
<p>Under 'A Focus on Economic Development' it is agreed that further development of the RES will need to suggest detailed actions to achieve the aspiration of smart growth and sustainable prosperity. There is a need to develop a clear implementation process and partnership model for the RES. Under 'Sustainable Consumption and Production', the need to influence attitudes and achieve behaviour change must be recognised as a priority in order to address the issue of sustainable consumption and production. The RES needs to show how it will help encourage attitude and behaviour change.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report stresses both the need for behavioural change and the scale of change that is likely to be required.</p>
<p>Under 'Sustainable Consumption and Production,' the first paragraph reads 'consolation' and not 'consultation', second paragraph should read 'production' and not 'projection' and 'progress', not 'programme'.</p>	<p>Noted. These typographical errors have been addressed</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
Under 'Natural Resource Protection & Enhancement' more detail on how natural resource protection and enhancement can help deliver smart growth must be provided in the RES in order to demonstrate the value of this resource to the economy of the South East.	Noted.
p32, reword 11th bullet to read 'Monitoring and Improving Water Quality' not 'Waste Quality'. If groundwater quality has not been considered in the RES Consultation Document, the inclusion of this objective in the list of those the document has scored well on is called into question.	Noted. Text rewarded. Coverage of groundwater related issues in the Draft RES has been appraised
Page 36, Table 4.1 - lack of detail noted with regard to biodiversity, flora, fauna, water, cultural heritage and landscape are of concern as these features make up the natural environment of the South East.	Noted.
Suggestions were made for suitable targets and indicators in the response to the RES Consultation Document. These included a target on reducing carbon dioxide emissions and use of an adjusted Measure of Domestic Progress when assessing quality of life in the South East.	Noted. The SA is addressing the need to select a suite of indicators to monitor the impact of the RES.
Figure 4.1 gives an overall likely 'positive' impact score in relation to Objectives 10 and 14. English Heritage feels that at best this is either mixed, or unknown at this stage, a conclusion that would appear to be supported by the draft SA at section 4.6 and Table 4.1 where impacts are considered too difficult to assess.	Noted. The SA will review its 'scoring' of these objectives against the Draft RES which is substantially different from the Consultation Document.
The commitment to Sustainable Development could be elaborated, eg to illustrate the quality of the South East's protected landscapes, national parks and heritage coasts, and its high proportion of woodland cover.	Noted
Spatial planning issues will be vital for the success of the revised RES therefore explicit links with the South East Plan need to be made. The SA/SEA could benefit from making this point more strongly, giving clear guidance on where specific linkages are missing. Current areas of divergence between the two plans are not referred to, despite these issues having significance for sustainable regional outcomes.	Noted. The SA report stresses the need to take account of the very strong links between the RES and the South East Plan. Similarly, where the two diverge this is referred to.
Successful implementation of the revised RES will depend upon a realistic structured and targeted implementation plan, and monitoring of the strategy	Noted.

**Table D4.4 Commitment to Sustainable Development**

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
RES Approach and Key Issues should also address changing attitudes to consumption and production. This in itself can influence demand, new markets and innovation etc	Noted. The need for behavioural and attitudinal change in order for the RES to be delivered in a sustainable way is brought out in the SA Report.
Climate and Energy: Again “changing attitudes” is significant in this section.	Noted.
Mitigations measures should be included alongside adaptation measures.	Noted.
Natural Resource Protection and Environmental Enhancement: Stating simply the environment is an asset for the region – why not state as much.	Noted.
Contribution of and need to invest in Environmental and Green Infrastructure should be apparent. Natural resource protection/ enhancement goes beyond water resources.	Noted. The issue of investment in Green and environmental infrastructure is brought out in the SA report.
Assessment of Cumulative Impacts: We welcome the acknowledgement of the need for assessment of cumulative impacts as a key component of the SA/SEA (to be included in the final report). However, it would have been preferred if at a minimum an outline of process/approach to be undertaken could have been included at this stage, if a draft assessment. It is further recommended that English Nature’s Cumulative Effects Toolkit (A Practical Toolkit for Assessing Cumulative Effects of Spatial Plans and Development projects on Biodiversity in England) be referred to when undertaking this element of the assessment.	Notes. The SA has produced a more detailed description of its approach to cumulative impacts. It is also the intention of the SA to work with the Steering Group on this issue. English Nature’s Toolkit has informed the development of our approach to the assessment of cumulative impacts.
At present the Strategy makes little mention of the concept of environmental capacity in sustainable development but it is crucial that the capacity of the region to absorb further development is recognised as a key challenge.	Noted.

**Table D4.5   Comments on the RES**

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Under Objective 14, the Consultation Document's recognition of maintaining the skills to conserve, manage and enhance the countryside and historic environment can and should be translated across to wider environmental and biodiversity assets. Land management of the landscape/ countryside in economic terms can equally have huge benefits for natural resources such as biodiversity if appropriately undertaken.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report now addresses the issue of land management and the region's natural and historic environment assets and their relationship to the RES.</p>
<p>The development of an Implementation Plan and monitoring framework as part of the future development of the RES is strongly advocated. Due to the lack of these elements at this stage of the process we acknowledge the inability of the SA/SEA to make an assessment on this basis.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report comments on these aspects of the delivery of the RES.</p>
<p>The following broad policy principals apply for National Parks in the south east region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A high degree of statutory protection</li> <li>• Primacy should be afforded to National Park purposes which are conserving natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage; and promoting opportunities for the public understanding and enjoyment.</li> <li>• There is a statutory requirement for relevant authorities to have regard to these purposes in coming to decisions or carrying out activities relating to or affecting land within National Parks.</li> <li>• The concept that no specific targets should be set for the National Parks on housing, energy production or minerals extraction.</li> <li>• That the appropriate scale of development in the National Parks is best addressed through policies in the National Park Authorities' Local Development Frameworks, but that major developments are presumed against except in exceptional circumstances.</li> <li>• The potential impact on National Parks of development proposals close to their boundaries is a material consideration to be taken into account in planning applications and planning policy.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted. The role of national parks as a significant economic asset for the region will be included in the SA report and corresponding links to the Draft RES will be made.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Creation of two new National Parks in the south east (New Forest and South Downs) offers huge opportunities for the region. There will be increased national public investment in these landscapes along with national expectations of the protection that will be offered to them, and SEEDA is therefore a key body in helping deliver those expectations. CNP is pioneering a new project involving Yorkshire Forward RDA and the Yorkshire Dales, North York Moors and Peak District Park Authorities in order to quantify the economic value of the three National Parks to the Yorkshire and Humber region and demonstrate the added benefits that accrue from the designation. This will build on the work already done by Yorkshire Forward with ERM consultants on the regional environmental economy in Yorkshire and Humber. CNP are willing to keep SEEDA informed of progress with the project and our initial findings.</p>	
<p>Emphasis could be placed on the environmental economy and its contribution within the strategy. Some of the recommendations of the 2002 report by Land Use Consultants "The Environmental Economy of the South East" are not being followed up in the Economic Strategy. The research showed that the Environmental Economy in the South East of England comprises a collection of activities that ought to be taken seriously. It is a major contributor to the regional economy, and one of the prime reasons for the high quality of life that people in the region value so highly. It is part of the mainstream economy, contributes more to GVA than any other sector other than financial services, health and education, and as such it should be a priority for the emerging local strategic partnerships and in the developing Area Investment Frameworks across the region. The report made welcome recommendations on investing in sustainable tourism.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report makes links between the strengths of the region's Environmental Economy and the priorities and proposed actions of the Draft RES.</p>
<p>The National Parks form a large part of the "green infrastructure" of the region and to this end it is disappointing that there is no mention of green infrastructure and investment. National Parks are seen as exemplars in sustainable development and have been test-beds for innovative projects and partnerships. In other regions such as the South West, the RDA is investing in the National Parks through match funding the Sustainable Development Funds they receive from central government, and we would urge SEEDA to consider how it too can pilot innovative ways of investing in the National Parks in the region and form partnerships with the New Forest National Park Authority and South Downs Joint Committee.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report contains analysis of the way in which Green Infrastructure relates to the priorities and actions within the Draft RES.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>CNP recommends that the RES explains better how the aspirations will be delivered and who could be partners in delivery of these objectives, how they will be measured and how the Strategy can be “joined up” with other plans in the region, particularly the South East Plan and the Regional Transport Strategy. The similar timescales for public consultation on both this Strategy and that of the South East Plan seem to offer opportunities on joint approach. For example in Yorkshire and Humber both the RPG and the RES have been subject to a joint sustainability appraisal and this has helped ensure consistency and alignment in strategic approach.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report presents an analysis of delivery issues, delivery partnerships and other aspects of how the RES may be able to be delivered in a more sustainable way.</p>
<p>South East Public Health Group feels that the RES misses the opportunity to take the significant shift in thinking that is required to achieve economic development required in a truly sustainable manner.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>The RES should explicitly set targets for Greenhouse Gas emissions reductions in line with Government targets.</p>	<p>Noted. The SAS report comments on the setting of targets with the Draft RES.</p>
<p>The RES should accept the need to set limits on airport growth and air travel and promote high speed rail.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>SEEDA should aim to make the South East Region a global leader in sustainable development and environmental solutions, not least renewable energy.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report comments on this issue in the context of the new Draft RES document.</p>
<p>SEEDA should use Ecological Footprint as an indicator along side GVA/GDP and the Measure of Domestic Progress and adopt a resource consumption stabilisation and reduction target along the lines of the SE Plan.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report comments on this aspect of measuring the overall sustainability of the RES.</p>
<p>More attention now needs to be given to some of the Objectives and tasks in light of the SA findings. For example, the RES’s commitment to growth at Gatwick and Heathrow (bullet ii key task 1 p31 of Consultation Document) is clearly unacceptable.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>The following six bullet points are the areas of particular concern in relation to health impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport -The objective of reducing road congestion and pollution levels is commendable. However there is little evidence in the RES of how this will be done and thus it is queried whether there is likely to be any positive impact. The Public Health Group feels that the scale of investment, need for policy and behavioural change is so significant that it is unlikely to be achieved.</li> <li>• Waste -The document points in the right direction policy-wise but there is little evidence that this will be achieved in reality and it is unlikely that there will be anything other than a slowing down of the increase in waste production.</li> <li>• Air pollution – Public Health Group considers that there is little likelihood of significant reduction in air pollution in the region due to the increasing level of road travel and air travel.</li> <li>• Aging population -The demographic changes have not been given sufficient emphasis in the RES. There is a huge positive economic opportunity to be gained from promoting the employment of people aged 50 and above. Alongside this there would need to be consideration of how to continue to engage older people in employment and how to ensure that they have the relevant skills for employed in the future.</li> <li>• Obesogenic society -Obesity levels are increasing at dramatic rates and with it associated diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and joint problems. This is likely to have significant impact on the health and well being of the population and without strong emphasis on increasing physical activity the south east may well see a down turn in the health status of the population. This will be especially marked in more deprived populations as obesity is more prevalent in lower socioeconomic populations.</li> <li>• To create and sustain vibrant healthy communities. It is unclear from the RES how this objective will be achieved and therefore it is not totally apparent there will be a truly positive outcome for the region in this area</li> </ul> <p>The scale of change in behaviours in terms of public health should not be under-estimated in terms of achieving SD. This comment/ observation is equally applicable to the SE Plan.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report too raises concerns as to how easy it will be to achieve the aspirations of the Draft RES given the policy and behavioural challenges they present.</p> <p>Each of the issues raised is of critical importance to the region.</p> <p>The applicability of these issues to both the RES and the South East Plan is also noted in the SA reports.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>Concur with the SA/SEA finding that the RES needs to develop detailed actions for its aspiration of smart growth encompassing all elements of sustainability and partnership working. Recommend linkage to Environmental Economy Report and the positive contribution the sector makes to the regional economy.</p>	
<p>RES should advocate measures for mitigation and adaptation to the effects of climate change in its promotion of smart growth. Climate change is more than realising a low carbon economy. For example, promoting a presumption against development in flood plains/ coastal plains/ grazing marsh and the reinstatement of natural floodplain functions as a flood alleviation measure. There is a role here for the RES and SEEDA to become champions of good practice in terms of how natural resource protection and enhancement will/ can deliver smart growth. Again clear "hows", actions and targets need to be defined.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>RES Consultation Document performs poorly against Objective 13. English Nature maintains that this needs to be addressed in the draft RES – the environment (including biodiversity) is a critical regional asset which can contribute towards smart economic growth and quality of life. Outcomes of the RES should aim to have win-win-win solutions, delivering on the economic social and environmental aspects of sustainable development. In aspiring to be a world class region, SEEDA should be championing such a message and approach.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report has reviewed the performance of the new Draft RES against IRF Objective 13.</p>

**Table D4.6** *Appraisal Recommendations*

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
<p>The scoring system for the appraisal findings was rather complicated, and in some cases a score had not been given. For several objectives the impact was given as being generally positive/unclear; the reasons for this allocation were not always particularly clear.</p>	<p>Noted. The SA report has attempted to make the 'scoring' system more transparent and easier to understand.</p>
<p>Under Section C13, the potential for economic delivery to assist in the provision of green infrastructure 'and biodiversity assets' is an important opportunity which the RES must highlight. Opportunities for developments to deliver added biodiversity benefits must also be highlighted in the RES to ensure that the Region's biodiversity targets are met.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

Issue Raised by Respondents	Responses to Issues Raised
Within the Sustainability Dividend, pollution prevention measures must be included during development and within the developments themselves in order to ensure that groundwater quality is protected.	Noted.
Although it is stated that tourism is not the focus of the RES, given the value of the tourism sector to the South East economy it is expected that these sustainable tourism issues to be addressed.	Noted.
Reuse of privately development land/brownfield land in coastal regeneration areas must be carefully considered as to whether development is the most sustainable option for the land. Other options such as flood risk management, recreation and biodiversity should also be considered, particularly if the site is subject to contamination.	Noted.
Para. 4.3, Appraisal Findings. Point 24 in the table, sustainable tourism sector, could be usefully highlighted for further work in the RES: this is a key area of opportunity for sustainable development.	Noted.
Overall the impacts were mainly assessed as being positive against the IRF objectives. Given the lack of detailed objectives and strategies in the RES, these positive scores seem to have been given mainly on the basis of the RES consultation document giving consideration to sustainability issues. More information is needed on detailed strategies and outcomes before the RES can be considered to be positive in sustainability terms.	Noted. The SA has reviewed the new Draft RES to assess the extent to which it offers detailed objectives and actions. The findings of the appraisal are presented in detail in <i>Annex C</i> of the SA report.
As with the SEA component the inclusion of a sign-posting table is recommended including more detailed posting of the relevant section/ sub-section of draft or final Report.	Noted. The SA report contains a more detailed signposting report than earlier reports.

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