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Royal Borough of  
Kingston upon Thames  
Local Development Framework  
Sustainability Appraisal  
Revised Scoping Report

# Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

## Local Development Framework Sustainability Appraisal

### Revised Scoping Report

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# Glossary of Terms

Term	Meaning / Definition
Baseline	A description of the present and future state of an area, in the absence of any plan, taking into account changes resulting from natural events and from other human activities.
BREEAM	Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (UK)
Consultation Body	An authority which because of its environmental responsibilities is likely to be concerned by the effects of implementing plans and programmes and must be consulted under the SEA Directive. The Consultation Bodies, designated in the SEA Regulations are the Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature, and the Environment Agency.
DPD	Development Plan Document
Environmental assessment	Generically, a method or procedure for predicting the effects on the environment of a proposal, either for an individual project or a higher-level “strategy” (a policy, plan or programme), with the aim of taking account of these effects in decision-making. The term “Environmental Impact Assessment” (EIA) is used, as in European Directive 337/85/EEC, for assessments of projects. In the SEA Directive, an environmental assessment means “the preparation of an environmental report, the carrying out of consultations, the taking into account of the environmental report and the results of the consultations in decision-making and the provision of information on the decision”, in accordance with the Directive’s requirements
EU	European Union
Indicator	A measure of variables over time, often used to measure achievement of objectives
LDD	Local Development Document
LDF	Local Development Framework
Mitigation	Used in this guidance to refer to measures to avoid, reduce or offset significant adverse effects
MOL	Metropolitan Open Land
PPS	Planning Policy Statement
RBK	Royal Borough of Kingston
Responsible Authority	In the SEA Regulations, means an organisation which prepares a plan or programme subject to the SEA Directive and is responsible for the SEA.
Scoping	The process of deciding the scope and level of detail of an SA, including the sustainability effects and options which need to be considered, the assessment methods to be used, and the structure and contents of the SA Report
Significant effect	Effects which are significant in the context of the plan. (Appendix II of the SEA Directive gives criteria for determining the likely environmental significance of effects)

SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SUDS	Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
ONS	Office for National Statistics
UDP	Unitary Development Plan

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background to Local Development Framework

Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is required to prepare a portfolio of Local Development Documents (LDDs), containing policies and proposals to guide future development in the Council area, which together will form the Local Development Framework (LDF). This will replace the current Royal Borough of Kingston's Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2005.

This scoping report is a consultation document comprising the first stage of a Sustainability Appraisal for the Kingston Local Development Framework's constituent documents.

This report replaces an earlier scoping report published in August 2005 which applied to the Core Strategy, Development Control Policies DPD and Affordable Housing SPD. Its scope has been broadened to apply to all LDDs prepared as part of the Kingston LDF requiring sustainability appraisal.

Atkins was appointed by The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames in January 2008 to prepare a revised Scoping Report for the LDF, building on the initial Scoping Report prepared by the Council in 2005.

## 1.2 Requirement for Sustainability Appraisal

Under the regulations implementing the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is required for Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) contained in a LDF. The purpose of SA is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations in the preparation and adoption of plans.

SA helps planning authorities to fulfil the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in preparing their plans. Overall, the aims of the SA are to:

- Increase the sustainability of the LDF by ensuring that the principles of sustainable development are integrated into the policy-making process;
- Provide a high level of environmental protection and ensure that environmental, economic and social implications are considered in the preparation of the LDF documents;
- Consult on the SA procedure to allow stakeholders and the public to have an input into its production; and
- Provide an environmental, economic and social audit at appropriate spatial and temporal levels.

## 1.3 Requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment

The EU Directive 2001/42/EC on assessments of effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive) came into force in the UK through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

The overarching objective of the SEA Directive is:

*“To provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans... with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans... which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.” (Article 1)*

Under the requirements of the SEA Directive, a plan or programme will be subject to environmental assessment if it meets various criteria including:

- The plan/programme is subject to preparation and/or adoption by an authority at national, regional or local level or prepared by an authority for adoption, through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government.
- It is required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions; and
- It is likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

The LDF is prepared and adopted by an authority at the local level and is required by legislative provisions. It is prepared for the purposes of town and country planning/land use. It is therefore the case that the DPDs and most of the SPDs prepared as part of the Kingston LDF are required to be subject to environmental assessment, as they are being developed, under the SEA Directive.

The SEA Directive and the SEA regulations require that the “*likely significant effects on the environment are assessed, including issues such as:*”

- Biodiversity;
- Population;
- Human health;
- Fauna and flora;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors,
- Material assets,
- Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage,
- Landscape; and
- The interrelationship between these factors”.

## 1.4 Sustainable Development

The concept of sustainable development is central to the planning system. The term “sustainable development” has been used since 1987 following the publication of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) report “Our Common Future”, commonly referred to as the Brundtland report. It called for a strategy that united development and the environment – described by the now-common term “sustainable development”, which is defined as:

*‘Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’*

In essence the term “sustainable development” not only refers to the impact of development on the environment but also to society and the economy. In order for development to be considered “sustainable” it must result in a win-win-win situation for the environment, society and the economy. Sustainable development is not about balancing these issues but ensuring that none are adversely affected and, preferably, that there is a positive impact on all three.

The UK Government has produced a Sustainable Development Strategy, “Securing the Future. Delivering UK sustainable development strategy” (March 2005). Priority areas for immediate action are outlined as:

- Sustainable consumption and production.
- Climate change and energy.
- Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement.
- Sustainable communities.

## 1.5 The SA/SEA process

The requirements to carry out SA and SEA are distinct, but the ODPM guidance of November 2005 states that it is possible to satisfy both through a single appraisal process and provides a methodology for doing so. This methodology goes further than the SEA methodology (which is primarily focused on environmental effects) requiring the examination of all the sustainability-related effects, whether they are social, economic or environmental. However, those undertaking the SA should ensure that in doing so they meet the requirements of the SEA Directive.

SA incorporating SEA is an iterative process that takes place alongside the preparation of LDF documents. This is to ensure that the principles of sustainable development, and potential significant environmental effects arising from the plan/programme, are identified, assessed, mitigated and integrated into the plan-making process, thus ensuring that the resulting policies and proposals produce sustainable development when implemented. SEA also requires the monitoring of significant effects once the plan/programme is implemented. Through consultation and the involvement of stakeholders and specialist experts in the process the resulting appraisal should be both robust and fully integrated. Subsequently, for the purposes of this report, 'SA' will refer to SA incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive.

The main stages in the SA process are as follows:

- Stage A – Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on scope;
- Stage B – Developing and refining options and assessing effects;
- Stage C – Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report;
- Stage D – Consultation on the draft plan and the Sustainability Appraisal Report; and
- Stage E – Monitoring implementation of the plan.

The current guidance also sets out a requirement for the preparation of the following reports for consultation:

- Scoping Report (summarising Stage A work) which should be used for consultation on the scope of the SA; and
- Sustainability Appraisal Report (documenting Stages A to C work) which should be used in the public consultation on the Preferred Options.

The key output of the SA process is the Sustainability Appraisal Report. It will incorporate and subsume the Environmental Report that is required under the SEA Directive. It will therefore include the necessary baseline environmental information, prediction of the significant effects of the implementation of the plan on the environment and the identification and assessment of options and alternatives. In addition to this, the Sustainability Appraisal Report will address social and economic effects.

Table 1 below indicates the stages and tasks of the SA process and how they relate to the various stages of the production for a DPD. For an SPD the process is simpler, but all SA tasks still require completion.

Table 1.1 - Incorporating Sustainability Appraisal within the Development Plan Document process

DPD stage	SA stages	SA tasks
DPD Stage 1: Pre-production – Evidence gathering	Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainable development objectives A2: Collecting baseline information A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems A4: Developing the SA framework A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA
DPD Stage 2: Production	Stage B: Developing and refining the options and assessing effects	B1: Testing the DPD objectives against the SA framework B2: Developing the DPD options B3: Predicting the effects of the DPD B4: Evaluating the effects of the DPD B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD
	Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report	C1: Preparing the SA Report
	Stage D: Consulting on Preferred Options of the DPD and the SA Report	D1: Public participation on the SA Report and the preferred options of the DPD D2(i): Appraising significant changes
DPD Stage 3: Examination		D2(ii): Appraising significant changes resulting from representations
DPD Stage 4: Adoption and Monitoring		D3: Making decisions and providing information.
	Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD	E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring E2: Responding to adverse effects

Adapted from Figure 5: Incorporating SA within the DPD process. Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks, ODPM November 2005

## 1.6 Purpose of the Revised Scoping Report

The overarching purpose of the Scoping Report is to create the general framework for the assessment of the Kingston LDF’s constituent documents. An earlier version of this Scoping Report was produced and consulted on in 2005. Comments were received from the Environment Agency. These are presented in Appendix A.

This report is a revised version, providing updated information on the following:

- Other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives;
- Baseline information;
- Sustainability issues identification;
- Framework for appraising likely significant effects arising from the LDF documents; and
- Structure and level of detail of the final Sustainability Appraisal Report.

### 1.6.1 Consultation on the Revised Scoping Report

It is important that the scope of the sustainability appraisal is appropriate for the documents being produced. For this reason consultation is a critical step in the scoping process. The aim of the consultation on the Revised Scoping Report is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other key stakeholders on the scope of the appraisal, in the light of the updated information contained therein. In particular, it seeks to:

- Seek advice on the comprehensiveness of the baseline data and gain further information where appropriate;
- Seek advice on the appropriateness of the sustainability objectives;
- Seek advice on the appropriateness of the key sustainability issues; and
- Ensure the SA is both comprehensive and robust enough to support the LDF during the later stages of full public consultation and examination;

The Council will consult the three statutory Consultation Bodies with environmental responsibilities:

- Natural England (formerly English Nature and the Countryside Agency).
- English Heritage.
- The Environment Agency.

It will also consult other bodies which have an interest in sustainability issues, namely:

- Neighbouring local authorities (Richmond, Wandsworth, Merton, Sutton, Elmbridge, Mole Valley and Epsom & Ewell).
- Surrey County Council.
- Thames Water.
- The Woodland Trust.
- Campaign for the Protection of Rural England.
- Kingston Friends of the Earth.
- London Wildlife Trust.
- Surrey Wildlife Trust.

**The Revised Scoping Report will be out for consultation for a period of five weeks from 19 May 2008. Responses should be received no later than 20 June 2008 and may be sent to:**

Planning Policy

Planning and Development Department

The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Guildhall 2

Kingston upon Thames

Surrey

KT1 1EU

Or emailed to: [planningpolicy@rbk.kingston.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@rbk.kingston.gov.uk)

The report will also be made available at the Planning Reception, Guildhall 2, and will be published on the Council's planning web page at: [www.kingston.gov.uk/environment/planning.htm](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/environment/planning.htm). Hard copies of the report can be obtained by contacting the Council's planning policy team on: 020 8547 5302 or email: [planningpolicy@rbk.kingston.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@rbk.kingston.gov.uk) or at the address given above.

A summary of responses to the Revised Scoping Report will be published on the Council's website, along with the revised Scoping Report, as soon as possible after the consultation period has ended.

## 1.7 Habitats Regulations Assessment

Appropriate assessment (AA) is required by law for all European Sites under the European Habitats Directive (Directive 91/43/EEC). The requirement for and process of Appropriate Assessment is separate from that for SA. However, the two processes can be run in parallel.

Under the Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 2004, it is necessary to assess whether the Kingston upon Thames LDF's constituent documents and those of other neighbouring authorities are likely to have a significant effect upon a European Site. This will show the likely significant effects (if any) arising from the LDF on the European sites. The effects may include: urban intensification with increased activity affecting the European sites; increased visits to European sites, primarily for recreational purposes; increased water use and outflow with an uncertain risk of impact on some habitats; increased local traffic leading to air pollution which could affect species sensitive to air quality and nutrient enrichment of soils which could affect species type and spread.

An AA Screening Assessment has been undertaken of the Kingston Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) looking at European sites within a 5km radius search area. Richmond Park SAC and Wimbledon Common SAC were identified as sites which could be impacted upon. The report found overall, that the Kingston Town Centre AAP will not result in development that is likely to have a significant effect on those European sites. It was therefore considered that an appropriate assessment would not be required under Regulation 48(2) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994 for the Kingston Town Centre AAP.

Should any other constituent documents of LDF have the potential to impact on these two sites an Appropriate Assessment will be carried out by the Council, during the development of the document concerned.

## 2. Identifying other plans and programmes and sustainability objectives - Task A1

The first task of a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is the identification of other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives as the LDF’s constituent documents are prepared in the context of other plans and programmes which need to be taken into account. The LDF must comply with national planning policy, be in ‘general conformity’ with the Mayor’s London Plan and reflect other local plans and strategies, providing the spatial planning framework to help deliver those strategies.

The SEA Directive specifically states that information should be provided on:

- “The relationship [of the plan or programme] with other relevant plans and programmes”
- “The environmental protection objectives, established at international, [European] 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”

### 2.1 Methodology

Both the LDF and the SA Scoping Report should be set in the context of national, regional and local objectives along with strategic planning, transport, social, economic and environmental policies. This being the case a comprehensive review of all relevant plans, policies and programmes (PPPs) was carried out as part of the SA scoping process. This ensures that the objectives in the Scoping Report generally adhere to, and are not in conflict with, objectives found in other PPPs and also assists in the setting of sustainability objectives for the SA. It can also be used to ascertain potential conflicts between objectives which may need to be addressed as part of the process. In order to fully assess relevant PPPs an updated list was drawn up by the Council using the ODPM SA guidance and local knowledge. For the purposes of comprehensiveness higher tier PPPs were included in the list to show the hierarchy and relationships between the various plans, policies and programmes.

The plans and programmes reviewed are listed below in Table 2.1.

**Table 2.1 – Relevant Plans and Programmes**

<b>International and European level</b>
The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)
The Kyoto Agreement (1997)
European Spatial Development Perspective (97/150/EC)
European Sustainable Development Strategy (2001)
EU Ambient Air Quality Directive (96/62/EC and 99/30/EC)
EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)
EU Wild Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)
EU Directive on Environmental Noise (02/49/EC)
EU Framework Directive on Waste (91/156/EEC)
EU Landfill Directive (99/31/EC)
EU Water Framework Directive (00/60/EC)
EU Sixth Environmental Action Plan (2002)
EU Soil Framework Directive 2006 (proposed)
European Landscape Convention ratified 2006
Energy Performance in Buildings Directive (2002/91/EEC)
European Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)
EU Groundwater Daughter Directive 2006/118/EC

National level
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Environment Act 1995
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
Building a Green Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development (Consultation) (2006)
Code for Sustainable Homes February 2008
Water Efficiency in New Buildings (consultation) (2006)
Draft Climate Change Bill March 2007
Water Efficiency in New Buildings: A joint Defra and Communities and Local Government policy statement July 2007
Planning for a Sustainable Future: White Paper May 2007
Future Water The Government's water strategy for England February 2008 (draft)
PPS 1:Delivering Sustainable Development, Jan 2005
PPS Planning and Climate Change: Supplement to PPS1 December 2006
PPG 2: Green Belt (1995)
PPS 3: Housing (2006)
PPG 4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (1992)
Consultation Paper on new Planning Policy Statement 4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Development December 2007
PPS 6: Planning for Town Centres (2005)
PPS 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (2005)
PPS 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (2005)
PPS 12: Local Development Frameworks (2004)
PPG 13: Transport (2001)
PPG 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (1994)
PPG 16: Archaeology and Planning (1990)
PPG 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2001)
PPS 22: Renewable Energy (2004)
PPS 23: Planning and Pollution Control (2004)
PPG 24: Planning and Noise (1994)
PPS 25: Development and Flood Risk (2006)
Development and Flood Risk: A Practice Guide Companion to PPS25 'Living Draft' - A Consultation Paper February 2007
Good Practice Guidance on Planning for Tourism (2006)
Securing the Future: delivering UK sustainable development strategy (2005)
Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) (1995)
Sustainable Communities Plan: building for the future (2003)
Biodiversity: UK Action Plan (1994)
Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning – Environment Agency and others (2005)
An Environmental Vision – Environment Agency (2001)
ODPM Circular 1/06 Gypsy and Traveller Sites (2006)
White Paper: A Future for Transport – a network for 2030 (2004)
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland July 2007
White Paper: Our Energy Future: creating a low carbon economy (2003)
Transport and the Historic Environment – English Heritage (2004)
The Historic Environment: A force for our future (DCMS) (2001)
Transport 2010: Meeting the Local Transport Challenge (2000)
The First Soil Action Plan for England 2004-06 and Soil Strategy for England (2008) (consultation emerging)
White Paper - "Heritage Protection for the 21st Century" March 2007
The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future 2001
Making Space for Water: Taking forward a new Government strategy for flood & coastal erosion risk management, DEFRA, 2004
Energy White Paper (2003)
Water Resources Act 1991
Water Act 2003
Secured By Design (2004)
By Design: Urban Design in the Planning System - Towards Better Practice (2000)

<b>Regional level (London)</b>
The London Plan: Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London 2004, consolidated with alterations since 2004 (Feb 2008)
London Plan SPG Housing (2005)
London Plan SPG Accessible London (2004)
London Plan SPG Industrial Capacity, 2008
London Plan SPG Providing for children and young peoples play and recreation (2008)
London Plan SPG Sustainable design and construction (2006)
London Plan SPG View management framework (2007)
London Plan SPG Land for Transport functions (2007)
London Plan SPG Planning for Equality and Diversity for London (2007)
London Plan SPG East London Green Grid Framework (2008)
The Mayor's Ambient Noise Strategy (2004)
The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy: Sustaining Success – Developing London's Economy (2005)
The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy (2002)
The Mayor's Energy Strategy (2004)
The Mayor's Transport Strategy (2001)
The Mayor's Waste Strategy (2003)
The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy (2002)
The London Biodiversity Action Plan (2002)
The Mayor's Cultural Strategy (2004)
Living Well in London: The Mayor's draft Health Inequalities Strategy - January 2008
Action Today to Protect Tomorrow The Mayor's Climate Change Action Plan February 2007
Water matters The Mayor's Draft Water Strategy (2007)
A Sustainable Development Framework for London (2003)
Sub-regional Development Framework – South London (2006)
London Climate Change Action Plan (2007)
Thames Corridor Abstraction Management Strategy (2006)
Tidal Thames Habitat Action Plan (1999)
Thames Landscape Strategy
London Renewables: 'Integrating renewable energy into new developments' (will inform forthcoming SPG on renewable energy).
<b>Local level (Kingston Borough)</b>
The Community Plan 2004 – 2009+
Royal Borough of Kingston Unitary Development Plan (2005)
Kingston Town Centre Area Action Plan, submission version (2007)
RBK Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2004)
Crime, Disorder & Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Strategy (RBK) 2005-2008
A Cultural Strategy for the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames 2002-2006
Kingston Visitor Action Management Plan 2004 – 07
Tolworth Court Farm Fields Management Plan (not dated)
RBK Urban Design Action Plan (2005)
Hogsmill Valley Walk Strategy (2006)
Old Town Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (2006)
RBK Waste Strategy (2005)
RBK Waste Strategy 4 <sup>th</sup> Implementation Plan April 2007 – March 2010
Waste Strategy 2 <sup>nd</sup> Implementation Plan April 2005 - March 2008
RBK Housing Strategy (2003-2004)
RBK Affordable Housing SPD February 2006
RBK Cycling Strategy (2005)
RBK Air Quality Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan (2005)
A Healthy Kingston Strategy (2006)
Local (transport) Implementation Plan (2006)
RBK Allotment Strategy 2008-2018 Draft for Consultation December 2007
RBK Green Spaces Strategy 2008 – 2018 Draft for Consultation October 2007
Green Spaces Strategy (2008)
Green Spaces 1 <sup>st</sup> Implementation Plan (2008)
RBK Tree Strategy 2008 – 2018 Draft for Public Consultation December 2007

RBK Biodiversity Action Plan (2004)
RBK Sustainable Construction SPG (2004)
Reducing Crime Together Strategy (Partnership Plan) 2008/11
Culture Strategy 2008 - 2012
RBK Kingston Town Centre Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) May 2007 (Revised)

## 2.2 Results

Social, environmental and economic objectives and sustainability issues of relevance to the sustainability appraisal and the preparation of the LDF's constituent documents (DPDs and SPDs) have been used to formulate a general, first set of sustainability objectives (split into the three dimensions of sustainable development: social, environmental and economic). This is presented in Table 2.2 which also shows the implications arising for the LDF and the link between these objectives and the SEA topic areas.

Table 2.2 - Sustainability Themes derived from the Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes

Theme relevant to SA/SEA of Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames LDF	Source	Implications for the LDF	Main SEA Topic(s)	Relationship to Final SA Objective
<b>SOCIAL</b>				
Mix of type and tenures of housing, including affordable housing	PPS3; PPS1; Securing the Future; Sustainable Communities Plan; Code for Sustainable Homes; Planning for a Sustainable Future; Accessible London SPG; Housing SPG; The London Plan: Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London – Housing Provision Targets; RBK Housing Strategy; RBK Affordable Housing SPD; RBK Community Plan; SPG Planning for Equality and Diversity for London	Policies should ensure adequate provision of quality affordable housing to meet local need.	Population and Human health	04
Health and wellbeing of the population	6th Environmental Action Programme for the EU Community; Securing the Future; Sustainable Communities Plan; Planning for a Sustainable Future; PPS1; PPG17; The London Plan; Planning for Equality and Diversity in London SPG: Consultation Draft; Living Well in London (draft); RBK Community Plan; RBK Cycling Strategy; A Healthy Kingston Strategy; Green Spaces Strategy; Green Spaces 1 <sup>st</sup> Implementation Plan; Culture Strategy 2008 - 2012.; SPG East London Green Grid Framework	Policies should support and encourage the provision and access to health facilities and promote wellbeing through environmental enhancement.	Population and Human health	05
Social equality, including the minimisation of poverty and social exclusion	Securing the Future; Sustainable Communities Plan; Planning for a Sustainable Future; The London Plan; RBK Community Plan; ODPM Circular 1/06 Gypsy and Traveller Sites; SPG Planning for Equality and Diversity for London	Policies should ensure the provision of a mix of housing types and tenures for different people in need e.g. elderly, infirm, families, unemployed.	Population and Human Health	01,
Equal opportunities to gain a high standard of education and skills	PPS1; The Mayor’s Economic Development Strategy; The London Plan; Draft PPS4; RBK Community Plan; SPG Planning for Equality and	Policies to ensure that new development is accessible to educational facilities.	Population	06

Theme relevant to SA/SEA of Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames LDF	Source	Implications for the LDF	Main SEA Topic(s)	Relationship to Final SA Objective
	Diversity for London, 2007			
Crime and the fear of crime	Secured by Design; The London Plan; RBK Crime; Disorder & Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Strategy; By Design: Urban Design in the Planning System - Towards Better Practice; RBK Community Plan; Reducing Crime Together Strategy (Partnership Plan) 2008/11	Policies should ensure that good design against crime is integrated into development.	Population and Human health	02
Equitable access to services and facilities	PPS3; PPS1; PPG13; PPS6; CROW Act; Securing the Future; Sustainable Communities Plan; Planning for a Sustainable Future; The London Plan; Accessible London SPG; PPG17; Planning for Equality and Diversity in London SPG; Consultation Draft; RBK Community Plan; RBK Cycling Strategy, A Healthy Kingston Strategy; The Mayor's Transport Strategy; RBK LIP; RBK draft Walking Strategy; RBK Green Spaces Strategy, SPG Accessible London; SPG Land for Transport functions	Policies should support and encourage a range of transport modes.	Population and Human health	03
Historic environment and cultural assets	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act; PPS1; PPS6; PPG15; PPG16; CROW Act; The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future; Transport and the Historic Environment; Sustainable Communities Plan; Heritage Protection for the 21st Century; The London Plan; The Mayor's Cultural Strategy; RBK Urban Design Action Plan; RBK Cultural Strategy; RBK Community Plan; Old Town Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan; Green Spaces Strategy; Culture Strategy 2008-2012; Thames Landscape Strategy; SPG View management framework; SPG East London Green Grid Framework	Policies should seek to identify, and encourage the management of historic and cultural assets, to ensure their conservation and enhancement	Material Assets, Cultural Heritage, Landscape, Soil	10
High quality urban design	PPS1; PPS6; PPG15; Secured by Design; By	Policies should seek to ensure	Material	04,15

Theme relevant to SA/SEA of Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames LDF	Source	Implications for the LDF	Main SEA Topic(s)	Relationship to Final SA Objective
	Design: Urban Design in the Planning System - Towards Better Practice; Sustainable Communities Plan; Heritage Protection for the 21st Century; London Sustainable Design and Construction SPG; The London Plan; RBK Urban Design Action Plan; Kingston Old Town Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan; Green Spaces Strategy 2008; Biodiversity Action Plan; SPG View management framework	that all new development is of a sufficiently high quality, in line with conservation as well as environmental sustainability principles, in order to ensure there are no negative effects from such growth.	Assets, Cultural Heritage, Landscape, Population	
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL</b>				
Remediation and re-use of previously developed land and increased efficiency in land use	EU Soil Framework Directive; PPS1; PPG2; The First Soil Action Plan for England and Soil Strategy for England (consultation emerging); London Sustainable Design and Construction SPG; PPS23; PPS22; PPS25 and companion guide; Sustainable Communities Plan; Building a Green Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development (Consultation); The London Plan; The Mayor's Energy Strategy; The Mayor's Transport Strategy ; RBK LIP; London Sustainable Design and Construction SPG; RBK Sustainable Construction SPG	Policies should ensure that new development takes place primarily on previously developed land and makes efficient use of land through good design	Climatic Factors, Soil, Material Assets, Landscape, Human Health	07
Air pollution and quality	EU Ambient Air Quality Directive; The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy; Sustainable Communities Plan; CROW Act; PPS1; PPS23; PPS22; London Climate Change Action Plan; The London Plan; The Mayor's Energy Strategy; Mayor's Air Quality Strategy; The Mayor's Transport Strategy and RBK LIP; RBK Air Quality Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan; RBK Cycling Strategy; A Healthy Kingston Strategy; RBK draft Walking Strategy; RBK Green Spaces Strategy; SPG Sustainable design and construction,	Policies should provide for and encourage a reduction in air pollution, seeking to enhance air quality.	Air, Human Health, Climatic Factors	13

Theme relevant to SA/SEA of Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames LDF	Source	Implications for the LDF	Main SEA Topic(s)	Relationship to Final SA Objective
Noise pollution	EU Directive on Environmental Noise; PPS1; PPS23; PPG24; Sustainable Communities Plan; The Mayor's Ambient Noise Strategy; The London Plan; The Mayor's Transport Strategy; Sustainable Design and Construction SPG; RBK Sustainable Construction SPG; RBK LIP; RBK Community Strategy.	Policies should seek to minimise the effects from noise on the local area.	Human health	14
Emissions of greenhouse gases	Draft Climate Change Bill March 2007; PPS1 and PPS Planning and Climate Change: Supplement to PPS1; PPS1; PPS23; PPS22; PPS25 and companion guide; Securing the Future; Sustainable Communities Plan; Code for Sustainable Homes; Planning for a Sustainable Future; Our Energy Future: creating a low carbon economy; Energy White Paper; The London Plan; The Mayor's Climate Change Action Plan; Building a Green Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development (Consultation); The Mayor's Energy Strategy; The Mayor's Transport Strategy and RBK LIP; London Sustainable Design and Construction SPG; RBK Sustainable Construction SPG.	Policies should provide for and encourage a reduction in the emissions of greenhouse gases.	Climatic factors, Population and Human Health	03, 14
Biodiversity	European Spatial Development Perspective; 6 <sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme for the EU Community; Conservation of National Habitats and Wildlife Flora and Fauna Directive; Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning; An Environmental Vision; Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds; PPS9; UK Biodiversity Action Plan; The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy and London's BAP; Tidal Thames Habitat Action Plan; The London Plan; PPS1; PPG17; RBK BAP; RBK Community Strategy; Hogsmill Valley Walk Strategy; Tolworth Court Farm Fields Management Plan; RBK Tree Strategy; Green Spaces Strategy, Green Spaces 1 <sup>st</sup> Implementation Plan; Biodiversity Action Plan;	Policies should ensure that biodiversity is protected, conserved and enhanced.	Climatic Factors, Biodiversity, Flora, Fauna and Soil	09

Theme relevant to SA/SEA of Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames LDF	Source	Implications for the LDF	Main SEA Topic(s)	Relationship to Final SA Objective
	SPG Sustainable design and construction; SPG East London Green Grid Framework			
Urban and rural open spaces and green infrastructure	PPS1, PPG15, PPG17, CROW Act, European Landscape Convention, The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future, Heritage Protection for the 21st Century, The London Plan; Draft RBK Allotment Strategy; Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning; An Environmental Vision; RBK Urban Design Action Plan, RBK Cultural Strategy, RBK Community Plan; Green Spaces Strategy; Green Spaces 1 <sup>st</sup> Implementation Plan; Biodiversity Action Plan; Thames Landscape Strategy; SPG Sustainable design and construction; SPG Providing for children and young peoples play and recreation; SPG East London Green Grid Framework	Policies should ensure that public open spaces and green infrastructure networks are protected and enhanced.	Material Assets, Air, Landscape, Biodiversity, Human Health	07, 09, 10
Congestion, travel choice, the need for travel by car and the length and duration of journeys	CROW Act; The London Plan; The Mayor's Transport Strategy, RBK LIP; PPS1; PPG13; PPS6; CROW Act; Securing the Future; Sustainable Communities Plan; Planning for a Sustainable Future; The London Plan; Accessible London SPG; PPG17; RBK Cycling Strategy; The Mayor's Transport Strategy; RBK LIP; RBK draft Walking Strategy; SPG Sustainable design and construction; SPG Land for Transport functions	Policies should ensure that new development provides a suitable mix of uses and layout is designed to reduce the need to travel. Facilities and amenities should be accessible by different modes of sustainable transport.	Population, Human health, air, climatic factors	08
Use of sustainably produced and local products and recycling products	PPS1, PPS7, PPS10, 6 <sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme for the EU Community, PPS23, PPS22, Sustainable Communities Plan, The Mayor's Ambient Noise Strategy, The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy, The Mayor's Energy Strategy, The	Policies should encourage the use of sustainably produced and local products.	Material Assets, Climatic Factors	15, 16

Theme relevant to SA/SEA of Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames LDF	Source	Implications for the LDF	Main SEA Topic(s)	Relationship to Final SA Objective
	Mayor's Transport Strategy, Sustainable Design and Construction SPG, RBK Sustainable Construction SPG, RBK LIP, RBK Community Strategy; The London Plan; Water Efficiency in New Buildings (consultation); An Environmental Vision			
Waste management	European Spatial Development Perspective; 6th Environmental Action Programme for the EU Community; EU Framework Directive on Waste; EU Landfill Directive; PPS10, The London Plan: Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London – Housing Provision Targets, Waste and Minerals Alterations; The Mayor's Waste Strategy; RBK Waste Strategy and Implementation Plan; RBK Waste Strategy 4 <sup>th</sup> Implementation Plan April 2007 – March 2010; SPG Sustainable design and construction; SPG Industrial Capacity	Policies to ensure that waste is reduced and recycled throughout the life cycle of new development.	Material Assets, Climatic Factors, Soil, Landscape	16
Surface and ground waters and sustainable water resources management	EU Water Framework Directive; EU Groundwater Daughter Directive; Future Water The Government's water strategy for England; Water Efficiency in New Buildings (consultation); Thames Corridor Abstraction Management Strategy; Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning; An Environmental Vision; Water matters The Mayor's Draft Water Strategy; The London Plan; Water Act; Water Resources Act; Making Space for Water; SPG Sustainable design and construction	Policies to ensure that water quality and resource management is improved.	Water, Climatic Factors	12
Risk of and from flooding	PPS25 and companion guide, EU Water Framework Directive; EU Groundwater Daughter Directive; Future Water The Government's water strategy for England; Water Efficiency in New Buildings (consultation); Thames Corridor Abstraction Management Strategy; Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning; An Environmental	Policies to reduce the risk of and from flooding in new and existing development	Water, Climatic Factors, Landscape	11

Theme relevant to SA/SEA of Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames LDF	Source	Implications for the LDF	Main SEA Topic(s)	Relationship to Final SA Objective
	Vision; Water matters The Mayor's Draft Water Strategy; The London Plan; Water Act; Water Resources Act; Making Space for Water; RBK Kingston Town Centre SFRA; SPG Sustainable design and construction; SPG East London Green Grid Framework			
Energy efficiency and renewable energy	Energy Performance in Buildings Directive, Integrating renewable energy into new developments; PPS1, PPS Planning and Climate Change: Supplement to PPS1; PPS23, PPS22; PPS3; Securing the Future; Sustainable Communities Plan; Code for Sustainable Homes; Planning for a Sustainable Future; The Mayor's Energy Strategy; The Mayor's Transport Strategy; Sustainable Design and Construction SPG; RBK Sustainable Construction SPG; RBK LIP; RBK Community Strategy; The London Plan; Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning; An Environmental Vision; Draft Climate Change Bill March 2007; Our Energy Future: creating a low carbon economy; Energy White Paper; The Mayor's Climate Change Action Plan; Building a Green Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development (Consultation); CROW Act; RBK Cycling Strategy; RBK draft Walking Strategy	Policies should promote the generation and use of renewable energy and ensure that new development is energy efficient.	Climatic factors	15
Soil resources and their quality	European Spatial Development Perspective; 6 <sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme for the EU Community; European Nitrates Directive; The London Plan: Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London – Housing Provision Targets; Waste and Minerals Alterations; Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning; An Environmental Vision	Policies should ensure the conservation of soil resources, through protection from contamination, and seek to improve already contaminated soils through remediation.	Soil	07

Theme relevant to SA/SEA of Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames LDF	Source	Implications for the LDF	Main SEA Topic(s)	Relationship to Final SA Objective
<b>ECONOMIC</b>				
Employment structure	Good Practice Guidance on Planning for Tourism 2006.; PPG4; PPS4; PPS6; Sustainable Communities Plan; The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy; Kingston First BID; RBK Community Strategy	Policies to encourage adequate employment development.	Population	17
Inward investment projects	PPS1; PPG4; PPS4; PPS6; Sustainable Communities Plan; The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy; Kingston First BID; RBK Community Strategy; The London Plan; SPG Industrial Capacity	Policies to promote sustainable economic growth and protect existing employment areas.	Population, Material Assets	18
Development of tourism	PPS1; PPS6; Good Practice Guidance on Planning for Tourism; Sustainable Communities Plan; The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy; Kingston First BID; The Mayor's Cultural Strategy; RBK Cultural Strategy, RBK Community Strategy; The London Plan; Kingston Visitor Action Management Plan; Thames Landscape Strategy	Policies to encourage the enhancement of tourist potential that also meet the needs of the local population.	Population, Material Assets	19

## 3. Baseline characteristics - Task A2

### 3.1 Introduction

The next task in SA covers the collection of baseline information. The review of other plans and programmes undertaken previously has provided a considerable amount of baseline information and this information has been complemented by collection of data on key indicators relating to the SEA topic areas, as well as additional social and economic indicators for the plan area.

More specifically, the SEA Directive states that the Environmental Report should provide information on:

- “relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan” and the “environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected” (Annex I (b) (c))

and

“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 (Birds Directive) and 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive)” (Annex I (c)).

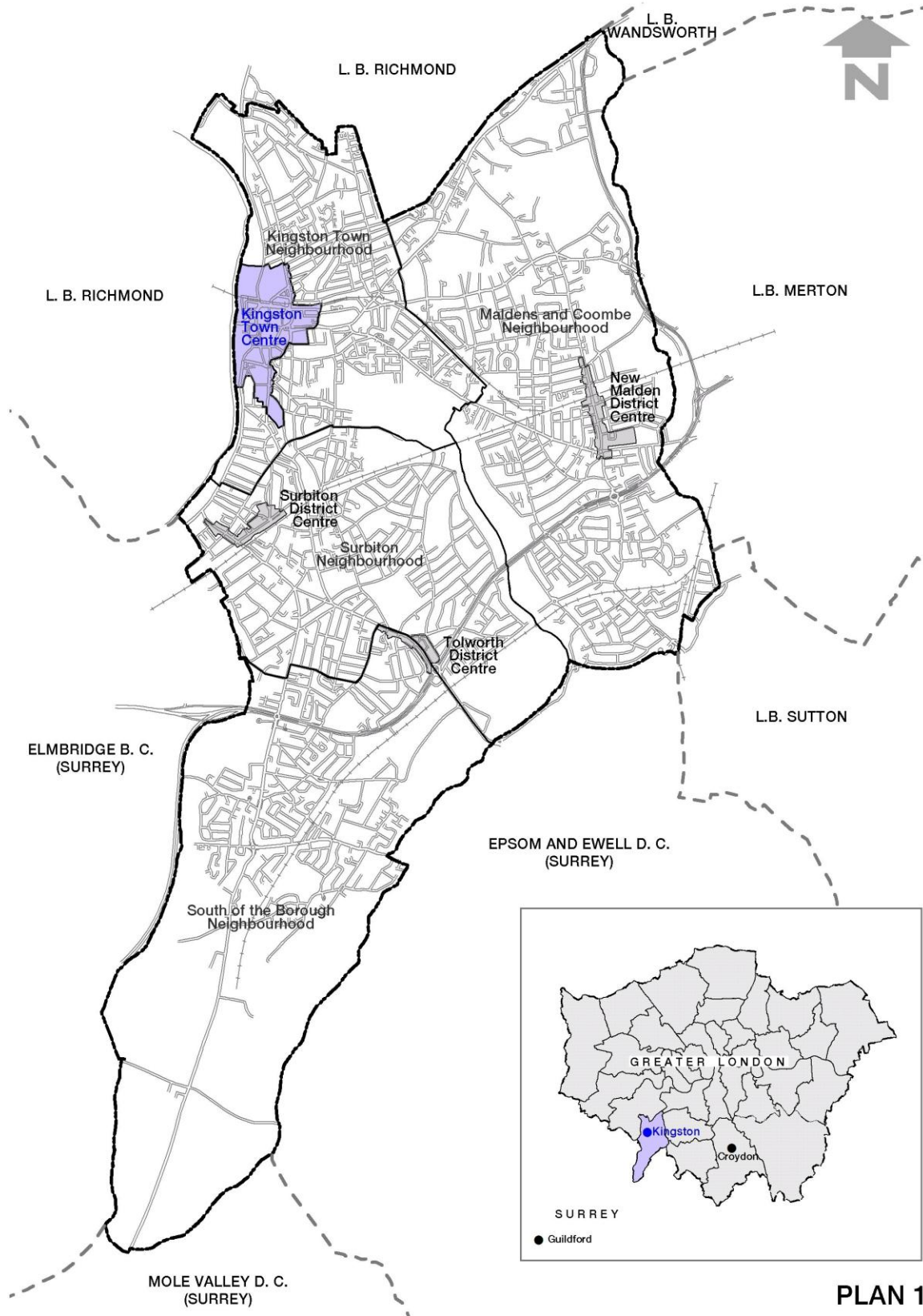
### 3.2 General Characteristics of the Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames

The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames forms part of a swathe of generally affluent suburbs in the outer south-west sector of London and extending out into Surrey (see fig 3.1). To the North West the borough boundary adjoins the river Thames. It is 37.2 square kilometres in area with a population of 153,000 (2005 mid-year estimate).

The borough plays a major strategic role as a shopping, business, judicial (Crown, County and Magistrates Courts), cultural, entertainment, public administration (central, county and local government services and Police) and education centre, (with Kingston University and Kingston College). Figure 3.1 displays the strategic positioning of Kingston within Greater London and in relation to north east Surrey.

Kingston Town Centre on the north-west edge of the borough is a metropolitan centre, as defined in the London Plan, with a catchment extending into south-west London and north-east Surrey. It enjoys a high ranking for comparison goods; second in London only to the West End. An Area Action Plan has been prepared to maintain this strong position (submitted May 2007). There are three district centres: New Malden in the east, Surbiton just south of Kingston, and Tolworth close to the A3. These centres serve an important role locally, as do a number of smaller centres and parades with local convenience and other outlets.

Figure 3.1- Strategic positioning of Kingston Upon Thames



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**PLAN 1**  
**Strategic Context**

### 3.3 Methodology

Information describing the baseline provides the basis for the prediction and monitoring of the effects of the implementation of the LDF's constituent documents. It can be used as a way of identifying problems as they occur and policy changes may be made.

Due to the fact that SA is an iterative process, subsequent stages in its preparation and assessment might identify other issues and priorities that require data collection and monitoring. This makes the SA process flexible, adaptable and responsive to changes in the baseline conditions and enables trends to be analysed over time.

The most efficient way to collect relevant baseline data is through the use of indicators. This ensures that the data collection carried out is both focused and effective. The identification of relevant indicators has taken place alongside the assessment of other relevant plans policies and programmes (Task A1), the identification of sustainability issues (Task A3), and developing the sustainability appraisal framework (Task A4).

The indicators have been selected for their ability to provide objective data offering an insight into general trends taking place.

### 3.4 Data Analysis

The baseline data providing an overview of the environmental, social and economic characteristics of the LDF area and how these compare to the region and to the rest of the country is presented in Appendix B. Data have been collated and analysed for the following indicators:

- Total resident population
- Age structure of population (%)
- Resident population by ethnic group (%)
- Dwelling stock (dwellings) April 2005 (%)
- Changes of Ownership by Dwelling Price, Price Indicators for All Dwellings: Mean (Dwellings, Jan05-Dec05)
- Dwelling Stock by Council Tax Band; (Dwellings, Mar06) (%)
- General Demand Indicators, Total Vacant Dwellings (Dwellings, Apr06)
- Vacant dwellings 2005 (%)
- Number of households
- Occupancy Rating 2001 (households)
- Household tenure 2001
- Housing Affordability price: earnings ratio
- Health and well-being
- Index of multiple deprivation
- Super Output Areas in the 10% most deprived in England.
- Super output areas in the 20% most deprived in England
- % people who describe their health as good
- % people who describe their health as not good

- Life expectancy
- Mortality Rates
- Domestic burglaries, per 1,000 population
- Violent crimes per 1000 population
- Vehicle crimes per 1000 population
- Percentage of Kingston residents surveyed who feel safe when outside in the borough during the day
- Percentage of Kingston residents surveyed who feel safe when outside in the borough after dark.
- Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the LEA achieving 5 or more GCSE's at grades A\* – C or equivalent
- Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the LEA achieving 5 or more GCSE's at grades A\* – G or equivalent
- % of pupils achieving no GCSE's
- People aged 16-74 with: Highest qualification attained (Persons, Apr01) (%)
- (Level 1: 1+ 'O' level passes; 1+CSE/GCSE and grades; NVQ level 1; or foundation level GNVQ;
- Level 4/5 qualifications cover: first degree, higher degree, NVQ levels 4 and 5, HNC, HND, Qualified Teacher Status, Qualified Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife, or Health Visitor).
- Employment by Standard Industrial Classification
- Size of business (no. of employees)
- People aged 16-74: Economically active (Persons, Apr01) (%)
- Total number of VAT registered businesses in the area
- VAT Registrations and Deregistrations
- Proportion of travel-to-work via mode of travel (%)
- Households with no cars or vans (Households, Apr01) (%)
- Open space availability per 1000 population
- % users satisfied with quality of local parks and open space
- Number/ area of SSSI's, NNR's LNR's and SNCI's in the borough
- Number and extent of conservation areas
- Number of Listed Buildings
- Buildings of Townscape Merit
- Number of scheduled ancient monuments
- Historic buildings at risk
- CO2 Emissions.
- Number of days when air pollution exceed limits.
- PM10 concentrations ( $\mu\text{gm}-3$ ) – days exceeding national target level
- Annual Mean NO2 concentrations
- Energy use per household

- Identified contaminated land
- Total municipal waste arisings
- Kilograms of household waste collected per head of population
- Percentage change from the previous financial year in the number of kg of households waste collected per head of population
- The tonnage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled
- Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled
- Percentage of household waste arisings which have been recycled
- Tonnage of household waste arisings which has been sent for composting or anaerobic digestion.
- Percentage of household waste arising which has been sent for composting or anaerobic digestion
- Number of recycling sites in the borough
- The number of properties at risk from 1% and 0.1% floods
- Grade changes in the water quality of the main rivers and tributaries

The analysis of the baseline data has highlighted a number of key sustainability issues in Kingston. These together with implications and opportunities arising for the LDF have been summarised in Table 4.1.

The main human and natural environment constraints in the Borough are illustrated in Figures 3.2 and 3.3.

Figure 3.2 - Human Environment Constraints

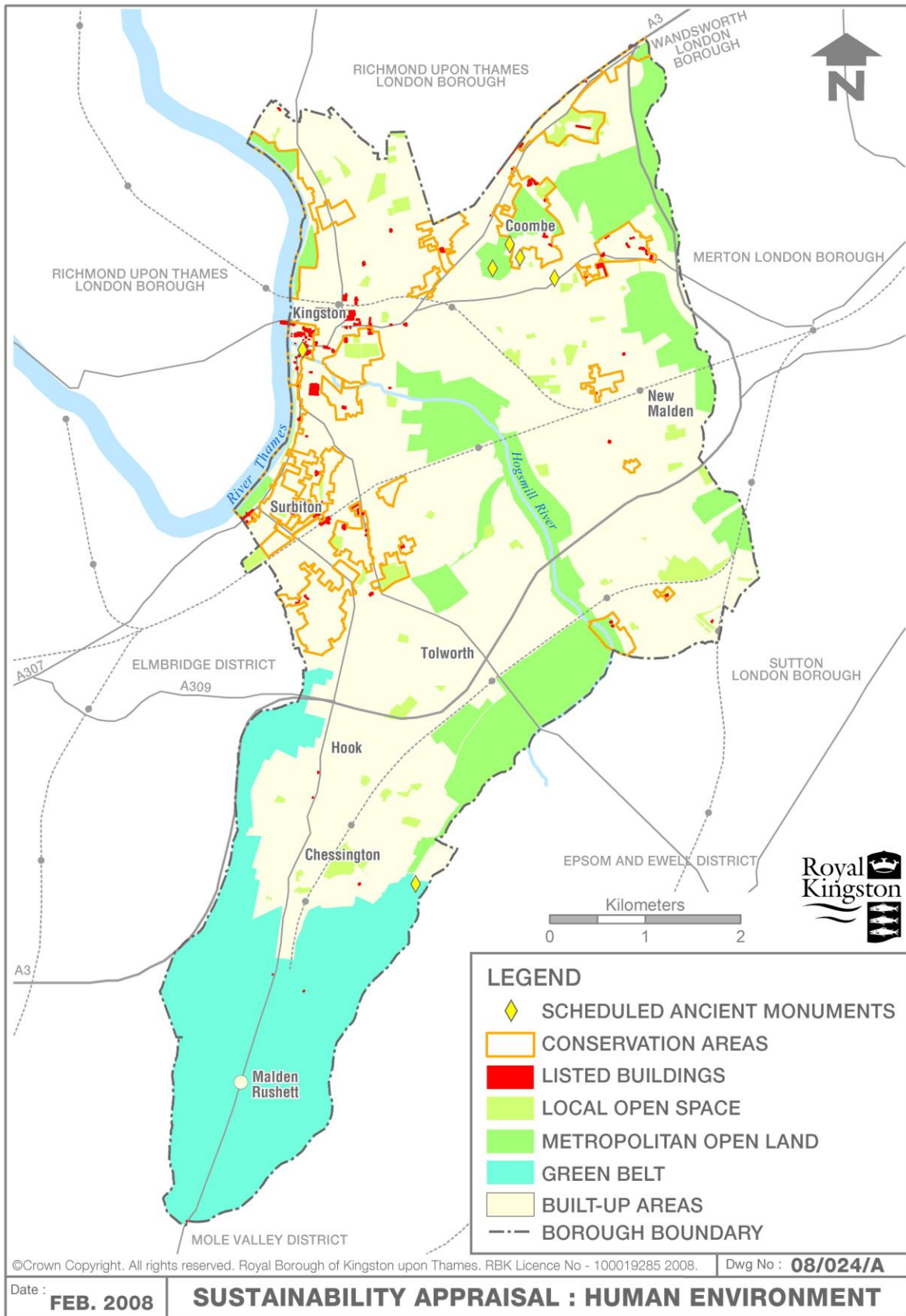
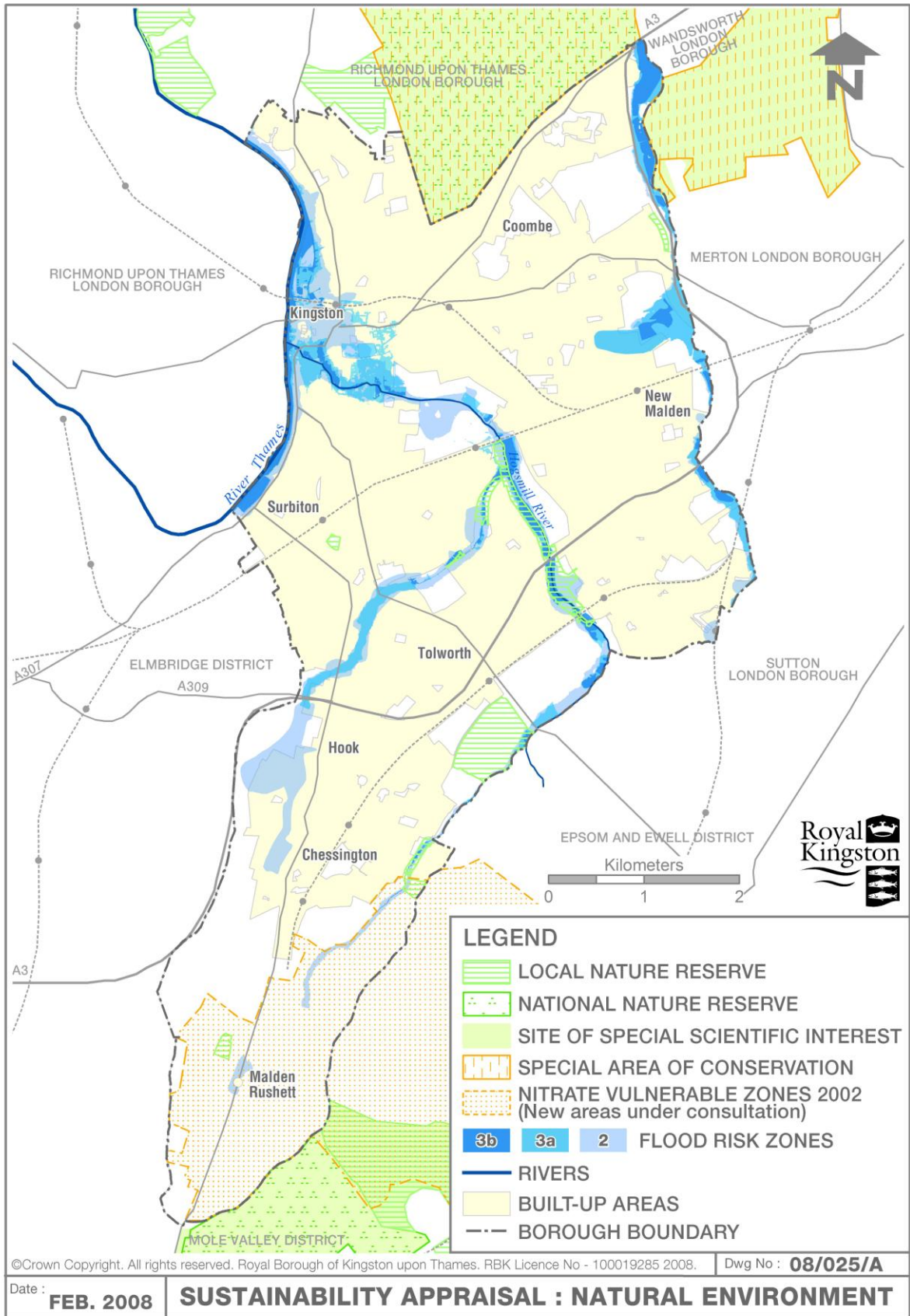


Figure 3.3 - Natural Environment Constraints



## 3.5 Data Limitations

The purpose and use of indicators is to provide quantified, objective information in order to show how things change over time. However, they do not explain why particular trends are occurring and the secondary, or knock-on, effects of any changes.

There are several gaps in the data collected as a result of not all the relevant information being available at the local level for recent time periods but it is believed that the data sets available provide a comprehensive overview of the sustainability situation in Kingston.

Any gaps in the required baseline data will be addressed, where applicable, by the development of a targeted and cost-effective monitoring programme at a later stage. However, it is likely that external agencies will be able to provide some data through their own monitoring programmes. The collection of baseline data will be refined as the LDF evolves to ensure that the baseline is relevant to each particular LDF's constituent document.

## 4. Identifying Key Sustainability Issues for Kingston – Task A3

The next task in the SA is the identification of sustainability issues. The requirement to identify sustainability problems and issues arises from the SEA Directive, where the Environmental Report required under the Directive should include:

“Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC” (Annex I(d))

The identification of sustainability issues of particular significance in Kingston provides an opportunity to define key issues for the LDF and to improve its objectives and options. The analysis of sustainability issues influences the baseline and the SA framework, in particular in identifying and selecting indicators and targets. This section describes the current situation and highlights the key issues faced within Kingston. It does not attempt to cover all the issues but identifies those that are considered to be a priority in terms of the sustainability of the Council area.

### 4.1 Methodology

The key sustainability issues for Kingston have been derived by analysing the baseline data and contextual information from other PPPs and assessing what the likely significant issues will be over the longer term i.e. 20 years +. The key sustainability issues relevant to the LDF were identified in the following ways:

- Analysis of the objectives and issues highlighted in other plans and programmes that are relevant to Kingston and its communities;
- Analysis of the baseline data and trends.

In addition to this, the consultation responses to the original Scoping Report provided further information relating to the identification of sustainability issues for the Council area. The analysis of sustainability issues has been iterative and is ongoing. As the SA develops with further stakeholder involvement the analysis of key issues is likely to evolve.

It should be noted that some of the sustainability issues identified are not necessarily under the LDF's field of influence, for example population growth.

### 4.2 Results

Table 4.1 below presents the results of the analysis of key sustainability issues.

Table 4.1 – Key sustainability issues and implications for the LDF

Key Issues/ Opportunities	Implications for LDF	Relevant SEA Topic	Relationship to SA Objectives in Table 5.1
<b>SOCIAL</b>			
<p><b>Population growth and ethnic Background</b></p> <p>Kingston has the smallest population out of all the London Boroughs other than the City of London. At the time of the 2001 Census the population was recorded at 147,630.</p> <p>In the twenty years between 1982 and 2002, the population of Kingston grew by 12.6 per cent, compared with an increase of 8.7 per cent for Greater London as whole. The population was estimated to be 155,900 in 2006. The overall increase in total borough population is projected to be 3% in the period 2006-2011 and the projected subsequent rise between years 2011-2026 is a further 6.9% (RBK Borough Profile 2007).</p> <p>According to the 2001 Census 84% of Kingston’s population is made up of the White ethnic group, compared with 71% for London and 91% for the UK. Other ethnic groups other than white made up 16%.</p> <p>In Kingston the proportion of the white ethnic group is projected to decline to 73% by 2025, while the proportion of Black and Ethnic Minority BME groups is expected to increase from 15.5% to 27% between 2001 and 2025. The largest sub groups in the Borough other than the white groups is people of Indian origin (3.61%) followed closely by other Asian (3.56%) and Other (3.18%). An important feature of the borough’s population is the Korean community, centred around New Malden - believed to be the largest Korean community in Europe.</p>	<p>The projected growth of between 3 and 6.9 % per year is a key driver for change, increasing demand for new housing, infrastructure, and community facilities such as schools, healthcare and leisure facilities. The LDF needs to ensure that the increased demand for these can be delivered in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>The LDF needs to ensure that the needs of all sections of the community are met through the provision of appropriate facilities and services.</p>	<p>Population</p>	<p>03,04</p>

<p>In 2004 Kingston had the second lowest level of deprivation (Index of Multiple Deprivation) in London and was ranked 266<sup>th</sup> most deprived area in England (1 being the most deprived out of 354 boroughs). In the more recent English Indices of Deprivation 2007, Kingston was ranked 245th, a less favourable ranking than in 2004, indicating that pockets of local deprivation do exist where improvements will need to be made to ensure improvement of the current situation.</p> <p>The seven most income deprived Super Output Areas (SOA) in Kingston lie within Grove, Norbiton, Berrylands and Coombe Hill. Only one SOA is classified as being in the most employment deprived SOAs in Kingston and this lies within the Norbiton ward. Norbiton, Berrylands, Beverley and Canbury fall into the group of SOAs in that are most deprived in terms of health deprivation and disability.</p> <p>Given the deprivation indices for Kingston it is possible to assume that there are pockets within the Borough where children are living in low income or workless homes and experiencing poverty. There is a need to ensure that improvements are made in child welfare across the borough.</p>	<p>It should be ensured that a robust housing needs survey is undertaken to inform the LDF development. This should then be incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal work to ensure that these needs are met in a sustainable manner.</p>	<p>Population</p>	<p>01</p>
<p><b>Vacant and derelict land</b></p> <p>Given the Borough's size, and existing patterns of urbanisation, there are limited brownfield sites available for significant development. The Borough includes a large extent of Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land where development potential is very limited.</p>	<p>The LDF policies need to manage the physical growth of Kingston in a way which recognises the value of the existing building stock while providing the flexibility to meet a variety of community aspirations.</p>	<p>Material Assets, Soil</p>	<p>07,18</p>

<p><b>Households</b></p> <p>The 2001 Census recorded 61,426 households in the borough and it is expected that there will be 75,070 households by 2026, an increase of 16% (AMR 2006/7).</p> <p>GLA 2007 Household Projections (Post London Plan) record the number of households as 64,691 in 2006 rising to 74,340 by 2026. The average household size was estimated as 2.33 in 2006 and decreasing to 2.19 by 2026.</p> <p>32.% of the borough households are 1 person households, just above the average for Outer London.</p> <p>The average household size in 2001 was 2.34 people compared to 2.36 in England and Wales. The number of total households increased by just over 10% in the period between 1991 and 2001.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to ensure that it can deliver housing, infrastructure and community facilities which meet the needs of the population. It needs to recognise the pressure that intensification of use can bring on existing infrastructure, transportation, community and utility services that such intensification brings.</p> <p>New housing should be of a mix of house types, sizes and tenures to meet projected needs.</p>	<p>Population, Human Health</p>	<p>03,04</p>
<p><b>Residential completions and development density</b></p> <p>Residential completions averaged 443 between 97/98 and 06/07 ( AMR 2007), significantly higher than the target of 360 p.a. for that period. RBK housing targets were reviewed in the London Plan Early Alterations (December 2006). Kingston's revised target up to 2017 is 385 p.a.</p> <p>The Mayor of London has identified the provision of housing as a key priority for Boroughs in the Greater London Area.</p> <p>In 2006/07 the average density of new residential development was 85 dwellings per hectare. In 2005/06 it was 90 d/ha.</p> <p>In 2006/07 5.69% of development was built under 30 d/ha (an increase of 3.39% compared with 2005/6); 7% of development was built between 30-50 d/ha and 86.72% &gt;50 d/ha (a decrease of 8% compared with 2005/6). (AMR 2006/07)</p>	<p>The LDF needs to ensure that a continued delivery of the borough's housing provision target is ensured, in accordance with the London Plan. The deliver of new housing should be in a sustainable manner and meet the needs of the borough's population.</p> <p>In order to provide sufficient housing in the Borough, with the limited land available, it is important to make efficient use of land where environmental and amenity considerations allow.</p> <p>The LDF should deliver housing at appropriate densities in accordance with the London Plan.</p>	<p>Population</p>	<p>03,04</p>

<p><b>House prices and affordable quality housing</b></p> <p>House prices within Kingston are higher on average than the national average. The average house price in 2006 was £333,192, an increase of £42,665 on the 2005 average. Average household income in 2006 was £39,380.</p> <p>Kingston upon Thames residents have the 15<sup>th</sup> highest (out of 30) weekly gross income in the London Boroughs, at £628.10 (<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>)</p> <p>The housing affordability ratio in Kingston is 9.2. This compares to a figure of 8.9 in Chelsea (highest earners in London) and 6.5 in Barking and Dagenham (lowest London earners)</p> <p>71.5% of housing is owner occupied in Kingston upon Thames, which is high compared to 56.5% in London, but relatively similar to the national (England) figure of 68.7%.</p> <p>The high house prices experienced in Kingston have an effect on the ability of local people, and especially first time buyers, to remain in the Borough. This is also linked to the social issue of provision of affordable housing due to many people priced out of the market.</p> <p>The Housing Needs Survey published in September 2001 identified the need for 1,365 new affordable homes in RBK each year for 5 years. In 2006/07 54 new affordable housing units were completed. In 2005/06 the figure was 23. These represented 17% and 8% of all dwellings completions in 2006/07 and 2005/06 respectively.</p> <p>A lack of affordable housing and key worker housing has an effect on homelessness, overcrowding, and on the economy in terms of difficulty in recruiting people in lower paid positions, including many key workers.</p> <p>Demand for student housing and educational facilities - Kingston University and Kingston College have a roll of 17,700 and 7,000 respectively. Any increase in the roll at either institution will also increase demand for more teaching space and student accommodation. The University is preparing a student accommodation strategy.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to be the policy mechanism to deliver the correct supply of housing to meet the needs of the population. The LDF will not have any direct control over house prices.</p> <p>For the LDF to deliver affordable quality housing, an up to date housing needs survey is required to support an affordable housing policy.</p> <p>The mechanism for the provision of student housing is required to be adequately included in the LDF. Close liaison with the University is required.</p> <p>The LDF needs to ensure that the provision of student housing is not at the expense of provision for the needs and amenity of the local community.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets</p>	<p>04</p>
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<p><b>Fear of crime and incidents of crime</b></p> <p>At the end of 2006/07 the Borough was highlighted as the safest of all the 32 Metropolitan boroughs in London. Between 2005/06 and 2006/07 there was a 13.4% reduction in overall crime in Kingston compared to a London average reduction of 6.4%. Prior to that, reported crime had increased by 18.1% from 13,811 offences in 2001/02, to 16,309 offences in 2003/04, which included a significant increase in reported violence against the person. Offences were heavily concentrated in Kingston Town Centre (30.2% of all reported crime).</p> <p>In Jan/Mar 2006 24 offences per 1000 persons compared to 31.8 offences per person at the London regional level. (AMR 2006/7).</p> <p>Only 9% of residents felt very safe out alone in their local area after dark; 49% of residents felt very safe during the day. (2006 BVPI General User Survey).</p>	<p>The LDF should ensure that policies deliver secure by design principles.</p> <p>There is a need to address anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime, especially in the main town centres of the Borough.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets, Human Health</p>	<p>02, 05</p>
<p><b>Access to facilities and health quality</b></p> <p>The life expectancy of males in RBK has increased over the past 10 years and has remained significantly higher than both the regional and national average over this period. However, there has been only a slight increase in the life expectancy of the female population of the Borough but the current level is comparable to that of London and England. All age mortality from all causes has been falling in Kingston and nationally.</p> <p>As at 01.10.07 there 0.53 GPs per 1,000 population and a total registered population of 184,847 (source e-mail from RBK).</p> <p>The Kingston Primary Care Trust has 29 GP Practices and 119 GPs. The number of GPs per 1,000 population is higher in Kingston than in England as a whole.</p> <p>A significant proportion of the population considers themselves to be in good health, the proportion is slightly higher than both the national (68.55) and regional (70.82) average.</p> <p>The average life expectancy for a male is 78.2 years and female 81.9 years (AMR 2006/7)</p>	<p>The LDF needs to enable the delivery of the correct provision of health and community facilities.</p> <p>To maintain a healthy population provision the LDF will need to be made to provide and retain a range of services in appropriate locations to meet community needs. This includes the provision of open space and improving air quality. There is also a need to cater for the needs of people with disabilities through ensuring appropriate transport services and access to facilities.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets, Human Health, Air</p>	<p>03, 05</p>

<p><b>Education – skills and provision of facilities</b></p> <p>While Kingston has one of the highest proportions of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs (grades A-C) 89.2% (AMR 2006/7), it also has one of the highest rates of pupils achieving no GCSEs (5.1%).</p> <p>There is a need to improve the number of qualifications achieved by all generations, which may require consideration of accommodating the changing demands of existing educational institutions and the accessibility and use of these facilities by the wider community for education purposes.</p> <p>Kingston contains a range of education establishments. There are 37 Primary Schools, 10 Secondary Schools and 3 Special schools. Kingston is a major higher and further education centre with the University and Kingston College. Kingston University has over 17,000 students and 1800 staff and Kingston College has over 7,000 students. At the time of the 2001 census, 11 per cent of the resident population were school pupils or full time students aged 16 to 74 years, this compared with 5.1 per cent of the population in England and Wales.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to enable the delivery of new education establishments and improvements to existing establishments to contribute to continued skills development.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets, Human Health</p>	<p>03, 06</p>
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**ENVIRONMENT**

<p><b>Historic environment</b></p> <p>The predominant borough character is relatively low density development of two or three-storey houses with gardens, the exceptions being within Kingston Town Centre and the district centres. The borough is characterised by its heritage features, its legacy of historic and architecturally important spaces and neighbourhoods. Historic development is concentrated round Kingston town centre and Surbiton, being areas of early development. There are 266 listed buildings in the Borough, 6 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) and there are 26 Conservation Areas covering 7% of the borough. Conservation Areas are areas where the character and historic importance are recognised (RBK Conservation Environmental Services). Within the borough there are also 2 Strategic Areas of Special Character (SASC) and 19 areas designated as local areas of special character. There are approximately 700 Buildings of Townscape Merit (non statutory protection) in the borough, of these approximately 400 are within Conservation Areas.</p> <p>A large proportion of the borough is designated as an area of archaeological significance. These designations reflect known historic centres, archaeological sites and spots where archaeological find have been made and also areas of topography which would have been especially attractive for early settlements.</p> <p>Some existing buildings within Kingston town centre and the district centres do not contribute to the character of the town centre or enhance the quality of the townscape.</p>	<p>In the LDF there is a need to protect and maintain values or elements of the Borough’s heritage, particularly those of the built environment.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets, Cultural Heritage, Landscape</p>	<p>10</p>
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<p><b>Open space and green infrastructure</b></p> <p>There are 1,260 hectares of protected open space in the Borough. There are no Metropolitan and Regional Parks in the borough. The open space provision is 5.70ha per 1000 population.</p> <p>The Unitary Development Plan (UDP) designates 69 Local Open Spaces, of these 32 are public open spaces and 37 are urban green spaces (they have private/ no formal access). The Green Belt covers a large proportion (640ha (17%) of the southern section of the borough.</p> <p>19 % of open spaces are parks (Kingston Open Space Assessment 2005). There are 13 classified parks and recreation grounds in the borough, providing a variety of facilities, including all weather playing pitches, and general playing pitches. The borough also contains 28 playgrounds. The borough has 9 leisure centres including 2 centres which have swimming pools, the Kingfisher Leisure Centre and the Malden Centre.</p> <p>Kingston has identified strips of land that link together to form ‘green chains’ and ‘green corridors’. The railway lines running through the Borough are specifically identified as green corridors in the UDP. Between them they link Wimbledon to the green belt at Chessington and intersect with the Hogsmill Valley green chain.</p> <p>The Borough is home to 38,676 metres of Definitive Rights of Way, of which 30,451 metres are footpaths and 8,224 metres are bridleways.</p> <p>At present there is public park provision of 1.12ha per 1000 population which does not present a deficiency overall, but there are some areas with a deficiency, i.e. more than 800m from a public park. These areas are within the wards of Coombe Hill, Coombe Vale and Surbiton. There are presently no parks of green flag status, though the Council’s open space study reports that most parks score well (6-7) against the green flag assessment.</p>	<p>There is a need to protect and maintain all areas of open space, which contribute to Kingston’s character.</p> <p>The network of open spaces within Kingston is also important to neighbouring Boroughs.</p> <p>Open spaces represent important wildlife corridors for improved biodiversity network. River habitats also provide important linear corridors. Links between these areas need to be enhanced and existing links protected. Opportunities should be sought to restore natural riverine processes and naturalising rivers wherever possible. There should be a presumption against riverside encroachment.</p> <p>The LDF should seek to protect and enhance open and green space in the area in order to improve air quality, human health and biodiversity, alongside numerous other benefits.</p>	<p>Human Health, Biodiversity, Soil, Air, Water, Climatic Factors, Landscape</p>	<p>07</p>
<p><b>Energy efficiency and Renewable energy</b></p> <p>Domestic energy efficiency has been improving with 17.4% improvement in 2005 (Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 ninth progress report (2005)). As for most local authorities in the country there is a deficiency in renewable energy facilities in the Borough, resulting in a dependence upon fossil fuels for most power and heating needs.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to provide the framework to deliver greater energy efficiency and renewable energy provision. The GLA require 20% of new developments energy to come from renewable energy generated on site.</p>	<p>Climatic Factors</p>	<p>15</p>

<p><b>Development on previously developed land and contaminated land</b></p> <p>Kingston has consistently achieved all new dwellings to be built on brownfield land, (AMR 2006-7)</p> <p>Over 300 sites in the area have been highlighted to be affected by contaminated land.</p> <p>There are three gasholders located in close proximity to Kingston Town Centre. These may represent a potential future redevelopment opportunity, although in the meantime they act as a constraint on development in the area due to safeguarding zones around them established by the HSE.</p>	<p>There is a need to accommodate ongoing change within the urban area while maintaining and enhancing the quality of the present environment. Brownfield land is the priority for development opportunities, which will be directed by the LDF documents. However, this requirement should also take into account the potential biodiversity value of previously developed land, to be mitigated where necessary. Previously developed land with a low biodiversity value should be prioritised for use in the first instance. Land contamination will need to be addressed as part of new development.</p>	<p>Landscape, Soil, Human Health, Water</p>	<p>07</p>
<p><b>Air quality</b></p> <p>The whole of the Borough is designated an Air Quality Management Area. Annual mean nitrogen dioxide levels and daily mean PM10 levels have been assessed and are estimated to exceed limits in some areas of the Borough.</p> <p>There are high traffic levels and periodic congestion on Kingston town centre's and main arterial routes at peak times. Predicted exceedances correspond with the Borough's major roads particularly the A3, A308, A240, A2043, A307, A238 and A243. This causes air and noise pollution, with negative effects on health.</p> <p>The Council aims to reduce the amount of traffic passing through the borough by 3% by 2011. ( AMR 2006-7)</p> <p>London's air quality is the poorest in the UK and amongst the worst in Europe. Poor air quality is significant cause of ill health and early death in London. It is estimated that 1,600 deaths are brought forward and 1,500 breathing problem-related hospital admissions per year occur as a result of air pollution.</p> <p>The RBK population is 2% of London's. On a pro rata basis, the RBK share of these totals can be estimated at 32 deaths brought forward each year and 30 hospital admissions. In 2005 there were no days where monitoring sites exceeded the National Air Quality targets during the year for particulate emissions.</p>	<p>Significant improvements in Kingston's air quality, through transport, energy production, and construction initiatives, will be required if the current situation is to improve. These improvements should be enshrined in the policies to be contained in the LDF.</p>	<p>Air, Population, Human Health, Climatic Factors</p>	<p>05, 13</p>

<p><b>Greenhouse gas emissions</b></p> <p>The Mayor's minimum reduction targets (from 1990 levels) as set in Policy 4A.2 of the London Plan are as follows: 15% by 2010; 20% by 2015; 25% by 2020 and 30% by 2025.</p> <p>Motorised transport is responsible for about 20 per cent of all carbon dioxide emissions in London. In Kingston, this percentage (2005) is approximately 31.4%. Domestic emissions account for approximately 40% of emissions, with Industrial and commercial emissions contributing approximately 29% of CO<sub>2</sub>. Based on the population of 147,000 in 2005, this is a per capita output of 6.1. Total resident population is 153,000, (AMR 2006-7)</p>	<p>Within Kingston much more is required to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, as well as strengthening the use of sustainable design and construction principles for new and retrofitted development.</p> <p>The LDF needs to ensure reducing the impact on climate change is a fundamental principle of the LDF policies.</p>	<p>Air, Population, Human Health, Climatic Factors, Material Assets</p>	<p>08, 14, 15</p>
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<p><b>Transport</b></p> <p>Kingston has strong transport links with the rest of London, the South East South West, West and Midlands. Heathrow and Gatwick airports also provide very good international links. The borough is served by the main trunk railway with 10 stations within its boundaries. Surbiton has fast services to Waterloo and to Guildford and Woking. The town centre has one of the highest concentrations of bus services in London, in peak hours 135 buses per hour arrive in the town centre.</p> <p>The main shortfall, and hindrance to sustainable modes of transport is the accessibility into the town centre from the South and West and from Surrey districts, therefore much of the borough remains somewhat dependent on car travel. Delivery of facilities for sustainable travel modes, cycling and walking are being improved with the pedestrianisation in Kingston Town centre, the Thames and Hogsmill paths and extensions of the cycle network. The A3 is the only trunk road in the borough and facilitates a north to south flow of traffic but in doing so acts as a physical barrier to west-east movements.</p> <p>Residents of the borough make, on average, three journeys per day each. This equates to 444,000 journeys per day or 162 million per year. Approximately 16,000 vehicles enter Kingston daily 7am-7pm on 7 radial routes. The highest flow is from the west side via Kingston Bridge.</p> <p>The Department for Transport (DfT) has calculated an estimate of 1,016 million vehicle kilometres in 2003 for the Royal Borough of Kingston. An annual total of this sort is hard to comprehend but it equates to 500,000 vehicles each passing along 5.5 km of the Borough's road network each day of the year. The aggregate figure has been fairly stable since 1993. Between 1993 and 2003 traffic increased by 3% (from 986 to 1,106 million vehicle kilometres) but this was well below the 8% increase for outer London as a whole. In addition, the Borough has seen traffic decline 1.5% since the year 2000.</p> <p>The 2001 census monitors travel to work, 42% of residents drive a car or van, 20% of resident's use the trains and 10% walk. Information held by the Council shows that 32,968 people commute into Kingston to work. 52% of all trips by Kingston residents, regardless of destination, were made by car. The target for non-car proportion trips is 50% in 2006, increasing to 55% in 2011. Nearly half of the boroughs residents own a car (47%) and 23% own 2 cars.</p>	<p>There is a need to reduce the need to travel, and encourage the use of sustainable forms of transport and to ensure that new development and regeneration improves the existing sustainable transport system. The LDF policies and proposals are the mechanism for this.</p>	<p>Air, Population, Human Health, Landscape</p>	<p>08</p>
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<p><b>Flood Risk</b></p> <p>The River Thames is the largest flowing water body in the Borough. The Hogsmill River also flows through the Borough and discharges into the River Thames in Kingston Town Centre. The Bonesgate stream flows into the Hogsmill at the point where the latter meets the borough boundary and The Beverly Brook also flows through part of the borough.</p> <p>The river corridors throughout the Borough are generally well defined, however it is clear from the flood maps that there are areas adjoining the waterways that are susceptible to river flooding.</p> <p>The geology of the Royal Borough of Kingston is characterised to a very large degree by London Clay. The impermeable nature of the soils can increase the susceptibility of the area to surface water (or flash) flooding following periods of heavy rainfall. Immediately adjoining the River Thames, deposits of gravel overlay the London Clay, and this can lead to localised incidents of groundwater flooding.</p> <p>The risk of flooding to property from rivers within the wider Borough of Kingston is relatively low. The river valleys are relatively well defined, and effective planning controls have prevented development from encroaching heavily upon the waterway corridors of the River Hogsmill and Beverley Brook. Consequently, a large proportion of the delineated PPS25 flood zones (depicting the areas potentially at risk of flooding from rivers in a 1 in 100 year, and 1 in 1000 year design event) are currently open space.</p> <p>There are some exceptions, and a very small number of properties immediately adjoining the River Hogsmill (Surbiton Stream) and Beverley Brook corridors may experience flooding of back gardens during a 1 in 100 year design event. The Kingston upon Thames town centre is indeed at risk of relatively frequent flooding not only from the River Hogsmill, but also from the River Thames.</p> <p>The Environment Agency (September 2006) estimates that, within Kingston town centre, some 2,500 properties are at 'significant' risk of flooding (i.e. at risk of flooding on average once in every 75 years), and a further 4,000 homes are at a 'moderate' risk of flooding (i.e. at risk of flooding on average once in every 1000 years). It is fair to assume that a relatively large proportion of these 'at risk' homes are situated within the Town Centre precinct.</p> <p>Kingston Town Centre and the rest of Kingston Borough have been subject to two separate SFRA's, which have been considered as part of this SA.</p>	<p>An important conclusion of the SFRA recently undertaken is that climate change will not markedly increase the extent of river flooding within most areas of the Borough. Consequently only a few areas that are currently situated outside of Zone 3 High Probability will be at substantial risk of flooding in the foreseeable future. The LDF needs to take account of the SFRA conclusions.</p> <p>It is important to recognise though that those properties (and areas) that are currently at risk of flooding may be susceptible to more frequent, more severe flooding in future years. It is essential therefore that the LDF (influencing the design of future development within the Borough) carefully mitigates against the potential impact that climate change may have upon the risk of flooding to the property.</p> <p>A large proportion of flood risk areas have not been developed, and indeed it is important that the LDF continues to protect these areas as natural floodplain corridors.</p> <p>New developments should be encouraged to incorporate sustainable drainage systems (SUDS), and rain water harvesting technologies, these mechanisms should be delivered through the LDF policies. The geology of the Borough will heavily influence the functionality of Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) techniques, and should be carefully considered as part of the design process.</p>	<p>Water, Climatic Factors, Landscape, Soil, Human Health</p>	<p>11</p>
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<p><b>Water</b></p> <p>Domestic water consumption per head of population in the UK, and in London in particular has continued to increase. It can be assumed that water consumption in Kingston has followed the same trend. There is now significant pressure to manage water as a sustainable resource.</p> <p>The EA monitor the water quality at three riverine sites within the Borough. The records indicate that the chemical and biological water quality of RBK's main water bodies is degraded, with grades ranging between 'Fair' and 'Poor'. Government has set a target to increase River Quality Objectives (RQ) compliance in England and Wales from 82% in 1997 to at least 91% in 2005.</p> <p>Of the water bodies monitored by EA within the Borough, the worst water quality was recorded in the stretch of river between Hogsmill and Thames STW (A grade of 'Poor' for water chemical quality and 'Fair' for biological quality). Government has set a target to increase River Quality Objectives (RQ) compliance in England and Wales from 82% in 1997 to at least 91% in 2005.</p> <p>Kingston upon Thames is included within Defra's (2008) proposed increase in the areas designated as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones, which means that its watercourses are affected by nitrate pollution. The 2008 Defra proposals will predominantly affect farmers of agricultural land located within Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZs) in England, as they will be required by law to comply with the proposed Action Programme measures.</p>	<p>Through sustainable design and construction, the LDF should aim to deliver reduced water consumption and this will reduce the pressure on available water resources.</p> <p>Surface and groundwater quality issues need to be incorporated into the LDF through linking to land contamination and its remediation, and through management of surface water run-off and adequate disposal of treated wastewater.</p>	<p>Water, Climatic Factors, Landscape, Soil, Human Health</p>	<p>12, 15</p>
<p><b>Nature conservation designations and BAP priority habitats</b></p> <p>The Council manages about 100 hectares of land with the conservation of biodiversity in mind.</p> <p>There are 10 Local Nature Reserves (plus proposed Hogsmill Meadows LNR working towards declaration in 2007/08), 6 sites of Metropolitan Importance, 29 Sites of Borough Importance – 14 of Grade I and 15 of Grade II and 11 Sites of Local Importance.</p> <p>To the north of Kingston there are 2 large conservation sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Richmond Park (0.33ha of which) falls within Kingston, classified as an SSSI, NNR and a SAC.</li> <li>• Wimbledon Common, a designated SSSI and a SAC.</li> </ul>	<p>Threats from development to Biodiversity and its distribution include land use management changes, disturbance issues, invasive species, pollution, and habitat fragmentation. This is especially important in the changing climate, where networks of habitats and their connections may provide the key to adaptation.</p> <p>The LDF should protect not only the areas and species protected for their nature conservation value, but also preserve and enhance important habitats and ensuring they are appropriately managed. In</p>	<p>Biodiversity, Flora, Fauna, Soil, Landscape, Human Health</p>	<p>07, 09</p>

<p>To the south of Kingston there is the Epsom and Ashted Common SSSI and NNR.</p> <p>Although much of the south of the borough is surrounded by woodland, Kingston contains only two significant sized woods: sixty Acre Wood, which together with the adjoining Jubilee Wood, covers about 21 hectares, and Chessington Wood which covers about 6 hectares.</p> <p>There are fragments of ancient woodland remaining in strips of wooded roughs on Coombe Hill Golf Course, in Coombe Hill Wood nature reserve (also known as Hopping Wood) and as some scattered and very gnarled oak trees in the grounds of Kingston University site on Kingston Hill.</p> <p>BAP priority habitats in the borough include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lowland Dry Acid Grassland</li> <li>- Lowland Heathland</li> <li>- Wet Woodland</li> </ul>	<p>addition, areas of low conservation value should be identified and enhanced as part of development schemes.</p>		
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<p><b>Waste</b></p> <p>The waste per head of population reduced in 2005/06 to 432kgs per person from 545kg the previous year. This is 13kgs below the target waste production weight per person. It is assumed that Kingston's rates of waste growth will continue at current estimated levels (3.75% pa) until 2006, thereafter declining steadily to zero growth by 2017. In total 77,656 tonnes of municipal waste was produced in 05/06, a 5% decrease from 04/05 monitoring year. The percentage of waste recycled or composted increased significantly from 18.25% in 04/05 to 23.97% in 05/06. Significant investment is required to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) going to landfill to meet the LATS (landfill allowance trading scheme) allowances.</p> <p>Given the Borough's size and population, it is limited in the commercially viable waste management facilities it can sustain. RBK has procured an anaerobic Digestion Plant in partnership with Sutton, Croydon, and Merton, which became operational in 2006. It will treat approximately 2,500 tonnes BMW from each borough per annum. The achievement of waste management targets relies heavily on the promotion of recycling/composting and sustainable waste management in terms of maximising use of existing facilities, infrastructure, and minimising the effects on the environment.</p>	<p>The LDF will need to promote sustainable waste management.</p> <p>RBK's household waste arising has started to decrease; the council now needs to continue to reduce these figures through encouraging and implementing sustainable waste management.</p>	<p>Soil, Material Assets, Landscape, Climatic Factors</p>	<p>16</p>
<b>ECONOMIC</b>			
<p><b>Employment</b></p> <p>The average earnings of residents in Kingston is higher than the gross weekly pay for GB but slightly lower than the London average.</p> <p>The Annual Population Survey July 2006-June 2007 indicates that within Kingston 79.9% (86,200) of the population are economically active. Of this 78.1% are in employment. This consists of 62.7% who are employees and 10.9% who are self employed.</p> <p>In May 2007 the unemployment rate was 1.6% (London average 4.1%). In February 2008 the corresponding figures were 1.5% Kingston, 3.6% London average.</p> <p>As at March 2008 those of working age claiming Job Seekers Allowance</p>	<p>The LDF needs to ensure that a variety of employment opportunities are provided to make employment accessible to all. Consideration should be given to the protection of existing employment land.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets</p>	<p>17</p>

<p>totalled 1% compared with the London average of 2.6%.</p> <p>Kingston provides 85,700 employee jobs. The highest proportions of jobs are provided in the service sector (94.3%). (ABI 2006)</p> <p>18.3% of employment in RBK is in the high value-added and high wage “knowledge based business services” compared to the London average of 13%. 29.3% of RBK employment is in the information society sectors that include information communication technology, finance and advanced business services, higher education, research and development, and publishing and media production. But there are also a large number of relatively low paid jobs in public sector and retail sectors (ABI 2006 and Annual Population Survey July 2006-June 2007.)</p> <p>The current Royal Borough economy is characterised by: light industry and distribution on the borough’s 8 main industrial estates, with little actual manufacturing, accounting for approximately 12% of borough employment; retail, leisure, business/financial services and public sector services in the main town centres, accounting for about 50% of borough employment; small service businesses across the borough with increasing emphasis on information technology and professional services, providing approximately 25% of borough employment; large institutions including education and health at various locations in the borough, providing around 8% of borough employment.</p> <p>Within the borough, the two most notable and sizeable employment areas (apart from the town and district centres) are the Chessington Industrial Estate and Barwell business Park which are recognised to be of ‘Strategic Importance’ in the London Plan. There are 6 other identified industrial areas in the borough.</p>			
<p><b>Land available for economic development</b></p> <p>There are physical constraints to economic development of Kingston. The town centre and business areas of the Borough are quite compact and constrained by the surrounding residential development, giving little potential for outward expansion. The River Thames may also have the potential to be a physical constraint.</p> <p>Although there have been no recent surveys, between 1990 and 2000 around 19% of the main industrial/warehouse land was lost to housing or retail developments. This was due in part to the high values achieved by</p>	<p>The LDF should ensure the protection of existing industrial/warehouse areas and where a need is identified provision of new facilities within designated areas.</p> <p>The LDF needs to consider the intensification of uses and possible reallocation of land types whilst ensuring that the natural and historic environment is not negatively impacted upon.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets</p>	<p>04,18</p>

<p>residential and retail developments rather than a lack of demand for industrial/warehouse development. This has resulted in an under supply of industrial units, limiting opportunities for new business development and employment growth in this sector, and also limiting the expansion of existing businesses, forcing many businesses to relocate outside of the Borough.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to ensure that a balance is achieved between the need for housing and employment land, to ensure new development contributes to the development of sustainable communities, including reducing the need to travel.</p>		
<p><b>Business registrations and de-registrations</b></p> <p>Between 1996 and 2006 the number of VAT registered businesses increased from 4,465 to 5,705. In 2006 there were 585 new business registrations which is a healthy indicator of business confidence in the borough. This indicates the existence of a strong local economy. There were 495 de-registrations in the same period</p>	<p>The LDF needs to ensure that policies continue to encourage new businesses and employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets</p>	<p>18</p>
<p><b>Retail</b></p> <p>Shopping rental levels are an indicator of the trading levels and demand for floor space in a town centre. Prime annual shopping rental levels for the town centre increased in 2005 to £3,283 per square meter, remaining above those in Croydon and Bromley (Colliers CRE). The Kingston town centre primary shopping frontage consists of 256 units, in 2006 there were 6 vacant units in the primary shopping frontage. This is an increase of 2 vacant units from 2005. The percentage of A1 uses in the New Malden District Centre has remained the same as in 2005 (69%), however, in Surbiton it has decreased to 65% from 69%. All three district centres in the borough continue to have A1 percentage in the primary shopping frontage of less than the 70% target stated in the existing UDP policy DC3. The Town Centre AAP seeks to bring forward enhanced retail opportunities in the Town Centre area.</p>	<p>The importance of the local centres should be considered for their value to the local economy, and enhanced where necessary. This should be to the benefit of local residents, and seek to reduce the need to travel for access to local facilities.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets</p>	<p>18</p>
<p><b>Tourism, leisure and cultural growth</b></p> <p>Tourism, creativity, and leisure sectors are projected areas of strong growth in RBK in the future.</p>	<p>There is a need to ensure that growth in the tourism sector promotes benefits to both the local economy and to the local environment.</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets</p>	<p>19</p>
<p><b>Evening economy</b></p> <p>Kingston Town Centre has a well established night-time economy. Licensed establishments currently have a capacity of some 31,545 with a capacity of some 14,675 in Kingston Town Centre. These figures include three major night clubs whose total capacity is 5,720.</p>	<p>The LDF needs to ensure that all issues surrounding the night time economy are managed and controlled to create a balance suitable for the surrounding environment.</p> <p>Further growth in the night-time economy needs to be carefully managed to avoid anti social behaviour, noise, and reverse sensitivity issues arising, especially if</p>	<p>Population, Material Assets</p>	<p>17,18,19</p>

	<p>provision is made for further residential mixed-use development in the main centres. In addition, the loss of local community pubs and halls is also perceived as a problem in terms of supporting self-contained local communities with facilities within walking distance.</p>		
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# 5. Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework – Task A4

## 5.1 Introduction

The next task in the sustainability appraisal is the development of the sustainability appraisal framework. The SA Framework is a key component in completing the SA by synthesising the baseline information and sustainability issues into a systematic and easily understood tool that allows the prediction and assessment of effects arising from the implementation of the LDF. Though the SEA Directive does not specifically require the use of objectives or indicators in the SEA process, they are a recognised and useful way in which environmental effects can be described, analysed and compared at key stages of the plan development.

## 5.2 Methodology

A set of objectives, indicators and targets was drawn up under the three sustainable development dimensions: social, economic and environmental. Taken together, the indicators and targets provide a clarification of the intended interpretation of each objective, supported by a defined direction of change sought through the implementation of the LDF.

The SA objectives have been derived from the various plans, policies and programmes that were reviewed as part of Task A1, collection of baseline data (Task A2) and the identification of key sustainability issues (Task A3).

When known, national, regional and local targets have also been included. The SA objectives have been worded so that they reflect one single desired direction of change for the theme concerned and do not overlap with other objectives. They include both externally imposed social, environmental and economic objectives and others devised specifically in relation to the context of the The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames LDF. The SA objectives have also been worded to take account of local circumstances and concerns feeding from the analysis on sustainability issues.

A preliminary set of indicators has been derived aiming to capture the significant sustainability effects likely to arise from the LDF implementation. These indicators will also play a role in the assessment of the LDF's constituent documents itself. An attempt has also been made to identify the organisation responsible for monitoring the indicators identified. As the SA progresses for each document it is likely that the set of indicators will be refined and other significant effect indicators may be added for the purposes of establishing a monitoring programme. Where appropriate existing data sources and indicators which already monitored in the Council area have been used. In some cases, specific new indicators have been proposed which are likely to require monitoring by relevant bodies should significant effects relating to the SA objectives concerned be identified as part of the assessment of effects during SA Stage B.

Throughout the assessment process of the LDF's constituent documents the following issues will need to be addressed:

- What is the current situation, including trends over time?
- How far is the current situation from thresholds, objectives or targets?
- Are particularly sensitive or important elements of the environment, economy or society affected?
- Are the problems of a large or small scale, reversible or irreversible, permanent or temporary, direct or indirect?
- How difficult would it be to prevent, reduce or compensate for any negative effect?

- Have there been or will there be any significant cumulative or synergistic effects over time?

## 5.3 Results

The SA framework of objectives, indicators and targets against which it is proposed to assess the emerging objectives, policies and proposals in the LDF's constituent documents is set out in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1 – Sustainability Appraisal Framework

**Key to Data Availability for Indicators**

**Bold = Known data for Kingston Upon Thames**

Underlined = No data currently available

Code	SA/SEA Objectives	Indicator(s)	Target	SEA Topics
<b>SOCIAL</b>				
01	To reduce poverty and social exclusion	<b>% of population of working age claiming key benefits such as Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)</b> ( <a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk">http://www.nomisweb.co.uk</a> )	To reduce the numbers of people claiming JSA year on year <i>Source: <a href="http://www.statistics.gov.uk">www.statistics.gov.uk</a></i>	Population, Human Health
		<b>% of people who say they are satisfied with their local area as a place to live</b> ( <a href="http://www.kingston.gov.uk">www.kingston.gov.uk</a> )	Improve year on year	
		<b>Number of Super Output Areas within the most 10% and 20% most deprived wards in the Country using the Index of Multiple Deprivation</b> ( <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk">www.communities.gov.uk</a> )	Reduce and remove wards from the 10% and 20% categories	
		<b>% of children that live in families that are income deprived</b> ( <a href="http://www.londonhousing.gov.uk">www.londonhousing.gov.uk</a> )	Decrease over plan period	
02	To reduce and prevent anti social activity, crime and fear of crime	<b>% of Kingston residents and visitors who feel safe during the day time and during the night</b> (BVPI General User Survey)	Increase over plan period	Population, Human Health
		<u>Number of developments incorporating Secured By Design principles</u> (RBK)	Increase over plan period	
03	To promote accessibility to a range of services and facilities to meet the needs of all sectors of the community	<u>% of residents with difficulty accessing services</u> (RBK)	Reduce year on year	Population, Human Health
		<b>% of buildings open to the public where all areas are suitable for accessible to disabled people</b> (RBK)	Increase year on year	
		<u>% of people who say they are satisfied with local sports and leisure facilities</u> (RBK)	No target identified.	
		% of residential development which accords with the London Plan Matrix (RBK)	100%	
		<b>Total number of passenger journeys made annually on local buses within the area of the authority.</b> (RBK Transport BVPI 102)	Increase over plan period	

Code	SA/SEA Objectives	Indicator(s)	Target	SEA Topics
		<b>Percentage of users satisfied with local buses within the area of the authority</b> (RBK Transport, BVPI 103)	Improve	
		<b>Percentage of total length of footpaths and other rights of way which are easy to use by members of the public</b> (BVPI 178)	Improve poor quality where identified	
		<b>Area of public park provision deficiency</b> (RBK)	Reduce to zero	
04	To provide a range of high quality housing that meets the needs of the community, accompanied by adequate supporting infrastructure	<b>People on the homelessness register</b> (RBK)	Decrease over plan period	Population, Human Health, Material Assets
		<b>Households in housing need</b> (RBK)	Decrease over plan period	
		<b>Housing Completions</b> (RBK)	Meet the London Plan target	
		<b>Affordable housing completions by size, type and tenure</b> (RBK)	Increase over the plan period in accordance with the affordable housing policy	
		<b>% of homes constructed to lifetime home standards</b> (RBK)	100%	
05	To improve the population's health and reduce inequalities in health	<b>% of people who describe their health as good</b> (www.statistics.gov.uk)	Increase year on year	Population, Human Health
		<b>% of people with limiting long term illness</b> (www.statistics.gov.uk)	Decrease over plan period	
		<b>% of population partaking in 5 x 30 minutes of physical activity per week</b> (www.sportengland.org)	70% of the population to be 'moderately active' by 2020 (Game Plan Dec 2002)	
06	To improve the education and skills of the population	<b>% of students achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*– C or equivalent</b> (RBK Education, DfES)	Improve in line with national and local education targets	Population
		<b>People aged 16-74 with no qualifications</b> (RBK Education, DfES)	Decrease over plan period	
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL</b>				
07	To make the most efficient use of buildings and previously developed land (providing this does not harm its biodiversity value) before Greenfield sites and safeguard soil	<b>% of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land (housing and employment)</b> (RBK)	100%	Soil, Landscape, Biodiversity, Water
		<b>% of new housing built at more than 30dph dwellings per hectare</b> (RBK)	100%	

Code	SA/SEA Objectives	Indicator(s)	Target	SEA Topics
	quality and quantity	<u>% of new inappropriate development on Greenfield sites including Greenbelt and MOL</u> (RBK)	0	
		<u>% of sites affected by contamination remediated as part of new development and put back into use</u> (RBK)	Increase	
08	To reduce the need to travel and promote modes of travel other than the car	<b>Travel to work (mode of transport)</b> (www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/)	To increase the number of journeys to work by non-car modes year on year	Air, Human Health, Landscape, Climatic Factors
		<b>Average distance travelled to work</b> (www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/)	Decrease	
		<b>Modal split for cycling</b> (RBK)	Double cycling share from 3% in 2001 to 6% in 2011	
		<b>Overall modal split shift away from car</b> (RBK )	55% of all trips by non car modes in 2011	
		% of residential development which accords with the London Plan Matrix (RBK )	100%	
09	To protect and enhance wildlife species and habitats which are important on an international, national and local scale	<b>Number/ area/condition of SSSI's, NNR's, SNCI's and LNR's in the borough</b> (RBK Environment and Sustainability)	Ensure the protection and quality is maintained	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Landscape
		<b>Achievement of BAP targets and objectives</b> (RBK)	Meet BAP targets	
		<b>Number of sites identified for enhancement as part of development, that are of low conservation value</b> (RBK )	No target identified	
		<u>% of major planning applications approved with opportunities for wildlife and biodiversity enhancement built in</u> (RBK)	100%	
10	To protect and where appropriate enhance the landscape, buildings, sites and features of archaeological, historical or architectural interest and their settings, promoting a high quality sense of place that is valued by those visiting, living and working in the borough	<b>Number of Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments at Risk</b> (RBK)	To reduce year on year	Cultural Heritage, Soil, Material Assets, Landscape
		<u>Historic buildings, sites, areas and/or their settings affected negatively by proposals/policies</u> (RBK)	No loss or damage	
		<b>New sites recorded for their archaeological interest</b> (RBK)	No target identified	
		<b>Loss or damage to Listed Buildings/Buildings of Townscape Merit</b> (RBK)	No loss or damage	
		<b>Number and extent of conservation areas</b> (RBK)	Continue protection of these areas and review when required	

Code	SA/SEA Objectives	Indicator(s)	Target	SEA Topics
11	To manage new and existing development in order to reduce flood risk	<b>Number of planning permissions within flood risk areas granted contrary to advice from the Environment Agency</b> (RBK )	Zero	Water
		<b>% of major new planning permissions with Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) installed</b> (RBK )	100%	
12	To protect and enhance the availability and quality of water resources	<b>Surface water quality</b> (Environment Agency)	All surface waters to achieve good status (ecological and chemical) by 2015 Source: Water Framework Directive	Water
		<b>Groundwater quality</b> (Environment Agency)	All groundwater sources to achieve good chemical status by 2015 Source: Water Framework Directive	
		<b>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to advice on water quality grounds from the Environment Agency</b> (RBK)	Zero	
		<u>Number of incidents of major and significant water pollution</u> (Environment Agency)	To reduce during plan period	
		<u>Length of culverts opened up into open watercourse and the length of watercourse restored</u> (Environment Agency)	Increase	
		<b>% new major developments incorporating water conservation measures</b> (RBK )	100%	
13	To improve air quality	<b>Achievement of Air Quality Action Plan Targets</b> (RBK )	To meet AQMA set targets	Air, Human Health, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
		Number of days when air pollution exceed limits (RBK)	Reduce the days over plan period	
14	To address the causes of climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions	<u>CO2 emissions from Council's operations</u> (RBK)	UK's statutory targets are to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050 and 26-32% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline	Population, Human Health
		<u>Per capita CO2 emissions in Local Authority area</u> (RBK)	UK's statutory targets are to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050 and 26-32% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline	
		<u>CO2 emissions from residential buildings</u> (RBK)	All new housing should be carbon neutral by 2016	

Code	SA/SEA Objectives	Indicator(s)	Target	SEA Topics
15	To promote the efficient use of resources and minimise the need for energy, through an increase in energy efficiency and use of renewable energy	<b>Energy consumption per capita</b> (RBK)	No target identified. Fossil fuel use to reduce over the plan period	Climatic Factors
		<u>Applications approved incorporating renewable energy</u> (RBK)	On site renewable energy generation of 20% unless unfeasible	
		<u>% of new build residential meeting Ecohomes Very Good or Code for Sustainable Homes level 4/6</u> (RBK)	All new dwellings to meet Code level 4 by 2013 and Code level 6 by 2016	
		<u>% of new build commercial meeting BREEAM Very Good Standard</u> (RBK)	All new development to meet BREEAM Very Good standard	
16	To promote sustainable waste management, reducing the generation of waste and maximising re-use and recycling	<b>Kilograms of household waste collected per head of population</b> (RBK)	Decrease during plan period	Material Assets, Soil, Landscape
		<b>% of waste arisings which have been landfilled</b> (RBK)	By 2010 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 75% of that produced in 1995; by 2013 50% and by 2020 35%	
		<b>% of waste arisings which have recycled or composted</b> (RBK)	Increase over plan period	
<b>ECONOMIC</b>				
17	To provide jobs with a diverse range of employment opportunities	<b>% of working age in employment</b> ( <a href="http://www.nomisweb.co.uk">http://www.nomisweb.co.uk</a> )	Improve	Population
		<b>Job density: Number of jobs to working age population by sector</b> ( <a href="http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a> )	Improve	
		<b>New employment floorspace by type*</b> (RBK)	No target identified.	
18	To encourage a strong, stable economy with sustained growth from inward and indigenous investment	<b>Employment land availability by type* and annual take up on a yearly basis</b> (RBK)	Meet the needs of the business sector	Population, Material Assets
		<b>Net change in VAT registered businesses in the area</b> (ONS)	No target identified	
		<b>Vacant retail units in defined shopping frontages in Kingston Town Centre and the District Centres</b> (RBK)	Reduce over plan period	
		<b>VAT registrations and deregistrations</b> (ONS)	No target identified	
		<b>Amount of employment land lost to residential development</b> (RBK)	No target identified	
19	To foster a strong tourism industry	<b>Visitor Numbers per annum</b> (RBK)	Improve over the plan period	Population, Material Assets
		<b>Change in the number, type and size of tourist facilities and developments in the borough</b> (RBK)	No target identified	

Code	SA/SEA Objectives	Indicator(s)	Target	SEA Topics
		<b>Change in the number, type, size and variety of night-time economy facilities and developments in the borough</b> (RBK)	No target identified	

\* B1,B1(a) (b) (c), B2 and B8

## 5.4 Assessment rationale

Table 5.2 shows the assessment rationale, an interpretation of the SA Framework, which will be utilised to assist the assessment of policies and proposal contained in the various LDF DPDs and SPDs as they arise. The SA Framework covers Kingston as a whole, and thus all issues are covered, where appropriate, at the time of writing. However, SA is an iterative process, and new or site specific issues that may arise throughout the plan making process will be subsumed into the SA framework for the DPDs and SPDs during their development.

Table 5.2 – Assessment rationale

	SA Objective	Assessment Rationale
<b>SOCIAL</b>		
01	To reduce poverty and social exclusion	<p>Consideration of whether the policies introduce measures such as improving the public realm and community facilities, ensuring that the pattern of development focuses on more deprived areas, to help reduce the imbalances across the Council area.</p> <p>Community Facilities should be accessible by sustainable transport infrastructure and the strengthening of linkages across the Council area.</p> <p>Policies promoting employment opportunities and access improvements to employment and health services will help to reduce levels of people claiming benefits hence reducing poverty. An improvement in these facilities may also help to improve people’s satisfaction with the area as a place to live.</p> <p>Policies promoting improved housing affordability, securing a suitable mix of houses for all, provision for development of mixed settlements that help increase people’s tolerance and respect for other cultures.</p> <p>Includes a consideration of measures that could help to improve image through enhanced safety, reduced crime and increased community involvement in development activities.</p>
02	To reduce and prevent anti social activity, crime and fear of crime	<p>The extent to which policies engender a sense of safety and reduce crime and fear of crime through indirect measures such as incorporating design features in new development (such as additional lighting, CCTV). Policies that seek to deliver an increase in the range and availability of community facilities should be considered favourably on the basis of their potential contribution to discouraging incidences of anti-social behaviour and opportunistic crime, the latter often being attributed to ‘boredom’ or a ‘lack of things to do’. Important to identify proposals that can improve ‘perceptions’ of safety as well as actual improvements.</p>
03	To promote accessibility to a range of services and facilities to meet the needs of all sectors of the community	<p>Consideration of whether policies will either directly (through new or significantly enhanced provision) or indirectly (through improved transport links) increase accessibility to employment opportunities and the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools;</li> <li>• Bus stops</li> <li>• Shopping facilities;</li> <li>• Health and Social Facilities;</li> <li>• Nurseries;</li> <li>• Further Education Establishments;</li> <li>• Children’s Centres;</li> <li>• Community Halls;</li> <li>• Churches;</li> <li>• Church Halls and Day Centres;</li> <li>• Libraries;</li> <li>• Residential Homes for the Elderly;</li> <li>• Cemeteries;</li> </ul>

	SA Objective	Assessment Rationale
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open Space;</li> <li>• Green Space;</li> <li>• Sports and leisure Facilities and Centres;</li> <li>• Supported Accommodation; and</li> <li>• Theatres and Cinemas.</li> </ul> <p>A tiered approach linking the location and density of developments with their proximity to services, facilities and public transport corridors and interchanges will be looked upon favourably.</p>
04	To provide a range of high quality housing that meets the needs of the community, accompanied by adequate supporting infrastructure	<p>Consideration of the extent to which policies will ensure supply of housing appropriate to local needs, especially in relation to average house to income ratios within the district. Higher density developments will normally include smaller units which should be cheaper and hence more affordable.</p> <p>Whether policies help to ensure an improvement in the quality of housing is also a key factor. Consideration should also be made of whether new residential development is in accessible locations, and supported by adequate infrastructure capacity, including transport and wastewater considerations. There is a need to ensure that the provision of student housing is not at the expense of provision for the needs and amenity of the local community.</p>
05	To improve the population's health and reduce inequalities in health	<p>Consideration of whether policies improve access to health facilities or indirectly improve health for all. Secondary effects of reducing air pollution, ensuring homes are of a decent standard, and other indirect or longer-term effects upon health such as noise pollution and congestion. Secondary effects of improving walking and cycling for both purposeful and recreational trips, as well as improving access to greenspace and health services by walking and cycling and the positive effect on levels of health arising from such measures. Schemes that deliver an improved physical environment can also make a significant contribution to the sense of well-being.</p>
06	To improve the education and skills of the population	<p>Consideration of whether policies contribute towards improvements in existing education facilities or the creation of additional educational facilities, specifically tertiary and higher education centres. The increase in skills levels in relation to improving business competitiveness is a priority in the area. Can also include measures aimed at augmenting passive education such as interpretation of the natural environment and community involvement in development initiatives.</p>
<b>Environmental</b>		
07	To make the most efficient use of buildings and previously developed land (providing this does not harm its biodiversity value) before Greenfield sites and safeguard soil quality and quantity	<p>Consideration of the extent to which policies will make the best use of land and buildings (for example through higher density development, and the use of previously developed land) in locations served by sustainable transport modes. The biodiversity value of previously developed land should be considered in advance of any development in Greenfield sites, and any potential effects mitigated. Previously developed land with a low biodiversity value should be prioritised for use in the first instance. Development in the Green Belt and MOL should be avoided.</p> <p>Consideration of how policies will reduce or increase land contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity. Secondary consideration of the effects of climate change on soils, such as the loss of organic content and whether policies mitigate these.</p>

	SA Objective	Assessment Rationale
08	To reduce the need to travel and promote modes of travel other than the car	<p>Consideration of whether policies directly reduce the current trend of traffic growth by reducing reliance on the private car through improving the public transport system and increasing walking and cycling trips in the Council area. The extent to which policies encourage a modal shift to bus and train transport, from the current domination of the car, by improving frequency, reliability, and convenience of services, especially with regard to journeys to work and school.</p> <p>An improvement in sustainable transport for access will lead to a decrease in traffic congestion, thus helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
09	To protect and enhance wildlife species and habitats which are important on an international, national and local scale	<p>Consideration of whether policies may have a positive effect on designated and non-designated habitats and species (e.g. through increased connectivity or reduced disturbance). Additional consideration of whether the policies will result in the conservation, enhancement or creation of habitats. Connectivity of habitats and mitigation of the effects of climate change should be especially considered.</p> <p>Habitat severance and negative impacts of flora and fauna are associated with increased traffic volumes, levels of emissions, loss of habitat/wildlife corridors (e.g. through demolition of vacant buildings where bats may be nesting; or felling of trees that support birdlife). In addition, there is a need to consider aquatic ecology and the potential for disturbance arising from increased activity.</p>
10	To protect and where appropriate enhance the landscape, buildings, sites and features of archaeological, historical or architectural interest and their settings, promoting a sense of place that is valued by those visiting, living and working in the borough	<p>Consideration given to the extent to which policies will have a direct effect on designated Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, buildings of townscape merit and their settings, whether through physical change or increased disturbance. In addition, the extent to which policy interventions will encourage sympathetic integration of development with local character will be assessed. The effect on non-designated features of local historic or architectural interest and value should also be considered, since these can make an important contribution to creating a sense of place, local identity and distinctiveness in both rural and urban areas. Consideration should also be given to the historic character of landscapes and townscapes beyond site specific areas, and the potential for as yet unrecorded archaeological interest. Secondary beneficial effects will be associated with policies that will reduce traffic levels in the Council area as well as other non-intrusive traffic management/exclusion measures. Policies that encourage a reduction in activities causing climate change will reduce the impact on heritage sites from the weather events.</p> <p>Impact of encroachment on greenfield sites, air pollutants, noise and vibration as well as consideration of the cumulative impact of incremental changes to the physical environment, particularly in the setting of sensitive sites/buildings.</p>
11	To manage new and existing development in order to reduce flood risk	<p>Consideration of whether policies will have positive or negative effects on flood risk from all sources either directly through proximity/location within areas of flood risk (for example through locating development in flood plains), or indirectly through exacerbation of effects downstream or increasing the proportion of impermeable surfaces. Consideration of whether policies will result in an increase/decrease of flooding e.g. through using Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Consideration of an increased risk from flooding to people and property, through increases in density of development in areas at risk of flooding. Other possible risk reduction measures for consideration may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A change in land use to reduce the vulnerability of the proposed development;</li> <li>▪ A reduction in the building platform area;</li> <li>▪ The raising of internal floor levels and flood proofing (within existing buildings) to reduce potential flood damage;</li> <li>▪ The rearrangement of buildings within the site to remove obstructions to overland flow paths;</li> <li>▪ The placement of buildings to higher areas within the site to limit the risk of flood damage, and/or provision of escape routes.</li> </ul>

	SA Objective	Assessment Rationale
12	To protect and enhance the availability and quality of water resources	Consideration of whether policies will have positive or negative effects on maintaining and improving the quality of surface and ground waters. Consideration also given to aspects such as: surface water run-off from impermeable surfaces; proximity of development to water courses; intensity of development; and delivery of measures to encourage a responsible approach to water use, re-use and conservation. Consideration should also be given to water conservation measures, such as grey water recycling, which will reduce pressure on potable water resources. The opening up of culverts into open watercourses, and increasing the length of watercourse restored/ impacted on should also be considered.
13	To improve air quality	Positive correlation between improvements in air quality, health improvements and the use of more sustainable modes of transport. Air quality improvements would arise primarily from reduced volume of motorised road traffic (i.e. through modal shift to more sustainable modes), improved traffic flow and reduced congestion, with impacts being more acute in built up areas where air circulation is restricted. Significant construction activities may reduce air quality during the period of works, and the policies should promote mitigation of these effects.
14	To address the causes of climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions	Consideration of whether policies will result in a reduction or increase of greenhouse gas emissions and to what extent. This includes consideration of emissions arising from buildings, land use change and transport.
15	To promote the efficient use of resources and minimise the need for energy, through an increase in energy efficiency and use of renewable energy	Consideration of whether policies will directly reduce energy demand by encouraging energy efficiency and micro-generation by efficient sources. Consideration will also be given to indirect effects, e.g. development located to reduce transport distances and design factors such as building orientation (linked to passive solar gain) and building form. Consideration of whether policies will directly encourage the use of renewable energy technologies in new developments and renewable generation schemes. The extent to which policies will promote the use of low embodied energy materials from sustainable sources and material from local sources and suppliers in the construction of new developments. Policies which require new build and retrofit development to meet BREEAM and the Ecohomes 'very good'/Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4 as a minimum.
16	To promote sustainable waste management, reducing the generation of waste and maximising re-use and recycling	Consideration of whether policies directly reduce the generation of waste and increase recycling of waste against standard levels expected for development, e.g. by providing recycling facilities within and near to homes. Consideration will also be given to construction waste reduction, re-use and recycling. Additional consideration of policies that require sufficient land to be allocated within the Council area to encourage regional self-sufficiency in waste management and processing.
<b>Economic</b>		
17	To provide jobs with a diverse range of employment opportunities	The degree to which proposals support the creation of new employment opportunities and the characteristics of employment provided, such as sectoral linkages, wage levels, skills requirements, contribution to long term diversification of employment.
18	To encourage a strong, stable economy with sustained growth from inward and indigenous investment	Considers how proposals may help to support economic growth in a variety of different ways – availability of different employment types; enhanced access to employment sites for all modes; enhancement of infrastructure to support development of new areas; secondary, multiplier or 'seeding' effects of particular types of development; measures to attract and retain a more diverse workforce; and enhancement of the landscape, townscape and/or other aspects of local 'image'

	SA Objective	Assessment Rationale
		<p>to support investment.</p> <p>The importance of the local centres should be considered for their value to the local economy, and enhanced where necessary. This should be to the benefit of local residents, and seek to reduce the need to travel for access to local facilities.</p>
19	To foster a strong tourism industry	<p>Consideration of whether policies lead to an increase in attractiveness in order to increase visitor numbers, as well as an increase in facilities (including night-time facilities) with tourist potential, that can also be used by local people and are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. A growth in the night-time economy needs to be carefully managed to avoid anti social behaviour, noise, and reverse sensitivity issues arising, especially if provision is made for further residential mixed-use development in the main centres. In addition, the loss of local community pubs and halls is also perceived as a problem in terms of supporting self-contained local communities with facilities within walking distance.</p>

## 5.5 SA Baseline and Trends

### Existing SA Conditions and Current Trends

The existing social, economic and environmental baseline for Kingston are summarised in Table 3.1 and contained in the baseline data sets and human and natural environment constraints maps in Section 2.

### Predicted Future Trends

The SEA Directive requires the consideration of the likely evolution of the state of the environment without the implementation of the LDF. During the lifetime of the LDF it is predicted that there will be a number of external influences and variables within, or which could affect, Kingston as well as London as a whole.

### Summary

The SA framework (Table 5.1) is the key tool used in the assessment of effects. The prediction of effects, in terms of their magnitude, frequency, duration, and spatial extent, is conducted via detailed analysis of the baseline data. It is thus important to ensure that critical aspects of the baseline can be directly related to the objectives and indicators of the SA framework. Determining the significance of predicted effects is perhaps the most critical task in the SA. The picture that the baseline presents in terms of the SA framework is the starting point for this.

Table 5.3 presents a preliminary analysis of the fundamental characteristics of the baseline (current conditions, predicted trends without the LDF, and sensitivity of each aspect to change) against the draft SA objectives using a simple three-point normative scale as follows:

- Current Conditions - good/moderate/poor;
- Future Trends (without plan implementation) - improving/stable/declining;
- Sensitivity to Change – high/medium/low.

Sensitivity to change in the context of SA represents the extent to which, for instance, ecological thresholds may be close to being breached or carrying capacity exceeded, such that relatively small changes might be likely to induce disproportionately large effects, which in some instances might have wide-ranging and/or unexpected consequences. An example might be the decline of a particular wildlife population below the level at which it is viable in a particular habitat. Additionally, it infers how influential the plan is on that particular objective. For example, some objectives are strongly influenced by other strategies and management outside the remit of the LDF. The LDF will have a minimal but important effect on these.

The quality and availability of the baseline gives an indication of the availability of certainty with which the other three parameters are known, and this is presented in Table 5.3 using a similar three-point scale (high/medium/low).

From Table 5.3 it is clear that without the implementation of the LDF, the predicted future trends show a decline in performance against a number of SA objectives. In particular, without the LDF guiding the strategic location for future development in Kingston, environmental conditions and social issues are likely to become worse.

Table 5.3 - SA Baseline Data and Trends Summary

SA Objective		Local Baseline		Future Trend (without the LDF)	Existing data quality	Comments relating to future trend without the LDF
		Current Condition	Sensitivity to Change			
<b>Social</b>						
1	To reduce poverty and social exclusion.	Good	Medium	Improving	High	The borough has a good position in the IMD, and a much lower number of families that are income deprived than the national figures. This situation is likely to continue into the future through the delivery of other Council strategies even if the LDF was not implemented.
2	To reduce and prevent anti social activity, crime and fear of crime.	Good	High	Improving	High	The borough is the safest of all 32 Metropolitan Boroughs in London and has experienced a significant reduction in overall crime rates in recent years. Other influences such as policing levels may help to influence further crime reduction without the implementation of the LDF.
3	To promote accessibility to a range of services and facilities to meet the needs of all sectors of the community.	Good	Medium	Declining	Low	Current accessibility to services and facilities in the Borough is relatively good but predicted increases in population will place additional pressure on existing services and facilities. Without the LDF it is unlikely that these additional services and facilities will be catered for.
4	To provide a range of high quality housing that meets the needs of the community, accompanied by adequate supporting infrastructure.	Moderate	Medium	Declining	High	Without the LDF it is unlikely that the needs of the community, in particular with regards to affordable housing and life time homes, will be met and that adequate supporting infrastructure will be in place to accommodate new development needs.
5	To improve the population's health and reduce inequalities in health.	Good	Medium	Stable	Medium	Existing strategies and plans from the health sector will ensure that health of the population continues to be improved without the implementation of the LDF. The LDF is one supporting delivery mechanism of such strategies and plans.
6	To improve the education and skills of the population.	Good	High	Improving	Medium	Other influences in the education sector will help maintain standards in the absence of the LDF, although the LDF is a delivery mechanism for existing and future education related strategies.

SA Objective		Local Baseline		Future Trend (without the LDF)	Existing data quality	Comments relating to future trend without the LDF
		Current Condition	Sensitivity to Change			
<b>Environmental</b>						
7	To make the most efficient use of buildings and previously developed land (providing this does not harm its biodiversity value) before Greenfield sites and safeguard soil quality and quantity	Moderate	Medium	Declining	Medium	Without the LDF it is unlikely that development of brownfield land will continue to be prioritised. Consequently a reduction in land contamination is also unlikely.
8	To reduce the need to travel and promote modes of travel other than the car	Moderate	Medium	Declining	Medium	The Local Implementation Plan will influence transport in the area without the LDF but an integrated approach to land use and transport is unlikely as an outcome. This would be likely to result in an intensification of car use.
9	To protect and enhance wildlife species and habitats which are important on an international, national and local scale	Good	High	Declining	Medium	Nationally and internationally designated sites are protected by additional legislation outside the LDF's jurisdiction. But there are a number of Local Nature Reserves, Sites of Borough Importance and Sites of Local Importance which will not be properly protected from development without the LDF.
10	To protect and where appropriate enhance the landscape, buildings, sites and features of archaeological, historical or architectural interest and their settings, promoting a sense of place that is valued by those visiting, living	Moderate	High	Declining	Medium	There are a number of conservation areas and other sites of interest which will not be afforded adequate protection from development without the LDF.

SA Objective		Local Baseline		Future Trend (without the LDF)	Existing data quality	Comments relating to future trend without the LDF
		Current Condition	Sensitivity to Change			
	and working in the borough					
11	To manage new and existing development in order to reduce flood risk	Moderate	High	Declining	High	Without the LDF it is unlikely that development will occur in appropriate locations outside the floodplain, incorporating the correct flood mitigation measures if required. Climate change will further increase the risk of flooding.
12	To protect and enhance the availability and quality of water resources	Moderate	High	Declining	Medium	Without the LDF, strategies emerging from the Water Framework Directive will continue to improve water quality. However, development arising as a result of market forces may counteract these efforts both in terms of over abstraction of water and discharges into water bodies.
13	To improve air quality	Poor	High	Declining	Medium	Without the LDF it is unlikely that the necessary controls are in place to ensure an improvement in the Borough's poor air quality.
14	To address the causes of climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions	Poor	High	Declining	Low	Without the LDF it is unlikely that an integrated approach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Borough will be achieved.
15	To promote the efficient use of resources and minimise the need for energy, through an increase in energy efficiency and use of renewable energy	Poor	Med	Declining	Medium	Market forces are unlikely to generate the use of sustainably sourced materials over cheaper, less sustainable options. Without the LDF, the take up of these approaches at a noticeable scale is highly unlikely.
16	To promote sustainable waste	Moderate	High	Improving	High	Current policies promote sustainable waste management and the waste section of the council are the key deliverers of achieving this

SA Objective		Local Baseline		Future Trend (without the LDF)	Existing data quality	Comments relating to future trend without the LDF
		Current Condition	Sensitivity to Change			
	management, reducing the generation of waste and maximising re-use and recycling					objective, illustrating that without the LDF the situation is likely to continue to improve.
<b>Economic</b>						
17	To provide jobs with a diverse range of employment opportunities	Moderate	Medium	Declining	Medium	Without the LDF it is unlikely that the market alone will generate a balance of employment of opportunities resulting in a decline in comparison to the current condition.
18	To encourage a strong, stable economy with sustained growth from inward and indigenous investment	Moderate	Medium	Declining	Medium	Without the LDF it is unlikely that the market alone will be able to create a strong economy and the likely trend will be a decline in comparison to the current condition.
19	To foster a strong tourism industry	Poor	Medium	Stable	Poor	Without the LDF, no framework for the delivery of improvements to the tourism industry will exist.

**Key:**

Current Conditions:	Good	Moderate	Poor
Sensitivity to Change:	Low	Medium	High
Future Trends (without the plan):	Improving	Stable	Declining
Data Quality:	High	Medium	Low

# 6. Remaining stages of the SA

## 6.1 Introduction

This chapter of the Scoping Report describes how the remaining stages of the SA will be carried out and the format that will be used in producing the final SA Report.

The SA process detailed in the ODPM guidance covers five stages, A to E. This Scoping Report has covered Stage A by:

- Identifying and reviewing other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainable development objectives that will affect or influence the Planning Framework;
- Collecting relevant social, environmental and economic baseline information;
- Identifying key sustainability issues for the SA to address;
- Developing the SA framework; and
- Providing the basis for consultation on the scope of the SA.

Table 6.1 shows the remaining steps involved in the SA of the SPD, based on the ODPM guidance.

**Table 6.1 – Remaining Stages of the SA**

<b>Stage B – Developing and refining options and assessing effects</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Testing the plan objectives against the SA objectives.</li> <li>• Developing the plan options.</li> <li>• Predicting the effects of the draft plan.</li> <li>• Evaluating the effects of the draft plan.</li> <li>• Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.</li> <li>• Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Stage C – Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing SA Report.</li> </ul>
<b>Stage D – Consultation on the SA Report and draft Plan</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public participation on the SA Report and draft Plan.</li> <li>• Assessing significant changes.</li> <li>• Making decisions and providing information.</li> </ul>
<b>Stage E – Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Plan</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalising aims and methods for monitoring.</li> <li>• Responding to adverse effects.</li> </ul>

## 6.2 Assessment of Effects

### Predicting Effects

This task will comprise systematic prediction of changes to the sustainability baseline arising from the DPDs and SPDs. These can be compared both with each other and with the ‘do nothing’ or ‘business as usual’ scenario. As required by the SEA Directive, predicted effects will be fully characterised in terms of their magnitude, the time period over which they occur, whether they are permanent or temporary, positive or negative, probable or improbable, frequent or rare, and whether there are cumulative and/or synergistic effects. Ideally, the effects of the evolving plan

should be predicted and assessed during the plan-making process to ensure that the final plan is as sustainable as possible.

**Evaluating Effects**

Assessing the significance of predicted sustainability effects is essentially a matter of judgement. Judgements of significance should be systematically documented, in terms of the particular characteristics of the effect which are deemed to make it significant and whether and what uncertainty and assumptions are associated with the judgement. The assessment of significance should also include information on how the effect may be avoided or its severity reduced, in the case of adverse effects, or enhanced in the case of beneficial effects.

When carrying out this evaluation, the following will be considered for each DPD and SPD proposal or option, in line with the ODPM guidance:

- (i) What exactly is proposed?
- (ii) Will the option, policy or proposal have a likely significant adverse effect in relation to each of the environmental objectives or targets from Stage A?
- (iii) If so, can the effect be avoided or can the severity be reduced?
- (iv) If not, can the option be changed or eliminated?
- (v) If the effect cannot be avoided, can the alternative be changed or eliminated?
- (vi) If its effect is uncertain, or depends on how the plan is implemented, how can the uncertainty be reduced?

**Methodologies for Assessing Effects**

Table 6.2 below, based on Annex 12 of the ODPM guidance, provides a useful summary of the range of techniques that can be used in the prediction and assessment of effects. In addition to expert judgement, causal chain/network analysis can prove especially useful in the prediction of cumulative, indirect and synergistic effects. GIS is useful in assessing the spatial/distributional characteristics of certain types of effect.

**Table 6.2 - Prediction and Assessment Techniques for SA**

Technique	Prediction	Assessment
Expert judgement	✓	✓
Public participation		✓
Quality of Life Capital		✓
Geographical information systems	✓	✓
Network analysis	✓	
Modelling	✓	
Scenario/sensitivity analysis	✓	
Multi-criteria analysis		✓
Carrying capacity, ecological footprints		✓
Compatibility assessment		✓

It will be important to provide some realistic indication of the accuracy of predictions, but particularly in cases where predictions are close to expected thresholds, or are the result of

cumulative, synergistic or indirect effects. The network analysis techniques mentioned above could be used to identify which effects will fall into this category.

**Mitigation**

For significant sustainability effects predicted to arise from implementation of the plan, recommendations will be proposed in the SA Report for mitigation measures to prevent, reduce or offset adverse effects, and enhance positive effects.

**Monitoring**

A framework for monitoring ongoing sustainability effects arising from the plan as they are implemented will be proposed in the SA Report, providing methods by which the sustainability performance of the plan can be recorded. The monitoring framework will be clearly linked to the objectives and indicators developed for the SA framework.

**SA Report**

The SA Report incorporates the SEA Environmental Report, as required by the SEA Directive.

Table 6.3 below presents the proposed structure and level of detail for the Sustainability Appraisal Report, taken from Appendix 15 of the ODPM guidance. The SA Report will show that the Directive’s requirements in relation to the Environmental Report have been met through clearly sign-posting in the SA report the distinct information required by the Directive.

**Table 6.3 - SA Report Structure**

Structure of report		Information to include
Components making up the environmental report		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Table sign-posting the components of the SA Report which make up the Environmental Report for the purposes of the SEA Directive</li> </ul>
1.	Summary and outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-technical summary</li> <li>A statement of significant effects of the plan</li> <li>Statement on the difference the process has made</li> <li>How to comment on the report</li> </ul>
2.	Appraisal Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approach adopted to the SA</li> <li>When the SA was carried out</li> <li>Who carried out the SA</li> <li>Who was consulted, when and how</li> <li>Difficulties encountered in compiling information or carrying out the assessment.</li> </ul>
3.	Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purpose of the SA and the SA Report</li> <li>Plan objectives and outline of contents</li> <li>Compliance with the SEA Directive/Regulations</li> </ul>
4.	Sustainability objectives, baseline and context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links to other strategies, plans and programme and sustainability objectives</li> <li>Description of the social, environmental and economic baseline characteristics and the predicted future baseline</li> <li>Main social, environmental and economic issues and problems identified</li> <li>Limitations of the information, assumptions made etc.</li> <li>The SA framework, including objectives, targets and indicators</li> </ul>

Structure of report		Information to include
5.	Plan issues and options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main strategic options consider and how they were identified</li> <li>• Comparison of the social, environmental and economic effects of the options</li> <li>• How social, environmental and economic issues were considered in choosing the preferred options</li> <li>• Other options considered, and why these were rejected</li> <li>• Any proposed mitigation measures</li> </ul>
6.	Plan policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the preferred policies</li> <li>• How social, environmental and economic problems were considered in developing the policies and proposals</li> <li>• Proposed mitigation measures</li> <li>• Uncertainties and risks</li> </ul>
7.	Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to other tiers of plans and programmes and the project level (environmental impact assessment, design guidance, etc)</li> <li>• Proposals for monitoring</li> </ul>

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## 8. Appendices

## 8.1 Appendix A- Scoping Report Consultation comments

**Our Ref :** FM/2005/005074-1/1

**Your Ref :** -

**Date :** 26 September 2005

Director of Environmental Services  
Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames  
Guildhall 2  
Kingston upon Thames  
Surrey  
KT1 1EU

Dear Sir/Madam

**PROPOSAL:** LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK SUSTAINABILITY  
APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT AUGUST 2005

**LOCATION:** ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES

Thank you for your letter dated 19 August 2005, received on 22 August 2005. Please quote the following reference in any correspondence: **FM/2005/005074**. The Environment Agency has the following comments:

### **Generic Comments**

The Environment Agency encourages the concept of protecting and enhancing sites and landscapes of designated conservation value. With regard to biodiversity it is important to consider enhancement and conservation of biodiversity throughout the Borough, not just designated sites.

It is vital to include the identification of sites that are currently of low conservation value that can be incorporated within new development plans and enhanced as part of that development. Whereas designated sites have a level of protection afforded by legislation or policy, undesignated sites lack this level of protection.

In addition, National Planning guidance is increasingly urging Local Authorities to adopt a positive planning approach and look at achieving enhancement of the environment through planning (as outlined within PPS1). In this case, many sites of currently low conservation value but which present ideal opportunities for such enhancement should be flagged up at this stage. As currently listed, the sustainability objectives and indicators do not provide an opportunity to address these issues.

It is also important to recognise that biodiversity conservation, protection and enhancement should be considered at a landscape scale and not restricted only to protected sites and species. Undertaking an SEA and considering these issues at an early stage of the LDF process is necessary in order to identify issues and means to incorporate biodiversity into the wider framework of development planned across an area.

In addition to the above, with regard to the development of brownfield sites, these are often regarded as having no or little ecological value. Such sites however, can support a range of wildlife including invertebrates, small mammals and foraging birds. Although the Agency recognises the need to re-use developed land for new developments, this should be balanced with the need to protect and enhance local biodiversity. This can be achieved by incorporating the existing nature conservation interest into new development whilst providing opportunities for wildlife enhancements. Such issues should be incorporated into the proposals and considered at an early stage prior to the submission of a planning application.

Some sites such as car parks or other sites entirely covered in hardstanding may have a lower nature conservation value and should be the first to be targeted for redevelopment.

Opportunities for wildlife should be built into new development. This can be achieved, in part, through incorporating natural features into all new development, such as bird and bat boxes/bricks, the creation of new habitats (eg: ponds, wetlands and wildlife meadows) and green / brown roofs. Finally, PPG9 recognises the opportunity to include habitat features as part of development and states that "the skilled adaptation of derelict areas can provide extended habitats". The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 states that any Government department has a general duty to the conservation of biodiversity, which is defined as including restoration and enhancement.

## **Section 2 - Plans, Programmes and Sustainability Objectives**

### PPG 25 and Flood Risk

We are surprised that the Key Findings do not include Flood Risk. In table 4, section 4, you have identified that "significant areas within the Borough are subject to flooding risk including residential areas."

Flood risk is not limited to floodplains. New development which increases the amount of impermeable surfaces will increase the amount of surface water runoff from a site. PPG 25 recognises the implications of increased surface water runoff through Sustainable Drainage Systems. We believe that the use of these Sustainable Drainage Systems in both new development and redevelopments is an important aspect of reducing flood risk.

Sustainable Drainage could be targeted in the following way: *Manage new and existing development in order to reduce flood risk.*

A possible target for development and flood risk could read: *No new development in the floodplain.*

For sustainable drainage: *No increase in surface water runoff.*

### Habitats and Wildlife

We recommend referencing the following plans and targets;

- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- Environment Act 1995
- Public Service Agreement targets for Sites of Special Scientific Interest, local authorities have a responsibility towards delivering the PSA targets
- EA River Corridor Surveys for Thames, Hogsmill and Beverley Brook
- South London River Restoration Strategy

The Agency is concerned that the key finding for habitats and wildlife is to "contribute towards the conservation and enhancement" of these features.

### Water Quality

Table 4 in section 4 identifies the water quality in RBK's main water bodies is degraded. We would suggest this be included as a Key Finding.

The Environment Agency would be keen to see water quality improve through the protection of groundwater and fluvial waters (combined these are known as controlled waters). This can be partly achieved through the use of sustainable drainage systems, which generally trap pollution in the process of infiltration to the ground.

The remediation of contaminated land also has an effect on water quality, preventing the gradual dispersal of the contamination into the water environment.

## **Section 3 - Baseline Data**

### Environmental Section

**Flood Risk** - The Environment Agency can provide further information on the number of properties within the 1:100 and 1:1000 year floodplains.

Recommend including the following baseline information;

- Biological and chemical water quality for the Beverley Brook. Maintain or improve biological and chemical water quality.
- Richmond Park and Wimbledon Common are both designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) under the Habitats Directive
- Percentage of SSSI's and SAC's achieving favourable condition status and trends in the extent to which these targets are met.
- Information on levels of biodiversity - i.e. species and habitats present, their distribution through the Borough and their condition, including area currently actively managed for conservation.
- Would be useful to reference the species and habitats for which the sites of conservation status have been designated.
- Detail of threats to biodiversity and distribution from land use management changes, disturbance issues, invasive species, pollution, habitat fragmentation.
- Effect of climate change of biodiversity.

## **Section 4 - Key Sustainability Issues**

### Indicators

*Sustainable Development* - We recommend that the number of new developments incorporating Sustainable Drainage Systems be added as an indicator.

*Flood Risk* - Although the number of properties at risk of flooding should be included, we would like to see the percentage of dwellings in the floodplain as an additional indicator.

*Water Quality* - In relation to contaminated land, we would recommend the area of land brought back into beneficial use as an indicator.

### *Wildlife/Habitats* -

Recommend focus on the following actions for increased sustainability;

- Recognition that open spaces represent important wildlife corridors for improved biodiversity network. River habitats also provide important linear corridors. Links between these areas need to be enhanced and existing links protected.
- Opportunities would be sought to restore natural riverine processes including de-culverting and naturalising river where possible.
- Reference should be made to a presumption against riverside encroachment and habitat enhancement along river corridors.
- The importance of the network of open spaces within Kingston Borough to neighbouring Boroughs, and the importance of neighbouring sites to Kingston, should be referenced.

## **Section 5 - Sustainability Appraisal Framework**

*Flood Risk* - Objective 4, as it currently stands, seems to be focused on providing sufficient land for development, which would conflict with flood risk as an objective. We would therefore strongly recommend that flood risk be a separate objective. For example, in the compatibility matrix, comparing objectives 3 against 4, there are currently conflicting compatibilities. Part of objective 4 says yes, its compatible, but the flood risk part is incompatible.

*Wildlife Habitats* - Reference to sustainable management of existing woodland should extend to sustainable management of all distinct habitat types within the Borough, particularly those with formal designated conservation protection status.

## **Section 6 - Compatibility of the Sustainability Objectives**

We feel that the explanations of the unknown effects should be described, as it may be that part of an objective is compatible and part is not. An explanation would also tell us why there is an unknown effect.

*Objective 1 & 4* - As flood risk is contained in this section at the current time, the Agency advises that this objective must be an incompatibility. The increase in economic growth may result in demand for leisure facilities, housing and services which may have a negative impact on the flood plain, and increase the rate of surface water runoff.

*Objective 3 & 4* - As flood risk is contained in this section at the current time, the Agency advises that this objective must be an incompatibility as large parts of Kingston lie in the floodplain. This goes against the current compatible response given.

*Objective 4 & 9* - By increasing densities the amount of hard surfacing, and therefore the amount of surface water runoff created by a development. The higher densities also reduces the amount of space to incorporate sustainable drainage systems into the design. These issues could increase the risk of flooding.

*Objective 4 & 10* - Same comments as above

*Objective 4 & 12* - By providing sufficient land for housing, business and recreational needs, biodiversity and wildlife habitats may be threatened.

*Objective 9 & 12* - Higher density developments may take up land which could otherwise be used to enhance the natural environment, or may take up land which is already a valuable habitat.

Objective 10 & 12 - Same comments as above

## Section 7 - Sustainability Framework for Kingston

### Biodiversity and Wildlife Habitats

Objective 12 refers only to SINC's and LNR's. This should be broadened to include the targets available for all sites with formal designated conservation protection status.

### Flood Risk as a Separate Objective

The Environment Agency does not understand how flood risk comes under the climate change headline objective (number 15). Flood risk is already a real problem, which really deserves its own objective. It is true that climate change is likely to make flooding worse, but this does not justify its position in this category.

### Contaminated Land

We would recommend that for objective 16 the wording of two of the sub-objectives are altered to read:

'Will it improve the quality of controlled waters?' (from 'will it improve the quality of the main water bodies of the borough?')

'Will it reduce the amount of land affected by contamination?' (from 'will it reduce the amount of contaminated land?')

For objective 16 an additional detailed indicator could be included 'The number of new developments incorporating water conservation measures.'

We would also recommend that the wording of one of the detailed indicators is altered to 'the area of land brought back into beneficial use'. (from 'number of sites where remediation has taken place').

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

If you have any further queries, please contact me, quoting the reference at the beginning of this letter.

Yours faithfully

IAN DAVIE  
Planning Liaison Officer

Direct Tel: 01276 454 341  
Direct Fax: 01276 454 339  
Email: [ian.davie@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:ian.davie@environment-agency.gov.uk)

## 8.2 Appendix B - Baseline data

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>SOCIAL</b>							
<b>Total resident population</b>	1991 - 132, 206 2001 - 147,273 2005- 153,000	N/A	N/A	11.4% increase between 1991 and 2001  Population expected to increase steadily to nearly 170,000 in 2026	Population increase	Population	ONS census 1991 and 2001  RBK AMR 2006/2007
<b>Age structure of population (%)</b>	Under 16 - 18.9 16 to 19 - 4.9 20 to 29 - 16.7 30 to 59 - 42.4 60 to 74 - 10.1 75 and over – 7.0	N/A	N/A	Age structure expected to remain broadly the same over next 10 years	Ageing population	Population	RBK AMR 2006/2007
<b>Resident population by ethnic group (%)</b>	White - 84.46 Mixed - 2.28 Asian/British -7.79 Black/British -1.57 Chinese or other- 3.9	N/A	N/A	Potential increase in ethnic minorities	Growing population of ethnic minorities	Population	ONS census 2001 RBK AMR
<b>Dwelling stock (dwellings) April 2005 (%)</b>	Dwelling stock totals 63,228  Local Authority 7.8 RSL Dwelling Stock: 3.8 Owner Occupied and Private Rented Dwelling Stock: 88.4 Total Unfit Dwellings: 4	Local Authority London: 14.6 England: 9.8 RSL Dwelling Stock London: 9.7 England: 8.6 Owner Occupied and Private Rented Dwelling Stock London: 75.3 England: 81.2 Total Unfit Dwellings London: 5.4 England: 4.4	The target in the UDP is to increase the supply of housing by at least 6710 new residential units between 1997 and 2016	N/A	Increase in the number of dwellings. Much lower LA and RSL housing stock than comparators, may exclude certain sections of population. Need to provide affordable housing	Population	<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>  RBK AMR 2006/2007
<b>Changes of Ownership by Dwelling Price, Price Indicators for All Dwellings: Mean (Dwellings, Jan05-Dec05)</b>	£ 277,480	London: £292,450 England £192,274	N/A	N/A	This will have implications on the affordability of housing	Population	<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>
<b>Dwelling Stock by</b>	A: 0.25	<b>London.</b>	N/A	N/A	Compared to the	Population	<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>Council Tax Band; (Dwellings, Mar06) (%)</b>	B: 4.21 C: 22.20 D: 31.00 E: 22.53 F: 12.18 G: 6.22 H: 1.40	A: 3.40 B: 13.55 C: 26.75 D: 25.42 E: 15.29 F: 7.66 G: 6.22 H: 1.72 <b>England</b> A: 25.29 B: 19.30 C: 21.61 D: 15.19 E: 9.48 F: 5.01 G: 3.57 H: 0.56			English average, Kingston has a very low proportion of dwellings in the lower tax bands, and a relatively high proportion in the higher bands. This will have implications on the affordability of housing		urhood.statist cs.gov.uk/
<b>General Demand Indicators, Total Vacant Dwellings (Dwellings, Apr06)</b>	0.3	London 2.7 England 3.0	N/A	N/A	High demand for housing in Kingston compared to other areas	Population	http://neighbo urhood.statisti cs.gov.uk/
<b>Vacant dwellings 2005 (%)</b>	All Vacant Dwellings (Excluding Second Homes): 2.4 All Vacant Dwellings and Second Homes: 3.7	All Vacant Dwellings (Excluding Second Homes): London: 2.7 England: 3.0 All Vacant Dwellings and Second Homes: London: 4.5 England: 3.5	N/A	All Vacant Dwellings (Excluding Second Homes). Kingston: 2.9 <b>(decrease 2004-2005)</b> London: 2.8 <b>(decrease 2004-2005)</b> England: 2.5 <b>(increase 2004-2005)</b>  All Vacant Dwellings and Second Homes: Kingston: 3.2 <b>(increase 2004-2005)</b> London: 5.0 <b>(decrease 2004-2005)</b> England: 4.1 <b>(decrease 2004-2005)</b>	There has been a 1% increase in second home ownership in Kingston upon Thames, compared to a national and London trend of decrease over the same period	Population	http://neighbo urhood.statisti cs.gov.uk.

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>Number of households</b>	61,426 (2001) 64,687 (2006)	London: 3,015,997 England: 20,451,427	N/A	N/A		Population	<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a> RBK AMR 2006/2007
<b>Occupancy Rating 2001 (households) (eg an occupancy rating of +2 suggests there are two or more rooms more than are 'required' according to the definition)</b>	2 or more = 27,334 1 = 15,037 0 = 12,533 -1 = 4,291 -2 or less = 2,231	2 or more = 991,846  +1 = 713,181 0 = 788,499 -1 = 325,013 -2 or less =197,458  +2 or more = 10,050,403. +1 = 5,223,887 0 = 3,719,625 -1 = 1,026,030 -2 or less =1,026,030	N/A	N/A	44.49% of households in Kingston have two or more rooms in excess of those 'required'. This compares to 32.89% for London	Population	<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>
<b>Household tenure 2001</b>	<b>Owned</b> 43,917 <b>Social rented</b> 6,832 <b>Private rented:</b> 9,688	<b>Owned</b> London 1,704,719 England. 14,054,122 <b>Social Rented</b> London: 790,371 England.3, 940,728. <b>Private Rented</b> London: 467,083 England 2,037,470	N/A	N/A	71.5% of housing is owner occupied in Kingston upon Thames, which is high compared to 56.5% in London, but relatively similar to the national (England) figure of 68.7%. Need to provide affordable housing	Population	<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>
<b>Housing Affordability price: earnings ratio</b>	9.2  Kingston upon Thames residents have the 15 <sup>th</sup> highest (out of 30) weekly gross income in the London Boroughs, at £628.10	Highest: Kensington and Chelsea at 1,251.50 (affordability 8.9) Lowest: Barking and Dagenham at 463.9 (Affordability 6.5)	N/A	N/A	Kingston lies in the middle for housing affordability based on earnings, when compared to London as a whole	Population	<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>
<b>Index of multiple deprivation</b>	Where 1 is the most deprived.	N/A	N/A	N/A		Population, Human	IMD 2005, ODPM

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
	Overall = 266 (2004); 245 (2007) Income = 173 (2004)					Health	
<b>Super Output Areas in the 10% most deprived in England.</b>	There are 97 SOAs in Kingston. None in the 10% most deprived.	N/A	N/A	N/A		Population, Human Health	IMD 2005, 2007 ODPM
<b>Super output areas in the 20% most deprived in England</b>	1 in the 20% most deprived. (Norbiton)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Norbiton is identified as being within the 20% most deprived	Population	IMD 2005, ODPM
<b>% people who describe their health as good</b>	73.92	N/A	N/A	Data not collected in the previous census		Population, Human Health	ONS 2001
<b>% people who describe their health as not good</b>	6.25	N/A	N/A	Data not collected in the previous census		Population, Human Health	ONS, 2001 census
<b>Life expectancy</b>	Males 1991/93-75.7 1994/96-76.0 1997/99-76.8 2000/02-77.3 Change -1.6  Females 1991/93-80.4 1994/96-80.7 1997/99-80.6 2000/02-80.7 Change-0.3	N/A	N/A	Life expectancy for men is lower than women, but has been steadily increasing whereas women's life expectancy is fairly constant		Population, Human Health	ONS
<b>Mortality Rates</b>	The death rate as indicated by the Standardised Mortality Ration (SMR) was 95 in 2003	The UK average SMR is 100	N/A	N/A	An area with a mortality ratio below 100 indicates a lower death rate than the national average	Population, Human Health	ONS
<b>Domestic burglaries, per 1,000 population</b>	03/04 = 8.69 04/05 = 7.42 05/06 = 9.98	N/A	N/A	Increase	Kingston along with Richmond and Sutton is one of the safest Boroughs in London	Population, Human Health	RBK. Police BVPI 126
<b>Violent crimes per 1000 population</b>	03/04 = 15.02 04/05 = 15.68 05/06 = 16.54	N/A	N/A	Increase	Kingston along with Richmond and Sutton is one of the safest Boroughs in London	Population, Human Health	RBK BVPI 127a
<b>Vehicle crimes per</b>	04/05 = 8.15	N/A	N/A	Increase	Kingston along with	Population,	RBK

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>1000 population</b>	03/04 = 9.11 05/06 = 8.7				Richmond and Sutton is one of the safest Boroughs in London	Human Health	BVPI 128
<b>Percentage of Kingston residents surveyed who feel safe when outside in the borough during the day</b>	2003/04 = 76%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Kingston along with Richmond and Sutton is one of the safest Boroughs in London	Population Human Health	RBK
<b>Percentage of Kingston residents surveyed who feel safe when outside in the borough after dark.</b>	2003/04 = 33%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Kingston along with Richmond and Sutton is one of the safest Boroughs in London	Population, Human Health	RBK
<b>Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the LEA achieving 5 or more GCSE's at grades A* – C or equivalent</b>	02/03 = 60 03/04 = 67 04/05 = 63.9 05/06 = 67.6	N/A	05/06 = 69 06/07 = 70 07/08 = 70 08/09 = 70	Improving results bar a dip in 04/05	Kingston has the highest proportion of pupils achieving 5 + GCSE's at grades A-C out of all the London boroughs	Population	RBK BVPI 38
<b>Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the LEA achieving 5 or more GCSE's at grades A* – G or equivalent</b>	02/03 = 85.9 03/04 = 90 04/05 = 89 05/06 = 92.4	N/A	N/A	05/06 = 96 06/07 = 95 07/08 = 95 08/09 = 95	Favourable, very close to the target figures	Population	RBK BVPI 39
<b>% of pupils achieving no GCSE's</b>	2005/06 = 5.1	N/A	N/A	N/A		Population	RBK
<b>People aged 16-74 with: Highest qualification attained (Persons, Apr01) (%)</b>	No Qualifications: 17.15 Level 1: 12.21 Level 2: 18.45 Level 3: 12.38 Level 4/5: 34.57 Other: 5.24  (Level 1: 1+ 'O' level passes; 1+CSE/GCSE and grades; NVQ level 1; or foundation	London/England No qualifications: 23.73/ 28.85 Level 1: 13.00/ 16.63 Level 2: 17.06 19.36 Level 3: 9.78 8.34 Level 4/5: 30.99/ 19.90 Other: 5.43/ 6.92	N/A	N/A	High proportion of people educated to a high level	Population	RBK

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
	level GNVQ; <b>Level 4/5</b> qualifications cover: first degree, higher degree, NVQ levels 4 and 5, HNC, HND, Qualified Teacher Status, Qualified Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife, or Health Visitor).						
<b>ECONOMIC</b>							
<b>Employment by Standard Industrial Classification</b>	Full time 62.8% Part time 37.2% (ONS 2005)  Manufacturing=4.9% Construction=2.6% Distribution, hotels and restaurants=28.7% Transport and Communications=4.3% % Finance, I.T, other business activities=28.2% Public admin, Education and Health=25.4% Other Services=5.9% Tourism Related=8.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A		Population	RBK AMR 2006/2007
<b>Size of business (no. of employees)</b>	1-10 employees = 6,109 businesses  11-49 employees + 813 businesses  50-199 employees = 179 businesses  200 + employees = 37	N/A	N/A	N/A			RBK AMR 2006/2007

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source																																				
	businesses (ONS Annual Survey 2005)																																										
<b>People aged 16-74: Economically active (Persons, Apr01) (%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees Full-time: 45.78</li> <li>• Employees Part-time: 9.62</li> <li>• Self-employed: 9.70.</li> <li>• Unemployed: 2.47.</li> <li>• Full time student: 4.14</li> </ul>	<b>London/England</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees Full-time: 42.64/ 40.81</li> <li>• Employees Part-time: 8.62/ 11.81</li> <li>• Self-employed: 8.97/ 8.32</li> <li>• Unemployed: 4.36/ 3.35</li> <li>• Full time student: 2.96/ 2.58</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	Relatively low unemployment rate, higher than average employment rate	Population, Material Assets	<a href="http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk">http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</a>																																				
<b>Total number of VAT registered businesses in the area</b>	1996 4,465 1997 4,705 1998 4,970 1999 5,170 2000 5,290 2001 5,340 2002 5,335 2003 5,375 2004 5,740 2005 5,615 2006 5,705	N/A	N/A	The number of VAT registered businesses in the area has been increasing since 2000	Strong local economy	Population, Material Assets	Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics																																				
<b>VAT registrations and deregistrations</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Reg</th> <th>De-Reg</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1996</td><td>555</td><td>405</td></tr> <tr><td>1997</td><td>670</td><td>425</td></tr> <tr><td>1998</td><td>695</td><td>430</td></tr> <tr><td>1999</td><td>605</td><td>405</td></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>640</td><td>525</td></tr> <tr><td>2001</td><td>615</td><td>560</td></tr> <tr><td>2002</td><td>595</td><td>605</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>610</td><td>575</td></tr> <tr><td>2004</td><td>640</td><td>545</td></tr> <tr><td>2005</td><td>640</td><td>495</td></tr> <tr><td>2006</td><td>585</td><td>495</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reg= Registered De-Reg= Deregistered</p>	Date	Reg	De-Reg	1996	555	405	1997	670	425	1998	695	430	1999	605	405	2000	640	525	2001	615	560	2002	595	605	2003	610	575	2004	640	545	2005	640	495	2006	585	495	N/A	N/A	The number of VAT registrations has exceeds the number of VAT deregistrations year on year	Strong local economy	Population, Material Assets	Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics
Date	Reg	De-Reg																																									
1996	555	405																																									
1997	670	425																																									
1998	695	430																																									
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2004	640	545																																									
2005	640	495																																									
2006	585	495																																									

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>Proportion of travel-to-work via mode of travel (%)</b>	Mode Mainly at/ from home 9.0. Underground 2.5 Train 19.5 Bus 8.5 Motorcycle 0.5 Car/ van 45.0 Taxi 0.5 Bicycle 3.0 On foot 9.5 Other 0.5	N/A	The GLA have set a target that the use of public transport per head grows faster than use of private car per head	N/A	Car/van is the most popular means of travel to work. 30.5% of RBK residents use public transport for their journey to work with an especially heavy emphasis on trains	Population, Material Assets	ONS
<b>Households with no cars or vans (Households, Apr01) (%)</b>	23.8	London: 37.49 England: 26.84	N/A	N/A	High proportion of car ownership	Population	ONS
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>							
<b>Open space availability per 1000 population</b>	There is 1.12ha of public parks per 1000 population	N/A	The Open space assessment sets a standard of 1.11ha of public park per 1000 population	N/A	Open space availability very close to standard. New population needs in the borough need to be considered	Population Human Health	RBK
<b>% users satisfied with quality of local parks and open space</b>	48% of surveyed residents were satisfied and 35% were very satisfied, only 1% were very dissatisfied	N/A	N/A	N/A	Need to establish if there are open spaces in particular need of improvement and ways of addressing that	Cultural Heritage	RBK
<b>Number/ area of SSSI's, NNR's LNR's and SNCI's in the borough</b>	0.33ha of Richmond Park SSSI falls within Kingston 10 LNR comprising a total of 102.4ha 6 sites of Metropolitan Importance Sites of Borough Importance – 14 of Grade I and 15 of Grade II. 11 Sites of Local Importance	N/A	No net loss of designated SINC's over the plan period" (GLA KPI18)  The RBK BAP allows no further net loss of biodiversity and to achieve positive gain	N/A	These areas require protection	Flora and Fauna	RBK
<b>Number and extent</b>	There are 26	N/A	N/A	N/A	These areas require	Cultural	RBK

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>of conservation areas</b>	Conservation Areas designated, which cover 277 hectares (7.4%) of the borough				protection	Heritage	
<b>Number of Listed Buildings</b>	There are over 160 listed building entries in the borough, 12 of which are grade I and grade II*. In 2005/06 1 new listed building were added to the list)	N/A	N/A	N/A	These buildings require continued protection	Cultural Heritage	RBK, English Heritage
<b>Buildings of Townscape Merit</b>	There are approximately 700 BTMs in the borough of these approximately 400 are within Conservation Areas	N/A	N/A	N/A	There are a number of buildings and groups of buildings deemed worthy of protection but which are not listed	Cultural Heritage	RBK
<b>Number of scheduled ancient monuments</b>	There are 6 SAMs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coombe Conduit at junction with Lord Chancellors Walk.</li> <li>• Gallows Tamkin (George Road).</li> <li>• Castle Hill earthwork</li> <li>• Gallows Conduit in grounds of Hampton Springs.</li> <li>• Ivy Conduit in grounds of Coombe Ridge House/Holy Cross School.</li> <li>• Clattern Bridge</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	N/A	Adequate protection is required	Cultural Heritage	RBK
<b>Historic buildings at risk</b>	3 recorded in Kingston (2 buildings were de-listed in 04/05)	In London there has been a net reduction of 50 entries since the 2003 Register	To reduce the number of buildings on the list	N/A	The de-listing of buildings is a success for the borough	Cultural Heritage	RBK, English Heritage

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions.</b>	Figures from the GLA indicate that total CO <sub>2</sub> emissions are expected to increase 13% in RBK between 1999 and 2005, reaching 479,000 tonnes a year. It is estimated that road traffic contributes 13% of CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in the borough		The Mayor's Energy Strategy states reduce CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% of the 2000 level by 2050; reduce by 20% of the 1990 level by 2010	N/A	Need to reduce CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	Air, Climatic Factors	RBK
<b>Number of days when air pollution exceed limits</b>	2005 – met the National Air Quality Objective	2003 = 16 days 2002 = 0 2001 = 6 2000 = 1			Favourable as met the air quality objectives for 2005	Air, Climatic Factors	RBK
<b>PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations (µgm-3) – days exceeding national target level</b>	2005 - 0 days exceeded during the year		The National Air Quality objective is no more than 35 days per year recorded as exceeding 50 µgm-3	1999 = 21 days 2000 = 16 days 2001 = 15 days 2002 = 3 days 2003 = 43 days 2004 = 14 days	A 24 hour mean objective of 50 µgm-3, which is not exceeded more than 10 times per annum, has been set to be achieved by 31 Dec 2010. An annual mean of 40 µgm-3 was the target for 31 Dec 2004; this target has been reduced to an annual mean of 23 µgm-3 by 31 Dec 2010	Air	RBK
<b>Annual Mean NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations</b>	2005 = 61.0 µgm-3	N/A	The National Air Quality objective is that annual mean should not exceed 40 microgram's per cubic meter	1999 = 59.0 2000 = 55.4 2001 = 53.0. 2002 = 58.0 2003 = 72.6 2004 = 63.0	An annual mean of 40 µgm-3 was the target for 31 Dec 2004, no target for future years has currently been set. RBK is still a long way from meeting this target	Air	RBK
<b>Energy use per household</b>	In 2005 a 17.4% increase in the energy	N/A	RBK through the Home Energy	2003 – 13.6% improvement in	Favourable, an increase in energy efficiency of	Climatic factors	RBK

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
	efficiency of dwellings in the borough		Conservation Act (HECA) has set a target of 29.5% improvement in domestic energy efficiency over 15 years from 1996 to 2011	domestic energy efficiency. 2004 – 15.3% improvement in domestic energy efficiency	dwellings in the borough is recorded		
<b>Identified contaminated land</b>	Over 300 sites have been highlighted to contain contaminated land.	N/A	N/A	N/A	There are areas of contaminated land within the borough	Soil	RBK
<b>Total municipal waste arisings</b>	77,656 tonnes (2005/06)	N/A	N/A	Kingston's waste arisings increased steadily up to 1999/00 then levelled off over recent years and is now decreasing. There was a 5% decrease from 2004/05. It is assumed that Kingston's rates of waste growth will continue at current estimated levels (3.75% pa) until 2006, thereafter declining steadily to zero growth by 2017	Reducing waste is the first step in the "reduce, re-use, recycle" hierarchy. Whilst the LDF can help address issues such as the provision for waste management facilities and waste storage on new development, it is less obvious how it can help to ensure municipal waste is reduced	Material Assets, Soil	RBK
<b>Kilograms of household waste collected per head of population</b>	02/03 – 505kg 03/04 – 511kg 04/05 – 545kg 05/06 - 432kg	N/A	05/06 = 551kg	From 02/03 to 04/05 the total household waste arisings per head were increasing, but 05/06 saw a decrease	Decrease in waste produced is necessary	Material Assets, Soil	RBK BVPI 84a
<b>Percentage change from the previous financial year in the number of kg of households waste collected per head of population</b>	04/05 = 6.7 05/06 = -21	N/A	06/07 = 3 07/08 = 3 08/09 = 3	There was a notable decrease in the amount of waste collected per head in 2005/06		Material Assets, Soil	RBK BVPI 84b

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>The tonnage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled</b>	04/05 - 66862.49 05/06 - 49262.00	N/A	05/06 – 60000 07/08 – 50020 08/09 – 51316 05/06 = Kingston's BMW landfill allowances (LATS): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45,696(t) 2005/06</li> <li>• 43,342(t) 2006/07</li> <li>• 40,202(t) 2007/08</li> </ul>	N/A	GLA target of 75% treated within London by 2010	Material Assets, Soil	RBK BVPI 82dii
<b>Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled</b>	02/03 – 80.94 03/04 = 81.46 04/05 = 81.75 05/06 = 76.03	N/A	02/03 – unknown 03/04 = unknown 04/05 = unknown 05/06 = 75.0 06/07 = 74.34 07/08 = 72.74 08/09 = 72.45	05/06 saw a notable reduction after fairly consistent figures in previous years	The target was exceeded in 05/06 – more waste went to landfill than was hoped for and the target is getting tougher	Material Assets, Soil	RBK BVPI 82 di
<b>Percentage of household waste arisings which have been recycled</b>	02/03 = 14.24 03/04 = 13.80 04/05 = 13.35 05/06 = 17.41	N/A	05/06 = 16 06/07 = 17.71 07/08 = 17.99 08/09 = 18.04	05/06 saw a notable increase in recycling after fairly constant figures	The target was exceeded in 05/06 which is good, but the total tonnage recycled target was not met (see above)	Material Assets, Soil	RBK BVPI 82ai
<b>Tonnage of household waste arisings which has been sent for composting or anaerobic digestion.</b>	04/05 = 4007.38 05/06 = 4249.01	N/A	05/06 = 4300.00 06/07 = 5305.00 07/08 = 6377.00 08/09 = 6665.00	Increased	Target for 05/06 was not met, and the target is increasing. Need to make sure suitable facilities exist	Material Assets, Soil	RBK BVPI 82 bi
<b>Percentage of household waste arising which has been sent for composting or anaerobic digestion</b>	02/03 = 4.82 03/04 = 4.74 04/05 = 4.90 05/06 = 6.56	N/A	05/06 = 6.56 06/07 = 7.95 07/08 = 9.27 08/09 = 9.41	05/06 saw a notable increase after a stable period	The 05/06 target was met. In terms of percentages, but was Just short of the target figure for total tonnage. The target is increasing	Material Assets, Soil	RBK BVPI 82bi
<b>Number of recycling sites in the borough</b>	31 drop-in sites. Approx. one site per 2,000 population	N/A	N/A	N/A		Material Assets, Soil	RBK AMR 2006/2007
<b>The number of properties at risk</b>	Flood Zone 3 (1 in 100) = 4221	N/A	Reduce the number of properties at risk	N/A	A number of properties fall within the high risk	Water	Environment Agency

Indicator	Baseline Position	Comparator	Targets	Trends	Issue Identified	SEA topic	Source
<b>from 1% and 0.1% floods</b>	properties  Flood Zone 2 (1 in 1000) = 6600 properties		of flooding		flood zones especially within the town centre		
<b>Grade changes in the water quality of the main rivers and tributaries</b>	2003-2006 Chemical grade upstream of Hogsmill STW is C. downstream is D  2003-2006 Biological grade upstream of the Hogsmill STW is C; downstream is D	N/A	Government has set a target to increase River Quality Objectives (RQ) compliance in England and Wales from 82% in 1997 to at least 91% in 2005	N/A	Of the water bodies monitored by EA within the Borough, the worst water quality was recorded in the stretch of river between Hogsmill and Thames STW (A grade of 'Poor' for water chemical quality and 'Fair' for biological quality)	Water	Environment Agency

N/A – not available