

**MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL:**

SCOPING REPORT

July 2006

Executive Summary

This Scoping Report represents the first stage of a sustainability appraisal of the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework. It sets the scene and outlines how the following stages of the sustainability process will be carried out.

The Cumbria MWDF will contain development plan policies which determine planning applications for minerals extraction and waste management facilities across Cumbria. Local Development Frameworks are a feature of the recently revised national planning regime as is the sustainability appraisal of development plan documents. Sustainability appraisal of development plans has been introduced to ensure that development plans contribute to the delivery of sustainable development in line with government policy and also to ensure that development plans meet the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive.

Sustainability appraisal is part of the plan-making process. It is an iterative process which assesses the degree to which each stage of the plan being developed is likely to deliver sustainable outcomes and makes recommendations to improve delivery of sustainable development. These recommendations are fed into and shape subsequent versions of the developing plan.

The Scoping Report assesses the likely contribution of the draft plan objectives to sustainable development. Where appropriate, recommendations have been made to encourage more sustainable production and consumption.

The introduction of sustainability appraisal signifies a move to a more evidence based plan-making process which in turn helps facilitate monitoring of the impact of plan policies.

This Scoping Report was originally published as a draft consultation document in December 2005 and invited comments from interested parties and the public on how the appraisal should be carried out. Comments received have been recorded in this final version of the Scoping Report along with the appraisal team's responses.

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1.0 Introduction – Purpose of this document

- 1.1 This Scoping Report explains the sustainability appraisal process for the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF). An earlier consultation draft Scoping Report was sent to statutory consultees and a range of other organisations, including minerals and waste companies, environmental organisations and other stakeholders that had been identified as having an interest in the process. The earlier draft was also made available for public comment via the Council's website.
- 1.2 The Scoping Report is the first stage of a prescribed process of carrying out a full sustainability appraisal of the MWDF. The aim of the sustainability appraisal is to integrate socio-economic and environmental concerns into the plan-making process so that the MWDF contributes to a more sustainable society, one in which social and economic progress takes place in harmony with the environment.
- 1.3 The earlier consultation process provided an opportunity for stakeholders and the public to consider, comment and influence the way that the appraisal is carried out.
- 1.4 The Sustainability Appraisal also needs to conform to the guidelines issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister¹ and meet the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations (2004). Appendix 1 to this report demonstrates how the requirements of the SEA Directive are being met by the range of sustainability objectives which make up the existing sustainability appraisal framework developed by Cumbria County Council's Sustainability Team for general sustainability appraisal work.
- 1.5 This Scoping Report is the first step in the sustainability appraisal process. It involves identifying other policy influences on the MWDF whether these arise from international agreements, European legislation or domestic national policy. This search for policy influences also takes account of regional and local plans and strategies which combine to help shape the MWDF. Having identified these influences it is necessary to work out the implications for the MWDF and the sustainability appraisal process.
- 1.6 This provides policy direction for the MWDF and helps identify a range of sustainability objectives around which the sustainability appraisal framework can be constructed. It also gives some clues about the range of baseline information needed to monitor progress of the plan and helps identify suitable sustainability indicators.
- 1.7 Other key steps in the Scoping Report involve: identifying the main sustainability issues relevant to Cumbria and using this to developing a sustainability framework which forms the basis for the appraisal; testing the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Plan's objectives against the sustainability framework and consulting on the scope of the sustainability appraisal.

2.0 Present Situation

- 2.1 Cumbria County Council is the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for those areas of Cumbria which lie outside the boundaries of the Lake District National Park and the Yorkshire Dales National Park in Cumbria.
- 2.2 The current Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan was adopted by the County Council in June 2000. It sets out detailed policies for guiding and controlling development relating to the supply of minerals and the management and disposal of waste. The Plan is currently being reviewed and will be replaced by a new Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework around September 2007. The existing plan's policies will continue to operate until then.

3.0 The Effect of Recent Changes to the Planning system

- 3.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced a new system for the preparation of development plans. As a consequence the County Council is now required to prepare Local Development Documents (LDDs) which will collectively form the Minerals and Waste Development Framework. The LDDs will replace the current Minerals and Waste Local Plan and deliver the minerals and waste spatial planning strategy for Cumbria outside the National Parks from 2007 until 2018.
- 3.2 The Minerals and Waste Development Framework can be thought of as a folder containing a number of development documents. Within the framework (or folder) will be:
 - Development Plan Documents (DPDs) – these include spatial planning documents with separate core strategies setting out spatial visions for minerals and waste in Cumbria along with strategic objectives and policies. Other development documents which make up the MWDF include site allocations and proposals maps, annual monitoring reports and a statement of community involvement. At the start of the plan-making process a minerals and waste development scheme is drawn up and becomes part of the MWDF. In essence this explains the plan review process and sets out a timetable.
 - Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) – these can be issued after the development plan has been published if experience shows that more detailed guidance for developers is needed on specific policies contained in the DPD.

4.0 Background to the Appraisal Process

- 4.1 Government guidance¹ issued in November 2005 means that both DPDs and any subsequent SPDs require an assessment of their socio-economic and environmental impacts (the sustainability appraisal).
- 4.2 Plans which require a sustainability appraisal are:
 - Regional Spatial Strategies and revisions
 - Local Development Documents (including Minerals and Waste LDDs) and revised DPDs
 - Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)
- 4.3 The sustainability appraisal must meet the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC) which was given legislative effect in the UK through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes 2004 (the SEA Regs.).
- 4.4 Without going into detail, the SEA Directive requires environmental considerations to be integrated into the plan-making process so that the environment enjoys a high level of protection and plans and programmes contribute to sustainable development. It introduces a broad consultation process as part of the environmental assessment. The final version of the plan must show how any environmental considerations identified as part of the assessment process have been dealt with and set out a monitoring programme to measure the effect of the plan's implementation on the environment. The monitoring process is included to trigger remedial action on unforeseen outcomes.
- 4.5 The Directive applies to a range of plans that includes land-use and spatial plans.
- 4.6 The Directive is quite specific and clearly sets out how the environmental assessment should be carried out. Plans which fail to meet the requirements of the SEA Regs. may be challenged by third parties and their implementation delayed pending the outcome of an inquiry into the validity of the complaint.
- 4.7 The requirements to carry out a sustainability appraisal and an environmental assessment are distinct. However Government guidance on sustainability appraisal has been issued to enable sustainability appraisals to be carried out which meet the requirements of the SEA Regs. Responsibility for ensuring that the sustainability appraisal meets the requirements of the SEA Regs. rests with the appraiser.

5.0 Exploring Sustainability Appraisal

- 5.1 Sustainable development has been defined elsewhere³. Here the term is used to describe a society in which social and economic progress are pursued in a way that does not damage the environment (both local and global) and positive action is taken to reduce and restore previous environmental damage caused by human activity. Underpinning this is a concern that future generations should inherit a healthier planet with sufficient resources available to support the world's populations.
- 5.2 Sustainability appraisal builds on earlier techniques of environmental appraisal which were developed to assess and mitigate the likely effects of a decision or a policy proposal on the environment. The important thing is to make the appraisal process part of the policy process so that the findings of the appraisal can shape the final version of the policy.
- 5.3 Sustainability appraisal broadens the appraisal process by adding social and economic assessments to the environmental assessment of a draft plan or developing programme. Again the aim is to use the assessment results to shape the final version of the plan or programme.
- 5.4 Appraisal involves identifying, quantifying, weighing up, and reporting on the pros and cons of each option. Since policies generally describe the state of things which will exist when the policy is put into effect, the appraisal process needs to contain a thorough analysis of the measures to be used to implement the policy.
- 5.5 A systematic appraisal ensures that the options are clearly laid out and assessed. This gives an assurance to the public that the policy and the way it is to be applied have been thoroughly thought out and leaves a clear record showing how the policy was formulated to be used by those responsible for monitoring and reviewing the policy at later date.
- 5.6 Sustainability appraisal needs to be part of the plan-making process. It aims to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. There is no point in carrying out an appraisal after the plan has been finalized since the opportunity to shape the plan has been lost.
- 5.7 The Government takes the view that sustainability appraisals will help local planning authorities contribute to national policy objective⁴ of achieving sustainable development.
- 5.7 Appendix 2 to this report reproduces a diagram which illustrates how the sustainability process fits with the plan-making process.

6.0 The Sustainability Appraisal Process

6.1 The Sustainability Appraisal process can be broken down into five stages:

A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.

B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects. This stage involves testing the DPD objectives against the SA framework that was developed in Stage A. It also requires predictive analysis and evaluation of the likely effects of the DPD, mitigation measures for any adverse effects predicted, proposals to maximise positive effects and proposals for monitoring the significant likely effects of the DPD.

C: Preparing the sustainability appraisal report.

D: Consultation on the preferred options of the DPD and the SA report. This stage involves the final SA report that was developed in Stage C. Any significant changes that need to be made as a result of consultations will be assessed before the Development Plan Documents and the Sustainability Appraisal are submitted to the Secretary of State.

E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementation of the DPD. This involves finalising the monitoring programme and responding to any significant adverse effects of the DPDs at an early stage.

6.2 Stage A of the sustainability appraisal process involves 'setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope'¹ In detail, this involves:

- Identifying other relevant plans and policies programmes and sustainability objectives;
- Collecting baseline information;
- Identifying sustainability issues and problems;
- Developing the sustainability appraisal framework; and
- Consulting on the scope of the sustainability appraisal.

6.3 This Scoping Report covers Stage A of the sustainability appraisal process outlined above. It has been revised following consultation with stakeholders and to respond to stakeholder comments on the scope of the sustainability appraisal and the level of environmental detail required.

7.0 Identifying other relevant plans and programmes and sustainability objectives

- 7.1 When preparing a local development document it is necessary to identify other plans and policies which relate in some way to the development plan document being prepared and to establish any policy influences being directed at the development document in question. In this way the plan-maker can ensure the plan being prepared reflects policy direction emanating from Government, from the EU, from the wider international community or indeed from sources nearer home. A thorough review of relevant plans, policies and programmes can simplify the plan-makers task by ensuring policy harmony at the outset and help avoid potential conflicts with other programmes.
- 7.2 Equally the plan-maker would wish to ensure that the plan contributed to sustainable development and therefore it is necessary to establish sustainability issues or objectives that can be taken into account in the preparation of the plan.
- 7.3 The SEA Directive (Annex 1) is quite clear on the need to identify relevant plans and environmental protection objectives and ensure that these are fully considered during the plan-making process.
- 7.4 Appendix 3 to the Scoping Report sets out the list of documents reviewed by the County Council's Sustainability Team as part of this process of identifying other relevant plans, policies and programmes.
- 7.5 International conventions and protocols were not ignored but not reviewed directly. This was done to save time and avoid repetition. In the majority of cases the EU and indeed the UK government are signatories to most international agreements on environmental action and this is invariably reflected in European legislation or communications and in many cases UK government strategy.
- 7.6 The review of relevant plans is expanded at Appendix 4 to provide a brief summary of the plan or programme or relevant piece of legislation. This makes clear the link with the MWDF and identifies any external policy direction with which the MWDF needs to respond. Following on from this, Appendix 3 also identifies policy issues for both the MWDF and helps identify appropriate objectives around which to build the sustainability appraisal framework.
- 7.7 Other influences on the objectives to be included in the sustainability framework include the Profile of Key Issues and Pressures Affecting Cumbria. This profile (shown at Appendix 5) gives some measure of social, economic and environmental concerns in Cumbria and helped identify sustainability objectives for inclusion in the sustainability framework.

8.0 Collecting Baseline Information

- 8.1 Collecting and analysing baseline information on selected policy areas is an essential part of the plan-making process. The feedback provided allows an evaluation to be made of the extent to which the plan is achieving its stated aims and objectives. This allows problems to be identified and policies to be reviewed to overcome any difficulties found in implementation.
- 8.2 The trick is to keep the monitoring process manageable and relevant and avoid at all costs any tendency to suck in data simply because it exists and is easy to get hold of. Conversely it is vitally important not to overlook data requirements simply because the data set does not currently exist or it is difficult, for whatever reason, to get hold of the data.
- 8.3 Identifying baseline data requirements means exploring existing minerals and waste monitoring regimes⁴ and looking to the sustainability objectives for clues on what might be a relevant indicator.
- 8.4 Care needs to be taken when selecting indicators. As well as being relevant, indicators need to be clearly defined and measure what they are supposed to be measuring. An element of common sense needs to be deployed so that data sets are of acceptable quality and the data can be readily acquired over a period of time either free of charge or at reasonable cost.
- 8.5 The use of indicators should enable a range of targets to be set in a particular policy area and the feedback provided by the monitoring process should be capable of provoking changes in policy when necessary. Indicators should also be clear and easy to understand.
- 8.6 The SEA Directive focuses on specific topic areas which the sustainability framework incorporates and these topic areas considerably broaden the scope of the monitoring process and therefore can be expected to increase the number of indicators required.
- 8.7 This means that monitoring of relevant indicators will need to embrace aspects of each topic area listed in the SEA Directive:
 - Population
 - Biodiversity
 - Human health
 - Soil
 - Water
 - Air
 - Climatic factors
 - Material assets
 - Cultural change
 - Landscape.

- 8.8 In Cumbria there is a need to carry out a number of sustainability appraisals of policy framework documents. Each of these appraisals will have to meet the requirements of the SEA Regs. 2004. While there will be some common ground in terms of baseline data, different types of plan will have varying impacts on the environment. Once the range of plans that need appraisals is taken into account, the need for a comprehensive socio-economic and environmental database becomes compelling.
- 8.9 The SEA Regs require appraisals to include an assessment of the current state of the environment and a prediction of the likely future state of the environment if the plan is not implemented. Additional information, much of it to be gleaned from the state of the environment review, is also required on the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be affected and any existing environmental problems which can be linked to the plan, particularly issues affecting designated sites.
- 8.10 Another aspect of the SEA Directive is the relationship between these topic areas and the emerging sustainability appraisal framework. Some interpretation work will be required to make sense of 'population' and 'material assets' and the results blended into the sustainability framework along with human health.
- 8.11 In Cumbria the County Council's Waste Management Team hold detailed statistical records relating to waste. This includes information on kerbside collection, civic amenity sites, composting, recycling, clinical waste, total household waste, total municipal waste and total commercial waste. Other data on waste is available from the Regional Technical Advisory Body and supplemented by information gleaned from planning applications and the Environment Agency's licensing processes.
- 8.12 Minerals data is reported in the Annual Monitoring Report⁵ which includes the quantities of crushed rock and sand and gravel sold each calendar year. This is accompanied by data on 'landbanks' granted planning permission for extraction.
- 8.13 No reliable data exists on the production of secondary and recycled aggregates. Aggregate minerals data is provided for all of Cumbria by the Regional Aggregates Working Party. A national Radioactive Waste Inventory is updated periodically. This provides information on sources, quantities and types of radioactive waste in storage. Nuclear waste is a major policy issue in Cumbria since there are a number of nuclear facilities and the county hosts what is in effect a national waste facility for low level wastes.
- 8.14 It is recognised within the authority that more needs to be done to improve statistical reporting on minerals and waste to allow effective plan monitoring.
- 8.15 In Cumbria discussions have taken place with the 4 statutory consultees to identify existing data sets that can be used to create a Cumbria socio-economic and environmental database.
- 8.16 Key socio-economic data is already held by the County Council and is available to inform evidence-based policy development. This covers:
- Population and population projections
 - Indices of deprivation
 - Long-term limiting illness
 - Qualifications

- General health
- Incapacity benefit and various related benefit data
- Household survey data
- Employers survey data
- Socio-economic analysis of wards
- Average income data of households
- Unemployment benefit claimant data
- Business survey data.

8.17 English Nature have also identified a range of data sources on biodiversity and suggested possible indicators on biodiversity, air quality, soil quality, water, landscape character and climate change.

8.18 Likewise the Countryside Agency has provided information on its data sets. These include maps of protected landscapes and designated areas and state of the countryside data which spans social, economic and environmental issues. This provides evidence based on 20 key themes covering:

- People and communities
- Services and lifestyle
- Environment and recreation
- Economy and enterprise

8.19 The Countryside Agency has also developed measures for monitoring change in countryside character. Thus character area profiles exist which sets out the key elements that gives an area its sense of local distinctiveness along with the threats and opportunities facing those areas.

8.20 The Environment Agency has identified indicators and data sources on the extent and quality of the priority species and habitats for which it is responsible. Environment Agency data sets include: CO₂ and other emissions to air from industry regulated by the Agency; number of properties in flood zones; flood defence maps; hazardous waste arisings and movements; maps of landfill sites; water abstraction data; river quality; bathing water quality; groundwater vulnerability; location of IPPC sites and landfill sites; fly-tipping incidence and fish stocks.

8.21 A set of sustainability indicators has been included with this Scoping Report at Appendix 6. They are structured around the 16 sustainability objectives and aligned with the topic areas in the SEA Directive. More work needs to be done to refine these indicators and develop the evidence base. This will be tackled in subsequent stages of the appraisal process.

9.0 Baseline Information

- 9.1 At this stage the bulk of baseline data has yet to be assembled. Work has begun on this. This will require re-evaluation of existing data sets in some cases to disaggregate Cumbrian data down to the area of the development plan. Work will continue on data sourcing over the next stage of the sustainability appraisal report so that a bespoke set of indicators is included in the next report which will go out for public consultation. Developing an indicator set will involve further discussions with the statutory consultees and other organisations.

The County

- 9.2 Cumbria is the second largest county in England. Its boundaries enclose 6,810 sq. kms. This represents 48% of the land area of the North West region. The Minerals and Waste plan area does not cover all of Cumbria. It excludes the Lake District National Park area and that part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park which overlaps with part of South Lakeland (see Map 1).
- 9.3 The total plan area is 4,106 sq kms. The resident population of the plan area is 444,054 (mid year 2004 estimate) living in 185,791 households.

Deprivation

- 9.4 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (2004) measures deprivation in small areas of about 500 households across a series of factors and combines these into a single weighted deprivation index. The areas measured are income deprivation (22.5% weighting), employment deprivation (22.5% w), health deprivation and disability (13.5% w), education skills and training (13.5% w) barriers to housing and services (9.3% w), living environment deprivation (9.3% w) and crime (9.3% w).
- 9.5 Looking at the 354 district council areas in England, Barrow stands out as the 29th most deprived district. Copeland is the 84th most deprived while Allerdale and Carlisle rank 105 and 108 respectively. Eden and South Lakeland districts more comfortably sit at the other end of the deprivation spectrum with average scores of 200 and 258 respectively.
- 9.6 The type of deprivation can be identified within districts so for example deprivation in Allerdale relates to employment, health and disability and barriers to services. In Barrow there are significant issues of deprivation relating to employment, health and disability and living environment. In Eden and South Lakeland deprivation relates solely to barriers to services. This is a significant issue in Eden.

Health and Lifestyles

- 9.7 In 2003, the 3 Primary Care Trusts that cover Carlisle, Eden and west Cumbria carried out a health and lifestyle survey (71.2% response rate) of 25,504 people registered with a GP in North Cumbria. Again while not an exact match this area broadly equates to the plan area. Survey results show that: 8% report their health as bad or very bad; 54% of people are overweight or obese; 40% consume less than 5 pieces of fruit or vegetables a day; 10% have a sedentary lifestyle; 27% of men and 17% of women drink in excess of recommended alcohol levels; 16% of men and 9% of women over 65 reported suffering a heart attack; 17% of the population reported shortness of breath with wheezing; around 18% may have mental health problems; and in rural area difficulty is experienced with access to services (A & E, GPs, and food stores selling fresh fruit and vegetables).

Housing

- 9.8 In Cumbria 34.9% of people own their homes outright while a further 36.9% are buying their homes with a mortgage or loan. 27.8% of people rent their homes either from local councils, registered social landlord or private landlords. An estimated 0.36% Of the population is thought to be homeless while 4.3% are living in homes which fail to meet the decent homes standard.
- 9.11 There are a number of housing issues in Cumbria. Affordable housing is a particular problem in parts of Cumbria. Research has shown that South Lakes and Eden have a worse affordability gap than anywhere else in the North of England. They also have the second (South Lakes £179,000) and forth highest (Eden £169,500) median house prices in North West England.
- 9.12 Second homes ownership is thought to contribute to affordability. There are 7,374 second homes of which 4,136 are in and around the Lake District National Park while the rest are located in the Eden Valley and the Solway Coast AONB, both of which are in the plan area.

Employment and Earnings

- 9.13 In the Plan area 117,303 people are employed full-time with a further 43,433 employed part time and 27,402 people self employed. In Cumbria 4.4% of the population claims incapacity benefit.
- 9.14 Unemployment in Cumbria during May 2006 is running at 2%. In the Plan area male unemployment is 3.2% and female unemployment is 1.1%. In total 5,587 people (2.2%) were registered as unemployed in the Plan area during May 2006.
- 9.15 Average earnings in the plan area exist at ward level and range from £17,507 to £39,308. In recent years gross weekly earnings for men and women in full time employment have been lower in Cumbria when compared to both the North West Region and the UK. However in 2005 gross weekly pay for male full time workers in Cumbria exceeded the North West average by 3.0% and all full-time

workers in Cumbria earned 97.3% of the national average gross weekly wage. Males in Cumbria also earned £128.30 per week more than full-time women.

Education and Skills

- 9.16 Analysing educational attainment within the population is difficult because of the range of qualifications and the data collection systems used. In addition levels of work based competence (vocational skills and knowledge) are equated to academic qualifications. Government data on this should therefore be regarded as illustrative. In Cumbria an estimated 32% of the population aged 16 – 74 is without qualifications of any kind while a further 38% has 5 GCSEs or equivalent vocational qualifications (levels 1 and 2). A further 6.5% of the population is educated to A level standard or vocational equivalent (level 3) while an estimated 16% is educated to degree level or vocational equivalent (levels 4 and 5). The qualification level of the remaining 7.5% of the population is unclear.

Employment by Sector

- 9.17 In the plan area the retail sector is the largest employer with 37,643 employees. Manufacturing is the second largest employer with 35,043 employees while 'real estate' employs 19,135 (note: this sector includes property, rental of property, cars and machinery, computers, legal and accountancy, advertising and a number of sundry activities). Health and social work is the third largest employer with 24,567 employees.
- 9.18 Altogether the plan area has 188,583 employees (2006 data). Construction employs 9,485; transport employs 9,347; hotels employ 13,742; public administration and defence employ 8,651 while schools and higher education employs 14,890. Some smaller sectors have not been listed nor do the figures shown take account of the self-employed.

The Local Economy

- 9.19 Overall the state of the economy is not buoyant. Although separate data does not exist for the plan area, it is known that Cumbria contributes about 6% of the economic output of the North West region (cf. Lancashire generates around 20%, Merseyside 16% and Cheshire 18% respectively, while Greater Manchester contributes some 40%).
- 9.20 Cumbria's economic performance (gross value added per capita) has declined from 92% in 1995 to 77% in 2001. This makes it the worst performing economic sub region in the UK. In part this reflects some refinement of the statistics but in real terms is due to contraction in manufacturing and agriculture.
- 9.21 Another factor which contributes to the lack of growth in the Cumbrian economy is the comparatively large numbers of small companies: 83% employ less than 10 people. This is associated with competitive weakness arising from a combination of factors: limited capital and management skills; limited growth ambitions; restricted markets; low investment in training and limited promotion opportunities for staff.

The Environment

- 9.22 Cumbria's environment is diverse. Its unique topography has been shaped by the passage of time and climatic conditions acting on the rlying rock structures. These processes, including melting glaciers, have influenced soil, vegetation and wildlife distribution. Human activity has also been affected by topography. This can be seen in the pattern of settlements and road and rail links which in the main skirt the central High Fells of the Lake District.
- 9.23 Penrith weather data (169 metres above sea level) averaged for the period 1971 to 2000, gives a maximum daytime temperature of 12.1⁰ C, around 58 days of air frost each year, with 1243 hours of sunshine each year, and 149 days of rainfall providing 929 mm of rain.
- 9.24 There is a need for a biodiversity evidence base to inform policy in Cumbria and partner organisations are keen to secure funding and establish a Cumbrian biodiversity local records centre. Current knowledge and the existing evidence base is not adequate for forming policy and assessing impacts at the strategic level. However work is proceeding on developing a standard biodiversity evidence base which will help meet the needs of the SEA Directive.
- 9.25 This evidence base will include a key species list for Cumbria which will include protected, priority and Cumbrian BAP species (currently around 103 species). Other data sets already exist at County level: the 278 parcels of SSSI covering 1,023,108 hectares; the 11,562.6 hectares of National Nature Reserve and the 424.8 ha of LNR. These and other data sets will need to be disaggregated to match the MW Plan area. (See Map 2 for location of nature reserves).
- 9.26 The lack of time and resources has not allowed a more thorough assembly of a biodiversity evidence base. However this is being addressed through the establishment of a baseline working group and broad agreement has been reached on the need to commission an organisation to build a usable evidence base from the wealth of records which exist.
- 9.27 The MW plan area excludes both national parks and therefore more or less excludes the Cumbria High Fells and the South Cumbria Low Fells. The overlap is approximate and not exact.
- 9.28 The plan area is made up of distinct character areas (Map 3 illustrates this for Cumbria as a whole).The Solway Basin has stretches of sandy and pebble beaches backed by dunes and raised beaches along the Irish Sea. These give way to the inter-tidal mud-flats of the Solway Firth. Other features include Victorian seaside resorts, raised peat bogs, and narrow country lanes winding through gently, undulating pastureland with little tree cover.
- 9.29 The West Cumbria Coastal Plain stretches south from Maryport to Barrow in Furness. The main towns abut areas of industrial activity or redundant industrial land. The coastline contains a mixture of mudflats, shingle and pebble beaches interspaced with smaller areas of dunes, sandy beaches and sandstone cliffs. Inland undulating or flat pasture with hedgerows and some tree cover is the dominant feature. Wetlands and herb-rich meadows exist along with river valleys

- with some semi natural ancient woodland. Elsewhere there are extensive areas of estuary with a range of inter-tidal habitats.
- 9.30 The River Eden and its tributaries dissect the Eden Valley. These river valley landscapes sit amidst open, rolling mixed farmland, neatly delineated by hedgerows and drystone walls. Broadleaved woodland is common and settlements are generally constructed from red sandstone, although around the fringes, limestone construction is the norm. On either side of the Valley foothills, unimproved grassland and moorland merge into the wilder Cumbrian High fells and the North Pennines.
- 9.31 The Orton Fells lie within a line drawn south east from Penrith to Kirkby Stephen, then west to Tebay, north to Shap and north west to Askham. The bulk of the area lies within the plan area.
- 9.32 The Orton Fells are distinguished by moorland with extensive areas of limestone pavements, rock outcrops, screes and calcareous grassland. There are few trees and few deep flowing rivers or streams. Sheep are reared on the higher, rough pastures while lower down grass is grown for hay, silage and winter grazing. Dwellings and field boundaries are built with limestone.
- 9.33 The Howgill Fells form a heart shape range of rounded hills bounded by Tebay, Sedbergh and Ravenstonedale. Only the northern half of the Howgills falls in the plan area. The landscape comprises ridges and valleys, with steep scree slopes, occasional waterfalls and crags, open moorland with rough grass and bracken, few trees, few settlements all of which combines to give a sense of wilderness. Farming is dominated by sheep with cattle rearing confined to the lower slopes.
- 9.34 Finally the plan area stretches from Grayrigg across to Burneside down through Kendal to Arnside and eastwards to Kirkby Lonsdale. This area is part of the South Cumbria Low Fells noted for undulating pastureland, areas of woodland and managed estates which give a parkland appearance. Settlements again built of limestone.

Minerals

- 9.35 Cumbria has a range of mineral sites that are currently worked commercially and produce hard rock, sand and gravel, high specification roadstone, industrial limestone, limestone, sandstone, slate, gypsum, mudstones and peat.
- 9.36 There are 14 hard rock quarries including 3 that straddle the LDNP boundary. In addition there are 3 roadstone quarries, 14 active sand and gravel quarries, 18 building stone quarries (possibly not all active), a gypsum mine, a mudstone quarry and 2 lowland peat extraction sites.
- 9.37 Other commercial mineral activity includes dredging sand from the seabed, recovering aggregates from waste created in quarrying, and recycling of construction and demolition wastes.
- 9.38 Planning permission exists for 169.4 million tonnes of crushed rock and 12.85 million tonnes of sand and gravel. Other sources of metal bearing minerals exist,

particularly lead and zinc. However these have not been worked since World War 2. Coal seams also run from Whitehaven to Wigton but none are now commercially worked.

Waste

- 9.39 Municipal waste for all of Cumbria increased from 318,000 tonnes in 2004/05 to 358,000 tonnes in 2005/06. Recycling of household waste increased from 13.61% in 2004/05 to 16.12% in 2005/06. A further 11.94% of household waste was composted in 2004/05 rising to 13.81% in 2005/06. The amount sent to landfill dropped from 74.45% in 2004/05 to 70.07% the following year.
- 9.40 In Cumbria the amount of household waste collected per capita was 635.88kg in 2005/06 which represents a fall of 2.03% from the previous year. The cost per tonne of household waste collection and management is estimated at £47.45 per tonne.
- 9.41 There are 4 major landfill sites in the county and 3 transfer stations. Capacity for municipal waste is estimated at 5.5 million cubic metres. Hazardous waste is sent to other parts of the UK. There is some localised energy generation from landfill gas but municipal waste is not converted into refuse derived fuel for energy generation.
- 9.42 No information is available on commercial and industrial waste but a survey has been commissioned to try and estimate waste types and quantities arising ⁽⁸⁾.
- 9.43 Cumbria generates and stores nuclear waste. It also acts as an unofficial national waste repository for low level radioactive waste. Current information suggests that there is around 2,000 m³ of high level waste at Sellafield of which 655m³ has been vitrified. Intermediate waste levels at Sellafield are in excess of 39,000m³ the vast majority of which is in storage. Around 4,000m³ of low level waste is stored at Sellafield however a further 18,970,000m³ of land is thought to be contaminated and classed as low level waste.
- 9.44 At Calder Hall decommissioning work is expected to generate 7,200m³ of ILW by 2117; 71,000m³ by 2117; and 7,500m³ of hazardous waste (asbestos) over the same period. At Drigg, the LLW repository, there is an estimated capacity for 1.7million m³ of LLW. At present there is thought to be around 900,000m³ emplaced.

Biodiversity

- 9.45 Cumbria is rich in habitats and species. Within the Solway Basin, key habitats are saltmarsh and grazing marsh, sand dunes, vegetated shingle, lowland raised mire, valley woodlands, rivers and hay meadows. The Solway Estuary attracts wintering and passage waders and wildfowl many of which use the saltmarsh and nearby unimproved grassland to roost and feed. Internationally important species include pink footed goose, the barnacle goose, oystercatcher, knot, bar-tailed godwit, curlew and redshank. Species of principal importance include the European Otter, the Brown Hare, Pipistrelle Bat, Red Squirrel, Skylark, Nightjar, Linnet, Reed Bunting, Corn Bunting, Spotted Fly-catcher, Tree Sparrow, grey

partridge, Bullfinch, Natterjack Toad, Great Crested Newt and the Square-spotted Clay Moth. Many other species of birds and bats have been recorded in the Solway Basin. Other species of interest, many of which are considered to be nationally scarce include numerous water and ground beetles, weevils, dragonfly, a variety of flies, grasshoppers, moths, spiders, bugs, liverworts, mosses and vascular plants.

- 9.46 The West Cumbrian Coastal Plain also has saltmarshes around the Duddon Estuary, at Drigg and at Walney Island. Other important habitats include sand dunes, dune grassland, dune heath, vegetated shingle, coastal grasslands, St. Bees Head sea cliffs, rivers and floodplains, unimproved hay meadows, tarns and ponds, semi-natural woodland, hedgebanks, lowland and raised mires. Principal bird species and amphibians are the same as those listed for the Solway Basin. Again there are numerous nationally scarce species of beetle, crustacean, moth, and assorted insects, mosses and vascular plants. Two distinctive species are present: *Cicendela hybrida* a ground beetle and *Margaritifera margaritifera* a freshwater mussel.

Eden Valley

- 9.47 The biodiversity interest centres on the aquatic environments of the River Eden, its tributaries and adjacent habitats. The geology of the area gives the Eden mid range nutrient status which results in a high diversity of aquatic plants. Riparian habitats include gorge woodland with varied tree and shrub cover dependant on soil type and moisture levels. South of Lazonby there is a broad floodplain but with few habitat features normally associated with floodplains with the exception of the Salkeld area where oxbow lakes, ponds, swampy woodland and old channels can be found. Near Ormside there is large area of floodplain comprising wet grassland, marsh and pools which attract wintering and breeding wildfowl.
- 9.48 Other principal habitats include basin and raised mires, many of which are designated as SSSIs, remnant lowland heathland which provides one of the few suitable habitats for the nightjar, lowland grassland (species rich, traditionally managed), wet or seasonally inundated meadows, hay meadows and hay meadow fragments, and away from the river banks areas of semi natural woodland, particularly those with rich shrub layers.
- 9.49 Principal vertebrate species are broadly similar to those found in Solway Basin and the West Cumbria Coastal Plain. Additional Principal species include the Bittern, the Wryneck (not breeding) Marsh Clubmoss and a moss (*Fissidens exiguus*) and White Clawed Crayfish. Again there are numerous vascular plants and mosses.

Orton Fells, the Howgills and parts of the South Cumbria Low Fells

- 9.50 The Orton Fells form a limestone ridge characterised by limestone pavements. Drift deposits allow heath and acidic grassland to become interspaced with the limestone outcrops. Lime rich springs and flushes support rare plant and invertebrate communities while Sunbiggin Tarn supports aquatic and fen communities. Other important habitats include unimproved lowland meadows and remnant woodlands around gills.

- 9.51 Vegetation cover on the Howgill Fells is largely acidic grassland with expanses of bracken on lower slopes and remnant areas of heather. Springs and flushes on lower slopes add diversity of habitat and support comparably more plants than nearby grassland. Again remnant woodlands can be found on lower slopes or in gills. Gills are important for mosses, liverworts and ferns.
- 9.52 South Lakes Low Fells are associated with extensive semi-natural and coniferous woodland, improved grassland and large areas containing a mixture of grassland, heath, mire and juniper scrub.
- 9.53 Limestone pavements, scars and screes, limestone grassland and ash and yew woodlands surround Morecambe Bay. Mosaics of these habitats are particularly important for invertebrates, especially butterflies. The species-rich limestone grasslands of Morecambe Bay and Orton are characterised by the scarce blue moor-grass which is restricted to northern England and areas of Scotland. Extensive areas of raised mire are found at the head of the Leven and Kent estuaries, however many have been cutover for peat or reclaimed for agriculture.
- 9.54 Parts of the South Lakes Low Fells extend as spurs of lower-lying extensively wooded and semi-improved/ improved agricultural land, with some open heather moorland, outwards from the Lake District to Barrow and Grange-over Sands. Semi-natural areas are often complex mosaics of acid or limestone grassland, heath and small valley and basin mires.
- 9.55 Species of principal importance include 7 possibly 8 bat species, common dormouse at the northern edge of its range, otter which has recently re-colonised all south Cumbrian rivers, great crested newt, white-clawed crayfish, high brown fritillary, pearl-bordered fritillary and northern brown argus, geyer's whorl snail and the sandbowl snail.
- 9.56 The limestone habitats support 8 nationally rare and 15 nationally scarce plants including dark red helleborine, limestone fern, hoary rock-rose, limestone bedstraw and mezereon, whilst the calcareous flushes of the Orton area support bird's eye primrose.

10. Identifying Sustainability Issues and Problems

- 10.1 In Cumbria, the County Council's Sustainability Team had already identified a profile of key issues and pressures affecting Cumbria in 2002 and had used this list as the basis for developing a set of sustainability objectives. These objectives were adopted by the County Council in 2004⁶ and are used to guide County Council policy development. These sustainability objectives also provided the basis for an earlier version of a sustainability appraisal framework.
- 10.2 The original sustainability appraisal framework was used to carry out sustainability appraisals of the Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan 2001-2016 and sustainability appraisals of the Barrow, South Lakes and West Cumbria community strategies. During these appraisals the sustainability framework was refined in discussion with participants in the appraisal process and also modified in the light of practical experience.
- 10.3 The advent of the SEA Regs 2004 and early draft Government guidance on conducting sustainability appraisals to ensure that they met the requirements of the SEA Directive led to the establishment of a sustainability group. Membership was drawn from the 4 statutory consultees, the 6 district councils, the Lake District National Park Authority and the County Council.
- 10.4 These discussions explored areas of mutual interest and possible joint working on sustainability appraisals and the availability of baseline data.
- 10.5 The existing set of key issues and pressures affecting Cumbria originally developed by the Sustainability Team was re-examined by the group and by other colleagues in the County Council's planning and economic development units. As a result of this consultation process the Profile of Key Issues and Pressures was added to and refined by drawing on the detailed knowledge of the consultees. The list was further widened to specifically include a new section on resources so that the profile would be relevant to the Cumbria MWDF preparation process.
- 10.6 The revised profile of Key Issues and Pressures Affecting Cumbria is shown at Appendix 5.
- 10.7 The profile of key issues helps demonstrate how intertwined the different sections of the scoping report are since the key pressures relate to sustainability, help shape the sustainability framework and add to the size of the evidence base for policy-making.
- 10.8 This consultation on key issues and pressures led to the emergence of a further refined set of sustainability objectives:
 - To make more affordable housing available
 - To improve access to facilities
 - To create safer communities
 - To improve education opportunities
 - To retain young people in Cumbria
 - To widen employment opportunities

- To diversify the economy
- To develop growth sectors within the local economy To protect and enhance species and habitats
- To improve the quality of water resources
- To adapt to climate change
- To protect designated landscapes
- To conserve the character of the built environment
- To protect people from floods
- To minimise waste and recycle more
- To secure modern sustainable waste management facilities
- To sustainably manage mineral resources
- To increase the supply of recycled material used in lieu of mineral resources

10.9 This revised list of sustainability objectives was fed into the sustainability appraisal framework development process.

11. Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 11.1 The County Council's Sustainability Team had already developed a sustainability appraisal framework which had been tried and tested in the sustainability appraisal of land use plans and community strategies. The sustainability group made up of the district councils, the LDNPA, English Nature, English Heritage, the Environment Agency, the Countryside Agency and the County Council took this appraisal framework as a starting point and compared it to the revised list of sustainability objectives which came out of the key pressures exercise.
- 11.2 This led to a composite framework being developed based around the revised list of sustainability objectives thrown up by the key pressures exercise. Further discussion on the range and meaning of the list of sustainability objectives led to further refinement of the list of objectives and their precise wording.
- 11.3 Each objective was originally accompanied by a series of questions which were designed to guide the appraisal process and allow the appraiser to test whether or not the plan was likely to contribute to a particular objective. These were modified in the light of the consultation process and the knowledge and experience of the members of the group.
- 11.4 In developing the revised framework, care was taken to ensure that the SEA Directive's environmental objectives were also comprehensively included.
- 11.5 This consultation process has led to the adoption by the Cumbrian local authorities and the Lake District National Park of a robust sustainability appraisal framework which has the approval of the 4 statutory consultees and is based on a tried and tested methodology. This new sustainability appraisal framework is being used as the basis for sustainability appraisals across Cumbria.
- 11.6 While this framework is generally regarded as a comprehensive framework that can be applied 'off the shelf' to carry out appraisals, clearly some plans are of a specialist nature and therefore further refinement may be necessary to tailor the framework to a specific plan. In the case of the Cumbria MWDF the general framework has been altered, not significantly from that previously agreed on, but sufficiently to increase its suitability for the task of appraisal of the MWDF. The revised sustainability appraisal framework which will be used in the MWDF is shown
overleaf.

Sustainable Development Framework for Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework

Reference	Sustainability Objectives	Sustainability framework: Guidance on making progress towards each objective
Social progress that recognises the needs of everyone		
SP1	To increase the level of participation in democratic processes	Does the plan encourage and empower local people to become involved? Are all members of society able to participate fully in decision making processes? Does the plan identify and set out how hard to reach groups will be involved? Will policies encourage local liaison committees to be set up with elected local representation? Do plan policies respect the needs of all communities and future generations?
SP2	To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces	Does the plan improve access and affordability for all to services, essential goods, facilities, including recycling facilities, education and employment opportunities (where possible within local communities using sustainable transport choices)? Does it help retain essential local facilities and ensure that physical access is suitable for those with a disability? Does the plan promote and facilitate access to, and opportunities to enjoy, the countryside and natural green space?
SP3	To provide everyone with a decent home	Will the plan help meet local housing need by ensuring that good quality, resource efficient, affordable housing with reduced environmental impact is available to all?
SP4	To improve the level of skills, education and training	Will the plan deliver education and training which helps everyone develop the values, knowledge and skills necessary to enable them to live, act and work in society? Does the plan recognise the need for people to adapt to economic change and retrain where necessary? Does the plan enable people to live sustainable lifestyles?
SP5	To improve the health and sense of well-being of people	Do plan policies ensure all members of society have access to the health care that they require? Do they reduce health inequalities within society associated with income, lifestyle and diet? Does the plan help create a healthy and safe working and living environment with low rates of crime and disorder and minimal disruption and nuisance from nearby minerals and waste activity? Does the plan help improve local amenity and quality of life for all?
SP6	To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense local history	Does the plan promote a sense of community identity? Does it encourage social cohesion and help continue valued local traditions? Is recreational and cultural activity embracing the arts, heritage, the environment, dialect and sport promoted along with multicultural understanding, respect for all and equality of opportunity?

Effective protection of the environment		
EN1	To protect and enhance biodiversity	Does the plan protect and conserve designated habitats and protected species? Will the plan ensure biodiversity sustainability by enhancing conditions whenever necessary to retain viability of the resource? Do policies minimise adverse impacts on species and habitats through human activities and development? Do policies ensure continuity of ecological frameworks such as river corridors, coastal habitats, uplands, woodlands and scrub to enable free passage of specific habitat dependent species? Will policies give effect to actions in the Cumbria BAP?
EN2	To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character for future generations	Is local landscape quality, distinctiveness and character protected from unsympathetic development and changes in land management? Will the plan protect areas of designated landscape value? Is the remoteness and tranquillity of landscapes maintained? Is the character and appearance of world heritage sites, designated archaeological sites, historic parks and gardens, battlefields and their settings protected? Are areas of high archaeological and historic landscape sensitivity protected? Will policies extend and sustain tree cover and hedgerows?
EN3	To improve the quality of the built environment	Does the plan conserve features of historic and archaeological importance? Will policies ensure that new development is of high quality, sympathetic to the character of the built environment, strengthen local distinctiveness, enhance the public realm and help create a sense of place? Will policies promote adaptive re-use of buildings, sustainable design, sustainable construction, the use of locally sourced materials and low impact operation? Will policies guide inappropriate development away from flood risk areas? Do policies ensure that where development in flood risk areas is permitted, the risks to people and property are mitigated? Will the plan reduce noise levels, light pollution, dust, fly tipping and enhance degraded urban environment?
Sustainable use and management of natural resources		
NR1	To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Will the plan ensure that local air quality is not adversely affected by pollution from onsite activity and seek to improve it where necessary? Will policies limit or reduce the emission of greenhouse gases (including methane) and other air pollutants? Will the use of clean, low carbon energy efficient technologies be encouraged? Will policies maximise the use of energy from renewable resources? Will they reduce the need to travel especially by car, and switch goods from roads onto the rail network? Will the plan introduce strategies to adapt to and mitigate other climate change impacts?
NR2	To improve water quality and water resources	Will the plan help maintain and, where possible, improve the quality and quantity of all water resources? Will it minimise the risk of water pollution from minerals and waste sources? Will policies ensure sustainable drainage systems are widely used? Will policies lead to the

		effective management of demand for water, prevent stress on the natural environment and help water users adapt to the impacts of climate change?
NR3	To restore and protect land and soil	Will policies protect areas of designated geological value? Will the plan encourage development on brown field sites, using sustainable remediation technology to treat contaminated soils on site? Will it minimise the loss of greenfield sites or areas of open space? Will policies prevent soil degradation, pollution of soil and the use of peat? Will policies ensure that sites are fully restored and blend sympathetically with the surrounding landscape?
NR4	To manage mineral resources sustainably and minimise waste	Will the plan ensure a steady, sustainable flow of minerals and the efficient use of materials? Will policies protect mineral resources from sterilisation? Will policies minimise the extraction, transport and use of primary minerals and encourage the use of recycled material? Will the plan minimise the amounts of industrial, commercial and household waste generated and landfilled and encourage increased re-use, recovery and recycling? Will it promote the use of energy recovered from waste? Will policies encourage the use of secondary and recycled materials? Will the plan help raise awareness of the need for waste minimisation amongst consumers and industry? Will policies deliver sufficient waste management facilities?
Building a sustainable economy in which all can prosper		
EC1	To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities	Will the plan increase the number, variety and quality of employment opportunities including those offered by minerals and waste sectors? Will policies increase rural employment opportunities? Will the plan support local businesses? Will the plan help retain a skilled workforce and graduates in Cumbria?
EC2	To improve access to jobs	Will plan policies increase access for all to a range of jobs through improved training, sustainable transport and communication links? Will the plan lead to the location of new employment opportunities in areas of greatest need?
EC3	To diversify and strengthen the local economy	Will the plan help create the right climate and infrastructure provision to encourage private sector investment generally and also in the minerals and waste sectors? Will it encourage growth across all sectors? Will it stimulate the use of local companies, local materials, products and services and provide other forms of community benefit? Will it help increase the environmental performance of local companies and their products/services? Is innovation, entrepreneurship and diversification encouraged, particularly in rural areas? Does the plan provide financial assistance? Will it help improve the competitiveness and productivity of the local economy? Do policies support research and development into environmental and other new key sector technologies including opportunities to recycle and re-use waste products?

12. Testing the plan objectives against the sustainability objectives

12.1 The Minerals and Waste Planning Authority has developed a number of draft MW Plan objectives to help with the development of the core strategy. The draft MW objectives are set out below:

- to seek to minimise the impacts of minerals and waste developments on climate change;
- to make provision for the supply of the minerals needed by society from environmentally acceptable sources;
- to make provision for the waste management facilities that Cumbria needs to drive waste management up the waste hierarchy in accordance with; the targets of the national waste strategy;
- to seek maximum local economic benefits from minerals and waste developments;
- to promote efficient use of minerals and the reuse / recycling of suitable materials in order to minimise the need for new primary extraction;
- to help secure the management of waste as near as possible to its place of production without endangering human health and without harming the environment;
- to secure sound working practices so that the environmental impacts of minerals and waste developments, including traffic, are kept to a minimum;
- to protect, and where possible, to enhance the overall quality of the environment once developments are completed through high standards of restoration;
- to help to conserve and safeguard mineral resources.

12.2 The draft MW Plan objectives have been tested against the sustainability objectives to determine whether or not the Plan objectives are likely to contribute to sustainable development in Cumbria or not. This compatibility analysis of the plan objectives with the sustainability objectives provides the plan-maker with guidance on developing strategic options for the CMW DPD which follow sustainability principles.

12.3 A number of points emerged from the compatibility analysis. In general the meaning given to the draft MW plan objectives indicated that they would do little for jobs or indeed the local economy. Interpretation suggested planning gain for local communities would result but the draft plan objective on 'maximising local economic benefit from minerals and waste developments' left it uncertain on how this might lead to additional jobs or indeed boost the local economy. While some new jobs relating to recycling could reasonably be foreseen there was a strong possibility that these might be offset by more efficient use of minerals and reduced primary extraction. The overall effect on the diversity and strength of

the economy was uncertain and may even be negative given a second objective which aims to conserve and safeguard mineral resources.

- 12.4 Clearly a strong and healthy economy and prudent management of natural resources are cornerstones of a sustainable society. However these draft MW plan objectives are too broad to explain clearly how the local economy will be affected and how resources will be managed. That said, the objectives appear to sit well with sustainability principles.
- 12.5 The objective on environmental protection at first glance seems to accord with sustainability principles and should benefit landscape, water resources and soil in and around previously active sites. However, the objective has a specific focus on best practice relating to site restoration. It only kicks in to protect and enhance the environment once permission has been given to damage it in the first place. The objective would be more honestly expressed if the wording focused on best practice restoration of redundant sites.
- 12.6 This suggests that there is a gap in the objectives relating to the natural environment. Biodiversity might benefit from some objectives but not directly. Other objectives will benefit biodiversity directly but in a limited site related way. Similar comments can be made about landscape quality and character. If the plan is to resonate with sustainability then a more positive approach needs to be reflected in the objectives on accepting the value to society of biodiversity and landscape quality and the need to control minerals and waste activity within natural environmental parameters.
- 12.7 Protection of the natural environment appears to be a secondary consideration and if the plan objectives are to sit more comfortably with sustainability then the objectives need to place a higher value on the natural environment as an overarching principle to guide and manage minerals and waste activity. The other objective which touches on this talks about the supply of minerals from 'environmentally acceptable sources'. This phrase has no real meaning and reinforces the need for a specific objective on protection of the natural environment and its various components (biodiversity, landscape, water etc.).
- 12.8 It needs to be remembered that the Cumbria MW DPD is dealing with non renewable resources. To sustainably manage minerals extraction and reduce waste arising in Cumbria the plan objectives need to promote sustainable production and consumption in line with government policy. The current draft objectives on supply and conservation of minerals skirt round this without grasping the issues firmly. Equally there is not one objective which addresses waste minimisation. Moving up the waste management hierarchy may allude to this but it fails to give adequate weight to waste minimisation.
- 12.9 It may be that this could be dealt with by expressing this need to provide minerals and waste management facilities within a robust, environmentally protective planning regime as an overall plan aim within which the objectives, suitably rephrased, operate.

- 12.10 Other objectives show no conflict with sustainability principles. Promoting high standards of environmental management on site and minimising intrusion in local communities contribute to peoples' well-being and amenity. However the plan objectives could be more positive in involving local people through liaison committees and the planning process itself.
- 12.11 Few objectives conflict with sustainability principles but a number of objectives simply do not contribute to sustainability at all. This is shown by the number of 'no effect' symbols in the compatibility matrix. A more sustainable set of plan objectives would result in more ticks and fewer 'no effect' symbols. Equally there are quite a few question marks. This reflects the uncertainty of the objectives as presently worded. In this sense the objectives could be made more sustainable if the wording was made more concise.
- 12.12 One example of this is the objective dealing with the provision of minerals needed by society. There is no hint of demand management. As such it conflicts with sustainability principles and indeed other draft plan objectives on conserving and safeguarding mineral resources. The plan itself would benefit from the use of some form of consistency testing of the draft plan objectives against each other.
- 12.13 Other objectives on moving away from landfill, ensuring minerals and waste activity responds positively to the threat of climate change and minimising primary minerals extraction all fit well with sustainability principles.
- 12.14 The compatibility analysis carried out is summarised in the following table.

Draft Minerals and Waste Plan Objectives									
	Minimise impact of MW development on climate change	Provide the supply of minerals needed by society from environmentally acceptable sources	Provide waste management facilities to move waste management up the waste hierarchy	Maximise local economic benefits from M & W developments	Promote efficient use of minerals and re-use and recycling to minimise primary extraction	Ensure waste is managed safely at or near point of origin with no environmental impact	Promote environmental awareness to minimise onsite and offsite environmental impacts	Protect and enhance the environment through high standards of restoration	Conserve and safeguard mineral resources
SP1	⊙	? ☒	? ✓	⊙	? ✓	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
SP2	? ✓	✓	✓	?	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
SP3	⊙	✓	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
SP4	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	✓	⊙	⊙
SP5	?	?	?	?	⊙	✓	✓	?	⊙
SP6	⊙	⊙	⊙	?	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
EN1	?	? ✓	?	⊙	✓	✓	? ✓	?	⊙
EN2	⊙	? ✓	?	⊙	✓	✓	⊙	✓	?
EN3	? ✓	✓	?	?	?	? ✓	? ⊙	⊙	⊙
NR1	✓	⊙	⊙	⊙	✓	✓	✓	⊙	⊙
NR2	?	?	?	⊙	? ✓	✓	✓	? ✓	⊙
NR3	⊙	? ☒	?	⊙	?	? ✓	✓	✓	⊙
NR4	? ✓	☒	✓	⊙	✓	✓	? ✓	⊙	? ✓
EC1	⊙	⊙	? ✓	? ✓	?	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
EC2	⊙	⊙	⊙	?	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
EC3	⊙	⊙	⊙	? ✓	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	☒
Key: Compatible ✓; Incompatible ☒; No effect ⊙; uncertain ?;									

Draft Sustainability Objectives

13. Consultation

- 13.1 The County Council has already published a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which states that the County Council intends to consult widely on the Minerals and Waste Development Framework. The SCI sets out how the Council intends to carry out this consultation process with all sections of the community.
- 13.2 The SCI details consultation letters, publications, notices, e-mail and website use. Additional outreach techniques will also involve public exhibitions, displays and meetings to provide information about the DPD process and get feedback at various stages of the plan-making process.
- 13.3 Consultation on the DPD process will also take place with a range of organisations including district councils, local strategic partnerships and neighbourhood forums.
- 13.4 There is also a need under recent planning regulations⁷ and the SEA Directive itself to consult on the sustainability appraisal report at various stages of its production. This scoping report set outs how the Council intends to consult on the sustainability appraisal.
- 13.5 Prior to work beginning on the Cumbria MWDF the County Council started a period of discussion with the 4 statutory consultees (English Nature, English Heritage, the Environment Agency and the Countryside Agency), the Lake District National Park and the 6 district councils on sustainability appraisal methodology and the need for baseline data.
- 13.6 These discussions helped identify which organisations held relevant data sets and explored possible mechanisms for sharing data. The discussions also agreed the list of key issues and pressures affecting Cumbria and agreed a general sustainability framework for use across Cumbria. It was this general framework which was adapted for use in the Cumbria MWDF sustainability appraisal.
- 13.7 In addition to the 4 statutory consultees, the planning regulations⁷ also list a number of specific consultation bodies that must be consulted. These include regional planning bodies and regional development agencies along with the Strategic Rail Authority, the Highways Agency, telecoms companies, the Strategic Health Authority, gas, electricity, water and sewage companies.
- 13.8 Additional bodies are identified as possible consultees. These include government departments, voluntary organisations, environmental groups, and a myriad of social and industry related groups. Consultation with these bodies at each stage of the sustainability appraisal process is at the discretion of the Council.
- 13.9 The following organisations were identified as specific consultation bodies:
 - Carlisle City Council, Allerdale Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council, Eden District Council, South Lakeland District Council and Barrow Borough Council;
 - The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and The Lake District National Park Authority;
 - The North West Development Agency.
 - The North West Regional Assembly.

- The Strategic Rail Authority.
- The Highways Agency.

- 13.10 Cumbria County Council's Sustainability Team has compiled a list of environmental organisations to be consulted, along with minerals and waste operators and industry consultants. Other companies and voluntary and social sector organisations which operate in Cumbria and may have an interest in the outcome have also been identified for consultation.
- 13.11 As part of the consultation process an earlier draft scoping report was posted on the County Council's web site to enable public comment: (<http://www.cumbriacc.gov.uk>). Paper copies were also made available at major Council offices in Carlisle and Kendal as well as main libraries and information centres.
- 13.12 Paper copies were issued to the 4 statutory consultees, the district councils and the national parks as well as the lists of specific and general consultees referred to above.
- 13.13 The consultation period on the draft scoping report ended on 7th February 2006.
- 13.14 All comments received have been set out at Appendix 7 to the Scoping Report along with actions which the Sustainability Team will take in response to this feedback.

References

- (1) Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, ODPM, London. November 2005.
- (2) A Practical guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, ODPM, London. September 2005.
- (3) Securing the Future: delivering UK sustainable development strategy, DEFRA. London. March 2005.
- (4) Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable development, ODPM. London. 2005.
- (5) Draft Annual Monitoring report 2004/05 for the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Scheme, Cumbria County Council, Kendal. November 2005.
- (6) Sustainability Strategy, Cumbria County Council, Carlisle. January 2004.
- (7) Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks, ODPM, London. 2004
- (8) Commercial and Industrial waste and construction and demolition waste Surveys commissioned by the Northwest Authorities and being carried out by Urban Mines LTD and Smiths Gore.

Glossary

North West Technical Advisory Body: this group was established in 1999 to advise the North West Regional Assembly on how to structure the region's waste strategy. It brings together representatives of the waste management industry in the Northwest to study waste production and make recommendations on the way it should be managed in the future.

North West Regional Aggregates Working Party: this body operates under the ODPM and undertakes annual surveys of production and reserves of aggregates. Taking demand into account (both from within the Region and nationally) the RAWP estimates the need for further planning permissions for minerals extraction across the Region to meet regional and national demand and allocates supply quotas to sub-regional areas]. RAWP reports provide a comprehensive set of statistics on minerals planning and minerals production.

4 Statutory Consultees: English Nature, Countryside Agency, Environment Agency and English Heritage. PPS 12 on Local Development Frameworks, ODPM 2004 identifies the 4 statutory consultees as organisations which must be consulted on sustainability appraisal of Local Development Documents in accordance with the town and Country Planning (Local development) (England) Regulations 2004.

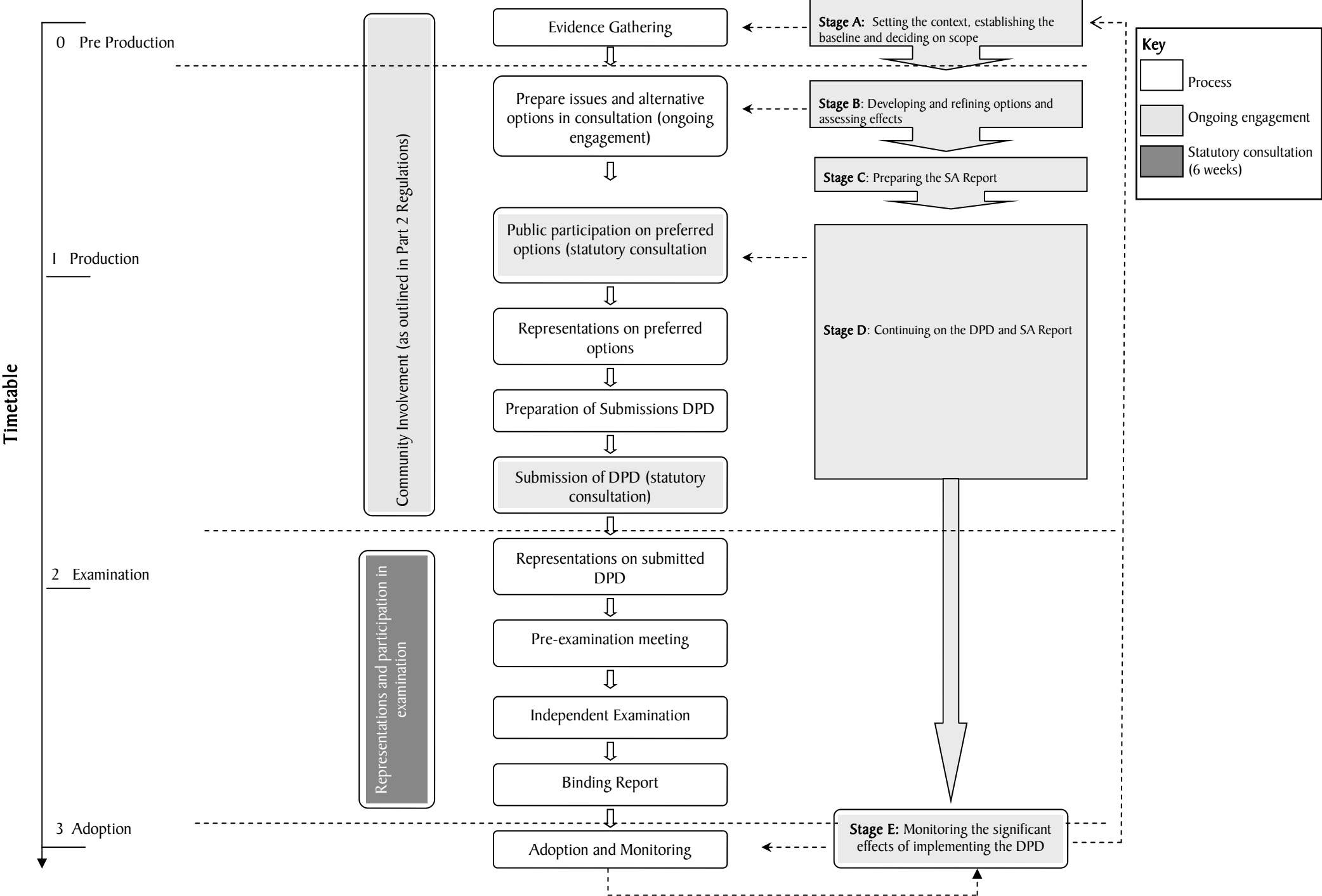
Appendix 1

Comparison of the SEA Directive Topic Areas with Cumbria's Sustainability Objectives

The topic areas listed in the Directive are not explained in any detail and in some cases it has been necessary to make some assumptions particularly relating to population and material assets. However this comparison has been drawn up to demonstrate that sustainability appraisal carried out using the Sustainable Development Framework for Cumbria meets the requirements of the SEA Regulations 2004.

The SEA Directive Topic Areas	Cumbria's Sustainability Objectives
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	EN1 To protect and enhance biodiversity
Population	SP1 to increase the level of participation in democratic processes; SP2 To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces; SP4 To improve the levels of skills, education and training; SP 6 To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open minded communities with a strong sense of local history; EC1 To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities; EC2 To improve access to jobs;
Human health	SP5 To improve the health and sense of well-being of people;
Soil	NR3 To restore and protect land and soil;
Water	NR2 To improve water quality and water resources;
Air	NR1 to improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gases;
Climatic factors	NR1 to improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gases;
Material assets	SP3 To provide everyone with a decent home; NR4 To manage mineral resources sustainably and minimise waste; EC3 To diversify and strengthen the local economy;
Cultural heritage	EN3 To improve the quality of the built environment;
Landscape	EN2 To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character for future generations;

APPENDIX 2 The DPD Preparation Process



Review of Relevant Documents: Plans, Programmes and sustainability objectives

List of documents reviewed

European

Framework Directive on waste disposal 75/442/EEC (amended 91/156/EEC, 91/692/EEC, 96/350/EC, and 96/59/EC)
Directive 75/439/EEC on the disposal of waste oil (amended 87/101/EEC, 91/692/EEC and 2000/76/EC)
Birds Directive 79/409/EEC
Directive 86/278/EEC on use of sewage sludge in agriculture
Directive on hazardous waste 91/689/EEC (amended Directive 94/31/EC)
Directive 91/157/EEC on batteries and accumulators containing certain dangerous substances
Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC
Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste (amended 2004/12/EC)
Directive 96/61/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control
European Biodiversity Strategy COM (98) 42 and Com (2001) 162 final
Directive 1999/30/EC on ambient air quality (amended 1999/62/EC and 1999/30/EC)
Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste
Directive 2000/53/EC on end of life vehicles
Framework Directive 2000/60/EC on water policy
Directive 2000/76/EC on the incineration of waste
EU Sustainable Development Strategy COM (2001) 264 final
Directive 2002/96/EC on waste electrical and electronic equipment
EU's 6th Environmental Action Programme (2001-2010)
Stimulating technologies for sustainable development: an environmental technologies action plan for the EU (Com (2004) 38 final)
Promoting sustainable development in the non-energy extractive industry COM (2000) 265 final
The removal and disposal of disused offshore oil and gas installations COM (98) final
Directive 2002/49/EC on assessment and management of environmental noise
Kyoto protocol on climate change Decision 2002/358/EC
Proposal for a Directive on the management of waste from the extractive industries COM (2003) 319 final
Proposal for a Council Directive on management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste COM (2004) 526 final

National

Securing the Future: UK National Sustainable Development Strategy 2005
UK Climate Change programme
Draft Vision for the Natural Environment 2005
Working with the Grain of Nature: a biodiversity strategy for England 2002
Ramsar sites in England: a policy statement
A new focus for England's Woodlands: a forestry strategy for England 1998
The First soil action plan for England 2004-2006
The Energy White Paper 2003
Air Quality Strategy 2003
The Future of Transport 2004
Waste Strategy 2000 (and recent additions to policy)
English Nature Position Statement on Waste Management 2002
English Nature Position Statement on Aggregate Extraction 2002
English Nature Position Statement on peat alternatives 2004
The Historic Environment: A Force for the Future 2001
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

National Planning Policy

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPG 3 Housing
PPS 7 Sustainable Development in Rural Areas
PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation
PPS 10 Planning for Sustainable Waste Management
PPS 11 Regional Spatial Strategies
PPS 12 Local Development Frameworks
PPG 13 Transport
PPG 15 Planning and the Historic Environment
PPG 16 Archaeology
PPS 22 Renewable Energy
PPS 23 Planning and Pollution Control
PPG 24 Planning and Noise
MPG 1 General Considerations
MPS 2 Controlling and Mitigating Environmental Effects of Minerals Extraction in England 2005
MPG 5 Stability in Surface Mineral Workings and Tips 2000
MPG 6 Guidelines for Aggregate Provision in England 1994
MPG 7 The Restoration of Mineral Workings 1996
MPG 9 Interim Development Order Permissions 1991
MPG 10 Provision of Raw Material for the Cement Industry 1991

Regional

Regional Economic Strategy NWDA 2003
Regional Economic Strategy Consultation Draft 2005
Regional Planning Guidance NWRA 2003
Regional Spatial Strategy Draft Revisions 2005
Regional Housing Strategy 2003
Regional Freight Strategy NW Freight 2003
Action for Sustainability NWRA 2004
Regional Waste Strategy NWRA 2004
Regional Sustainable Energy Strategy Consultation draft 2004

Local

Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan 2001-2016 Modifications September 2005
Cumbria's Sub Regional Spatial Strategy 2004 - 2024
Sustainable Cumbria 2004 to 2024
Allerdale Borough Council Local Plan 2000
Barrow Borough Council Local Plan 1996-2006, adopted 2001
Carlisle District Local Plan 1997; Carlisle District Local Plan review 2001- 2016, deposit version 2004
Copeland Borough Council 1997
Copeland Borough Council Local plan 2001-2016 1st Deposit Version March 2004
Eden Local Plan December 1996
South Lakeland Local Plan 1997

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Framework Directive on Waste Disposal (as amended)	The Framework Directive on Waste established community rules designed to protect human health and the environment from the harmful effects of waste collection, transport, treatment, storage and disposal. It encouraged resource recovery to conserve natural resources and introduced a licensing system for operators. Amending legislation strengthen policy on waste recovery; waste minimisation; use of clean technologies; recycling and re-use; reduced movement of waste; the need for waste management plans and tighter regulation of waste management companies.	The Framework Directive on Waste and subsequent amending legislation gives a clear policy steer to the Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework to ensure a high level of protection for people and the environment from waste management activity in Cumbria. European policy also points to conserving natural resources through resource recovery, recycling and re-use and waste minimisation. The MW LDF policies need to give effect to these objectives. The sustainability appraisal framework needs to include criteria which test for environmental protection; protection of people's health; waste minimisation and resource recovery.
Directive on the Disposal of Waste Oil (as amended)	The Directive outlaws the discharge of waste oils into the environment and instructs member states to introduce collection and disposal arrangements which encourage refining and re-use.	The MW LDF policies will need to reflect this. There are no additional implications for the SA.
Birds Directive	The Directive and its amending acts are designed to protect 182 bird species living naturally in the wild, including their nests, eggs and habitats.	The MW LDF will have to respect the Special Protection Areas designated as part of the Natura 2000 network and ensure minerals and waste operations do not take place there or in the immediate vicinity. The SA will need to include biodiversity as an essential part of the appraisal process.
Directive on the use of sewage sludge in agriculture	The Directive regulates the use of sewage sludge by farmers so that there are no harmful effects on soil, vegetation, animals and humans.	The MW LDF needs to include policies on landspreading of sewage sludge and organic industrial wastes to protect the environment (people, livestock, soil and groundwater) where landspreading is to be used as a method of disposal rather than normal agricultural practice.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Directive on Hazardous Waste	Seeks to facilitate the recovery and safe disposal of hazardous waste through the introduction of a licensing and recording regime for the segregation, control and management of hazardous waste.	The MW LDF policies will need to distinguish between hazardous waste and other wastes, including domestic waste and ensure that appropriate minimisation and recovery techniques are employed. The SA will reflect the need for protection of the environment and people.
Directive on batteries and accumulators containing dangerous substances	The legislation provides for the recovery and controlled disposal of used batteries and accumulators containing mercury and other heavy metals.	The MW LDF should contain policies to encourage the development of facilities which enable the separate collection of batteries and accumulators and which facilitate either recovery or safe disposal. There are no additional implications for the SA.
Habitats Directive	This Directive is designed to protect some 253 habitat types, some 200 animal and 434 plant species.	The MW LDF will need to ensure that minerals and waste operations do not take place in or around Special Areas of Conservation set up as part of the Natura 2000 network. There are no additional implications for the SA.
Directive on packaging and packaging waste	This instructs member states to introduce measures to minimise the use of packaging waste and to encourage the re-use of packaging waste. The Directive sets targets for recovery and recycling or recovery and energy generation. Tougher targets will be fixed for the period 2009 – 2014.	The MW LDF will need to include policies favouring the development of waste facilities designed to recover and recycle packaging waste. There are no additional implications for the SA.
Directive on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control	The Directive deals with operating permits for polluting industrial and agricultural installations including those involving minerals and waste operations. It also sets out the minimum compliance requirements for inclusion in permits to enable compliance monitoring e.g. emission limit values for certain pollutants.	The MW LDF will need to include policies which only permit minerals and waste developments which employ best available techniques to minimise pollution. The SA framework will need to include objectives designed to protect air quality, soil and groundwater from pollution.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Landfill Directive	The Directive seeks to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of landfill on the environment and in particular, on surface and groundwaters, soils, air and human health. This applies to landfilling of hazardous wastes, non hazardous and inert wastes. Clear waste treatment procedures and site licensing criteria are set out.	The MW LDF will need to include policies which give a high degree of protection to the environment from landfill. The SA will need objectives which reflect this where landfill remains in operation.
Directive on end of life vehicles	This aims to promote re-use and recycling of vehicle components to protect the environment through a network of authorised treatment facilities.	The MW LDF will need to include policies favouring facilities to enable vehicle end of life recycling. There are no additional requirements on the SA.
European Biodiversity Strategy and action plan for the conservation of natural resources	The Strategy aims to anticipate and prevent the causes of significant biodiversity loss as a means of reversing reduction trends and achieving satisfactory conservation status of endangered species. The action plan seeks to conserve species and habitats, reverse biodiversity losses and prevent biodiversity loss related to the management of water, soil, forests and wetlands.	The MW LDF will need to include policies which effectively protect biodiversity (both species and habitats) and which seek to exploit opportunities to enhance biodiversity. The SA will need to include robust objectives on biodiversity.
Framework Directive on water policy	This is a comprehensive Directive designed to protect inland surface waters, groundwaters and coastal waters from pollution, promote sustainable water use, protect and enhance aquatic environments.	The MW LDF will need to include policies to protect fresh water resources and coastal waters from pollution. The SA will need to include objectives safeguarding water from industrial pollution.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Directive on Waste Incineration	This Directive focuses on protecting human health by reducing air, water and soil pollution from incineration, including incineration of waste as a method of energy generation. It covers non-toxic municipal waste, including sewage sludge, tyres and hospital waste and toxic wastes like oils and solvents and sets operating temperatures and a number of pollutant limit values.	<p>The MW LDF policies will need to address incineration proposals and set out a high level of protection for people and the environment by insisting on best available techniques.</p> <p>The SA will need to test the LDF for the likely degree of protection given to people and the environment from its policies on energy from waste plants.</p>
EU's Sustainable Development Strategy	The Strategy focuses European policy on tackling climate change and increasing the use of clean energy; addressing threats to public health; managing natural resources more responsibly; and improving the transport system and land-use management.	<p>The policy direction being taken by the EU has implications for the MW LDF policies in terms of reducing greenhouse gases, using natural resources sustainably, protecting people and food from pollution, encouraging more rail freight and locating facilities next to population centres.</p> <p>The SA objectives will need to marry social aspiration, environmental concern and economic activity in an integrated way.</p>
Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment	The Directive seeks to prevent electronic waste arising and promote the return of equipment to the manufacturer for recovery and recycling.	<p>The MW LDF will need to encourage authorised treatment facilities for electrical and electronic waste recovery using best available techniques.</p> <p>The SA already includes an objective on waste minimisation and re-use and recycling of waste.</p>

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
EU's 6 th Environmental Action Programme	This defines the EU's environmental priorities and objectives. It supports the Sustainable Development Strategy. It focuses on climate change, biodiversity, environment and health and sustainable management of resources and wastes.	<p>Implications for the MW LDF are: improvement of inspection regimes; integration of environmental concerns into land use management policies; encouraging companies to introduce EMAS and undertake environmental reporting. A number of thematic strategies will emerge on the sustainable use of natural resources (from extraction to final disposal as waste); on reducing waste (both the quantity and its hazardness); and on protecting soil (which may include mineral particles) from a range of threats including erosion, reduced organic productivity, contamination, covering by infrastructure, compaction, loss of biodiversity, salinisation, floods and landslide. The MW LDF's policies will need to reflect this higher level of concern about natural resource use, waste minimisation and soil quality and the extent of the soil resource.</p> <p>The SA will need objectives which test for climate change, biodiversity, environmental protection, soil protection, waste minimisation, human health and the sustainable management of resources.</p>
EU's Environmental Technologies Action Plan	This aims to reduce pressures on natural resources, improve quality of life and stimulate economic growth by promoting environmental technologies. These diverse technologies should manage pollution, produce less polluting and less resource intensive products, and also manage resources more effectively using less energy and producing less waste.	<p>MW LDF policies should seek to encourage investment in environmentally friendly technologies.</p> <p>The SA objectives promote environmental technology research, development and use.</p>
EU policy communication on the removal and disposal of disused offshore oil and gas installations	This takes the position that sea disposal of oil and gas installations should be prohibited and that all such installations should be dismantled and brought	The MW LDF may need to include policies to deal with development proposals for oil and gas rig dismantling and material recovery and recycling.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

	to shore for recycling and safe disposal.	The SA framework already supports material recovery and recycling.
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Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
EU decision on the Kyoto Protocol and its post Kyoto strategy	This requires member states to reduce emissions of a basket of 6 greenhouse gases by 8% by 2012.	Carbon dioxide and methane are the greenhouse gases associated with minerals extraction, transport and landfill and incineration of wastes. MW LDF policies will need to reduce greenhouse gases from minerals and waste operations. The SA includes objectives for improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gases.
Proposed Directive on the management of waste from the extractive industries	The proposed legislation will introduce provisions to prevent or minimise adverse affects and risks to health and the environment. It will apply to waste from the extraction, processing and storage of mineral resources and the working of quarries.	Once approved, the granting of operating permits for mineral waste processes will be subject to public notification and participation. Underpinning the authorisation process is the need for the operator to demonstrate that a plan exists to prevent or reduce waste and its negative impact and to recover and recycle any that remains. The MW LDF should anticipate and reflect this. The SA framework already has provision for public participation in decision-making processes that affect the public.
Directives on ambient air quality	These establish limit values for various pollutants (sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulates and lead) and alert thresholds for concentrations in ambient air and that this information should be made available to the public.	The Minerals and Waste LDF will need to include policies which ensue that local air quality is not adversely affected by minerals extraction, minerals and waste transport and emissions from landfill. The SA will need to include objectives on local air quality.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Proposed Directive on the management of radioactive waste	The Directive will introduce rules for the management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste that will protect society and the environment from radiological hazards; minimise radioactive waste; and ensure a high level of public participation in these processes.	The Minerals and Waste LDF will need to address radioactive waste and introduce policies on radioactive waste development that ensure the highest level of protection for people and the environment, here and wider afield. The SA will need to include specific objectives on radioactive waste minimisation and management.
Directive on environmental noise	The directive aims to control perceived noise levels in urban settings and in the open countryside arising from certain activities.	The MW LDF will need to address noise arising from minerals and waste management operations including transport. The SA will need to deal with the prevention of noise pollution within its framework.
UK Sustainable Development Strategy	This is a large complex strategy underpinned by concern for global issues and future generations. It consolidates the guiding principles of the previous strategy and expands these into a new integrated strategy. Five guiding principles form the basis for policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living within environmental limits • Ensuring a strong, healthy society • Achieving a sustainable economy • Promoting good governance • Using science soundly Priority areas for immediate action are; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable consumption and production • Climate change and energy • Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement • Sustainable communities 	The Strategy's principles of living within environmental limits and achieving a strong economy have implications for the MW LDF policies as does good governance which promotes public involvement in decisions affecting their quality of life. All 4 priority areas need to be reflected in the SA objectives.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
UK Climate Change Programme	<p>Following Kyoto, the Government agreed to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% no later than 2012. The UK CCP takes this further by introducing domestic target of 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2010. This will involve all sectors of the economy contributing to energy efficiency and developing and using environmental technologies. Grant aid has been made available to stimulate and supplement private sector involvement.</p>	<p>This has implications for MW LDF policies which will need to encourage energy efficiency in development proposals and reduced heavy goods transport from day to day activity to help improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This is also an opportunity for the MW LDF to help promote a more sustainable low carbon economy.</p> <p>The SA will need to fully reflect the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from on site operations and transport.</p>
Draft vision for the natural environment	<p>This draft vision being produced by Defra signals policy direction on the natural environment. While it acknowledges that the natural environment is the source of raw materials for industry, it is unambiguous about the need for clean air and water, productive soils, a stable climate, natural breakdown of waste, a high quality local environment, the value of biodiversity and designated landscapes.</p>	<p>The strongly suggests that MW LDF policies will need to have a high degree of environmental protection built into them with the emphasis on material recovery and re-use with the extractive industries more closely regulated to align with changing environmental values.</p> <p>The SA will need to anticipate and reflect all of these aspects of Defra's vision for the natural environment.</p>
England's biodiversity strategy	<p>This aims to embed biodiversity considerations into all the main sectors of public policy working (as the title suggests) with the grain of nature rather than against it.</p>	<p>The LDF will need to include a number of policies in support of biodiversity which are tailored to minimising any impacts from the extractive and waste industries.</p> <p>The SA will need to include an objective on the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.</p>

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
England's forestry strategy	Forestry policy has 2 main aims: the sustainable management of existing woodlands and a continued steady expansion of woodland to benefit people and the environment.	The LDF will need to include policies supporting afforestation, perhaps as part of its policy approach to site screening and restoration. The SA will need to incorporate measure in support of forestry.
England's first soil action plan	This is aimed at policy-makers, planners and industry whose influence touches on construction, minerals extraction, agriculture, forestry, and nature conservation, cultural heritage and landscape conservation. It aims to protect and improve the management of England's soils and includes specific actions relating to the minerals and waste industry.	The key points for the MW LDF are: protecting soils through the planning system from contamination; recognising that soils house biodiversity; minimising the use of peat as a soil conditioner and promoting recycling and composting as alternative growing media; and promoting recycled material for site restoration.
Policy statement on Ramsar sites in England	This sets out the Government's policies for the protection and management of Ramsar sites in England. It provides a level of protection which permits development of Ramsar sites in only the rarest of circumstances and makes it clear that if consent is given, lost wetland interests will have to be replaced by restoring and recreating habitats.	The MW LDF policies will need to respond by directing development away from Ramsar sites. Wetlands are fragile ecosystems and susceptible to hydrological change on and off site. For this reason policies will need to direct development away from vicinity of wetlands. All terrestrial areas within Ramsar sites are SSSI's and there is a duty to further the conservation and enhancement of these sites and this needs to be reflected in planning policies. The SA framework will need to incorporate objectives which support the protection of wetland habitats and species.
The Energy White Paper	This sets out policies responding to climate change, reduced domestic oil gas and coal production, and aging energy distribution networks. Policy direction points to a low carbon economy.	Implications for the MW LDF include security of supply of fuels and encouraging energy from waste options. Supporting policies relate to reducing carbon emissions from on site activity and minerals and waste transport.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Air Quality Strategy	This sets standards, objectives and targets for the 8 main air pollutants, amended to include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and tougher targets for particles, benzene and carbon monoxide. Overall the strategy aims to improve air quality and reduce death and ill health amongst people in urban areas and those who live near industrial sites.	<p>The MW LDF should contain policies promoting better air quality and reduced emissions from on site activity and transport.</p> <p>The SA will need to include an objective on improving air quality.</p>
Transport White Paper	The Strategy extends the existing 10 year plan on transport to 2014 and scans ahead to 2030. It aims to facilitate personal mobility while minimising the impacts on the environment and other people, including future generations. It also aims to provide transport networks to support the economy. Sustainable freight transport, a robust approach to protecting the environment generally and reducing environmental impacts of transport all feature strongly.	<p>MW LDF policies will need to reduce freight movements by road and promote rail distribution and ensure that site operations are governed by a concern to protect local communities from road noise, dust, vibration, poor air quality and risk of accidents.</p> <p>The SA will need to include sustainable transport objectives which support reduced wagon movement and reduced emissions and better quality of life for residents living near sites.</p>
The Waste Strategy (including recent amendments)	Policy direction can be summarised as: reducing the growth in household, industrial and commercial waste; recovering more value from waste through higher levels of recycling, composting and energy recovery; developing markets for recycled and secondary materials; and reduced use of landfill. Overall the aim is to utilise waste in a way that improves national productivity and contributes to sustainable development and a cleaner environment.	<p>The MW LDF will need to include policies which support national policy on waste minimisation, recovery and recycling of both household and industrial and commercial wastes.</p> <p>The SA will need to include specific objectives on sustainable waste management.</p>

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
English Nature's Position Statement on Waste Management	This supports and develops Government policy on sustainable waste management as it relates to habitats and species. It aims to minimise loss of habitat and natural features and avoid any adverse impacts on SSSI's. Other aims are to prevent hazardous substances entering the environment as waste and to restore land affected by waste to recreate wildlife habitats.	<p>MW LDF policies need to support waste minimisation, re-use, recycling and recovery, landfilling only the residue in a way which minimises environmental impact and make provision to avoid any development likely to damage to habitats or species. Restoration policies should also focus on enhancing opportunities for biodiversity. Marine</p> <p>The SS should include objectives on biodiversity and sustainable waste management based on the waste hierarchy of preferred outcomes for waste.</p>
English Nature's Position Statement on Aggregates (and non-aggregates)	While recognising the need for minerals supply within the economy, EN's approach is to influence Government and the industry to do so in a way which does not damage the quality and diversity of England's environment and help deliver well managed workings which protect and enhance wildlife, geology and geomorphology.	<p>Key directions for MW LDF are sustainable policies which minimise demand and ensure that aggregates are extracted with the least harm to the environment. In practice this will mean policies on protecting designated sites, and minimising the various environmental impacts associated with minerals extraction (e.g. pollution, noise, impacts on landscape and water resources as well as quality of life of local residents).</p> <p>The SA will need objectives which encourage the sustainable management of natural resources and protect biodiversity and other components of the natural environment.</p>
English Nature's position statement on peat alternatives	EN's position is to encourage the use of alternative soil conditioners in horticulture and by the gardening public to protect lowland raised bogs, their species and remoteness from degradation from drainage and agricultural conversion, forestry and peat removal.	Policy direction for the MW LDF is to protect lowland raised bogs and surrounding buffer areas from peat extraction and to ensure existing permissions comply with a high standard of restoration and habitat re-creation.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Force for the Future (Historic Environment Policy)	The historic environment is fragile and not renewable. Government policy is developing along the lines of utilising the historic environment as a learning resource, making it accessible to everyone, maximising its economic potential while minimising damage and preserving it for future generations.	<p>The main issues arising for the MW LDF is one of protection, ensuring that minerals and waste planning permissions do not allow the historic environment or indeed its immediate setting in the landscape to be damaged or compromised.</p> <p>The SA needs to make provision for the protection of the historic environment in its sustainability objectives.</p>
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	This sets out the law on the protection of birds, wild animals, wild plants, and gives effect to many international conventions and European Directives. The Act provides for the notification and protection and management of SSSI's (by reason of their flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features). The Act also requires authorities to maintain definitive maps of footpaths.	<p>MW LDF policies will make provision for site environmental impact assessment before granting planning permission in order to help protect biodiversity and designated sites and footpaths from minerals and waste development.</p> <p>The SA will need to contain objectives on biodiversity and access to the countryside.</p>
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	This extends the level of protection given to SSSI's, provides a right of access to open countryside, introduces better management for AONB's and a duty to consult on matters affecting land use within AONB's and lists habitats and species for conservation.	<p>The MW LDF will need to include robust policies on biodiversity, SSSI's and AONB's which help deliver Government aims.</p> <p>No additional requirements placed on the SA.</p>

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development	This sets out the key principles of national planning policy whereby sustainable development has been integrated with other principles to facilitate and promote sustainable and inclusive patterns of urban and rural development.	<p>The MW LDF will need to develop policies which integrate sustainable development into the development framework so that the MW LDF delivers prudent use of natural resources, protection and enhancement of the environment, social progress and economic regeneration. This means the LDF will near clear aims and objectives to deliver more sustainable minerals supply and provide facilities for sustainable waste management.</p> <p>The SA will need to include objectives which pursue sustainable development in an integrated way.</p>
PPG 3 Housing (as amended)	This sets out national policy guidance on the provision of housing to meet communities' needs. The policies aim to provide everyone with choice of housing type and the opportunity of a decent affordable home. Policies on the release of sufficient land, re-using redundant land, more sustainable patterns of development, good design with reduced car dependence all signal the Government's aim of improving quality of life.	<p>Policy direction for the MW LDF must lie in meeting the needs of housing constructors and renovators for materials (sand, gravel, stone and slate) in a way which manages demand with and sustainable management of natural resources, including recovery and recycling, and integrates concerns for the wider environment. Other policy signals relate to waste management facilities for new housing, including communal local recycling centres. The SA will need to include objectives on sustainable use of natural materials and the waste management, including recycling of household wastes.</p>

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
PPS 7 Sustainable Development in Rural Areas	Policies apply to rural areas, including settlements as well as the undeveloped countryside. The policies aim to improve quality of life and the quality of the environment by promoting inter alia a more sustainable pattern of development and a diverse agricultural sector.	MW LDF policies will need to be framed to help deliver sustainable development by supporting economic activity and employment creation at suitable sites, providing local materials to enable vernacular construction and restoration, while protecting the quality and character of the wider countryside (designated areas, landscapes, geological and historic features and biodiversity). The SA will need to include objectives reflecting the quality and character of the countryside and the need for economic regeneration in rural areas.
PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation	The guidance sets out national planning policies on the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and geological diversity as part of the Government's wider objective of delivering a more sustainable society.	MW LDF will need to include policies which integrate consideration and protection of biodiversity and geological diversity with other land use development policies in a way which is consistent with international, national, regional and local priorities and objectives on biodiversity and geological diversity. The LDF will need to identify important sites. The SA will need to include objectives which protect and enhance biodiversity and geological diversity.

Appendix 4 Review of Relevant Plans and Programmes

Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
PPS 10 Planning for Sustainable Waste Management	Due to supersede PPG 10 - a dated policy framework. Key policy signals are: applying the waste hierarchy which seeks to recover values from waste with disposal as the last, least favoured option; provision of waste management facilities to meet the needs of communities; meet recycling and composting targets; ensure recovery or disposal does not endanger human health or harm the environment; deal with waste close to the point of its creation; and reflect concerns of local people and the needs of the industry and waste collection/disposal authorities.	<p>MW LDF policies should facilitate a realignment of waste management facilities to fit with Government and European objectives on waste minimisation and recovery and re-use across the range of household, industrial and commercial wastes.</p> <p>The SA will need to include objectives on waste minimisation, recovery, recycling and re-use.</p>
PPS 11 Regional Spatial strategies	This gives guidance on creating a spatial framework to inform the preparation of local development documents which will in time reflect aspects of local development documents as they evolve. The RSS will contribute to sustainable development and deal with a range of policy themes including housing, environment, biodiversity, infrastructure, minerals extraction and waste treatment and disposal. Regional and Local development documents have to broadly conform to each other.	<p>The MW LDF policies should broadly reflect the objectives of the Regional Spatial Strategy.</p> <p>The SA objectives should tie in with regional sustainability objectives.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
PPS 12 Local Development Frameworks	LDF's have been introduced to allow the planning system allow plans to be revised more quickly; encourage wider public involvement in the planning process; allow key decisions to be taken earlier in the plan-making process; ensure that local plans contribute to sustainable development by undergoing a sustainability appraisal; and ensure that all plans are soundly based and that policies are backed by credible evidence.	The MW LDF will be drawn up in accordance with PPS 12 and will undergo a sustainability appraisal which as well as assessing the plans contribution to sustainable development will identify a range of baseline information and appropriate indicators to allow on-going monitoring of the evidence base.
PPG 13 Transport	This sets out the planning policies necessary to deliver an integrated transport policy which aims to promote more sustainable transport choices for people and for moving freight; promote access to jobs, services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling; and reduce the need to travel by car.	<p>MW LDF policies will need to reflect Government policy on sustainable transport and promote sustainable transport choices for minerals and waste freight and will also need to influence to location of waste facilities near to population centres.</p> <p>The SA will need to contain objectives that reflect the need to shift freight from road to rail and encourage suitable location of waste facilities to minimise associated transport by lorry or car.</p>
PPG 15 Planning and the Historic Environment	PPG 15 recognises the value and the need to protect the physical remains of our past which contributes to our culture and sense of identity. The policies recognise the contribution the historic environment can make to the local economy and urge authorities to incorporate a commitment to stewardship of the historic environment.	<p>The MW LDF will need to incorporate specific polices to protect the best of the historic environment from the impacts of development (noise, dust, visual intrusion, vibration, transport emissions etc.).</p> <p>The SA needs to include stewardship of the historic environment in its objectives.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
PPG 16 Archaeology	National policy regards archaeological remains a finite, often fragile, non-renewable resource to be managed for the benefit of society and not needlessly or thoughtlessly destroyed.	MW LDF needs to contain policies protecting nationally important archaeological remains and their settings from development and include policies requiring an assessment of the merits of all archaeological evidence and take this into account when determining applications relating to minerals and waste. The Sa framework already incorporates protection of the historic environment.
PPS 22 on Renewable Energy	National policy on renewables picks up energy from waste (but not from mass incineration of domestic waste) and energy from landfill and sewage gas. Policy is to reduce carbon emissions by 60% by 2050 and generate 10% of UK's electricity from renewables by 2010.	MW LDF needs to include policies promoting renewable energy, particularly harnessing energy from waste, irrespective of the scale and output of the development. Policies should also encourage greater public awareness and acceptance of the possibilities afforded by waste. The SA will need to include objectives on reducing carbon emissions and promoting renewable energy from waste streams.
PPS 23 Planning and Pollution Control	Policy seeks to control and minimise pollution as part of a wider strategy to promote sustainable development. The precautionary principle underpins policy and its use is intended to protect people, livestock, biodiversity and the environment, including the built environment, from pollution, particularly where the risk cannot be assessed with confidence.	The MW LDF will need to include similar policies to give effect to national policy and construct these policies around the precautionary principle. The SA will need to incorporate objectives on protecting local air quality and other environmental components as well as nearby residents, open countryside, flora and fauna by minimising pollution from minerals and waste development proposals.

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
PPG 24 Planning and Noise	Policy is to separate noise sensitive development from roads, rail and some types of industrial development all of which generate noise and where this is not possible to reduce and mitigate noise levels through planning conditions.	<p>The MW LDF will need to incorporate policies designed to locate noise emitting development away from homes and hospitals and also remote tranquil areas of designated countryside. Additional policies will also be required on reducing and mitigating noise pollution from minerals and waste activity.</p> <p>The SA will need to incorporate noise avoidance in its objectives on local environmental quality.</p>
Minerals Planning Guidance 1: General Considerations	Key policy aims are to conserve minerals as far as possible while ensuring a steady supply to meet needs; minimising environmental impacts from minerals operations and transport; minimise waste and encourage recovery and recycling of waste; encourage sensitive working, restoration and aftercare of sites thereby reducing overall environmental impact; protect designated areas from development unless exceptional circumstances apply; and prevent the unnecessary sterilisation of minerals.	<p>National policy on minerals has yet to grasp sustainable development and while the MW LDF will need to reflect national policy scope exists to include policies which ensure the prudent use of natural resources and encourage recovery of mineral value from residual waste streams and high quality site restoration.</p> <p>The SA framework will need to include objectives on the sustainable use and management of natural resources and minimisation of waste.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
<p>MPS 2 Controlling and Mitigating the Environmental Effects of Minerals Extraction in England</p>	<p>National policy guidance on standards expected in local policy relating to keeping environmental impacts arising from minerals working to an acceptable minimum.</p>	<p>MW LDF policies will have to give guidance on what constitutes an 'acceptable minimum' and make provision to design out environmental impacts at the proposal stage and deploy a range of mitigation strategies when considering planning conditions. Much of this could be achieved by incorporating a requirement for all new proposals or extensions of permission to be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment so that evidence-based judgements can be made.</p> <p>The SA will need to frame its objectives to ensure that environmental impact of minerals activity is minimised.</p>
<p>MPG 3 Coal Mining and Colliery Spoil</p>	<p>National policy on coal mining and disposal of colliery waste which supports the Government's aim of energy security and diversity of supply and sets out guidance which recognises the severity of the damage to the local environment and local communities from open-cast mining. Policy presumes against development of open-cast, deep mining and colliery spoil disposal unless the development can be made environmentally acceptable or alternatively the local community will benefit significantly from the development. Additional tests are set for proposals affecting SSSI's and NNR's.</p>	<p>The MW LDF will need to include policies on deep coal mining, colliery spoil disposal and open-cast mining which reflect national policy and presume against development. The LDF policy framework will need to reflect sustainable development objectives which are not given sufficient prominence in this (dated) guidance note.</p> <p>The SA will include objectives on climate change, reducing carbon emissions, renewable energy, job creation and waste management.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
MPG 5 Stability in Surface Mineral Workings and Tips	Guidance complements PPG 14 on unstable land including landslides and unstable slopes. Policy points to minerals extraction and restoration not being adversely affected by instability and any instability must not affect adjoining land, nor should development take place on or near abandoned workings which are potentially unstable.	<p>The MW LDF will need to include policies relating to unstable land and stability in surface mineral workings which fully reflect Government guidance and make provision safe working and satisfactory restoration and after use.</p> <p>The SA does not to incorporate objectives at a detailed level and therefore stability will not be reflected in the framework.</p>
MPG 6 Guidelines for Aggregates Provision in England	Sets out national policy guidance on ensuring the construction industry receives a steady supply of primary aggregates along with adequate provision of secondary and recycled aggregates as part of a wider strategy on moving towards sustainable development in which emphasis is put on conserving minerals, minimising production of wastes and avoiding designated sites and ensuring what development takes place does not cause irreversible damage to the environment.	<p>MW LDF policies will need to make provision for aggregates within Cumbria and to some extent help to meet demand in the NW Region. However sustainable management of resources places a greater emphasis on conservation than is apparent in Government policy and therefore local policies may have to give more weight to the use of secondary and recycled aggregates than is currently the case.</p> <p>The Sa will need to address sustainable management of resources and demand led supply issues.</p>
MPG 7 Reclamation of Mineral Workings	National guidance on reclamation, restoration and aftercare appropriate to the intended use of the restored workings. Technical focus but the policy aim is clear to return land worked for minerals to a beneficial after-use at the earliest opportunity. Complements MPG 2 on Applications, Permissions and Conditions.	<p>The MW LDF will need to include policies dealing with reclamation and restoration and align these with other policies on granting planning approvals. These policies will need to set a high standard for restoration and be capable of bringing about enhancement of the land and landforms opened for mineral extraction.</p> <p>The SA will need to include objectives for land reclamation.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
MPG 9 Interim Development Order Provisions	This deals with 'old mining permissions' and requires holders of these permissions to register allowing modern planning conditions to be established if the planning permission is to remain valid. The policy aim is to improve operating standards and environmental standards.	<p>The MW LDF will need to include policies dealing with 'old mining permissions' which aim to establish acceptable environmental standards within which operations may be carried out. This may include the use of EIA.</p> <p>There are no additional implications for the SA.</p>
MPG 10 Provision of Raw material for the Cement Industry	Advice on how the cement industry should be dealt with in terms of policies in development plans and when considering permissions. Government aim is to reduce imports of raw materials and stimulate domestic production. Avoiding environmental damage is a key government concern.	<p>The MW LDF will need to include specific policies on provision of materials for the cement industry which emphasis environmental care and restoration.</p> <p>The SA has already sufficient objectives reflecting prudent use of natural resources and a high standard of environmental protection.</p>
MPG 13 Peat Provision	Government policy is to support the horticultural industry and provide gardeners with access to a wide choice of suitable products. This means demand for peat should be met from domestic sources. At the same time Government believes peat bogs can retain a high level of conservation value and should be protected. Future extraction should therefore be confined to significantly damaged areas and all permissions should be updated to require enhanced restoration.	<p>The MW LDF will need to include specific policies on peat extraction and restoration. Additional policies may be needed to update planning conditions and introduce higher operational and environmental standards. The MW LDF will also have to identify which peatlands form part of the country's 'critical natural capital'.</p> <p>The SA will need objectives relating to the sustainable management of natural resources.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Regional Economic Strategy 2003	The RES focuses on business development, regeneration, skills and employment, infrastructure and image of the NW Region. Underpinning the Strategy is the need for sustainable development, improved quality of life, equality and diversity and partnership working with delivery at the appropriate level.	<p>The MW LDF policies need to respond by helping to create a framework within which investment and economic growth can take place, creating jobs particularly in rural areas, in a way which protects and enhances the natural environment and ensures that natural resources are used prudently.</p> <p>The SA framework needs to include objectives on regeneration, jobs creation, skills and training, sustainable management of natural resources, protection of the environment and biodiversity and social inclusion and equality.</p>
Regional Economic Strategy Consultation Draft 2005	New emerging, evidence based regional economic strategy seeks to integrate social, environmental and urban rural issues into each component part of the Strategy (business, skills, regeneration, infrastructure and quality of life). The draft Strategy aims to transform the region through sustainable economic development into a competitive, high added value, knowledge based inclusive economy by raising business output and productivity, creating more and better jobs, ensuring people have good skills and access to work, helping disadvantaged communities and reducing household income variations.	This poses no new or additional implications for the MW LDF or indeed the SA since the policy implications are similar to those identified above and therefore the implications for the SA are also the same as before.

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Regional Planning Guidance (RPG 13) 2003	RPG provides a regional spatial strategy within which development and local transport plans can be prepared. It also informs other strategies. RPG's objectives are: greater economic competitiveness and growth coupled with social progress; urban renaissance; the revival of coastal resorts; expanding rural economies; active management of environmental and cultural assets; a better regional image; and an accessible region with an efficient, integrated transport system.	<p>RPG is being superseded by RSS but key policy indicators for the MW LDF remain relating to the sustainable management of environmental resources (the historic environment, landscape character, biodiversity, water resources and air quality) while allowing sustainable levels of minerals extraction, promoting sustainable waste management and providing suitable waste management facilities coupled with a sustainable approach to freight movement.</p> <p>Implications for the SA are a range of objectives covering sustainable transport, sustainable production and waste minimisation with environmental protection and enhancement as well as economic regeneration.</p>
Regional Spatial Strategy Draft Revisions 2005	<p>The draft RSS incorporates the Regional Transport Strategy and identifies the scale and distribution of housing development and priorities for environment, transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals and waste treatment and disposal.</p> <p>It informs and is influenced by other plans and strategies including national and regional sustainable development strategies.</p>	LDF's are required to be in conformity with RSS and therefore the MW LDF policies will need to reflect relevant policies contained in the RSS on waste minimisation, recycling maximisation, and make provision for waste management facilities and a steady supply of minerals transported, where possible, by means other than road. To ensure conformity sustainable development will need to guide MW LDF policies and produce high standards of environmental protection and enhancement.

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
		<p>The SA will need to reflect the Region's sustainable development priorities on sustainable transport and sustainable production and consumption, biodiversity and landscapes, climate change, healthy communities and enterprise and innovation outlined above.</p>
Regional Housing Strategy	<p>The Regional Housing Strategy sets out to ensure that: everyone has a choice of good quality housing by tackling housing market failure in both urban areas and rural areas; investment in restructuring housing stock takes place; affordable homes are provided to maintain balanced communities; the condition of the housing stock is improved and that specialist and supported housing is available and integrated with care services.</p>	<p>There are few direct connections with the MW LDF other than ensuring that an adequate supply of construction material is made available to facilitate housing renewal with policies encouraging the use of recovered and recycled material and the integration of recycling facilities in homes and communities.</p> <p>The SA needs to include a specific objective on good quality, resource efficient affordable housing.</p>
Regional Freight Strategy 2003	<p>Complements the Regional Transport Strategy. It aims to develop an integrated, efficient freight transport system which facilitates economic development and make a positive contribution to the region's environment and quality of life.</p>	<p>MW LDF policies should aim to support rail and canal/sea borne transport of bulk commodities (minerals, construction materials, waste and recycled goods). This may need to be done through planning conditions specifying rail connected development attached to site operating permissions.</p> <p>The SA will need to include objectives on local air quality, noise, climate change and reducing movement of goods by lorry.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
Action for Sustainability 2004	The regional sustainability framework seeks to influence other strategies to produce sustainable outcomes. It aims to bring about sustainable transport and access; sustainable production and consumption; social equity; high quality biodiversity and landscape; active citizenship; and lifelong learning. It also supports cultural distinctiveness, healthy communities and enterprise and innovation while taking care that all policy objectives include action to mitigate and adapt to climate change.	<p>The MW LDF policies will need to contribute to sustainable transport, sustainable production and consumption, biodiversity and landscape, enterprise and innovation while bringing about policy outcomes which do not accelerate climate change.</p> <p>The SA framework will need to contain a range of objectives which broadly conform with those contained in Action for Sustainability.</p>
Regional Waste Strategy 2004	Aims to contribute to sustainable development in the Region by encouraging waste management systems that will reduce waste generation, lessen the environmental impacts of waste production and improve resource efficiency. It also aims to stimulate investment and maximise associated economic opportunities.	<p>The MW LDF policies will need to focus on waste prevention, increasing recycling facilities and providing a network of recovery, processing and residual waste treatment facilities while maintaining adequate landfill for residual wastes.</p> <p>The SA will need to include objectives on waste minimisation, recycling and recovery as well as landfill of residual wastes within an overall framework of sustainable waste management.</p>
Regional Sustainable Energy Strategy consultation draft 2005	The Strategy focuses on reducing energy use, increasing use of renewable energy	The MW LDF policies will need to facilitate energy from waste, the adoption of energy

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	<p>and combined heat and power technologies. It aims to establish a policy framework which integrates sustainable energy into planning and development control, new construction, refurbishment work and energy use in the home and by organisations and companies. It also sets targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency based CO2 reductions.</p>	<p>efficient site operations, building design and perimeter lighting, facilitating CHP schemes linked to district heating in urban areas, and using its development control powers to reduce transport energy consumption and encourage on site renewable energy generation and consumption.</p> <p>The SA will need objectives on climate change and renewable energy.</p>
<p>Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan 2001-2016 (Modification 2005)</p>	<p>The JSP guides land use in Cumbria and provides a framework for local plans and the M and W LDF which applies to the area outside the Lake District National Park. A major policy theme is sustainable development that seeks to protect the environment, ensure prudent use of natural resources and maintain social progress and economic growth.</p> <p>Other policies permit extraction outside the LDNP and AONB's to maintain and adequate supply of minerals provided there are no adverse effects on local communities, the local environment or the road network unless there is an over-riding need for the mineral. Other policies focus on waste minimisation and acceptable standards of site restoration and aftercare.</p> <p>The JSP policies favour large scale recovery and treatment facilities located on brownfield land or major sources of waste including urban centres, provided there are no adverse effects on the</p>	<p>The MW LDF translates Structure Plan policies into more detailed policies and site allocations. The MW LDF will need to contain policies which promote sustainable development with particular emphasis on environmental protection, sustainable use of natural resources without stifling social progress and economic growth.</p> <p>M and W policies will also need to reflect other JSP policies protecting local communities, the local environment and local transport infrastructure with policies requiring high standards of aftercare and restoration.</p> <p>Other policy influences that will need to be included are locational policies for waste, and other policies applying conditions to ensure sustainable development.</p> <p>The SA will need to include objectives on the sustainable use of natural resources and waste minimisation and test for alternatives to</p>

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	<p>environment, landscape character, transport and local communities. Mitigating measures are also stipulated.</p> <p>Other policies promote small scale recovery facilities and new civic amenity sites.</p> <p>Policies on energy recovery from waste are more restrictive and apply only if recycling and composting targets cannot be met. Residual landfill is permitted outside AONB's in limited circumstances.</p>	<p>landfill. Other objectives will on biodiversity and landscape and quality of life will need to be included too.</p>
<p>Cumbria's Sub Regional Spatial Strategy 2004 to 2024</p>	<p>This strategy differs markedly from the JSP. It complements Sustainable Cumbria the strategy for securing economic growth, social progress and environmental protection. It provides a spatial planning framework to enable actions to achieve these broad aims in specific locations. It sets out an agreed list of priority measures to reduce dependency on towns outside Cumbria for jobs and services; to increase the complementary nature of key towns; and to develop and maintain high quality transport networks.</p>	<p>It is not clear how the MW LDF should respond to what is in effect more of an aspirational document more suited to lobbying than land-use planning. The key messages that come out of the strategy are aimed at quality of life and economic growth in particular areas.</p> <p>Nonetheless it does seek to protect areas of nature conservation and landscape importance, historic sites and parks and gardens along with air quality and water quality. The MW LDF will need to pick these policy signals up and incorporate them.</p> <p>The SA can best respond by having a comprehensive set of objectives which cover social and economic progress within a framework of environmental protection and sustainable use of resources.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
		<p>It also proposes a cost benefit approach to planning decisions and calls for a range of impact assessments to facilitate decision-making.</p> <p>The SA framework needs to include a full range of objectives covering social progress, sustainable use of natural materials, environmental protection and regeneration.</p>
Sustainable Cumbria 2004 to 2024	<p>This is a strategy for growth and progress in Cumbria with 9 priority areas and 7 cross cutting themes against which partner organisations are expected to assess their policies and programmes. The overarching priority is to create sustainable communities and promote social, economic and environmental well-being in Barrow and West Cumbria, Carlisle, the Lake District National Park; other priorities include improving the tourism experience in Cumbria, improving strategic communications, creating wealth and a diversified economy, rural regeneration and resolving housing market failures.</p>	<p>Key policy signals for the MW LDF include sustainable development coupled with a number of locational foci aimed at creating wealth and regenerating local economies through various measures.</p> <p>The MW LDF can best respond by having aiming to meet Cumbria's sustainability objectives where possible. This will ensure that M and W policies contribute as fully as practicable to a more sustainable society.</p> <p>There are no additional implications for the SA framework which comprehensively covers these issues.</p>
Provisional (2005) Local Transport Plan 2006 - 2011	<p>The LTP covers all of Cumbria and provides a framework for the delivery of transport by all transport organisations operating in Cumbria. The LTP aims to: provide an integrated transport network that supports the economy; enable access to jobs and services; reduce road casualties; contribute to the quality of the built and natural environments; improve public</p>	<p>M and W policies will need to respond by seeking to prevent any significant increases in road transport of bulk materials and where possible shifting to rail or canal. In this way the M and W LDF can help contribute to a number of LTP core objectives.</p> <p>The SA framework already embraces all the LTP objectives on access to services and jobs, on</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
	health; make appropriate use of existing infrastructure; and enable sustainable access to culture, heritage and the countryside.	public health, the economy, the environment, on access to the countryside and on reducing road freight shipments.
Cumbria Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2003	<p>This accord effectively commits waste collection and waste disposal authorities to complementary actions on municipal waste management.</p> <p>The focus is on increasing recycling and composting of in effect household waste. Other strands include the selection of a waste management company to fund and operate new waste processing and disposal facilities and, in addition, there are plans for a waste minimisation programme.</p>	The implications for the MW LDF are likely to be an increase in applications for local recycling/composting facilities and for other waste sorting and management facilities including incineration.
Allerdale Local Plan 1996-2006	<p>The Local Plan provides aims to ensure that 'new development is broadly sustainable in terms of global impact, natural resources and local environmental quality'. Development which is likely to cause unacceptable harm will be resisted. Key principles guiding the plan are that the local economy will be promoted in a sustainable way and that the natural environment will be protected and enhanced. More detailed policies relate to the control of environmental pollution; avoiding increased movement of heavy lorries to and from sites; avoiding greenfield development; protecting quality agricultural land from development; reclamation of derelict sites; resisting development which would adversely affect sites designated for either landscape quality or</p>	<p>The MW LDF will need to respond by adopting an equally positive approach to sustainability and tailoring its policies to respect the Local Plan's approach to protecting designated sites; controlling inappropriately located planning applications; protecting openspace and from development and reducing transport lorry movements.</p> <p>The SA will need to include a comprehensive range of objectives which support environmental aims and encourage economic and social progress.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
	biodiversity and protecting open spaces from development.	
Barrow in Furness Local Plan review 1996-2006	<p>The Plan sets out policies guiding the development and use of land. The Plan has a strong environmental protection core designed to enhance the Plan area's essential character and main environmental assets. Within this strategic context 4 guiding principles operate: regeneration through sustainable development; protecting and improving the local environment; providing a balanced supply of housing and developing as a sub regional centre for leisure and shopping. No specific policies for minerals and waste disposal are included in the local plan. Current areas of mineral working are identified. Proposals which involve the transfer of freight to rail will be welcomed. Subject to protection of visual amenity of nearby residents proposals for recycling will be welcomed. Proposals which are likely to damage environmental interests through pollution will not be permitted. The Proposals Map sets out areas of risk and protection relating to groundwater and county landscapes. Policies also set high standards of landscaping for new development and seek to avoid loss of tree cover and sites of historical or archaeological importance. Biodiversity is also given policy protection.</p>	<p>Broadly the implications for the MW LDF have already been identified from the previous local plan. The key policy influences to be taken on board are protection of the natural environment and its various components and a shift of freight from road to rail.</p> <p>There are no additional implications for the SA.</p>
Eden Local Plan 1996-2006	The Local plan is based on 7 principles: promoting sustainable development in the	The broad policy influences identified in other district plans apply here too.

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
	<p>management and use of resources; protecting against inappropriate development particularly in areas of historic, cultural, landscape, nature conservation value; balancing development against the amenity of settlements and the countryside;</p> <p>Ensuing sufficient land is made available to meet the needs of communities; to promote viability of local communities; to promote access to jobs, homes and services; and to promote energy efficiency.</p>	<p>There are therefore no additional implications for the MW LDF or indeed the SA.</p>
<p>Copeland Local Plan 2001-2016 2nd Deposit version April 2005</p>	<p>The Local Plan will when adopted, set out the council's policies and proposals for the future development and use of land, improvements to the physical environment and the management of traffic.</p> <p>The Plan aims to: secure a stable and balanced population; improve public health, safety and quality of life; protect and enhance landscapes, habitats and the built and natural environments; make the most effective use of existing buildings and infrastructure, previously developed land and natural resources; and promote economic regeneration.</p> <p>A number of more detailed objectives exist on: increasing community participation; protecting and enhancing landscapes, biodiversity and the historic environment; protecting and improving ground and surface waters and ensuring air quality is not adversely affected by development.</p>	<p>Additional influences on economic regeneration and community participation add to a comprehensive suite of policies pursuing environmental protection and sustainable development.</p> <p>There are no additional implications for the SA.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified		Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
<p>Carlisle Local Plan 2001-2016 Redeposit Draft August 2005.</p>	<p>This is a Local Plan prepared under the transitional regulations. It sets out the spatial strategy and detailed policies for the control of development in the area. A number of supplementary planning documents are being developed to provide more detail on policies. It is likely to be adopted in June 2006.</p> <p>Economic prosperity and environmental sustainability form the key principles at the heart of the Local Plan. Policies seek to conserve scenic beauty, natural resources and the quality of the built environment from inappropriate development. Designated sites (wildlife and archaeology) and landscapes are given protection from development. It seeks to protect the open countryside, including high quality agricultural land, from development that need not be there. It also aims to promote environmental protection and enhancement, (public open space, wildlife, historic environment, groundwater and surface waters). Other policies exist on preventing pollution and to encourage rail freight.</p>	<p>No additional implications for either the MW LDF or the SA.</p>
<p>South Lakeland Local Plan 2006 amended by Composite Plan 2004.</p>	<p>The Plan contains policies and proposals to guide development within the local authority area. The plan will be replaced during 2006/07 by a Local Development Framework. Work has begun on this. The most relevant policy area is environment and conservation. The District has</p>	<p>No additional implications for either the MW LDF or indeed the SA.</p>

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Relevant Plan or Programme Identified	Brief overview and outline of policy influence on Minerals and Waste LDF	Issues arising for the LDF and the Sustainability Appraisal
	quality natural and built environments, important nature conservation interests, high quality landscapes and a historic legacy. Plan policies seek to protect designated landscapes and less distinguished open countryside with important landscape qualities. Other policies seek to protect a high quality agricultural land, prevent light pollution from external lights, protect designated wildlife sites and habitats, the historic environment, the freshwater resource, control pollution and reduce derelict land. Waste recycling facilities are encouraged.	

Appendix 5

A Profile of Key Issues/Pressures affecting Cumbria

Social

- Pressure for housing pushing prices up – implications for housing to meet local needs and affordability of housing (S. Lakeland, Eden & LDNP);
- Second homes/holiday lets and inward migration by retired people adds to this pressure (S. Lakeland, Eden & LDNP);
- Run-down and vacant properties not utilised fully (Barrow & West Coast);
- Access to services and facilities problematic in rural communities;
- Public transport network inadequate in rural areas;
- Comparatively safe communities overall but fear of crime disproportionately high in isolated rural areas;
- Some alcohol-fuelled anti social behaviour linked to the night-time economy (Carlisle and Barrow) and a comparatively high number of race related incidents;
- 'Tourist' shops, for example in LDNP, may reduce the number of shops and services providing for local needs;
- Established out of town shopping affecting the viability of smaller town centres;
- Traffic congestion at peak times (Carlisle, Kendal) and also seasonal congestion (LDNP);
- Lack of cycle networks within towns and cities;
- Lack of Cumbrian university;
- Loss of young people, particularly graduates and a reluctance of young people to continue family farming traditions;

Economic

- Unemployment with higher levels of economic inactivity in West Cumbria and Furness partly linked to large number of incapacity benefit claimants;
- Low unemployment and skills shortage in Eden and South Lakes;
- Economic vulnerability due to decline of manufacturing & uncertain future of nuclear industry (West Coast & Barrow);
- Increasingly frequent relocation of jobs outside the county (and the country);
- Low wage economy particularly tourism related jobs;
- Below average share of growth sectors in local economy;
- Limited research and development facilities;
- Gross Value Added growing more slowly than the rest of the UK causing the economy to underperform and a widening of regional disparities of wealth;
- Recent farming crises causing problems for agriculture coupled with unique problems of farming in upland areas (falling incomes and the labour intensive nature of the work);
- Poor access to West Cumbria and Barrow;
- Redundant port and harbour areas in need of rejuvenation;

- Pressure from mobile phone and internet companies/users to improve telecommunications in Cumbria;
- Lots of derelict/contaminated (brown field) land in some areas due to decline in industry;

Environmental

- Loss of tranquillity and impact of lights on dark skies;
- Vulnerability of the landscape to recreational, leisure and sporting activities;
- High proportion of species identified for national conservation priority;
- Large tracts of upland and coastal habitat remain but elsewhere there are declines in extent (fragmentation) and quality of wildlife habitats and populations for some species;
- High proportion of nutrient rich lakes supporting a wide range of aquatic plants, invertebrates and breeding and wintering wildfowl;
- Vulnerability of nutrient rich lakes and nutrient poor lakes (and their resident species) to additional enrichment from farming fertilizer run off and sewage;
- Significant pressure on rivers, lakes and tarns from diffuse sources of pollution (agricultural wastes, fertilizers and run off from drains and road surfaces, coupled with some air pollution);
- Unknown impact of climate change possibly leading to outward migration of some species and inward migration of other as average temperatures rise;
- Unsympathetic alterations to old buildings and bland new developments altering historic character and damaging archaeology in some areas;
- National renewable energy targets likely to lead to pressures for more development of wind farms which could affect landscape character and quality;
- Air quality problems in urban areas;
- Need to reduce the risk to people and property from flooding (Carlisle, Kendal and Keswick);

Resources

- Pressure responding to regulations preventing biodegradable waste going to landfill;
- The need to develop alternative waste management methods and secure the necessary level of investment in additional facilities;
- Problems of disposal and storage of radioactive wastes;
- Pressure to continue to supply scarce mineral resources to meet national demand (gypsum and skid resistant roadstone);
- The need to meet mineral demand by substituting secondary and recycled material for primary aggregates.

A. McKenzie
1st August 2005

Appendix 6

Draft Sustainability Objectives (SEA Topic)	Baseline Data	Suggested indicators	Trend, impact overview and targets	Data Source
<p>To increase the level of participation in democratic processes (SEA: Population)</p>	<p>Population data for the LD Plan area (Cumbria's population minus the LDNP and YDNP populations).</p>	<p>No general indicators on population suggested.</p>	<p>Cumbria's population is unlikely to be significantly affected by the MWDF and associated policies. Population data for the Plan area are being collected to help characterise Cumbria and ensure that the requirements of the SEA Directive are being met. This is expected to make subsequent sustainability appraisals of DPD's easier.</p>	<p>Cumbria County Council, Information and Intelligence Unit.</p>
	<p>Recorded crimes per 1000 population (vehicle theft, burglary and violent crime).</p>			
	<p>Average earnings for LD Plan area.</p>			
	<p>Unemployment rate for C MW LD Plan area.</p>			
	<p>Life expectancy for C MW LD plan area.</p>			
	<p>To be collected.</p>	<p>Number of local liaison committees in operation</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>	<p>CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.</p>
	<p>To be collected.</p>	<p>Number of written responses received to the Cumbrian MWDF consultation.</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>	<p>CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.</p>

Appendix 6

<p>To improve access to services, facilities, the countryside and open spaces (SEA: Population)</p>	<p>To be collected.</p>	<p>Consideration could be given to developing an access indicator on the open countryside e.g. length of new public rights of way.</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>	<p>CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.</p>
	<p>To be collected.</p>	<p>Measuring access to recycling bring sites. The likely indicator would measure distance to travel to a recycling point.</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>	<p>CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.</p>
<p>To provide everyone with a decent home (SEA: Material Assets)</p>	<p>To be collected.</p>	<p>% new homes constructed with recycling facilities designed into the structure of the building</p>	<p>To be determined</p>	<p>To be determined</p>
<p>To improve the level of skills, education and training (SEA: Population)</p>	<p>To be collected.</p>	<p>Number of environmental education programmes in operation at C MW sites.</p>	<p>To be determined.</p>	<p>Minerals and waste operators.</p>

Appendix 6

To improve the health and sense of well-being of people (SEA: Human health)	To be collected.	Number of nuisance complaints received relating to MW sites.	To be determined.	CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.
		Area of restored sites used by public for active recreation.		
To create vibrant, active, inclusive and open-minded communities with a strong sense of local history (SEA: Population)	N/A	None suggested – sustainability objective not directly related to the M&W LDF.	N/A	N/A
To protect and enhance biodiversity (SEA: Biodiversity, flora and fauna)	To be collected.	Number of Cumbria BAP species and area of BAP habitat displaced by MW development.	To be determined.	CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.
		Number or area of new Cumbria BAP habitats created by restoration of existing MW sites.	To be determined.	
To preserve, enhance and manage landscape quality and character for future generations (SEA: Landscape)	To be collected.	Area of minerals and waste developments located within designated or sensitive landscape areas.	To be determined.	CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.
To improve the quality of the built environment (SEA: cultural heritage)	To be collected.	% of local stone supplied	To be determined.	CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.
		% of local slate supplied		

Appendix 6

To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (SEA: Air) (SEA: Climatic factors)	To be collected.	Tonnes methane emitted from landfill sites	To be determined.	CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.
		Number of landfill sites generating energy from landfill gas		
		Estimated emissions CO ² (tonnes) from transport of waste		
		Estimated emissions (tonnes) CO ² from transport of minerals		
To improve water quality and water resources (SEA: Water)	To be determined.	Number of water pollution incidents caused by minerals and waste development	To be determined.	Environment Agency and CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.
		Number of M&W sites located within groundwater protection zones		
To restore and protect land and soil SEA: Soil)	To be collected.	Minerals schemes covered by progressive restoration schemes.	To be determined.	CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.
		New waste developments located on brownfield land		
		% of primary aggregates imported into the M&W Plan area		

Appendix 6

		Annual production rates of primary aggregates as % of permitted reserves		
		Sales of secondary aggregates as % of total primary aggregates sold in Plan area		
		% municipal waste landfilled/recycled		
		% industrial & commercial waste landfilled/recycled		
		LATS fines		
		% of municipal waste from which value is recovered		
	To be determined.	% of population within 5 miles of a household waste recycling centre	To be determined.	CCC Environment Unit, Kendal.
	Baseline data already held.	% waste at household waste recycling centres recycled or composted.	To be determined.	CCC Client nservices, Dalston.
To retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities (SEA: population)	To be collected.	No of jobs in the minerals and waste sectors	To be determined.	To be determined
		No's of new or extended M&W developments		

Appendix 6

To improve access to jobs (SEA: Population)	To be collected.	Number of minerals and waste sites operating in high areas of unemployment	To be determined.	To be determined
To diversify and strengthen the local economy (SEA: Material assets)	To be collected	Annual investment in waste management facilities	To be determined.	To be determined
		Value recovered from waste		
		Annual sales of minerals		

Respondent	Comments	Action taken or proposed
The National Trust	SP2 Access to services etc: support indicator in principle but regard length of new public rights of way to be a poor proxy measure and suggest improving it by linking concentrations of people to the wider footpath network/countryside.	Agree that the length of new public rights of way is a poor proxy and that a new more relevant indicator needs to be developed, possibly relating to the number of restored sites open to the public.
The National Trust has made a number of detailed comments on the suggested indicators contained in the draft scoping report.	SP3 Providing everyone with a decent home: new home design should minimise the need for primary aggregates and encourage recycled material use. Suggested the extent to which relevant policies reflect this would be a good indicator.	The MWDF needs to connect in some way with material supply for house building and domestic waste disposal. Currently the plan-makers consider that there is no connection between the plan and the sustainability objective of providing everyone with a decent home. The sustainability appraisal will revisit this area.
	SP5 To improve health and sense of well-being: indicator supported.	Noted.
	SP6 Active communities with a strong sense of local history: the Trust noted the frequent connections between communities and their past and wishes to see more interpretative material provided as part of any regeneration programmes. They propose a proxy indicator measuring the number of planning permissions requiring provision of interpretative material.	Noted. This will be explored although at first glance the proposed indicator is perhaps more relevant to other development plans.
	EN1 Biodiversity: habitat fragmentation seen as a major concern - would like the indicator on new habitat creation sharpened to reflect the extent to which habitat fragmentation was reduced by the creation of new habitats.	Since publishing the draft scoping report a dialogue has been established with the local biodiversity community to identify local issues, explore how biodiversity is affected by development plans and to identify appropriate indicators. Habitat fragmentation will be examined as part of this process.
	EN2 Landscape quality and character: the Trust regards this as a key issue – the indicator suggested is considered helpful but the Trust wonders how ‘sensitive’ landscapes can be defined. Suggests that the indicator is changed to incorporate a character based judgement over time.	Agree that ‘sensitive’ landscapes have no universally understood meaning. It will be a case of measuring the immeasurable. As a short term fix designated landscapes will be used instead. Character based judgement will be explored to see if this can provide a more relevant indicator.
	EN3 Built environment: the National Trust generally considers the draft scoping report to be weak on the built environment but strongly supports the suggested indicator. It would like some further measures relating to the impact of development on aspects of the built environment, its setting and on local distinctiveness.	Noted. This will be re-visited. However, the weakness may in part stem from a limited likely impact on the built environment and it may be that other development plans are better placed to address the Trust’s concerns. The connection between the MWDF and the supply of local building materials for restoration and maintaining local distinctiveness is understood and should provide an appropriate indicator.
	NR1 Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions: The Trust supports the proposed indicators but points out that CO2 emissions from the transport of minerals has been omitted. Suggests consideration given to the impact of minerals and waste operations on air quality management areas.	Agreed. This was included in the original draft scoping report and omitted during publication. There are only two air quality management sites in Cumbria. Both are in city centres (Carlisle and Kendal) and will not be affected to

Respondent	Comment	Action taken or proposed
		any extent by minerals or waste operations.
<p>National Trust continued</p> <p>The Trust has made a number of additional comments on the draft Scoping Report</p>	NR2 Water quality: the Trust considers that insufficient emphasis is given to the marine environment generally in objective NR2	Accepted. The Sustainability framework will be amended to ensure the marine environment is not overlooked.
	NR3 to restore and protect land and soil: the Trust suggests that consideration be given to measuring how new development affects soils, and in particular agricultural land.	This may be more appropriate for development generally and not just MW development. However some thought will be given to this as the appraisal process progresses.
	NR4 To manage mineral resources sustainably and minimise waste: the Trust considers the proposed indicators to be satisfactory.	Noted.
	EC1 To retain jobs and create new employment: the Trust supports the first indicator and doubts that the second indicator is relevant.	Noted.
	EC2 To improve access to jobs: correction suggested to simple syntax error.	Accepted. Correction made.
	Para 5.1 Criticism was made of the shorthand explanation of sustainable development used to inform the reader of the scoping report. The Trust considers that the definition used was not robust enough and failed to grasp the need for environmental enhancement.	Defining sustainable development can be problematic. The section of the scoping report simply sought to explore sustainability in everyday terms. A greater emphasis on enhancement will be included as the report is refined.
	Paras 5.7 and 7.2 A comment that sustainable development is a statutory requirement for plan-makers not just a national policy objective	Noted.
	Paras 8.15 - 8.21 Details of English Heritage data sets not discussed and by implication no regard being paid to built heritage as part of the sustainability appraisal process.	Omission of any reference to English Heritage data sets accepted. This was an oversight that will be rectified in the final version of the scoping report. Disagree that the built heritage has excluded from the appraisal process.
<p>The Trust has also commented on the draft sustainability objectives and the compatibility analysis</p>	Paras 9.8 To protect designated landscapes – designated sites not wide enough to embrace other valued areas.	Will consider this suggestion (see comment below on making the appraisal framework unwieldy).
	Para 10.6 while welcoming the sustainability appraisal framework, the Trust would wish to include reference to the settings of the two national parks in sustainability objective EN2 which may well be affected by the M&W development documents.	Accepted in principle. Will consider.
	Para 10.6 add to EN3 the settings of listed buildings and conservation areas.	Accepted in principle and will consider this suggestion. Difficulty of continually refining and adding things is that the framework becomes a complex manual rather than an outline tool designed for ease of use and which guides analysis rather than prescribes it.

	Para 10.6 add to NR1 canals and sea transport and the promotion of energy efficiency	Accepted in principle. In practice it is less likely that the MWDF will stimulate material and waste movement by canal in Cumbria. Sea transport is feasible for minerals but would not be a sustainable option for domestic waste.
Respondent	Comment	Action taken or proposed
The National Trust continued Comparison of SEA topics with Cumbria sustainability objectives List of documents reviewed and review of plans	Para 10.6 add to NR2 impacts on coastal waters.	Suggestion accepted. The marine environment is already included in the appraisal framework but this could be made more explicit.
	Para 10.6 the Trust welcomes the focus on soil to NR3 and wishes to see consideration of local landscape character added to this objective when restoring sites.	EN2 in the framework covers this. In practice this needs to be built into MWDF policies.
	On EC2 the Trust feels that whether the plan will improve access to jobs depends on the location of facilities and considers that this should be made more explicit.	Noted.
	On EC3 would prefer more emphasis on image, environmental conditions and quality of life.	Noted. All of these aims will be achieved if the Sustainability Framework successfully influences policy.
	Paras 11.3 – 11.13 The trust agrees with the issues identified and states that these will require more careful consideration as the appraisal process continues.	Noted.
	The table set out in section 12 contains a weakness gap in that the Cumbrian sustainability objective EN3 does not give proper emphasis to built heritage assets.	Not accepted. The table is simply designed to show that the Sustainability Framework will result in a sustainability appraisal that meets the requirements of Directive 2001/42/EC.
	Section 14, Appendix 3 add: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Planning Response to Climate Change, ODPM (2004) Spatial Implications of Climate Change for the North west, CURE and Tyndall Centre (2003) Assessments of NW's cultural heritage as set out in Heritage Counts reports and the NW Cultural strategy (2001) 	These have been added to the list of documents and plans reviewed.
	The Trust welcomes the integrated approach to sustainability appraisal embodied in the framework.	Noted.
	The Trust would like to see 'and their settings' added to consideration of the historic environment in relation to the policy implications for the minerals and waste development framework initiated by PPG 15.	Noted. Will consider during refinement of the scoping report.
	Settings again omitted when considering the implications of regional policy for minerals and waste development.	Noted. Excessive detail for a scoping report.
The cultural considerations of Action for sustainability have been omitted.	Not accepted. The scoping report and the sustainability framework adequately cover this.	
The relevant cultural considerations contained in the Joint Structure Plan are absent.	Not strictly relevant. The MWDF would not normally be expected to deliver Joint Structure Plan policies on sport, theatre, open space and recreational provision although it is accepted that in both rural and urban areas site restoration may result in open space provision. Will modify NR3 to include creation of open space.	

Respondent	Comment	Action taken or proposed
Mr. Smallwood, Snowhill Stone Quarry	The quarry owner submitted a two page letter which did not comment on the draft scoping report as such but focussed instead on the future supply of stone from the quarry.	Contents of letter noted and passed to Development Control to respond.
Friends of the Lake District	Appendix 6 on indicators: with regard to the sustainability objective on landscape quality and character, FOLD suggest an additional indicator on restoration schemes.	Indicators have yet to be developed and consultation is taking place with a number of organisations with the aim of identifying appropriate indicators for the MWDF. FOLD suggestions are welcome and will be considered.
	Appendix 6 on indicators: this relates to the sustainability objective on managing mineral resources sustainably and minimising waste - FOLD have suggested an additional indicator on the use of rail.	As above.
Duddon Estuary Partnership	The Chairman of the DEP has expressed satisfaction that environmental issues are being taken into account and that there is unlikely to be any negative impact on the estuary.	Noted.
The Countryside Agency	The Agency points out that it contributed to the development of the sustainability appraisal framework and particularly supports objectives SP2, EN2 and EN3.	Noted.
	The Agency notes the intention to develop an indicator of access to the open countryside and wishes to be kept informed.	Noted. As a statutory consultee the Countryside Agency is regularly invited to discussions on baseline data and indicators.
	The Agency would like to participate in developing indicators on landscape (EN2) and suggests that existing landscape indicators previously developed for transport plans might be relevant.	Noted. See comments above.
United Utilities	United Utilities may not adopt any sewers draining to SuDS structures.	Noted. The company has made clear its policy on SuDS.
	Increased sewage sludge quantities are being produced because of more exacting environmental standards. This is occurring at a time when there are increased restrictions on re-use of treated sludge on land. United Utilities need to provide additional sludge treatment facilities and will work closely with the County Council.	Noted. Sewage sludge treatment facilities will be addressed during the plan-making process.
	United Utilities supports the intention to include policies to protect fresh water sources from pollution.	Noted.
	United Utilities supports the use of the Environment Agency as the source of data on pollution incidents and location of groundwater protection zones.	Noted. A dialogue on suitable indicators and constraints has been underway with the Agency for some time.
Lowther Estates	The Estate's Agent indicated that the Estate's minerals specialist will respond.	Noted. No response received as yet.

Respondent	Comments	Action taken or proposed
English Heritage	English Heritage is keen to see how the core objective of SEA (in essence a high level of environmental protection and integration of environmental considerations into plan-making) is integrated into the MWDF.	Noted. Hopefully this will become apparent as the sustainability appraisal process begins to inform the plan-making process.
	English Heritage takes the view that cultural heritage and the historic environment extend beyond designated sites to include the wider historic landscape and that which is locally important and distinctive.	Broadly agree. Fits with comments from the National Trust. EN3 will be amended to reflect this.
	English Heritage supports Objective SP2 but suggests that it should encompass both physical and intellectual access and that open spaces should also include historic areas and where appropriate interpretation provision.	SP 2 will be amended to include physical and intellectual access to historic areas.
English Heritage continued	English Heritage supports objective SP5 noting the contribution that the quality of people's surroundings make to quality of life.	Noted.
	Objective SP 6 which deals with local tradition and heritage is supported by English Heritage.	Noted.
	Objective EN2 is supported but with the comment that it could be extended to include conservation areas, ancient woodland and veteran trees along with other forms of traditional boundaries and enclosures.	This objective will be reviewed with the aim of including these suggestions. There is a willingness to ensure that each objective is comprehensive in itself without undermining the overall value of the framework.
	Objective EN3 should be reworded to include protection and enhancement of the historic environment and to mention listed buildings and locally important distinctive buildings.	This will be reviewed (see above).
	Objective NR4 is supported but could usefully make reference to the supply of local building and roofing stone.	Noted. This level of detail may be more appropriate for the plan policy assessment rather than the scoping stage.
	Objective EC3 is supported and could include reference to the supply of roofing stone.	Noted.
	Section 11 of the report tests the draft plan objectives against the sustainability objectives and identifies a gap relating to the natural environment. The absence of a specific objective protecting the historic environment may have created another gap. The relationship between the historic environment and minerals is too complex to be dealt with in a simple matrix and needs to be drawn out in the body of the report.	Noted. The compatibility analysis uses a matrix to guide the investigation. It is reproduced in the scoping report to give the reader a strong visual image of the policy direction that the plan is taking. The absence of a specific objective may suggest a gap exists on the historic environment but the framework attempts to include this topic. Further thought will be given to this issue.
	A similar comment relating to Appendix 1 which fails to draw out the relationship of cultural heritage to the sustainability objectives.	Noted. The National Trust made a similar comment. Will review the cultural and heritage aspects of the framework to try and ensure a better fit with advice given.
	English Heritage have also suggested that an additional range of documents and plans are added to Appendix 3 for review. These include the Florence Convention, the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, the European Spatial Development Perspective and various other national, regional and local plans.	All of the documents identified have been added to the list of documents and plans reviewed.

Respondent	Comments	Action taken or proposed
English Heritage continued	English Heritage has helpfully listed a variety of sources of baseline data and commented that indicators relating to cultural heritage require further consideration and should include positive and negative attributes relating to the impact of minerals and waste development on the historic environment.	Noted. Further consideration will be given to developing more appropriate indicators for the historic environment.
Environment Agency	The Environment Agency has participated in discussions with the County Council on data sets and indicators and overall is satisfied with the contents of the scoping report.	Noted.
	The Agency has suggested that greater emphasis is given to flood risk in the scoping report, particularly in relation to the location of waste sites and that mitigation measures are designed into mineral site operations and restoration to reduce flood risks.	Accepted in principle. However the scoping report is simply sets out how the appraisal will be carried out. This level of detail relates more to the MW DP policies which have not yet been written.
	The Agency has suggested that PPG 25 relating development and flood risk is added to the list of documents contained at Appendix 3.	This has been added to the list of documents and plans reviewed.
	The Agency suggests a new objective 'to minimise the risk of flooding associated with new development' is added to the sustainability framework.	Noted. This will be considered. Flood risk is currently contained in the framework within objective EN3.
	A suitable indicator to monitor this would be the number of planning permissions granted contrary to the Environment Agency's advice. Baseline data already exists.	Accepted.
	The Environment Agency would like the Authority to prepare a Strategic flood Risk Assessment as part of the MWDF plan-making process. This would provide information on spatial constraints posed by flooding in the County and there are opportunities to produce this in conjunction with district councils.	This suggestion is being acted on by the plan-making team who are in discussion with the Agency and some district councils.
	On objective NR3 (re protecting land and soil) the Agency have suggested an indicator based on the total area of brownfield land that is cleaned up.	This will be considered as the scoping report is refined.
	On Appendix 3 (review of relevant plans) the Agency has asked that the Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations 2000 and the waste management Licensing Regulations 1994 are included.	Both sets of Regulations have been added to the list of documents and plans reviewed.
	The Agency have suggested that the draft sustainability objective on improving water quality and water resources is broadened to include a reference to protecting water resources.	Agreed.
	Add to Appendix 3 (list of documents reviewed) the Water Framework Directive which covers all surface waters. The Agency will be developing river basin management plans which together with their pressure and impact maps can inform development frameworks.	The Directive has been added to the list of documents and plans reviewed.
The Agency has signposted further data sources on its website.	Noted.	

South Lakeland Friends of the Earth	F of E has commented on the draft MW plan objectives and sustainability objectives. They refer to Government guidance on the need for land use plans to fully reflect sustainable development principles and give emphasis to the need for planning policies to respect environmental limits and the polluter pays principle.	Noted. Sustainability appraisal integrates environmental (and socio-economic) considerations into the plan-making process. In effect it is the best practice mechanism for ensuring that local development frameworks and other plans and programmes that could significantly affect the environment fully address environmental concerns. A robust sustainability appraisal should therefore pick up and respond to these points.
	F of E also pick up the comments made in the draft sustainability appraisal that the draft plan policies seem to treat protection of the environment as a secondary consideration.	The draft plan policies should be reviewed as a result of the sustainability scoping report and therefore can be expected to give more emphasis to protection of the natural environment. Should this not materialise, this will be revisited at the next stage of the appraisal process.
	F of E also make reference to the idea of natural capital and its relevance to Cumbria and the need for the planning system to prevent short term exploitation of natural resources and promote (inter alia) the sustainable use of natural resources.	The Scoping Report is fairly critical of the draft plan objectives when it comes to protection of the natural environment and the lack of recognition of the need for sustainable production of non renewable resources and the need for sustainable consumption and therefore the minimisation of waste.
	F of E have commented on the difficulty in developing suitable indicators and made a number of suggestions spanning the sustainability framework.	These will be considered as the appraisal process develops.