



# **Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Core Strategy Development Plan Document**

**Submission Draft**

**Sustainability Appraisal**

**Appendix Volume 1:  
Appendices A - B**

**UPR/IE/17/08**

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## **Introduction**

This document consists of supporting information to the documents entitled 'Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Core Strategy – Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Submission Draft'. The information in the appendices is in the form of tables and should be read in conjunction with the Sustainability Appraisal Report.

The following appendices are included:

Appendix A: Review of other Plans and Programmes

Appendix B: Wiltshire and Swindon SA/SEA Baseline Information

## Appendix A. Review of other Plans and Programmes

### A.1 Air Quality and Noise

<b>Directive 1996/62/EC on Ambient Air Quality and Management</b>
This Directive covers the revision of previously existing legislation and the introduction of new air quality standards for previously unregulated air pollutants, setting the timetable for the development of daughter directives on a range of pollutants. The list of atmospheric pollutants to be considered includes sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, lead and ozone – pollutants governed by already existing ambient air quality objectives- and benzene, carbon monoxide, poly-aromatic hydrocarbons, cadmium, arsenic, nickel and mercury.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Establishes mandatory standards for air quality and sets limits and guides values for sulphur and nitrogen dioxide, suspended particulates and lead in air.
<b>Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise (The Environmental Noise Directive)</b>
The aim of the Environmental Noise Directive (END) is to define a common approach across the European Union with the intention of avoiding, preventing or reducing on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise. Until May 2005 DEFRA consulted on the implementation of the Directive into UK law.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
This will involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Informing the public about environmental noise and its effects;</li><li>• Preparing of strategic noise maps for: large urban areas (referred to as 'agglomerations' in the END and in this document), major roads, major railways and major airports as defined in the END; and</li><li>• Preparing action plans based on the results of the noise mapping exercise. Such plans will aim to manage and reduce environmental noise where necessary, and preserve environmental noise quality where it is good.</li></ul>
<b>PPG 24 – Planning and Noise</b>
This PPG gives guidance to local authorities in England on the use of their planning powers to minimise the adverse impact of noise. It outlines the considerations to be taken into account in determining planning applications both for noise sensitive developments and for those activities which will generate noise and introduces the concept of noise exposure categories, recommending appropriate levels for exposure to different sources of noise; and advising on the use of conditions to minimise the impact of noise.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Noise-sensitive developments should be located away from existing sources of significant noise (or programmed development such as new roads) and that potentially noisy developments are located in areas where noise will not be such an important consideration or where its impact can be minimised.

### **Air Quality Strategy: Working Together for Clean Air**

This Strategy describes the plans drawn up by the Government and the devolved administrations to improve and protect ambient air quality in the UK in the medium-term, so to protect people's health and the environment without imposing unacceptable economic or social costs.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Sets objectives for eight main air pollutants to protect health.

### **How the Minerals Local Development Document should address air quality and noise**

MLDD should include consideration of how site management can positively contribute to air quality and noise especially through HGV management policies. The plan should have regard for PPG24 when developing policies, particularly with regard to site selection, design, site management and monitoring. Site selection should also take into account air quality impacts where possible. The MLDD needs to include air quality policies for instance with regard to dust, and emissions from machinery and vehicles.

#### **Relevant objectives for the plan and the SA**

- Minimise emissions to air; and
- Minimise nuisance from minerals working and HGV traffic (including the effects of noise).

## **A.2 Climatic Factors**

### **Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change**

Signing up to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, 38 Countries (plus the EU) have committed to individual, legally-binding targets to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. These add up to a total cut in greenhouse-gas emissions of at least 5% from 1990 levels in the commitment period 2008-2012. The UK has committed to an 8% reduction (base year = 1990).

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Achieve a reduction in anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> levels to at least 5% below 1990 levels by 2012. Consider afforestation and reforestation as carbon sinks.

### **Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy**

The White paper defines a long-term strategic vision for energy policy combining our environmental, security of supply, competitiveness and social goals.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Stimulate new, more efficient sources of power generation, and cut emissions from the transport and agricultural sector.

### **PPS 1: Planning and Climate Change Supplement to Planning Policy Statement 1**

PPS1 sets out the overarching planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. This supplementary document indicates how spatial planning should contribute to reducing emissions and stabilising climate change (mitigation) and take into account the unavoidable consequences (adaptation).

<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Regional planning bodies, and all planning authorities should prepare and deliver spatial strategies that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make a full contribution to delivering the Government's Climate Change Programme and energy policies, and in doing so contribute to global sustainability;</li> <li>• in enabling the provision of new homes, jobs, services and infrastructure and shaping the places where people live and work, secure the highest viable standards of resource and energy efficiency and reduction in carbon emissions;</li> <li>• deliver patterns of urban growth that help secure the fullest possible use of sustainable transport for moving freight, public transport, cycling and walking; and, overall, reduce the need to travel, especially by car;</li> <li>• secure new development and shape places resilient to the effects of climate change in ways consistent with social cohesion and inclusion;</li> <li>• sustain biodiversity, and in doing so recognise that the distribution of habitats and species will be affected by climate change;</li> <li>• reflect the development needs and interests of communities and enable them to contribute effectively to tackling climate change; and,</li> <li>• respond to the concerns of business and encourage competitiveness and technological innovation.</li> </ul>
<b>Climate Change: The UK Programme (DEFRA, 2006)</b>
So This Climate Change Programme sets out the Government's commitments both at international and domestic levels to meet the challenge of climate change. It also sets out our approach to strengthening the role that individuals can play.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report annually to Parliament on emissions, our future plans and progress on domestic climate change;</li> <li>• set out our adaptation plan for the UK, informed by additional research on the impacts of climate change;</li> </ul>
<b>A Sustainable Future for the South West: The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England</b>
This is an integrated strategic framework, endorsed by the South West Assembly, for the promotion of the sustainable economic, social and environmental well-being of the South West. It provides a set of sustainable development guidelines for all organisations within the region. The main themes and objective are summarised as follows:
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
<b>Theme: Climate Change</b> Efficient use of affordable energy, reducing energy demand, increased role of renewable energy and Combined Heat and Power (CHP), reducing the adverse environmental impacts of energy production, reduce risk from climate change and sea level rise, minimise flooding risk.
<b>Revision 2010: Empowering the Region- Renewable Energy Targets for the South West</b>
Revision 2010 seeks to secure greater support for renewables within the region by encouraging the adoption of county or sub regional targets for the development of renewable electricity up to 2010. the project assumes seven county/sub regional areas including Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, former Avon and Gloucestershire.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>

The Renewable Energy Strategy outlines what needs to be done to deliver the target in RPG10 for 11-15% of the region's power to be generated from renewable sources by 2010, and looks set to establish the South West as the UK leader in renewable energy. The strategy identifies 50 actions that will ensure the South West remains at the forefront of the UK's renewable energy industry, including working with farmers to develop energy crops, mapping the potential for renewable energy for every local Authority area in the region, and supporting experimental projects in wave and tidal power. As of June 2004, targets have been adopted or approved in Wiltshire. Wiltshire is also in the process of developing renewable energy/climate change strategies and/or associated action plans, which can also provide added weight to the target. More importantly these strategies provide the mechanism for supporting the target's successful delivery.

### How the Minerals Local Development Document should address climatic factors

The plan should have regard to climate change when developing policy options. The SA of the plan should contain objectives for reducing emissions and coping with the effects of climate change. The MLDDS could contribute to UK greenhouse gas reduction targets, for instance through encouraging industrial efficiency, procurement of renewable energy, and more sustainable transport of materials and personnel. The proximity principle in particular needs to be built into site selection for the MLDDS.

#### Relevant objectives

- Encourage the use of sustainable transport options for minerals;
- Where possible, adopt the proximity principle when siting facilities;
- Minimise the impact of mineral workings through implementing effective measures to control emissions to air;
- Sustain biodiversity, recognising the fact that habitats and species will be affected by climate change; and
- Reduce the risk of flooding by siting developments away from floodplains.

### A.3 Human health and safety

#### A Sustainable Future for the South West: The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England

This is an integrated strategic framework, endorsed by the South West Assembly, for the promotion of the sustainable economic, social and environmental well-being of the South West. It provides a set of sustainable development guidelines for all organisations within the region. The main themes and objective are summarised as follows:

#### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

##### Theme: Health & Well-Being

Health and wellbeing,  
Reduce health inequalities,  
Improve key determinants of health

#### Health Strategy 2000 (EU Commission Communication COM(2000) 285 final)

EU action on health is based on three key principles: integration, sustainability and focus on priority issues. This has led to an integrated approach to health-related work at Community level, making health-related policy areas work together towards achieving health objectives. This Communication called

for concentrating resources where the Community can provide real added value, without duplicating work which can be better done by the Member States or international organisations.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The public health programme focuses on three priorities:

(1) Improving health information and knowledge

A comprehensive health information system will be put in place which will provide policy makers, health professionals and the general public the key health data and information that they need.

(2) Responding rapidly to health threats

An effective rapid response capability will be put in place to deal with threats to public health, for example, arising from communicable diseases. The integration of the EU based on the principle of free movement increases the need for vigilance.

(3) Addressing health determinants

The programme will help to improve the health status of the population and reduce premature deaths in the EU by tackling the underlying causes of ill health, through effective health promotion and disease prevention measures.

#### **Programme of Community action in the field of public health (2003-2008) (European Parliament Decision No 1786/2002/EC)**

On 23 September 2002, the European Parliament and the Council adopted a new Community action programme for public health. This programme runs for a 6 year period (from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2008).

The new programme is based on three general objectives: health information, rapid reaction to health threats and health promotion through addressing health determinants. Activities such as networks, co-ordinated responses, sharing of experience, training and dissemination of information and knowledge will be inter-linked and mutually reinforcing. The aim is to embody an integrated approach towards protecting and improving health. As part of this integrated approach, particular attention is paid to the creation of links with other Community programmes and actions. Health impact assessment of proposals under other Community policies and activities, such as research, internal market, agriculture or environment will be used as a tool to ensure the consistency of the Community health strategy.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

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An effective rapid response capability will be put in place to deal with threats to public health, for example, arising from communicable diseases. The integration of the EU based on the principle of free movement increases the need for vigilance.

(3) Addressing health determinants

The programme will help to improve the health status of the population and reduce premature deaths in the EU by tackling the underlying causes of ill health, through effective health promotion and disease prevention measures.

**Draft Guidance on Health in Strategic Environmental Assessment: Consultation Document (DCLG, 2007)**

The Department of Health have recently published a consultation document on Health and SEA, which refers specifically to how the health topic could be addressed in Local Development Documents (LDDs).

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

- SEA consultation must be carried out with the public and certain named organisations (known as Consultation Bodies). As a health organisation is not included amongst the Consultation Bodies, this guidance encourages interaction between RAs and health organisations to ensure that the population's health is assessed during the SEA process.
- SEA is a major opportunity to prevent ill health and tackle health inequalities as set out in the White Papers Choosing Health and Our health, our care, our say.
- RAs should know and understand how health is affected by their plans and programmes so that, in assessing them, major relevant health issues are covered, maximising positive effects and preventing, offsetting or minimising negative ones, and promoting healthier planning as set out in the White Paper Strong and Prosperous Communities.

Health organisations should be effectively engaged in the process, with the health needs of the population being addressed in the SEA process.

**Choosing Health: making Healthier Choices Easier - Health White Paper (2004)**

This White Paper sets out the key principles for supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices in regards to their health. The Government will provide information and practical support to get people motivated and improve emotional wellbeing and access to services so that healthy choices are easier to make. This strategy has 3 underpinning principles: informed choice, personalisation and working together.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Set out priorities:

- Reducing the numbers of people who smoke
- Reducing obesity and improving diet and nutrition
- Increasing exercise
- Encouraging sensible drinking
- Improving sexual health

Improving mental health

### How the Minerals Local Development Document should address human health and safety

The plan should take account of the needs to conserve green areas for informal and formal recreation, and to site development away from communities, where possible, in order to minimise those affected by air (inc. dust), noise, and vibration.

#### Relevant objectives

- Maintain or where possible enhance the quality of life for people affected by mineral working and/or ancillary development;
- Promote habits and activities which will help to improve the health status of the population;
- Ensure robust consideration is given to the proximity of mineral workings and/or ancillary development to developments and individual properties; and
- Protect rights of way, open space and common land.

## A.4 Population

### A Shared Vision for Swindon 2008-2030

This document sets out the views and aspirations of how the Swindon community would like its Borough to be in the year 2030.

#### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

Key objectives:

- Destination of choice
- All Swindon people are benefiting from the growing economy
- Safeguarding the environment for future generations
- Healthy, caring and supportive community
- A place where high aspirations are supported by superb education provision for all ages
- A place where local people can have real influence and where they feel safe.

### Wiltshire Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2016

This Strategy aims to actively promote the health of residents, and seek to reduce local health inequalities.

#### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

Such communities will be better able to rise to the future challenges and pressures facing the County, and will have the following features:

- Communities where people want to live and work. People are there by choice, and take pride in the distinctiveness of their towns and villages.
- Communities which are inclusive. People of different backgrounds, ages and beliefs feel a valued part of the community, not separate, marginalised or disadvantaged by, amongst other things, a lack of transport or affordable housing.
- Communities which are lively, busy places. People get together to tackle local concerns, to organise cultural events, and to socialise. People readily volunteer and feel encouraged to do so. There are many social 'networks' between individuals and families, which allow people to live active, varied and independent lives.
- Communities where people feel safe, and are treated with respect.

- Communities which possess the skills and businesses to remain competitive, and generate enough jobs to meet local employment needs.
- Communities where children and young people enjoy life, and achieve their potential in and out of school.
- Communities which have effective political processes, characterised by trust and openness, high political participation, and effective working relations between public, voluntary and business sectors.
- Communities which actively promote the health of residents, and seek to reduce local health inequalities.

### How the Minerals Local Development Document should address population

The plan should pay due regard to the objectives of the Sustainable Community Strategy for Wiltshire, and help provide and contribute towards making Swindon and economically prosperous place, without detracting from its environment.

#### Relevant objectives

- Ensure that sub regional aggregate apportionment is met to ensure adequate materials for house building.

## A.5 Landscape, Open Space and Recreation

### European Landscape Convention

The European Landscape Convention was developed by the Council for Europe and came into force in 2004. It was signed by the UK in February 2006. The aims of the convention are to promote European landscape protection, management and planning and to organise European co-operation on landscape issues. Nations that sign the Convention agree to take action to raise the standing given to landscape in public policy.

#### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

The ELC sets out four general measures and five specific measures:

- To recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people's surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity;
- To establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection management and planning;
- To establish procedures for participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of landscape policies;
- To integrate landscape into its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect on landscape.
- Awareness-raising: involves increasing awareness among civil society, private organisations and public authorities of the values of landscape, their role and the changes to them;
- Training and education: involves promoting: training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations, multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning;
- Identification and assessment: involves mobilising the interested parties with a view to improving knowledge of the landscape and guiding the landscape identification and assessment procedures through exchanges of experiences and methodology. Each Party should: identify its own landscapes, analyse their characteristics and the forces and pressures transforming them, take note of change and assess the identified

- landscapes;
- Landscape quality objectives: involves framing landscape quality objectives for the identified landscapes; and
- Implementation: involves introducing instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.

### **PPG 17 – Planning for Open Space, Sport, and Recreation**

This PPG comprises the guidance to support outdoor and recreational activities which contribute to the delivery of broader sustainable development objectives such as the support of urban renaissance and rural renewal, the promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion, health and well being.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The recreational quality of open spaces can be eroded by insensitive development or incremental loss. In considering planning applications - either within or adjoining open space - local authorities should weigh any benefits being offered to the community against the loss of open space that will occur. Accessibility should be promoted by sustainable modes of transport (including disabled facilities).

### **Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (ODPM, 2006)**

This guidance outlines the economic significance of tourism and its environmental impact, and therefore its importance in land-use planning. It explains how the needs of tourism should be dealt with in development plans and in development control.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Ensure land use is distributed and managed in such a way that it supports the qualities that underpin the tourism industry.

### **Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW)**

CROW extends the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst also providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers. It creates a new statutory right of access to open country and registered common land, modernise the rights of way system, give greater protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), provide better management arrangements for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), and strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Emphasises the public's right of access to open country and common land, and gives additional protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The Act imposes a duty on public bodies, including WCC to have regard to the conservation and enhancement of the AONBs in the County.

### **A Sustainable Future for the South West: The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England**

This is an integrated strategic framework, endorsed by the South West Assembly, for the promotion of the sustainable economic, social and environmental well-being of the South West. It provides a set of sustainable development guidelines for all organisations within the region. The main themes and objective are summarised as follows:

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

##### **Theme: Food & farming**

- Promote high quality local food and drink;
- Improve the viability of mixed family-run farms;
- Raise the skills and aspirations of the farming and food workforce;
- Reconnect farmers and food producers with local communities; and

- Enhance the quality of farmland landscapes and habitats.

### **The State of the Countryside in the South West (Countryside Agency)**

Concise overview of facts and trends about the social, economic and environmental issues for the rural areas within the region.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Not applicable

### **Cotswolds AONB Management Plan**

This plan is primarily about conserving and enhancing the AONB, and provides a guide to everyone who lives, works and enjoys the Cotswolds AONB.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key objectives:

- To conserve and enhance the landscape of the AONB (including historic features and ecological diversity).
- Promote quiet enjoyment of AONB.
- Involving the public and stakeholders.

### **Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Management Plan**

The management plan sets out a vision for the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire AONB, a policy framework and an action plan under 3 themes, environment theme, rural economy theme and community theme.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Community theme vision: "...sustainable villages offer key facilities and services that are accessible to local needs..."

Economy vision: "A diverse thriving and sustainable economy in which agriculture, forestry and tourism are viable sectors..."

Environment vision: "A unique, tranquil and evolving landscape..."

### **North Wessex Downs AONB Management Plan**

This plan identifies the issues affecting the AONB and then suggests how they might be addressed. It offers a vision for the future and practical actions that can be taken to achieve this vision.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key objectives:

- Conserve and enhance landscape character, heritage, and biodiversity within the AONB.
- Sustain natural resources (e.g. soils) and promote low carbon economy.

### **New Forest Strategy (2003)**

The Strategy for the New Forest describes the main issues facing the conservation of the special qualities and character of the New Forest. It proposes a series of co-ordinated policies and a framework for action to protect these special qualities, and to promote their better understanding and enjoyment by

all those who use the Forest. The Strategy also makes clear the inextricable and often complex links which exist between the landscape, habitats and cultural heritage of the Forest, and the local economy and way of life of the Forest communities. The Forest and its people have evolved together over thousands of years. The Strategy therefore proposes an integrated approach to management through which the Forest's economy and culture continue to contribute to, and support, its special character.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The overall aims of the Strategy are:

- To work together in partnership\* to promote and achieve the Vision for the Forest through co-ordinated and innovative policies and actions. (Involving local communities, statutory organisations, land managers, recreational users, businesses and other interested groups).
- To conserve and enhance the unique environment of the Forest, and in particular the special qualities of its landscape, cultural heritage and wildlife habitats.
- To support the social and economic well-being of local communities in ways which sustain the special character of the Forest.
- To encourage everyone to understand and enjoy the special qualities of the Forest, while ensuring that its character is not harmed by recreational use.

**How the Minerals Local Development Document should address landscape, open space and recreation**

The MLDDS should take into account PPG 17 and Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism in preserving the quality of open space and hence avoiding the adverse impacts on areas like the Cotswold AONB. Proposed new mineral sites must take account of the CRoW Act and should not, where possible, hinder accessibility to open country and common land.

The plan should aim to reduce the impacts on agricultural land of mineral developments and take into account the objectives of the North Wessex Downs and Cotswold AONBs particularly relating to landscape and natural resources.

**Relevant objectives**

- Ensure that future quarrying proposals within AONBs are only permitted for cases of overriding national need and when alternative sources outside the AONBs have been fully considered;
- Reduce visual intrusion from mineral working and/or ancillary development;
- Ensure effective restoration of all mineral sites and areas affected by mineral working;
- Protect and improve the quality of the countryside in proximity to mineral working and/or ancillary development; and
- Maintain and enhance access to the countryside for residents and visitors.

**A.6 Cultural Heritage including Architectural and Archaeological Heritage**

**Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe 1985**

This European Convention sets a common policy for the conservation and enhancement of the architectural heritage.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Objectives include:

- To take statutory measures to protect architectural heritage;
- To make provision for the protection of monuments, groups of buildings and sites; and
- To make the conservation, promotion and enhancement of the architectural heritage a major feature of cultural, environmental and planning policies.

#### **European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage 1992**

This convention recognises that archaeology is seriously threatened with deterioration because of the increasing number of major planning schemes, natural risks, clandestine or unscientific excavations and insufficient public awareness. The aim the Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

- The maintenance of an inventory of its archaeological heritage and the designation of protected monuments and areas;
- The mandatory reporting of archaeological heritage found and making them available for examination;
- To apply procedures for the authorisation and supervision of excavation and other archaeological activities;
- To ensure that excavations and other potentially destructive techniques are carried out only by qualified, specially authorised persons;
- The modification of development plans likely to have adverse effects on the archaeological heritage;
- The allocation of sufficient time and resources for an appropriate scientific study to be made of the site and for its findings to be published;
- To ensure that environmental impact assessments and the resulting decisions involve full consideration of archaeological sites and their settings; and
- To make provision, when elements of the archaeological heritage have been found during development work, for their conservation in situ when feasible.

#### **PPG 15 – Planning and the Historic Environment**

This PPG provides a full statement of Government policies for the identification and protection of historic buildings, conservation areas, and other elements of the historic environment. It explains the role played by the planning system in their protection. It complements the guidance on archaeology and planning given in PPG 16.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Objectives are for effective protection for all aspects of the historic environment. Consider opportunities to re-use derelict transport infrastructure.

#### **PPG 16 – Archaeology and Planning**

This guidance is for planning authorities in England, property owners, developers, archaeologists, amenity societies and the general public. It sets out the Secretary of State's policy on archaeological remains on land, and how they should be preserved or recorded both in an urban setting and in the countryside. It gives advice on the handling of archaeological remains and discoveries under the development plan and control systems, including the weight to be given to them in planning decisions and the use of planning conditions.

<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Development plans should reconcile the need for development with the interests of conservation including archaeology. Detailed development plans should include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings.
<b>The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future</b>
This statement sets out the intention of the Government to protect the historic environment recognising its major contribution to the economy in rural and deprived communities as well as in traditional economic centres. It also states the need for the development of new policies to further realise economic and educational potential.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
The historic environment should be protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations.
<b>A Sustainable Future for the South West: The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England</b>
This is an integrated strategic framework, endorsed by the South West Assembly, for the promotion of the sustainable economic, social and environmental well-being of the South West. It provides a set of sustainable development guidelines for all organisations within the region. The main themes and objective are summarised as follows:
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
<b>Theme: Culture &amp; Heritage</b> Encourage increased access to, and participation in, cultural activities across the SW, capitalising on the latest developments in ICT Ensure the SW remains a region of diverse and distinct cultural landscapes and townscapes. Endow the region's creative capabilities and maximise their social and economic benefit.
<b>Culture South West (2003): In Search of Chunky Dunsters – A Cultural Strategy for the South West.</b>
This strategy sets out what the region can achieve by working together to improve the quality and range of cultural activities and creative industries available in the South West. Culture plays an important role in the economic growth of the region, and it is an integral part of the SWRDA plans.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Strategic themes; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage access and participation</li> <li>• Improve quality of the region's cultural facilities and activities</li> <li>• Support the regional cultural and creative industries</li> </ul> Local Authorities have lead responsibility for encouraging and supporting the development of local cultural strategies
<b>Strategy for the Historic Environment (HE) in the South West (English Heritage, 2004)</b>
This strategy emphasises the contribution of the historic environment to the quality of life, and culture of the region, and sets out a vision for the future management of this irreplaceable historic resource.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>

**Priorities:**

- Informed conservation of the historical environment
- Sustainable management of HE in rural areas, including establishment of agri-environment schemes
- Conservation of coastal and maritime environments and wetland landscapes.
- Promote design of buildings and landscape sensitive to their location
- Promote the use of traditional conservation and management skills
- Remove physical, social and cultural barriers to the access, understanding and enjoyment of the HE

**English Heritage Policy Position Statement: Mineral Extraction and the Historic Environment (Consultation Draft, 2007)**

This sets out English Heritage's position on mineral extraction and the historic environment. It examines the historic significance of mining and quarrying sites and landscapes, the impacts on the historic environment that can be caused by mineral extraction together with advice on appropriate mitigation measures, and the need for and supply of natural stone and other materials required to conserve the historic environment and maintain local distinctiveness.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

**Priorities:**

- Ensuring the supply of historically and technically appropriate local building stone;
- Work should continue to enhance understanding and public enjoyment of the historic legacy of extractive industries;
- Extraction should not take place if it would result in the destruction of or damage to a nationally important historic or archaeological site or listed building, or where it would have a significant adverse effect on setting;
- Ensure the environmental impacts of minerals are adequately mitigated; and
- Transport of minerals should be managed to minimise the impacts of vehicle movements (transport by rail and water will have a lower impact than transport by road).

**How the Minerals Local Development Document should address cultural heritage**

The MLDDS should be committed to PPG 15 and PPG 16 objectives for the effective protection of the historic environment and archaeological remains through site selection. It should also take into account the strategic aims of the South West Cultural Strategy.

**Relevant Objectives**

- Protect designated and, where possible, non-designated sites and monuments of cultural/archaeological importance.

## A.7 Biodiversity, Fauna, Flora and Soil

<b>EU Habitats Directive [Directive 92/43/EC]</b>
The Habitats Directive is a major European policy directive that aims to contribute towards protecting biodiversity - the variety of life - through the conservation of natural habitats and wild plants and animals. Recognising that wildlife habitats are under pressure from increasing demands made on the environment, the Directive provides for the creation of a network of protected areas across the European Union to be known as 'Natura 2000' sites. This network includes Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), which, on land, are already Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). Plans or programmes need to be 'screened' to determine whether they are likely to affect the integrity of a Natura 2000 site. If it is decided that this might be the case an Appropriate Assessment is required. The purpose of the Appropriate Assessment is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of a European Site and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of that site. Where significant negative effects are identified, alternative options should be examined to avoid any potential damaging effects.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Maintain or restore in a favourable condition designated natural habitat types and habitats of designated species listed in Annexes I and II respectively of the Directive. If a project compromising one of these habitats must proceed in spite of negative conservation impacts due to it being in the public interest, compensatory measures must be provided for. Linear structures such as rivers/streams, hedgerows, field boundaries, ponds, etc., that enable movement and migration of species should be preserved.
<b>The EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC 1979</b>
The Birds Directive has created a protection scheme for all of Europe's wild birds, identifying 194 species and sub-species (listed in Annex I) among them as particularly threatened and in need of special conservation measures. There are a number of components to this scheme. Within others, Member States are required to designate Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for the 194 threatened species and all migratory bird species. SPAs are scientifically identified areas critical for the survival of the targeted species, such as wetlands. The designation of an area as a SPA gives it a high level of protection from potentially damaging developments.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Imposes duty on Member States to sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds by sustaining areas of habitats in order to maintain populations at ecologically and scientifically sound levels.
<b>The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro 1992</b>
This convention was agreed among the vast majority of the world's governments and sets out their commitments to maintaining the world's biodiversity so to achieve a more sustainable economic development. The Convention establishes three main goals: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Article 6a requires each Contracting Party to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

### **EU Thematic Soil Strategy 2006**

The Soil Thematic Strategy is seeking to: establish common principles for the protection and sustainable use of soils; prevent threats to soils, and mitigate the affects of those threats; preserve soil functions within the context of sustainable use; and restore degraded and contaminated soils to approved levels of functionality. The Soil Thematic Strategy proposes the introduction of a Soil Framework Directive.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The overall objective of the Strategy is protection and sustainable use of soil, based on the following guiding principles:

(1) Preventing further soil degradation and preserving its functions:

- when soil is used and its functions are exploited, action has to be taken on soil use and management patterns, and
- when soil acts as a sink/receptor of the effects of human activities or environmental phenomena, action has to be taken at source.

(2) Restoring degraded soils to a level of functionality consistent at least with current and intended use, thus also considering the cost implications of the restoration of soil.

### **PPS 9 – Biodiversity and Geological Conservation**

PPS9 sets out a series of key principles which need to be taken into consideration when preparing local development documents and regional spatial strategies:

- Decisions should be based upon up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of the area.
- Decisions should seek to maintain, or enhance, or add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests.
- A strategic approach to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and geology should be taken.
- Developments seeking to conserve or enhance the biodiversity and geological conservation interests of the area should be encouraged.
- LPAs should consider whether proposed developments can be accommodated without causing harm to biodiversity and geological conservation interests.
- Where development will result in unavoidable and significant adverse impacts, planning permission for it should only be granted where adequate mitigation measures are put in place.
- Development policies should promote opportunities for the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity and geological features within the design of development.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Points specific to LDDs are:

- When identifying designated sites of importance for biodiversity and geodiversity on the proposals map, clear distinctions should be made between the hierarchy of international, national, regional, and locally designated sites.
- Biodiversity objectives that reflect both national and local priorities, including those which have been agreed by local biodiversity partnerships, should be reflected in policies in local development documents and proposals. Local planning authorities should ensure that all policies in local development documents and proposals are consistent with those biodiversity objectives.

Other areas covered by the guidance are:

- Biodiversity interest of:
  - International sites, SSSIs, regional and local sites
  - Ancient woodlands

- Networks of natural habitats
- Previously developed sites
- Biodiversity within developments
- Species protection

PPS 9 includes no targets or indicators.

#### **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)**

The act implements the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (the 'Bern Convention') and the European Union Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds and Natural Habitats. The Act is concerned with the protection of wildlife and their habitat (countryside, national parks and designated protected areas).

##### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Addresses the problem of species protection and habitat loss by setting out the protection that is afforded to wild animals and plants in Britain.

#### **UK Biodiversity Action Plan**

The UK BAP was published in response to the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992).

##### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

It highlights a number of priority habitats and species with associated action plans.

#### **'Working with the Grain of Nature': A Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002)**

The Strategy seeks to ensure biodiversity considerations become embedded in all main sectors of public policy and sets out a programme for the next five years to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance and work with the grain of nature and ecosystems rather than against them.

##### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Ensures biodiversity considerations are embedded in all main sectors of economic activity. (It is the principal means by which the government will comply with duties under section 74 of the CRoW Act).

#### **A Sustainable Future for the South West: The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England**

This is an integrated strategic framework, endorsed by the South West Assembly, for the promotion of the sustainable economic, social and environmental well-being of the South West. It provides a set of sustainable development guidelines for all organisations within the region. The main themes and objective are summarised as follows:

##### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

###### **Theme: Biodiversity & Landscapes**

- Protect and enhance habitats and species
- Promote biodiversity as a regional asset
- Protect and enhance the region's urban and rural landscapes

**South West Biodiversity Partnership and the Association of Local Government Ecologists. A biodiversity guide for the planning and development sectors in the SW.**

Illustrates cases of best practice in the following areas:

- Action for habitats and species
- Community action for nature
- Nature and the economy
- Improving quality of life
- Ecosystem and landscape management

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

No specific objectives of relevance.

**South West Biodiversity Partnership – South-West Biodiversity Implementation Plan (July 2004)**

This plan has been developed to provide a more coordinated approach to delivering biodiversity related action across the South-West. It sets out a framework of policy, priorities and actions to assist in a more joined up approach to biodiversity delivery, and updates those actions included in the SWBAP. It identifies key programmes of work which are designed to:

- Help meet biodiversity targets for priority habitats and species in the South West.
- Ensure regional strategic plans incorporate biodiversity issues for the South West.
- Provide a strategic framework for the work undertaken by regional and local biodiversity partnerships in conserving biodiversity and promoting the sustainable use of biological resources.
- Develop wider support and active engagement by increasing awareness and understanding of the importance of biodiversity to the region's health, quality of life and economic productivity.

The BIP identifies key programmes of work, both for those directly involved and for those who can enable these, under five specific sectors:

- Farming and Food
- Water and Wetlands
- Woodlands and Forestry
- Towns, Cities and Development

Headline objectives of the BIP are:

Ensure we meet:

- Our international commitments, in particular to halt biodiversity loss by 2010.
- The Defra Public Service Agreement Target to “Care for our natural heritage, make the countryside attractive and enjoyable for all and preserve biological diversity” by
  - reversing the long-term decline in the number of farmland birds by 2020, as measured annually against under-lying trends;
  - and, bringing into favourable condition by 2010 95% of all nationally important wildlife sites”.
- Continuing and sustained improvement in the status of terrestrial and marine species and habitats listed on the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Farming and food Objectives:

- Assist the continued development of high quality support services for land managers to develop and adopt best practice for biodiversity action as part of their farming business.
- Promote ongoing dialogue to establish a better shared understanding between stakeholders in the biodiversity and land-owning/farming communities.
- Ensure that Environmental Land Management Schemes (ELMS) deliver maximum biodiversity gain.
- Integrate resource protection on farmed land with delivery of biodiversity.
- Ensure that the conservation of farmland biodiversity is an integral part of all relevant regional policies, strategies and programmes.
- Improve outcomes for biodiversity and the environment from food chain action in the region.
- To develop a regional approach to the environmental challenges of improved grassland farming so that biodiversity is rebuilt in this land use.

**Water and Wetlands Objectives:**

- Manage water and wetlands using an integrated and sustainable approach to increase biodiversity.
- Continue improvements in water quality, including minimising diffuse pollution by reducing run off of water and soil from farmland.
- Ensure regional policies and strategies promote the conservation and enhancement of rivers, wetlands and coasts.
- Restore degraded rivers and wetlands to provide multiple social, economic and environmental benefits, and open up opportunities for tourism and recreation linked to the water environment.
- Raise awareness of the value of green spaces alongside rivers through our towns and cities resulting in the creation of urban river corridors.

**Woodlands and Forestry Objectives:**

- Protect native woodland from unnecessary damage.
- Enhance, extend and restore the existing native woodland resource.
- Manage non-native woodland to improve biodiversity in the wider landscape.
- Realise the broader social and economic benefits of woodland biodiversity.

**Towns, Cities and Development Objectives**

- Ensure that planning decisions take full account of biodiversity and avoid negative outcomes.
- Co-ordinate the management and enhancement of natural green spaces.
- Improve access to natural green spaces.
- Enhance people's awareness of wildlife in the urban area.
- Involve communities in biodiversity creation and management in their own areas.

**South West Biodiversity Partnership – South-West Biodiversity Action Plan (1997)**

Contains action plans for 12 species and 18 habitat types. Each action plan contains objectives and proposed targets. The following symbols indicate where action plans are also included in the Wiltshire (\*), Swindon (#), and Cotswold Water Park (\$) BAPs.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

**Species Action Plans:**

- Early Gentian
  - 2 known sites in Wiltshire

**Habitat Action Plans**

- Ash Maple Woodland (\*)(#)
- Arable farmland (\*)(#)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marsh Fritillary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 56 known sites in Wiltshire</li> </ul> </li> <li>• White Clawed Crayfish (\$) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 26 known sites in Wiltshire (2 Avon, 24 Thames)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Great Crested Newt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 24 known sites in Wiltshire</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sand Lizard</li> <li>• Nightjar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 17 known sites in Wiltshire</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Water Vole (\$)</li> <li>• Pipistrelle Bat (*)(#)</li> <li>• Southern Damselfly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calcareous Grassland (*)(#)</li> <li>• Hedgerows (*)(#)</li> <li>• Lowland Heathland</li> <li>• Wood Pasture and Parkland (*)(#)</li> <li>• Reedbeds</li> <li>• Rivers, Streams and Associated Habitats (*)(#)</li> <li>• Standing Open Water (*)(#)(\$)</li> <li>• Upland heath</li> <li>• Upland oakwood</li> <li>• Urban Areas (*)(#)</li> </ul>
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### Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act is designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities. The Act also created the Natural England to act as a champion for the natural environment. Section 40 of which places a Biodiversity Duty on all public bodies (including the Council), to have due regard for conserving biodiversity. This includes restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.

#### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

Other measure involve:

#### **Biodiversity and wildlife protection**

Biodiversity duty;

Land drainage byelaws;

Wildlife protection;

Habitat protection.

#### **National Parks, Broads and Outstanding Natural Beauty**

#### **Rights of Way**

### TCPA (2004): Biodiversity by Design

This Guide sets out practical, design led solutions to implement the objective of supporting a richness of biodiversity to build more sustainable neighbourhoods. The guide introduces the core design principles that form the basis for a 'biodiversity by design' approach, such as understanding ecological function, realising the benefits of biodiversity, and connecting with nature.

Then it explores tools and techniques for analysing a site and its context, in particular with the existing 'green infrastructure': the distinctive and multi-functional network of habitats, greenspaces and linkages.

Chapter Three explores how to masterplan the green infrastructure for a sustainable community, in particular looking at how ecologically functional green

<p>infrastructure can be created, and how it can connect with and enhance the existing assets.</p> <p>The guide then focuses on detailed design elements and on how the long-term management and stewardship of green infrastructure can be secured through management plans, and the establishment of ecologically functional green spaces.</p>
<p><b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b></p>
<p><b>Social:</b> to increase public awareness of, and involvement in, conserving biodiversity.</p> <p><b>Environment:</b> to conserve and where practicable to enhance: the population and natural ranges of native species; natural and semi-natural wildlife habitats; ecosystems that are characteristic of local areas. To contribute to the conservation of biodiversity on a European and global scale.</p>

<p><b>Natural Fit: Can Green Space and Biodiversity Increase Levels of Physical Activity? (RSPB, 2004)</b></p>
<p>This report looks into evidence to support the theory that the availability of safe, accessible natural green space encourages the uptake and continuation of physical activity.</p>
<p><b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b></p>
<p>Green and/or open space in the urban environment has been found to have positive benefits for health.</p>

<p><b>Soil Framework Directive (Consultation Draft), 2007</b></p>
<p>Emphasises the importance of soil as a resource which needs to be protected as part of our sustainable future.</p> <p>The main elements of the proposal includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) to assess impacts likely to cause soil degradation;</li> <li>ii) take measures to protect soil functions;</li> <li>iii) avoid permanent sealing of the soil surface with impermeable material;</li> <li>iv) identify risk areas with regard to soil erosion, loss of organic matter, compaction, and others;</li> <li>v) take action to prevent soil contamination; and</li> <li>vi) raise awareness of the importance of soils.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b></p>
<p>The overall objective of the Strategy is protection and sustainable use of soil, based on the following guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Preventing further soil degradation and preserving its functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– when soil is used and its functions are exploited, action has to be taken on soil use and management patterns, and</li> <li>– when soil acts as a sink/receptor of the effects of human activities or environmental phenomena, action has to be taken at source.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(2) Restoring degraded soils to a level of functionality consistent at least with current and intended use, thus also considering the cost implications of the restoration of soil.</li> </ul>

## Swindon Biodiversity Action Plan (March 2005)

This plan outlines the vision and strategy for protecting and enhancing the borough's biodiversity over the next ten years, along with a series of specific actions and targets for delivering the strategy.

### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

Key objectives:

- Protection of nationally and locally designated sites, as well as strategic green corridors.
- Enhancement of wildlife in the wider landscape.
- Protect and enhance populations of protected species.
- Involve the public and stakeholders wherever possible.

Target is to have 100% of the Borough Phase 1 Habitat surveyed by 2007.

Most of the action plans include objectives for improving education, raising awareness, and introducing improved management practices.

### Habitat Action Plans (NB: Action plans marked \* have a corresponding SW BAP action plan)

#### Farmland Habitats

- Arable Habitat Action Plan\*
- Hedgerow Habitat Action Plan\*
  - 21% of English hedges lost between 1984 and 1990. No data for Swindon.
  - 20km of new hedgerow planting by 2010
  - Favourable management of 25km of ancient and species rich hedgerows by 2010.

#### Water and Wetland Habitats

- Standing Open Water Habitat Action Plan\*
  - Swindon Borough has suffered a greater loss of ponds than the national average. South Marston parish had 36 ponds listed in 1880, but now has only one.
  - Target to create 10 new ponds per annum
- Urban Ponds Habitat Action Plan
  - Target to create 100 new garden ponds per annum
- Rivers and Streams Habitat Action Plan\*
  - Over 175km of rivers and streams in Swindon Borough. 100km is designated as 'Main River' under the Environment Agency's Flood Defence remit.
  - Target to improve 2 otter kill black spots by 2008.
  - Coordinated mink trapping programme by 2006.
- Wetlands Habitat Action Plan
  - Identify two sites per annum for wetland restoration or creation projects.
  - Create two wetland LNRs by 2010

#### Grassland Habitats

- Amenity Grassland Habitat Action Plan
  - Currently 1,348 Ha of amenity grassland in Swindon Borough
  - Area of amenity grassland has decreased in recent years
  - Target for 80% of homes to be within 300m of amenity grassland by 2010
- Neutral Grassland Habitat Action Plan
  - 98% of lowland meadows have been lost in the UK since World War II.
  - Known sites in Swindon Borough amount to 120ha
  - Target to designate 2 LNR sites by 2010.
- Downland Habitat Action Plan\*
  - 22 chalk grassland sites covering 432ha.
  - Nationally between 50-90% of chalk grassland has been lost since WWII.
  - Target to increase the extent of calcareous grassland to 150% of the 2005 baseline by 2010.
  - Restore 25% of existing sites by 2010.

#### Urban Habitats\*

- Built-up Areas and Gardens Habitat Action Plan
  - 50% of all planning applications to incorporate biodiversity into building design by 2009.
  - Create one new urban wildlife site per annum
  - Improve greenspace connectivity by 50% by 2010.
  - 85% of schools to have a wildlife area by 2010
- Development Sites Habitat Action Plan
  - 100% of new open spaces to have a provision for wildlife

#### Woodland Habitats

- Woodland Habitat Action Plan\*
  - 10 years ago the Borough had only 560ha of woodland (2% of land area)
  - Currently there are 925ha (4%) following the creation of the Great Western Community Forest (GWCF)
  - Allow creation of 20ha of woodland by natural succession by 2010.
  - Increase woodland cover in line with the GWCF objectives
- Scrub Habitat Action Plan
  - No Swindon or national figures to demonstrate amount of scrub or trends.
  - 5 sites per annum to have beneficial scrub management plans
  - Create 2 new scrub habitat sites per annum
- Parkland Habitat Action Plan\*
  - No information available for the extent of this habitat in Swindon
  - 100% of sites to have new plantings by 2009
  - Plant 15ha of parkland by 2009

#### **Species Action Plans**

- Bats Species Action Plan\*
  - Seven species of bat recorded in Swindon Borough at present (Brown Long-Eared, Daubenton's, Lesser Horseshoe, Natterer's, Noctule,

- Pipistrelle, and Serotine)
- o Put up 1,000 bat boxes by 2010
- o Encourage the use of bat bricks in new developments and restorations.

## Wiltshire Biodiversity Action Plan

This plan is a vision document for positive action for biodiversity within the county. It aims to develop a number of local habitat and species action plans.

### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

9 Habitat Action Plans and 1 Species Action Plan lie with this BAP

#### Habitat Action Plans (NB: Action plans marked \* have a corresponding SW BAP action plan)

- Woodland\*
  - o Create new native woodland
  - o Restore ancient woodlands (200ha in 2005)
  - o Favourable condition in 100% of SSSI
- Wood-pasture, parkland and ancient trees\*
  - o Determine current extent of habitat
  - o Protect and maintain
  - o Create and expand
- Rivers, streams and associated habitats\*
  - o Maintain and enhance
  - o Restore to a favourable condition those rivers adversely affected by past activities
  - o Restore habitats
- Standing open water\*
  - o Determine current extent of habitat
  - o Maintain and enhance
  - o Restore
  - o Create new water bodies
- Arable Farmland\*
  - o No further loss or degradation
  - o Favourable management
  - o Raise awareness
  - o Meet needs of priority species
- Hedgerows\*
  - o Determine current extent of habitat
  - o Manage

- Restore
- Increase the number of hedgerow trees
- Create
- Calcareous grassland\*
  - Protect remaining areas
  - Restore
  - Create new areas
  - Reduce habitat fragmentation
- Unimproved neutral grassland
  - Protect remaining areas
  - Secure favourable management
  - Restore semi-improved and degraded areas.
  - Determine extent of semi-improved and degraded areas to inform the restoration programme
- Urban areas\*
  - Safeguard wildlife habitats in urban areas
  - Create biodiversity gain
  - Greenspace network

#### **Species Action Plan**

- Bats Species Action Plan\*
  - Five species of bat included (Barbastelle, Bechstein's, Lesser Horseshoe, Greater Horseshoe, and Pipistrelle)

#### **Cotswold Water Park Biodiversity Action Plan (Consultation)**

This plan represents a review and roll-forward of the policies and actions set out in the Cotswold Water Park (CWP) Nature Conservation Strategy. It will help ensure the sustainable development of the Water Park. Currently, the 2007-2016 BAP is at the consultation stage.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key objectives:

- The CWP should be a premier site for nature conservation where the requirements of industry, leisure, people and wildlife are successfully integrated.
- To focus resources from local partnerships on the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in the Water Park.

#### **Habitat Action Plans** (NB: Action plans marked \* have a corresponding SW BAP action plan)

- Standing open water\*
  - Create large lakes where conditions allow
  - Maintain, create and enhance small ponds, shorelines, islands.
- Marshes and swamps
  - Create large reedbeds and small areas of marsh or swamp.
  - Maintain and enhance existing resource

- Unimproved neutral grassland
  - Maintain area
  - Create new lowland wet grassland
- Rivers and streams\*
  - Maintain and enhance water quality
  - Maintain and enhance habitats
  - Reduce impacts of abstraction
- Canals
  - Maintain and enhance habitats
- Boundaries
  - Favourable management of species rich hedgerows and pollarded trees.
  - Maintain and enhance ditches and grassland verges
- Cereal field margins
  - Increase the extent of margins
- Woodlands\*
  - Maintain existing designated woodland
  - Increase the area of woodland, particularly wet woodland
  - Manage woodland fringing lakes

**Species Action Plans**

- Otter, Water vole, Bittern, Tufted duck, Pochard, Gadwall, Reed bunting, Freshwater white clawed crayfish\*, Lesser bearded stonewort.

**River Avon cSAC Conservation Strategy (2003)**

This strategy has been developed as part of the “Life in UK Rivers” project, and aims to define issues affecting the river, to note and assess the effectiveness of mechanisms already in place to address these issues, and to identify any further action required.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Action plans have been developed to focus on 24 specific issues affecting the cSAC:

- Existing point source discharges
- New discharges
- Agricultural diffuse pollution
- Road runoff
- Current and future abstractions
- Recreational fishery management
- Exploitation of salmon stocks
- Operation of eel traps
- Escapes from fish farms
- Flood defence operations and maintenance

- Water level management
- Catchment flood-risk management
- Non-native invasive plant species
- Mute swan grazing
- Avian predation
- Signal crayfish
- Planning and development
- Habitat rehabilitation
- Accessibility
- Data management
- Boundary of the cSAC
- Survey and monitoring
- Climate change

### **How the Minerals Local Development Document should address biodiversity, fauna, flora and soil**

The MLDDS should accept the primacy of nature conservation objectives and pay particular regard to designated habitats and linear habitat structures. If developments that impact upon protected species or designated sites are necessary, then compensation measures and mitigation is required. Mitigation should be pro-active through site selection, timing, and consideration of alternatives. In particular, attention should be paid to the Biodiversity Action Plans and Geodiversity Action Plans for Swindon, Wiltshire, and the Cotswold Water Park as well as the UK and South West Biodiversity Action Plan, with minerals operations encouraged to adopt their own Biodiversity Action Plans. The River Avon cSAC Conservation Strategy should be consulted if mineral developments fall within the cSAC boundaries.

The restoration of old mineral working sites provides an opportunity to create some of the habitats prioritised in local Biodiversity/Habitat Action Plans. The MLDDS should be developed bearing in mind the objectives, targets, and indicators contained within the South West Biodiversity Implementation Plan.

#### **Relevant Objectives**

- Avoid minerals development which would impact on sites of international or national importance;
- Soil should be treated as an important resource through the Minerals DPDs;
- Avoid minerals development on identified sites of county/local importance, BAP habitats and other habitats of notable ecological value;
- Avoid the effects of minerals development on populations of protected or notable species; and
- To enhance biodiversity through the restoration and creation of habitat.

## **A.8 Water / Flooding**

### **Directive 2000/60/EC Establishing a Framework for the Community Action in the Field of Water Policy (The Water Framework Directive)**

The Water Framework Directive has the following key aims:

- Expanding the scope of water protection to all waters, surface waters and groundwater
- Achieving "good status" for all waters by a set deadline
- Water management based on river basins
- "Combined approach" of emission limit values and quality standards
- Getting the prices right
- Getting the citizen involved more closely
- Streamlining legislation

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Requires all Member States to achieve 'good ecological status' of inland water bodies by 2015, and limits the quantity of groundwater abstraction to that portion of overall recharge not needed by ecology.

### **Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)**

This Directive was adopted by member states in May 1991 and transposed into legislation across the UK by the end of January 1995. Its objective is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of sewage discharges. It sets treatment levels on the basis of sizes of sewage discharges and the sensitivity of waters receiving the discharges. By the end of 1998 the UK had stopped all disposal of the sewage sludge left over from treatment processes at sea or to other surface waters in accordance with its requirements.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

- The main objective of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD) is to ensure that all significant discharges of sewage are treated, whether the discharge is to inland surface water, groundwaters, estuaries or coastal waters. For the purposes of the Directive, significant discharges are those to fresh waters or to estuaries serving communities with a population equivalent (pe) of more than 2,000; or those to coastal waters serving communities of more than 10,000 pe.
- The Directive sets secondary treatment as the norm for all significant discharges, but provides the possibility of lower levels of treatment for discharges into areas identified as less sensitive, and requires higher levels of treatment for discharges into identified sensitive areas. For smaller discharges the Directive requires "appropriate treatment".
- Secondary treatment must be provided by 31 December 2000 for discharges above 15,000 pe to inland and estuarial and coastal waters. Discharges to inland and estuarial waters of between 2,000 and 15,000 pe and discharges of between 10,000 and 15,000 pe to coastal waters must receive secondary treatment by 2005. Smaller discharges must receive "appropriate treatment" by 2005
- The Government has now decided to adopt a more precautionary approach and ensure that secondary treatment should always be applied to significant coastal discharges. This decision, which will deliver universal treatment at least to secondary level for all such discharges in England and Wales, reflects the Government's strong commitment to fulfilment of our environmental obligations both at home and in Europe.
- The Directive provides for an extension of the deadline for installation of secondary treatment, in cases where exceptional technical difficulties have been encountered.
- Sensitive Areas. The Directive requires Member States to review designations of eutrophic sensitive areas every four years. On the basis of advice from the EA, which is responsible for reviewing the state of waters which may have the potential to become eutrophic, the Government has

identified a further 47 sensitive areas in England and Wales and extended three of the previously identified areas.

- Once an area has been identified, sewage treatment works greater than 10,000 pe discharging into the designated areas are required to meet the Directive's treatment standards for nutrient removal, unless it can be demonstrated that the removal will have no effect on the level of nitrification. In the case of new and extended designations, nutrient removal will have to be installed by the end of 2004. In inland sensitive areas, phosphorus is required to be removed because it can cause algal growth in freshwaters; in coastal waters, nitrogen is required to be removed because it can cause algal growth in saline waters.
- The Directive also requires identification of sensitive areas (nitrate) where surface waters intended for the abstraction of drinking water contain or could contain more than the limit laid down under the provisions of Directive 75/440/EEC on the abstraction of drinking water.
- Intermittent Discharges. The Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive requires member states to take action to limit pollution from storm water overflows.
- Appropriate Treatment. The EA considers appropriate treatment for discharges to freshwater (inland waters and groundwaters) to be dependent upon the size of the discharge relative to the receiving watercourse or aquifer

#### **Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)**

The Directive addresses water pollution by nitrates from agriculture. It seeks to reduce or prevent the pollution of water caused by the application and storage of inorganic fertiliser and manure on farmland. It is designed both to safeguard drinking water supplies and to prevent wider ecological damage in the form of the eutrophication of freshwater and waters generally.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Every four years member states shall report on polluted or likely to be polluted waters and designed vulnerable zones, and measures and actions taken to reduce the pollution from nitrates.

Polluted waters are:

- Surface freshwaters, in particular those used or intended for the abstraction of drinking water, that contain or could contain, than the concentration of nitrates laid down in accordance with Directive 75/440/EEC;
- Ground-water containing or that could contain more than 50 mg/l nitrates;
- Natural freshwater lakes, other freshwater bodies, estuaries, coastal waters and marine waters found or likely to be eutrophic.

#### **PPS 25 – Development and Flood Risk (DCLG, 2006)**

PPS25 replaces PPG25. PPS25 sets out Government policy on development and flood risk. It's aims are to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk. Where new development is, exceptionally, necessary in such areas, policy aims to make it safe, without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and, where possible, reducing flood risk overall.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The aims of planning policy on development and flood risk are to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas at highest risk. Where new development is, exceptionally, necessary in such areas, policy aims to make it safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere and where possible, reducing flood risk overall.

Regional planning bodies (RPBs) and local planning authorities (LPAs) should prepare and implement planning strategies that help to deliver sustainable development by:

**Appraising risk**

- identifying land at risk and the degree of risk of flooding from river, sea and other sources in their areas;
- preparing Regional Flood Risk Appraisals (RFRAs) or Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRAs) as appropriate, as freestanding assessments that contribute to the Sustainability Appraisal of their plans;

**Managing risk**

- framing policies for the location of development which avoid flood risk to people and property where possible, and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change;
- only permitting development in areas of flood risk when there are no reasonably available sites in areas of lower flood risk and benefits of the development outweigh the risks from flooding;

**Reducing risk**

- safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood management eg conveyance and storage of flood water, and flood defences;
- reducing flood risk to and from new development through location, layout and design, incorporating sustainable drainage systems (SUDS);
- using opportunities offered by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding eg surface water management plans; making the most of the benefits of green infrastructure for flood storage, conveyance and SUDS; re-creating functional floodplain; and setting back defences;

**A partnership approach**

- working effectively with the Environment Agency, other operating authorities and other stakeholders to ensure that best use is made of their expertise and information so that plans are effective and decisions on planning applications can be delivered expeditiously; and
- ensuring spatial planning supports flood risk management policies and plans, River Basin Management Plans and emergency planning.

**The Urban Waste Water Treatment (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2003**

The Urban Waste Water Treatment (England and Wales) Regulations 1994 transposed the requirements of the European Council Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC) into UK law. These set standards and deadlines for the treatment of sewage according to the population served by sewage treatment works, and the sensitivity of receiving waters to their discharges.

**Water Resources for the Future – a Strategy for the South West Region. Environment Agency March 2001**

This strategy is designed to provide sufficient water for human use in the South West, whilst at the same time protecting the environment.

The main points to come out of the strategy are: change bullets to round)

- In parts of the Region, water can be a scarce resource. In some places, environmental improvements are necessary.
- Continued availability of a reliable public water supply is essential. EA recommend the enhancement of supply by about 5 per cent over the next 25 years by improving existing schemes and developing some new resources;
- Water efficiency should be actively promoted;

- Over the next 25 years household water metering should be expected to become widespread, in the context of the Government's broader social and environmental policies including the protection of vulnerable households;
- Continued progress in leakage control will be necessary;
- Agriculture must focus on using available water to best effect;
- Commerce and industry should pay increasing attention to water efficiency.

### **Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS)**

The Environment Agency is responsible for safeguarding water resources and managing abstraction through Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS). Surface and groundwater sources are used for a number of uses which can place significant stress on these systems. There are 6 CAMS that may influence or be influenced by policies developed for the MWDF. These are:  
 Bristol Avon; Dorset Stour; Cotswold; Hampshire Avon; Kennet and Pang; and Vale of White Horse  
 The majority of the river and groundwater units within these catchments are over-abstracted or have no water available.

### **Bristol Avon Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy; Environment Agency 2005**

This strategy outlines how the Environment Agency intends to manage water resources in the Bristol Avon Catchment in a more sustainable manner.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The overall objective of this strategy is to manage water resources in a consistent sustainable manner, maximising availability and balancing the needs of the environment, public, agriculture and industry.

### **Hampshire Avon Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy; Environment Agency 2006**

This strategy outlines how the Environment Agency intends to manage water resources in the Hampshire Avon Catchment in a more sustainable manner.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

To ensure that the integrity of the riverine ecosystem is maintained or restored through sustainable water resources management. To achieve this there is a need to reduce the level and timing of abstraction within the catchment.

### **Bristol Avon Catchment Flood Management Plan (Draft) (CFMP); Environment Agency 2007**

The CFMP provides an overview of flood risk management in the Bristol Avon Catchment. It contains policies and guidance that will help the Environment Agency and others to decide the best way to manage flood risk.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

##### **Social objectives**

- Reduce flood risk to health and public safety.

- Reduce flood risk from fast flows in upstream parts of the catchment.
- Reduce disruption to emergency services.

**Economic objectives**

- Reduce the economic impacts of flooding to property in urban areas.
- Minimise any increase in flood risk following planned expansion of housing, commerce and industry.
- Ensure proposed changes in the catchment minimise any impact on the environment and designated sites.
- Reduce disruption from flooding to local industry and critical infrastructure.
- Reduce the economic effect of flooding from rivers and muddy floods outside the main urban areas.

**Environmental objectives**

- Increase upstream storage in the catchment by increasing wetlands and wet woodland.
- Make better use of recreational facilities for flood risk management.
- Ensure that planning of new development minimises environmental impact on the aquatic environment.

**Hampshire Avon Catchment Flood Management Plan (Scoping) (CFMP); Environment Agency 2006**

The CFMP provides an overview of flood risk management in the Hampshire Avon Catchment. It contains policies and guidance that will help the Environment Agency and others to decide the best way to manage flood risk.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

- To reduce flood risk and minimise the resulting harmful impacts on people, and on the natural, historic and built environment;
- To maximise opportunities to work with natural processes, delivering multiple flood risk management benefits and contributing to sustainable development;
- To promote sustainable flood risk management;
- To support environmental legislation and targets, Government flood reduction targets, the Environment Agency's vision, the implementation of EU directives, and other key targets of the organisations involved in the catchment planning process;
- To provide information to spatial planners to help shape future development in the Hampshire Avon catchment, so that it does not compromise the natural function of the river and floodplain; and
- To support the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

**Water Act 2003**

The Water Act 2003 will significantly change how water abstraction and impoundment is regulated. It aims to improve protection of the environment and to provide a more flexible process of regulation. The changes will be implemented over a number of years. Between now and 2012, we need to resolve significant problem areas and achieve sustainable water resources management. Responsible abstractors who are committed to the sustainable use of precious water resources will want to achieve these changes too and work with us to deliver a better environment for future generations.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

It will change the licensing system in six key areas:

- all small abstractions, generally under 20 cubic metres per day (m<sup>3</sup>/d), will not need a licence;
- dewatering of mines, quarries and engineering works, water transfers into canals and internal drainage districts, use of water for trickle irrigation and abstractions in some areas which are currently exempt will now need a licence to make sure that they are managed appropriately and that any impact on the environment can be dealt with;
- administration for making applications, transferring and renewing licences will be made simpler. This will also reduce barriers to the trading of water rights;
- the status of licences has changed significantly, as all abstractors now have a responsibility not to let their abstraction cause damage to others. From 2012, the Environment Agency will be able to amend or take away someone's permanent licence without compensation if they are causing serious damage to the environment;
- there will be an increased focus on water conservation. Water companies will have new duties to conserve water and all public bodies will need to consider how to conserve water supplied to premises. The Government has new responsibilities for monitoring and reporting progress in this area;
- water companies will need to develop and publish water resources management and drought plans. The Environment Agency will be able to encourage transfer of water resources between water companies and recover costs associated with drought orders and permits.

#### **Wiltshire County Council and Swindon Borough Council – Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 2007**

This SFRA will allow a sequential approach (ie to steer development towards areas of lowest risk) to the allocation of Minerals sites within the study area. The aim of the SFRA is to provide information for the Minerals Development framework, in accordance with the policies and guidance presented in PPS25.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The aim will be achieved by the following objectives:

- to provide an assessment of the impact of all potential sources of flooding in accordance with PPS25, including an assessment of any future impacts associated with climate change.
- Enable planning policies to be identified to minimise and manage flood risks.
- To provide the information needed to apply the Sequential Test for identification of land suitable for development in line with the principles of PPS25.
- To provide baseline data to inform the SA/SEA of DPDs with regard to catchment-wide flooding issues which affect the Study Area
- To allow Wiltshire County and Swindon Borough Council to assess the flood risk for specific Minerals and Waste proposal sites, thereby setting out the requirements for site specific FRAs
- To enable the relevant authorities to use the SFRA as a basis for decision making at the planning application stage
- Where necessary, to provide technical assessments and assistance to the authorities to demonstrate that development located in flood risk areas are appropriate in line with the requirements of the Exception Test.

#### **How the Minerals Local Development Document should address water availability, pollution and flooding**

The MLDDS should ensure that potential contaminated runoff from mineral working sites and associated developments are considered, along with the

impacts of mineral developments on groundwater in their vicinity. The MLDDs should have regard to PPS 25, through ensuring minerals operations do not increase flood risk in sensitive areas, and through ensuring minerals operations (for instance in riverbed gravel areas) are not threatened by flooding. The SFRA should be considered in the MDLDDs. Liaison with the Environment Agency is recommended. Efficiency in water use by mineral extraction operations should also be considered within the plans. The MWDF will have to consider the implications of water availability when assessing locations for minerals and waste development. Consultation with the EA will be essential in determining the right development in the right location.

#### Relevant Objectives

- Reduce risk of flooding (of mineral developments and as a consequence of mineral developments);
- Minimise any adverse impacts on water resources at all stages of mineral working through effective site design and management; and
- Protect and where possible improve surface, groundwater and drinking water quality.

## A.9 Material Assets

### Waste Framework Directive (91/156/EEC)

The Waste Framework Directive (WFD) requires Member States of the EU to establish both a network of disposal facilities and competent authorities with responsibility for issuing waste management authorisations and licenses. Member States may also introduce regulations which specify which waste recovery operations and businesses are exempt from the licensing regimes and the conditions for those exemptions.

An important objective of the WFD is to ensure the recovery of waste or its disposal without endangering human health and the environment. Greater emphasis is also placed on the prevention, reduction, re-use and recycling of waste.

#### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

Article 4.

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes or methods which could harm the environment, and in particular:

- Without risk to water, air, soil and plants and animals,
- Without causing a nuisance through noise or odours,
- Without adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest.

### Council Directive 1999/31/EC on the Landfill of Waste

The Directive aims at reducing the amount of waste landfilled, to promote recycling and recovery and to establish high standards of landfill practice across the EU and, through the harmonisation of standards, to prevent the shipping of waste from one Country to another. The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste, by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.

The Directive also intends to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of the landfill of waste on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health. It defines the different categories of waste (municipal waste, hazardous waste, non-hazardous waste and inert waste) and applies to all landfills, defined as waste disposal sites for the deposit of waste onto or into land.

<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Reduction of the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill to 75% of the total generated in 1995 by 2010, 50% by 2013 and 35% by 2020. These targets have now been interpreted by DEFRA and issued as specific targets for each Waste Disposal Authority requiring a step-wise reduction year on year of BMW to landfill as introduced by the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme
<b>PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (2005)</b>
The overall objective is to protect human health and the environment by producing less waste and by using it as a resource wherever possible. Through more sustainable waste management, moving waste up the hierarchy (reduce, re-use, recycle) aims to break the link between economic growth and the environmental impact of waste.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
<p>Drive waste up the hierarchy, with disposal as the last option – but an option which must be catered for;</p> <p>Provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste, and enable sufficient and timely provision of waste management facilities to meet the needs of their communities;</p> <p>Targets provided by the national waste strategy required under European legislation i.e. Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994;</p> <p>Help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment;</p> <p>Enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations;</p> <p>Reflects concerns and interests of stakeholders;</p> <p>Protect green belts but recognise the particular location needs of some types of waste management facilities; and</p> <p>Ensure layout and design of new development supports sustainable waste management.</p>
<b>A Sustainable Future for the South West: The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England</b>
This is an integrated strategic framework, endorsed by the South West Assembly, for the promotion of the sustainable economic, social and environmental well-being of the South West. It provides a set of sustainable development guidelines for all organisations within the region. The main themes and objective are summarised as follows:
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
<p><b>Theme: Economic Development</b> Circulation of wealth, greater integration within key economic sectors, infrastructure to support more sustainable economy, community involvement in local economies.</p> <p><b>Theme: Natural Resources &amp; Waste</b> Reduce pollution and improve water, land and air quality Ensure water, land, minerals, soils, forestry and other natural resources are used efficiently and with least environmental damage Promote wise use of waste resources whilst reducing waste production and disposal</p>
<b>Regional Economic Strategy for the South West of England 2003-2012</b>
The strategy is centred on three strategic objectives; each assigned a number of strategic actions with priorities and targets, from national to regional.

<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Strategic objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To raise business productivity</li> <li>• Increase economic inclusion.</li> <li>• Improve regional communications and partnerships.</li> </ul>

<b>South West Regional Waste Strategy</b>
The documents set out the vision and the overall objective of waste management strategy for the region. It provides a series of policies and targets to ensure sustainable management of waste in the SW. Also contains sub-regional indicative capacity allocations for the Counties.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Target: to ensure that by the year 2020 over 45% of waste is recycled and reused and less than 20% of the waste produced in the Region will be landfilled. LA to ensure the integration of strategies and proposals for waste management with the regional waste strategy. Policies P7.1 to P10.9 set specific duties on the waste plans to provide for household, commercial and industrial (including C&DW) waste recycling, treatment or disposal under the principle of sustainable management of waste. This includes, within others: ensure that new developments have facilities for recycling; waste management facilities are close to the point of waste arisings; the waste hierarchy is followed, and in particular only waste that cannot be reused or recycled will be incinerated or disposed of to landfill.

<b>Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Local Plan 2011 (adopted March 2005)</b>
Sets out policy basis against which planning permission will be granted or refused for waste related planning applications. This policy basis aims to ensure that an adequate network of waste management facilities is provided for the area.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Key objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopting an integrated approach to waste management.</li> <li>• Pursuing the Best Practicable Option (BPEO), and maximising energy recovery, re-use, recycling, composting and reducing of waste arisings.</li> <li>• Protecting human health and the environment.</li> <li>• Promoting development of innovative recovery technologies.</li> <li>• Reducing quantity and potency of hazardous waste.</li> <li>• Promoting public participation on waste issues.</li> </ul>

**How the Minerals Local Development Document should address material asset factors**

The MLDDS should take into account the waste reduction, recovery and recycling targets contained with the Council Directive 1999/31/EC on the Landfill of Waste and Waste Framework Directive, when considering waste from minerals developments. Alternative options need to be tested as part of the MLDDS

considering efficient resource use and use of recycled / secondary materials..  
 The Plan needs to consider the potential minerals resource requirements needed to pursue the objectives of the Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West.  
*Please note that the final PPS 10 should be reviewed before the MLDDS Sustainability Report is finalised*

**Relevant Objectives**

- Minimise the amount of waste produced per tonne of saleable mineral; and
- To reduce reliance upon primary, land-won minerals in favour of increasing the contribution made by secondary and/or recycled materials.

### A.10 Sustainable Development / Environmental Policy

<b>The Johannesburg Declaration of Sustainable Development 2002</b>
This declaration was signed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, where the principles of international commitment to sustainable development were reaffirmed, 30 years after the Stockholm Summit and ten years after the Stockholm Declaration of 1992.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Undertake to strengthen and improve governance at all levels, for the effective implementation of Agenda 21.
<b>Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice (EU Sixth Environment Action Programme)</b>
The latest Environment Action Programme gives a strategic direction to the Commission's environmental policy over the next decade, as the Community prepares to expand its boundaries. The new programme identifies four environmental areas to be tackled for improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change;</li> <li>• Nature and Biodiversity;</li> <li>• Environment and Health and Quality of Life; and</li> <li>• Natural Resources and Waste.</li> </ul>
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Recognises that land use planning and management decisions in the Member States can have a major influence on the environment, leading to fragmentation of the countryside and pressures in urban areas and the coast. Also includes objectives on stabilising greenhouse gases, halting biodiversity loss, reducing pollution and resource use. Under the EAP framework, Thematic Strategies are being developed on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality;</li> <li>• Soil Protection;</li> <li>• Sustainable use of Pesticides;</li> <li>• Waste Prevention and Recycling;</li> <li>• Sustainable Use of Natural Resources; and Urban Environment.</li> </ul>

### **PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development**

The document sets out the key policies and principles and the Government's vision for planning. It includes high level objectives and sets out the framework for specific policies further developed in the thematic Planning Policy Statements which will substitute the current PPG documents.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Sustainable development is the purpose of planning. Communities need to be actively involved in the planning process, which is not simply regulations and control but must become a proactive management of development.

These overarching objectives inform specific objectives such as promotion of urban and rural regeneration, of local economies, of inclusive, healthy and safe communities.

### **Planning and Climate Change – Supplement to PPS1 (CLG, 2007)**

The PPS sets out how planning, in providing for the new homes, jobs and infrastructure needed by communities, should help shape places with lower carbon emissions and resilient to the climate change now accepted as inevitable.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

To deliver sustainable development, and in doing so a full and appropriate response on climate change, regional planning bodies and all planning authorities should prepare, and manage the delivery of, spatial strategies that:

- make a full contribution to delivering the Government's Climate Change Programme and energy policies, and in doing so contribute to global sustainability;
- in providing for the homes, jobs, services and infrastructure needed by communities, and in renewing and shaping the places where they live and work, secure the highest viable resource and energy efficiency and reduction in emissions;
- deliver patterns of urban growth and sustainable rural developments that help secure the fullest possible use of sustainable transport for moving freight, public transport, cycling and walking; and, which overall, reduce the need to travel, especially by car;
- secure new development and shape places that minimise vulnerability, and provide resilience, to climate change; and in ways that are consistent with social cohesion and inclusion;
- conserve and enhance biodiversity, recognising that the distribution of habitats and

species will be affected by climate change;  
– reflect the development needs and interests of communities and enable them to contribute effectively to tackling climate change; and  
– respond to the concerns of business and encourage competitiveness and technological innovation in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

### **Defra (2005): Securing the Future: The Government's Sustainable Development Strategy**

This is a review of the original sustainable development strategy produced in 1999

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The new objectives included within the strategy are:

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

### South West Regional Environmental Strategy

Sets out a vision for the region where people benefit from an excellent environment to live and work in, now and for the future.

#### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

Contains separate objectives for landscape and the historic environment, resource use, nature conservation, and social issues.

### How the Minerals Local Development Document should address Sustainable Development/Environmental Policy

Local Authorities should consider how their plans are addressing the four pillars of sustainable development by including relevant sustainability objectives both for the plan and the SA. This is expected to be a challenge in the case of the MLDDS due to exacting regional requirements and environmental constraints including AONB. Strategies that planners need to be aware of when developing the Plan include: The South West Regional Environmental Strategy, The Governments Sustainable Development Strategy, PPS1, the EU Sixth Environment Action Programme, and the Johannesburg Declaration of Sustainable Development (2002).

#### Relevant Objectives

- None (already covered by other objectives).

## A.11 Minerals Policy

### Minerals Planning Statement - Planning and Minerals (MPS1) and associated Practice Guidance (DCLG, 2006)

Minerals Policy Statement 1 (MPS1) is the overarching planning policy document for all minerals in England. It provides advice and guidance to planning authorities and the minerals industry. It aims to ensure that the need by society and the economy for minerals is managed in an integrated way against its impact on the environment and communities. MPS1 is accompanied by the 'Planning and Minerals: Practice Guide'. This Guide should be read alongside Minerals Planning Statement 1: Planning and Minerals. It sets out how the policies in the Statement might best be implemented.

#### Objectives, Targets and Indicators

The national objectives of MPS 1 are:

- to ensure, so far as practicable, the prudent, efficient and sustainable use of minerals and recycling of suitable materials, thereby minimising the requirement for new primary extraction;
- to conserve mineral resources through appropriate domestic provision and timing of supply;
- to safeguard mineral resources as far as possible;
- to prevent or minimise production of mineral waste;

- to secure working practices which prevent or reduce as far as possible, impacts on the environment and human health arising from the extraction, processing, management or transportation of minerals;
- to protect internationally and nationally designated areas of landscape value and nature conservation importance from minerals development, other than in the exceptional circumstances detailed in paragraph 14 of this statement;
- to secure adequate and steady supplies of minerals needed by society and the economy within the limits set by the environment, assessed through sustainability appraisal, without irreversible damage;
- to maximise the benefits and minimise the impacts of minerals operations over their full life cycle;
- to promote the sustainable transport of minerals by rail, sea or inland waterways;
- to protect and seek to enhance the overall quality of the environment once extraction has ceased, through high standards of restoration, and to safeguard the long-term potential of land for a wide range of after-uses;
- to secure closer integration of minerals planning policy with national policy on sustainable construction and waste management and other applicable environmental protection legislation; and
- to encourage the use of high quality materials for the purposes for which they are most suitable.

#### **MPG 1: General Considerations (superceded by MPS1)**

MPG1 sets out the principles and the key planning policy objectives against which plans for minerals and decisions on individual applications should be made. The guidance makes it clear that the winning and working of minerals has a number of special characteristics:

- Minerals can only be worked where they naturally occur - extraction sites are limited;
- Although working often takes place over a long period of time, it should not be regarded as a permanent land use;
- Working often has adverse effects, eg, local disruption to the community. all costs and benefits need to be considered and adverse environmental impacts mitigated or controlled during the process of extraction; and,
- When work stops at a site, the land requires treatment to make it suitable for beneficial after-use and to avoid dereliction.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

In particular the objectives for sustainable development for minerals planning are:

- to conserve minerals as far as possible, whilst ensuring an adequate supply to meet needs;
- to ensure that the environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are kept, as far as possible, to an acceptable minimum;
- to minimise production of waste and to encourage efficient use of materials, including appropriate use of high quality materials, and recycling of wastes;
- to encourage sensitive working, restoration and aftercare practices so as to preserve or enhance the overall quality of the environment;
- to protect areas of designated landscape or nature conservation value from development, other than in exceptional circumstances and where it has been demonstrated that development is in the public interest,(see paragraphs 47-49 below); and,
- to prevent the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral resources.

#### **MPG 2: Applications, Permissions and Conditions (July 1998)**

MPG2 provides advice on those aspects of the development control system of particular relevance to minerals and on the preparation and determination

of individual planning applications.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

When considering the environmental aspects of minerals developments. MPAs should consult MPG2 and decide whether or not they will warrant Environmental Assessment. This will depend upon the 'sensitivity of the location, size, working methods, proposals for disposing of waste, the nature and extent of processing and ancillary operations, and the arrangements for transporting products away from the site and proposals for restoration and aftercare'.

**MPS 2: Controlling and mitigating the environmental effects of mineral extraction in England**

Sets out the policies and considerations that Mineral Planning Authorities in England are expected to follow when preparing development plans and considering applications for minerals development. This MPS supersedes MPG11.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

MPAs should incorporate the objectives of sustainable development in minerals planning. These objectives recognise the potential conflict between the exploitation of resources and environmental aims. In order to reconcile such conflicts, MPAs should aim to:

- Conserve minerals as far as possible, whilst ensuring an adequate supply to meet the needs of society;
- Ensure that the environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are kept to an acceptable minimum;
- Minimise production of waste and to encourage efficient use of materials, including appropriate use of high-quality materials, and recycling of waste;
- Encourage sensitive working, restoration and aftercare practices during minerals extraction and to conserve or enhance the overall quality of the environment once extraction has ceased;
- Safeguard the long-term capability of best and most versatile agricultural land, and conserve soil resources for use in a sustainable way; and
- Protect areas of nationally-designated landscape or archaeological value, cultural heritage or nature conservation from mineral development, other than in exceptional circumstances where it has been demonstrated that the proposed development is in the public interest.

Development plan policies and proposals for minerals extraction and associated development should take into account:

- The impacts of mineral working, such as visual intrusion, dewatering, water pollution, noise, dust and fine particulates, blasting and traffic;
- The impacts on landscape, agricultural land, soil resources, ecology and wildlife, including severance of landscape and habitat loss, and impacts on sites of nature conservation, archaeological and cultural heritage value;
- The benefits such as providing an adequate supply of minerals to the economy and hence for society (including construction materials needed for the development of national infrastructure and the creation of sustainable communities), creating job opportunities, and the scope for landscape, biodiversity and amenity improvements through mineral working and subsequent restoration; and
- The methods of control through planning conditions or agreements to ensure that impacts are kept to an acceptable minimum.

Policies and proposals should take into account the level of existing activity and impacts, the duration and nature of proposals for new or further working, and the extent of impacts which a particular site, locality, community, environment or wider area of mineral working can reasonably be expected to tolerate over a particular or proposed period. MPAs should also have regard where relevant to cumulative impacts of simultaneous and/or successive working of a number of sites in a wider area of commercially-viable deposits. These may affect communities and localities over an extended period, depending on the nature, age and size of the site(s).

### **MPG 5 – Stability in Surface Mineral Workings and Tips**

Instability at minerals workings disrupts extraction, poses a health and safety risk to people in and around the quarry and can interfere with restoration schemes. The beneficial and sustainable extraction of minerals, therefore, requires particular attention to stability matters.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

This guidance is aimed at local authorities, landowners, mineral operators and other developers, and attempts to ensure that:

- the operation and restoration of surface mineral workings is not detrimentally affected by instability;
- instability does not impact on neighbouring land;
- on cessation of active working, surface mineral workings are left in a safe and stable condition;
- development in, on or near disused and abandoned workings takes due account of potential instability.

### **National and Regional guidelines for aggregates provision in England, 2001-2016 (2003)**

MPG6 provides advice to mineral planning authorities and the minerals industry on how to ensure that the construction industry receives an adequate and steady supply of material at the best balance, of social, environmental and economic cost, whilst ensuring that extraction and development are consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Ensure that mineral extraction and provision is informed by the principles of sustainable development, in particular with the objectives of:

Conserving minerals as far as possible, whilst ensuring an adequate supply to meet the needs of society for minerals;

Minimising production of waste and to encourage efficient use of materials, including appropriate use of high quality materials, and recycling of wastes;

Encouraging sensitive working practices during minerals extraction and to preserve or enhance the overall quality of the environment once extraction has ceased; and

Protecting areas of designated landscape or nature conservation from development, other than in exceptional circumstances where it has been demonstrated that development is in the public interest.

The revision sets out sub-regional apportionments of mineral provision.

### **MPG 7: Reclamation of Mineral Workings**

MPG 7 deals with policies, consultations and conditions which are relevant to achieving effective reclamation of mineral workings. The guidance:

- sets out the contribution which reclaimed mineral sites can make to the Government's policies for sustainable development and mineral working, and for land use and other policies in the wider countryside;
- advises on the scope of information which should be provided with applications for new mineral developments, to enable relevant planning conditions to be drawn up and resulting site reclamation to be achieved;
- provides some advice on preparation of schemes of conditions for restoration, aftercare and after-use which owners/operators of older mineral sites may need to draw up for future reviews of such sites;
- emphasises the importance of the roles played by the management of site activities by mineral operators and by development control monitoring and enforcement by local authorities, in achieving successful site reclamation;
- advises on financial provision in relation to securing restoration of mineral workings;

- contains more detailed advice, in Annexes, on soils, reclamation, aftercare and after-use.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key objectives will be to minimise the adverse impacts, and to utilise opportunities for positive contributions which a reclaimed site can make to the landscape.

**MPG 10: Provision of Raw Material for the Cement Industry**

MPG 10 provides advice to mineral planning authorities (MPAs) on the exercise of planning control over the provision of raw material for the cement industry. It indicates the national policy considerations which need to be taken into account in drawing up minerals policies for the industry in their development plans and some of the other factors that need to be taken into account when determining applications for planning permission.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

It is important that short term gains should not be achieved by creating environmental debts for future generations. The encouragement of cement production must therefore be balanced against important environmental and conservation interests.

Ensure that any environmental damage or loss of amenity caused by mineral working is kept to an acceptable level.

The cement industry can make a contribution to the objective of sustainable development necessary to have an adequate and continuous supply of raw material to maintain production of cement

**PPG 14- Development on Unstable Land- Annex 2: Subsidence and Planning**

This outlines problems which may occur due to disused mine openings and the uses to which they can be put after abandonment, including underground storage and maintenance for pumping or ventilation purposes. The use of planning controls in these cases are explored.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key objectives not available online.

**MPG 14 – Environment Act 1995: Review of Mineral Planning Permissions**

The Environment Act 1995 requires regular and review and update of mineral planning permissions, particularly in the light of evolving environmental legislation.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Mineral workings are restricted in location (by source of minerals), therefore mineral working sites are often found in environmentally sensitive areas. The temporary nature of mineral workings provides opportunity for environmental enhancement by effective restoration. Hence mineral workings are likely to have significant environmental consequences and permissions for these developments need to be regularly reviewed so as to ensure all legislative requirements are being met.

**Capita Symonds Limited (April 2005): Technical and Strategic Assessment of Current Aggregate Reserves and Potential Use of Secondary & Recycled Aggregates in the South West Region. Report prepared for the South West Regional Assembly.**

The purpose of this report is provide context and inform the debate on the relative sustainability *and feasibility* of alternative aggregate supply scenarios for the South West to fulfil the need for factual information on the availability of alternative aggregate supply sources and on the demands likely to be placed on these from both within and outside the region. The aims of the research are to provide:

- An overview of current reserves and resources of primary aggregates in the region;
- An assessment of current sub regional apportionment and opportunities for re-apportionment to address shortfalls in supply and to mitigate for unacceptable environmental aspects of future working, including commentary on market demand for aggregates in the region up to 2026;
- A technical assessment of substitution of primary aggregates between both adjacent MPAs and across the region (specifically the substitution of sand & gravel by crushed rock);
- An assessment of the existing arisings of construction and demolition wastes and the potential processing capacity of this resource; and
- An assessment of the current wharf capacity for both land won and marine aggregates and the future potential of this facility.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Under scenario 1, the shortfall in Wiltshire of sand and gravel is 18.4 million tonnes

Scenario 2 and 3 are alternatives designed to meet the shortfall in sand and gravel by substituting with crushed rock – this would mean no new permission in Wiltshire to 2016 (scenario 2) or subsidised importation of aggregate into South West ports (scenario 3).

Scenario 4 is hybrid scenario which includes:

- Further increasing the use of CD&E waste arisings as aggregates, especially in higher value applications such as concrete;
- Increasing the use of marine dredged aggregates, particularly from existing South Coast licence areas to replace land-won sand & gravel, especially in Dorset;
- Minimising the necessity to substitute natural sand & gravel with crushed rock, because of the transport impacts and increased cement requirements involved, and also because of the potential conflict with water resources in limestone aquifers;
- Minimising the necessity for sand & gravel extraction within the most sensitive areas - i.e. those within or adjacent to national and international designations;
- Anticipating major objections (particularly on the grounds of birdstrike risks to MOD facilities) to future sand & gravel extraction in the Cotswold Water Park area;
- Avoiding further permissions for Carboniferous Limestone extraction within the Forest of Dean (with a resulting increased output from such quarries in South Gloucestershire and perhaps in South Wales to substitute for the shortfall); and
- Exploring the use of fiscal measures to stimulate the increased use of china clay aggregates within the Region (but not to implement this immediately)

However, further work is needed before this can be adopted including a review of known and potential sand & gravel resources within Wiltshire and a detailed assessment of the extent to which these could be worked, using best practice mitigation techniques, without adverse effects on environmental designations, other major planning restrictions, and the risk of birdstrike to MOD facilities.

#### **Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Local Plan 2001-2006**

This Plan sets out detailed policies and guidance on minerals development, in order to provide a framework on which planning decisions can be made on all minerals currently worked within the Plan Area.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key objectives:

- Provide planning framework for Mineral Planning Authorities which balances society's needs for minerals and the need to protect the environment.
- Provide information to the public and minerals industry concerning the location and extent of future minerals development in the Plan Area.

**How the Minerals Local Development Document should address Sustainable Development/Environmental Policy**

The MLDDS must make allowance for the principles of MPS1 and MPS2 through local development policy in particular through the selection of suitable plan objectives and through site selection. The MLDDS will need to include policies that require a consideration of detailed matters such as the economic, environmental, nature conservation, agricultural, landscape, traffic, site restoration and other effects of the proposal that are relevant to the planning decision.

**Relevant Objectives**

- Ensure the sub regional apportionments are met.

**A.12 Other Spatial Development Policy**

**European Commission White Paper on the European Transport Policy (2001)**

This paper describes what has been achieved so far both at the Union and the Member State levels and what should be done in the near future.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

The principal measures suggested in the White Paper include:

- Revitalising the railways
- Improving quality in the road transport sector
- Striking a balance between growth in air
- Transport and the environment
- Turning inter-modality into reality
- Improving road safety
- Adopting a policy on effective charging for Transport
- Recognising the rights and obligations of users
- Developing high-quality urban transport
- Developing medium and long-term environmental objectives for a sustainable transport system

**European Spatial Development Perspective 1999**

By adopting the ESDP, the Member States and the Commission reached agreement on common objectives and concepts for the future development of the territory of the European Union.

The aim of spatial development policies is to work towards a balanced and sustainable development of the territory of the European Union. The ESPD aims to ensure that the three fundamental goals of European policy are achieved equally in all the regions of the EU:

- Economic and social cohesion;
- Conservation and management of natural resources and the cultural heritage;
- More balanced competitiveness of the European territory.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

European cultural landscapes, cities and towns, as well as a variety of natural and historic monuments are part of the European Heritage. Its fostering should be an important part of modern architecture, urban and landscape planning in all regions of the EU.

A big challenge for spatial development policy is to contribute to the objectives, announced by the EU during international conferences concerning the environment and climate, of reducing emissions into the global ecological system.

#### **PPG 2 – Green Belts**

The Guidance indicates the underpinning aims of the Green Belt policy and its contribution to sustainable development objectives.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

There should be a general presumption against inappropriate development in the Green Belt. When any large scale development or redevelopment occurs within the Green Belt, it should contribute towards the objectives provided in para. 1.6 of the guidance note.

#### **PPG 3 – Housing**

PPG3 provides guidance on planning for the provision of new housing on a Regional basis and on the allocation of land for housing by local authorities.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Industrial and commercial developments are vital for the wealth of an area but need to be carefully placed so to minimise dependency of businesses and customers from road transport and integration with existing and planned transport and housing developments and plans.

#### **PPS 7 – Sustainable Development in Rural Areas**

Quality of life and the environment in rural areas need to be enhanced through the sustainable development of communities and their environment.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Requires that development within and outside existing villages should be permitted where it meets local economic and community needs, where it maintains or enhances the environment and does not conflict with other policies. Priority should be given to the conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape in AONBs and National Parks.

#### **PPS 11 – Regional Spatial Strategies**

PPS11 provides policies that need to be taken into account by Regional Planning Bodies in their preparation of revisions to RSSs.

<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
The Regional Spatial Strategy should provide for a fifteen to twenty year period, taking into account the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of the scale and distribution of provision for new housing;</li> <li>• Priorities for the environment, such as countryside and biodiversity protection; and</li> <li>• Transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals extraction and waste treatment and disposal.</li> </ul>
<b>PPS 12 – Local Development Frameworks</b>
Outlines a new style of land use planning, streamlining programme for policy agreement and ensuring community engagement throughout the process
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
The MLDDS should accord with national guidance. No relevant objectives, targets and indicators. The LTP should be consistent with the regional transport strategy, and the policies in the Minerals Development Framework and District / Borough wide Local Development Frameworks.
<b>PPG 13 – Transport</b>
The objectives of this guidance are to integrate planning and transport at the national, regional, strategic and local level to promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight, so to enhance accessibility by public transport and reduce the need to travel, especially by car.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
Actively manage the pattern of urban growth and the location of major travel generating development to make the fullest use of public transport, and to encourage walking and cycling. Land use planning should facilitate a shift in transport of freight from road to rail and water. Attention should be paid to the value of disused transport sites and effort made to prevent their loss to different land uses. Traffic management measures to should be designed to reduce environmental/social impacts, whilst fiscal measures should be used for tackling congestion.
<b>PPG14 – Development of Unstable Land</b>
PPG14 examines the impacts of instability on development and land use. How instability should be tackled in the planning process and how it might be treated by development plans and in considering planning applications is also included.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
The MLDDS should accord with national guidance. No objectives, targets and indicators.
<b>PPS 22 Renewable Energy</b>
This Statement sets out the Government's planning policies for renewable energy, which planning authorities should have regard to when preparing local development documents and when taking planning decisions.
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>

Regional spatial strategies and local development documents should contain policies designed to promote and encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy resources. Except where these developments are likely to have an adverse effect on designated conservation sites (historic and natural), or designated landscapes. **Targets:** should be expressed as the minimum amount of installed capacity for renewable energy in the region, expressed in megawatts, and may also be expressed in terms of the percentage of electricity consumed or supplied. Targets should be set for achievement by 2010 and by 2020. Regional targets have been set and these have been expressed for each strategic planning authority.

### **PPS 23 – Planning and Pollution Control**

This Guidance advises on matters relating to how the development control process should deal with pollution which may arise from or may affect land use.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

A strategic approach should be taken to the location of potentially polluting developments and the location of sensitive developments. Development presents the opportunity of remediation and developing on contaminated land in order to reduce the risks currently posed by such land. Where new potentially polluting activities are planned a proactive approach should be taken between the developer and the pollution control authorities.

There are no specific targets or indicators.

### **Sustainable Communities Plan (Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future) 2003**

The Plan sets out a long-term programme of action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other parts of the country, and the quality of our public spaces.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

To transform Regional Planning Guidance into a Regional Spatial Strategy which increases delivery and targets for brown field development; affordable housing issues; in rolling forward annual new housing provision; identifies strategic employment locations; clearly defines transport priorities; addresses waste and renewable energy and reinforces urban and rural renaissance.

The South West suffers the double impact of higher than average house prices and lower than average incomes in the region. This creates particular difficulties for key workers and young people starting out.

### **DETR (2000): Government Urban White Paper: Our Towns, Our Cities, the Future. Delivering an urban renaissance.**

Sustainable economic growth is based on thriving towns and cities, which are the economic hubs of large areas.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

To arrest urban decline by taking a joined approach to policies on housing, planning, transport and education in and for cities and town.

### **DETR (2000): Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside, the future – A deal for rural England**

To maintain and protect a living and vibrant countryside, the government has identified a number of key actions, all informed by the principles of sustainable development.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

There are five objectives, which will be transposed into the PSA and Service Delivery Agreements:

- Facilitate sustainable economies
- Maintain and stimulate communities ensuring fair access to services
- Conserve rural landscape and wildlife
- Increase opportunities to enjoy the countryside
- Promote collaboration amongst all Government tiers to ensure responsiveness to local communities' requests.

### **A Sustainable Future for the South West: The Regional Sustainable Development Framework for the South West of England**

This is an integrated strategic framework, endorsed by the South West Assembly, for the promotion of the sustainable economic, social and environmental well-being of the South West. It provides a set of sustainable development guidelines for all organisations within the region. The main themes and objective are summarised as follows:

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

##### **Theme: Development & Planning**

Conservation and wise use of land and other resources, balanced and safe communities with adequate housing, employment and other facilities, diverse and distinctive heritage and landscape, affordable housing, reflects local distinctiveness and meets the needs of the community

### **Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West 2006 – 2026: Possible development strategies for the Region**

This consultation report sets three illustrative development strategies for the region, which will form the Core Development Strategy. They all embed the RPG10 'urban focussed' strategy.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Alternative 1: continue with RPG10 (eleven PUAs)

Alternative 2: concentrate on fewer PUAs

Alternative 3: recognise the difference between the north and south of the SW and centralise development in the PUAs in the North, whilst subdividing development of the south between PUAs and rural areas.

### **South West Regional Planning Guidance (RPG10)**

RPG10 is the regional spatial strategy, providing the spatial framework for other strategies and within which local plans (LDFs and transport included) need to be prepared. RPG10 is being further developed in the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS10).

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key objectives:

- The level, distribution and nature of the development need to be well integrated with the characteristics of the Region and need to benefit the environment.
- The existing natural, cultural and built environment need to be protected
- The economy of the region needs to be improved through better use of existing resources and development of new skills and business opportunities
- Economic development should be enabled and supported so to maximise contribution to regional, national and local needs.

- Social exclusion and economic disadvantage need addressing through careful regeneration and redistribution
- Efforts should focus in ensuring that the housing, working and services needs of the population of the region are met.
- An integrated, efficient and environmentally appropriate transport and communications systems to meet local, regional, national, and international priorities.

### **Creating Sustainable Communities in the South West**

Introduces the work being done to create sustainable communities in the South West

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Sustainable communities in the South West are created through:

- Delivering a better balance between housing supply and demand
- Ensuring people have decent places to live
- Tackling disadvantage
- Delivering better services through strong effective local government
- Promoting the development of the region

### **Wiltshire and Swindon Structure Plan 2016 (Adopted April 2006)**

This Plan sets the broad framework for the future of the Wiltshire area, outlining a strategy for its future development and the conservation of its heritage.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key aims with selected objectives:

##### Minerals

- To achieve environmentally acceptable extraction of minerals where the assessed need cannot be met by use of secondary aggregates (according to national and regional strategies).
- To encourage sensitive restoration and after use of sites.

##### Waste Management

- To encourage waste minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery to Reduce reliance on landfill/land raising and minimise the risks.

##### Community Development

##### Integration of Land-Use and Transport

- To reduce overall reliance upon private motorised transport.

##### Energy Efficient Land Uses

- To encourage land-use changes needed to reduce energy use, absorb carbon dioxide, provide renewable energy and increase recycling of resources.

##### Rural Communities – Industry and Employment

- To create sufficient jobs for Wiltshire's growing population, and increase the viability of existing and new centres of employment within the Plan Area.

##### Quality of Employment

##### Regeneration of Small Towns

<p>Re-use of Developed Land and Buildings</p> <p>Amenity of Settlements</p> <p>The Countryside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect the areas biodiversity and rural environment, including the best agricultural land and mineral resources.</li> </ul> <p>The Regional Balance of Development</p> <p>Efficient and Safe Use of Roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve safety and control congestion on the Plan Area's roads.</li> </ul> <p>Infrastructure and Services</p> <p>Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect the Plan Area's water resources.</li> </ul> <p>Recreation and Leisure</p> <p>Hazard, Noise and Light Pollution</p>
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<b>Swindon Borough Local Plan 2011 – Revised deposit draft</b>
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<p>This Local Plan forms part of the statutory development plan system, setting out Swindon Borough Council's policies and proposals for development and land use in the administrative area of the Borough for the plan period (2001-2011).</p>
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<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
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<p>Key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that all development of land takes place in the public interest.</li> <li>Accommodating environmental, social, and economic development needs – and addressing the balance between these needs where they compete.</li> <li>Providing the opportunity for environmental improvement through development.</li> <li>Protect and enhance the qualities of the built environment, archaeology and historic areas within the Borough.</li> <li>To protect and where appropriate enhance, important environmental assets and natural resources.</li> <li>To maintain rural buffers to protect the separate identity of rural settlements by preventing coalescence with Swindon.</li> <li>To protect and enhance rural environment and character while enabling essential development which meets the social and economic needs of local communities.</li> <li>To provide open space for recreation and access to countryside through green corridors (whilst protecting wildlife interests within them).</li> <li>To minimise the need to travel, especially by car.</li> </ul>
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<b>Salisbury District Council Local Plan</b>
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<p>This Local Plan has been produced in order to achieve a balance between the need for new development against the desire to conserve the natural environment and historic fabric of the area. It provides detailed guidance concerning the use and development of land up to the end of the year 2011.</p>
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<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
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<p>Key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote the principles and practice of sustainable development.</li> </ul>
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- To promote a healthy economy that provides standards of living at least equal to that currently enjoyed by the people of the District.
- To protect and enhance the natural and built environment.
- To promote a high quality of life for the people of this District without compromising the quality of life for others.
- To provide a level of certainty to all interested parties about where development is to take place, and what kind of development it is to be.
- To strike a balance between preserving and enhancing the quality and character of the countryside in terms of the landscape and nature conservation, promoting a healthy, modern and sustainable rural economy and ensuring a high quality of life for rural communities.
- To maintain and enhance the traditional character of the New Forest through planning policy whilst ensuring the social and economic well-being of all those who live and work in the area.
- To implement a sustainable transportation and land use strategy for the District in partnership with the County Council, which minimises the need to travel, reduces reliance on the private vehicle and encourages the use of environmentally friendly modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling whilst providing good accessibility and promoting economic vitality within the District.

#### **Kennet District Council Local Plan**

This Local Plan identifies land within the district to be used for development, protects the districts environment, and manages the districts traffic.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key Objectives:

- Minimise waste, then re-use or recover it through recycling, composting or energy recovery, and finally sustainably dispose of what is left.
- Limit pollution to levels which do not damage natural systems.
- Ensure access to good food, housing and fuel at a reasonable cost.
- Support the provision of local facilities in villages.
- Ensure that the three main settlements improve the viability of their Town Centres (Devizes, Marlborough, and Tidworth).
- Protect and enhance where possible, the diverse range of landscape, ecology and cultural assets and allow them to be enjoyed by all.
- Provide means to reduce the dependence on private cars whilst improving access for all sections of society.

#### **North Wiltshire District Council Local Plan – Revised deposit draft 2004**

The local plan sets out detailed policies to guide development in North Wiltshire. It aims to offer a vision for the District that balances the protection of natural assets with the needs of the community.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Key objectives:

- To facilitate a sustainable pattern of land uses to reduce the consumption of natural resources whilst making best use of existing assets.
- To protect, enhance and provide the housing and facilities the community needs.
- To facilitate good quality design and protect existing amenities.
- Enhance the quality of life of residents and visitors to North Wiltshire through the conservation of the built and natural environment.
- To facilitate sustainable business development for a prosperous and robust economy.
- Promotes or maintains socially inclusive communities and their access to community infrastructure
- Promotes or maintains the quality of the natural and the historic environment.

- Demonstrates the prudent use of natural resources and incorporates, where relevant, recycling, renewable energy and energy conservation measures.

#### **West Wiltshire District Plan 1<sup>st</sup> Alteration. June 2004.**

This plan is guided by the following strategies:

The District Council will encourage the continued and sustainable regeneration of the economic and physical fabric of the West Wiltshire towns in the A350 corridor, in particular Trowbridge, Melksham and Westbury, through a concentration of resources, development and positive planning measures.

In Bradford on Avon, Warminster, the villages and rural areas, the District Council will seek to achieve a sustainable balance between the competing demands for development and environmental protection.

The District Council will place particular emphasis on environmental conservation and the protection and enhancement of features of acknowledged international, national and local importance whilst continuing to meet the essential development needs of the local economy and community.

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

Environmental objectives:

- To protect, conserve and enhance both the natural and manmade environment;
- To protect and conserve the Western Wiltshire Green Belt, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, areas of nature conservation and/or scientific importance, conservation areas, listed buildings, scheduled ancient monuments and areas designated as open space in and around the towns as appropriate.

Policies are included to cover:

- Maintaining the quality and variety of the countryside, the water environment, the rural landscape and wildlife
- AONBS
- Special Landscape Areas
- Landscape setting of Bradford-On-Avon and Warminster
- Internationally designated sites
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Areas of High Ecological Value, Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Sites, and Sites on Nature Conservation Interest
- Landscape features such as hedges, woodlands, parklands etc.
- Protected Species
- Woodlands
- Rivers
- Military and ex-military land
- Archaeological sites including Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Conservation areas and listed buildings
- Street scene, shop fronts
- Historic parks and gardens

- Recycling and renewable energy
- Contaminated land
- Tree planting
- Noise and nuisance

Areas of Opportunity

- Targets make reference to the Biodiversity Action Plan and the AONB Management plans.

Transport aims:

- To encourage the provision and maintenance of efficient, land-use integrated transport networks throughout West Wiltshire, which contribute towards continued economic vitality, social inclusion and allow for sustainable growth;
- To require access by all transport modes to proposed developments, which where appropriate, incorporate benefits to the adjacent highway network;
- To reduce the length of motorised journeys and the reliance on the private car in favour of public transport, walking and cycling and to encourage the carriage of freight by rail; and
- To encourage transport arrangements that minimise harm to the natural and built environment, ensure that air quality is maintained and help to improve safety for all travellers.

**Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2006/7 – 2010/11**

This local plan will focus in the next few years to develop Wiltshire In a county fit for children, to become the healthiest county to live in by 2014 and to improve Wiltshire's street scene.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

**Primary Objectives:**

**Transport aims:**

- To improve access to goods, services and employment opportunities for all sections of the community, particularly those living in rural areas or without access to a car.
- To respond to the continuing growth in car ownership, and inappropriate use, by improving choice for local trips.
- To improve safety for all travellers and to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on Wiltshire's roads.
- To reduce the real and perceived threats of road traffic speed in towns and villages.
- To reduce the proportion of the principal (A) road network requiring significant maintenance.
- To maintain and integrated and efficient public transport network.
- To provide greater access to demand responsive bus services across the county.
- To improve facilities for cyclists and pedestrians, particularly in urban areas.
- To encourage schools to have School Travel Plans.
- To encourage business to adopt effective Workplace Travel Plans.
- To reduce the impact of traffic on people's quality of life and Wiltshire's built and natural environment, and to manage the transport network in a sensitive and appropriate manner.
- To reduce the volume of traffic entering Salisbury compared with 1999.

- To increase cycling and pedestrian flows to/from Salisbury city centre compared with 2001.
- To improve access to Salisbury for shoppers by increasing the number of Park & Ride sites and reducing long-stay public off-street central spaces.
- To limit the growth in traffic in the Western Wiltshire Sustainable Transport Strategy area compared to 1999.
- To improve business confidence in the transport network and inward investment in the Western Wiltshire Sustainable Transport Strategy area by reducing variations in A350 journey times.

**Secondary Objectives:**

**Social Care and Health:**

- To reduce the incidence of preventable illness, and to encourage people to adopt more active lifestyle.
- To provide health and social care services which are integrated, timely and easy to access.

**Countryside and Land-Based Issues:**

- To maintain a working, attractive and wildlife rich, countryside.
- To assess and take appropriate action in relation to the impact of climate change on Wiltshire, both by adjusting to the changes that are already underway, and by minimising our collective contribution to the future global situation.
- To tackle social and rural exclusion in rural areas.

**Housing and the Built Environment:**

- To improve Wiltshire's street scene.
- To ensure that housing is provided within the context of sustainable communities.

**The Wiltshire Economy:**

- To raise productivity through innovation and sustainable development.
- To increase investment in jobs and services

**Crime and Community Protection:**

- To engage with communities to promote cohesion and reassurance, and to reduce fear of crime.

**Culture:**

- To increase local people's access to, and participation in, Wiltshire's cultural activities and opportunities.
- To keep Wiltshire's heritage, landscape, local diversity and distinctive character special.
- To identify barriers to access and participation and issues of social inclusion, with particular regard to cultural activities in rural areas.

**Better Access to Services, making the Best use of ICT and E-Government:**

- To ensure every citizen can access public information, services and decision-making.

**Swindon Local Transport Plan 2006/7 – 2010/11**

This Local Transport Plan for Swindon will focus to be a leading regional centre, offering a high quality of life due to its location; the surrounding outstanding countryside; the leisure and cultural facilities it offers (including a renewed and revitalised town centre); the quality of its architecture, particularly its housing; the vibrancy of its economy, the range of careers on offer, and the quality and breadth of education.

**Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

- To support the regeneration of the town centre and other neighbourhood renewal areas by improving access to, and travel round, these areas.
- To manage the impact of traffic growth by implementing sustainable mitigation measures.
- To maintain and make best use of the existing transport infrastructure to provide the optimum level of service for all users, with selective infrastructure improvements where an acceptable level of service cannot otherwise be achieved.
- To improve road safety.
- To promote travel choices and increase opportunities for travel by public transport, cycling and walking.
- To work with the strategic transport authorities (Highways Agency, DfT Rail Group, etc.) to maintain an appropriate level of service on the strategic networks.
- To manage the impact of transport on the built and natural environment.
- To develop orbital and other route networks and road hierarchies that acknowledge the complex journey patterns within the urban area and reflect the locations of significant trip attractions.
- To improve rights of way to, from and within Swindon's urban fringe and rural buffer, to enhance access to the countryside and improve pedestrian/cycle links with the urban networks.
- To tackle issues of social exclusion and accessibility resulting from economic disparities in order to improve the quality of life.

### **How the Minerals Local Development Document should address Spatial Development Policy**

The MLDDS must take into account various Planning Policy Guidance Notes, ensuring wherever possible that mineral developments do not compromise the openness of green belt land, take into consideration its impacts on traffic through transportation of materials and personnel, and avoiding adverse impacts on rural and urban communities (for example through maintaining a high-quality environment and providing local economic benefits). The Plan should encourage the use of renewable energy and also consider the uses of secondary and recycled aggregates. Potential pollution risks from mineral developments should be tackled in line with PPS23.

At a regional and local level, the Plan will need to consider the resource requirements imposed by the Wiltshire Structure Plan and Swindon Borough Local Plan. These spatial plans may also have implications for possible resource sterilisation which will need to be considered within the MLDDS. Environmental Objectives within Local Plans to do with specific designated areas must also be taken into account. These include the New Forest National Park, AONBs, cSACs, and Cotswold Water Park. The Plan should take into account LDFs.

The Freight Action Plan in the Wiltshire's LTP includes policies that may influence movement of minerals in Wiltshire. Implementation and the progress of the policies is explained in the table in the Appendix 3 of the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan.

### **Relevant Objectives**

- None (already covered by other objectives)

## A.13 Other

<b>Århus Convention</b>
<p>The Århus Convention establishes a number of rights of the public (citizens and their associations) with regard to the environment. Public authorities (at national, regional or local level) are to contribute to allowing these rights to become effective. The Convention provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The right of everyone to receive environmental information that is held by public authorities. This can include information on the state of the environment, but also on policies or measures taken, or on the state of human health and safety where this can be affected by the state of the environment. Public authorities are obliged, under the Convention, to actively disseminate environmental information in their possession;</li><li>• The right to participate from an early stage in environmental decision-making. Arrangements are to be made by public authorities to enable citizens and environmental organisations to comment on, for example, proposals for projects affecting the environment, or plans and programmes relating to the environment</li><li>• The right to challenge, in a court of law, public decisions that have been made without respecting the two aforementioned rights or environmental law in general.</li></ul>
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
<p>The Convention creates obligations in three fields or 'pillars':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public access to environmental information</li><li>• Public participation in decision-making on matters related to the environment: provision</li><li>• Access to justice (i.e. administrative or judicial review proceedings) in environmental matters</li></ul>
<b>Good Practice Guide for Planning on Tourism</b>
<p>This guide outlines the economic significance of tourism and its environmental impact, and therefore its importance in land-use planning. It explains how the needs of tourism should be dealt with in development plans and in development control.</p>
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ensure that planners understand the importance of tourism and take this fully into account when preparing development plans and taking planning decisions;</li><li>• ensure that those involved in the tourism industry understand the principles of national planning policy as they apply to tourism and how these can be applied when preparing individual planning applications;</li><li>• and ensure that planners and the tourism industry work together effectively to facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism development in a sustainable way.</li></ul>
<b>Towards 2015 – Shaping Tomorrow's Tourism</b>
<p>Strategic framework aiming to ensure the development of a sustainable tourism industry in the Region.</p>
<b>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</b>

- Is markedly less seasonal;
- Achieves higher visitor satisfaction rates;
- Is able to command a premium price over competing products in other regions;
- Is welcomed by the host communities;
- Recognises the environmental impact caused by the industry, ensuring that it does significantly more to protect and enhance the environment; and
- Is a better employer with employees satisfied with their conditions of employment, training and career development.

### **RSS SSA Appraisal Framework**

This document highlights the framework for appraisal of the RSS

#### **Objectives, Targets and Indicators**

List of objectives that will be used to assess the sustainability of the RSS, from high level down to detailed level.

### **How the Minerals Local Development Document should address Other Policy**

In line with the Aarhus Convention, public consultation and access to information supporting the decision-making process must be introduced in the procedures for the drawing up of the Plan in respects of matters covered by the legislation and Directives mentioned. The SEA Directive requires that public consultation is carried out on the Draft Plan and its accompanying Environmental Report.

Increased access for minerals working could increase visiting numbers to the area, especially through development of infrastructure.

The South West Regional Assembly believes that local level appraisals may be more efficiently and effectively carried out if LPAs adopt a similar framework of sustainability objectives as used in the SSA Appraisal Framework document, when undertaking their appraisals.

#### **Relevant Objectives**

The RSS SSA objectives have been taken into account in the selection of the SEA objectives.

## Appendix B. Wiltshire and Swindon SEA/SA Baseline Information

Indicator	Data Source	Current Data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issues/Constraints
<b>Topic: Population</b>					
<p><b>Total number of people</b></p> <p>(NB: 1991 census figures for Swindon refer to what was the Thamesdown District of Wiltshire before Swindon became a unitary authority in 1997)</p>	1 2 3 7 4	<p>(2001 Census) Swindon UA: 180,051 Wiltshire: 432,973</p> <p>Wilts CC Figures for Wiltshire (2004) 445,150 (2003) 440,660 (2002) 437,320</p>	<p>(2001 Census) South West: 4,928,434 (1991) South West: 4,609,424 Wiltshire: 393,621 Swindon: 170,850</p> <p>(2001) Wiltshire: 432,973</p>	<p>In the period 1991-2001 population in: South West increased by over 300,000 Wiltshire: increased by 39,352. Swindon Borough: increased by 9,201</p> <p>Provisional short term population projections for 2006 based on the 2001 census are: Wiltshire: 451,100 Swindon: 187,550</p>	Population increasing in South West, Wiltshire and Swindon.
<b>Aged 0 to 15</b>	1 2	<p>(2001 Census) Wiltshire: 88,636 (20.5%) Swindon UA: 37,747 (21%)</p>	<p>(2001) South West: 938,570 (19.0%) (1991) South West: 871,642 (18.9%) Wiltshire: 78,105 (19.8%) Swindon: 35,708 (20.9%)</p>	In the period 1991-2001 the number of 0-15 year olds in the South West, Wiltshire, and Swindon, increased, and the proportion of this age bracket also increased slightly.	
<b>Aged 16 to 74</b>	1 2	<p>(2001 Census) Wiltshire: 310,124 (71.6%) Swindon UA: 131,072 (72.8%)</p>	<p>(2001) South West: 3,534,458 (71.7%) (1991) South West: 3,251,506 Wiltshire: 286,728 (72.8%) Swindon: 125,916 (73.7%)</p>	In the period 1991-2001 the number of 16-75 year olds in the South West, Wiltshire and Swindon, increased, but the overall proportion of this age bracket decreased.	
<b>Aged 75 and over</b>	1 2 5	<p>(2001 Census) Wiltshire: 34,213 (7.9%) Swindon UA: 11,232 (6.2%)</p> <p>Wilts CC Figures for Wiltshire (2004) 36,080</p>	<p>(2001) South West: 455,406 (9.3%) (1991) South West: 486,294 (10.6%) Wiltshire: 28,751 (7.3%) Swindon: 9,055 (5.3%)</p>	Between 1991 and 2001, the number and proportion of the population aged 75 and over, has increased in both Swindon and Wiltshire, but has decreased in the South West. Nevertheless, Wiltshire and Swindon still had a lower proportion of	80-84 year old numbers will increase by 2016 by 22%. 85-89 year old numbers will increase by 2016 by 28%, and 90+ numbers will increase by 16%.

Indicator	Data Source	Current Data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issues/Constraints
		(2003) 35,480 (2002) 34,920		people aged 75 and over, then the South West on average (in 2001).	
<b>Density (number of people per hectare)</b>	<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>	(2001) Wiltshire: 1.3 Swindon UA: 7.8	(2001) South West: 2.1 (1991) South West: 1.93 Wiltshire 1.62	Density in South West increased between 1991-2001 1991 and 2001 figures are not comparable due to Swindon being separated from Wiltshire in between the two censuses.	Wiltshire figures for 1991 include Swindon, but 2001 figure excludes Swindon.
<b>Employment (all people aged 16-74)</b>					
<b>Employed</b>		(2001) Wiltshire: 211,296 (68.1%) Swindon UA: 91,003 (70.1%)	(2001) South West: 2,205,441 (62.4%)		1991 census data not comparable as only male economic activity available; no trend. Wiltshire and Swindon have had higher employment percentages than the South West.
<b>Unemployed</b>		Wiltshire(2001): 6,111 (2.0%) Swindon: 3229 (2.5%) Swindon (2003) 2.3%	(2001) South West: 90,803 (2.6%)	Swindon unemployment appears to have decreased very slightly between 2001 and 2003.	1991 census data not comparable; no trend. Despite Swindon having greater % employment than Wiltshire, it also has higher unemployment.
<b>Long-term unemployed</b>		(2001) Wiltshire: 1,315 (0.4%) Swindon UA: 632 (0.5%)	(2001) South West: 24,221 (0.7%)		1991 census data not comparable; no trend. Wiltshire and Swindon have less long-term unemployed than the South West.
<b>Student (economically active)</b>		(2001) Wiltshire: 6,458 (2.1%) Swindon UA: 3249 (2.5%)	(2001) South West: 90,022 (2.5%)		1991 census data not comparable; no trend.
<b>Retired</b>		(2001) Wiltshire: 42,650 (13.8%) Swindon UA: 15,723 (12.0%)	(2001) South West: 547,082 (15.5%)		1991 census data not comparable; no trend. Wiltshire, and particularly Swindon, have a lower proportion of retired people than the South West.
<b>Student (economically inactive)</b>		(2001) Wiltshire: 7,988 (2.6%) Swindon UA: 2,659	(2001) South West: 137,947 (3.9%)		1991 census data not comparable; no trend.

Indicator	Data Source	Current Data	Comparators and targets	Trend	Issues/Constraints
		(2.0%)			
<b>Looking after home/family</b>		(2001) Wiltshire: 19,505 (6.3%) Swindon UA: 7,021 (5.4%)	(2001) South West: 215,714 (6.1%)		1991 census data not comparable; no trend.  Wiltshire has a higher proportion of carers than Swindon.
<b>Permanently sick or disabled</b>		(2001) Wiltshire: 9,556 (3.1%) Swindon UA: 4981 (3.8%)	(2001) South West: 159,564 (4.5%)		1991 census data not comparable; no trend. Wiltshire and Swindon have a lower proportion of permanently sick or disabled people than the South West.
<b>Other inactive</b>		(2001) Wiltshire: 6,560 (2.1%) Swindon UA: 3,207 (2.4%)	(2001) South West: 87,885 (2.5%)		1991 census data not comparable; no trend.  Wiltshire and Swindon have a lower proportion of 'other inactive' than the South West.

<b>Topic: Human Health</b>					
<b>Number of people experiencing a limiting long-term illness</b>	<sup>1</sup>	(2001) Wiltshire: 65,261 (15.1%) Swindon UA: 27,476 (15.3%)	South West (2001): 892,034 (18.1%) (1991) South West: 11.63% Wiltshire: 9.88%	Long term illness in Wiltshire and the South West has increased in the period 1991-2001. Cannot determine trend for Wiltshire since 1991 Wiltshire data includes Swindon.	Wiltshire and Swindon have a lower percentage of people with long term illness than the South West as a whole.
<b>General health 'not good'</b>	<sup>1</sup>	(2001) Wiltshire: 28,704 (6.6%) Swindon UA: 13,780 (7.7%)	(2001) South West: 419,407 (8.5%)		1991 census data requested but not received to date: unable to identify trend.
<b>Life expectancy</b>	<sup>5</sup> <sup>6</sup>	Wiltshire 2003: Female = 81 years, Male = 76.7	(1997-1999) Swindon UA: F= 79.55 M = 75.36 South West: F= 81.25 M = 76.46		Data not comparable, unable to identify trend.
<b>Infant mortality</b>	<sup>5</sup> <sup>7</sup>	Wiltshire 2003: 5 deaths per 1000 live births	England 2003: 5.6 deaths per 1,000 live births Wiltshire 1999: 3.5 deaths per 1,000 live births	Infant mortality in Wiltshire has increased in the period 1999-2003.	Wiltshire has a lower infant mortality rate than the national average.

**The most common causes of death in Wiltshire** (Standardised Mortality Ratio (SMR) - summary measure of a community's mortality, taking account of the age and sex structure of the population. The SMR of England and Wales = 100. Areas with less than 100, have fewer deaths than would be expected, those with more, have a greater number) (actual average per year is given in brackets)

<b>Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMRs)</b>	5	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>SMR Category</th> <th>Wiltshire 2003 SMR</th> <th>Wiltshire 2003 Average</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Coronary heart disease</td> <td>91.1</td> <td>866</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stroke</td> <td>91.8</td> <td>476</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All cancers</td> <td>87.4</td> <td>1,032</td> </tr> <tr> <td>... lung cancer</td> <td>71.3</td> <td>176</td> </tr> <tr> <td>... colorectal cancer</td> <td>97.1</td> <td>124</td> </tr> <tr> <td>... breast cancer</td> <td>100.9</td> <td>101</td> </tr> <tr> <td>... prostate cancer</td> <td>97.4</td> <td>79</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			SMR Category	Wiltshire 2003 SMR	Wiltshire 2003 Average	Coronary heart disease	91.1	866	Stroke	91.8	476	All cancers	87.4	1,032	... lung cancer	71.3	176	... colorectal cancer	97.1	124	... breast cancer	100.9	101	... prostate cancer	97.4	79	<p>Wiltshire experiences less deaths than would be expected against the national average, for all of the causes, except for breast cancer and road traffic accidents.</p> <p><b>Gaps</b> - Trends, Swindon data, and illnesses per social grouping.</p>
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**Topic: Social Exclusion**

<b>IMD Extent</b> (proportion of a district's population living in the most deprived Super Output Areas (SOAs) of the country)	8 9 3	2004: Kennet: 0% North Wiltshire: 0% Salisbury: 0.01% West Wiltshire: 2% Swindon: 13%	2000: Kennet: 0% North Wiltshire: 00 Salisbury: 0% West Wiltshire: 00 Swindon: 9.63%	The IMD Extent has increased (more people living in SOAs) in West Wiltshire and Swindon between 2000 and 2004.	Swindon has the highest percentage of people living in SOAs in comparison with Wiltshire and the South West.
<b>IMD Extent Rank</b> (ranking of IMD extent, on national scale. A Rank of 1 is the most deprived, and 354 the least deprived)  NB: some ranks are duplicated due to identical scores for this category	8 9 3	2004: Kennet: 298 North Wiltshire: 298 Salisbury: 242 West Wiltshire: 232 Swindon: 132	2000: Kennet: 158 North Wiltshire: 158 Salisbury: 158 West Wiltshire: 158 Swindon: 106	The IMD Extent rank for Swindon, North and West Wiltshire, Kennet and Salisbury, has increased (meaning these wards are now less deprived in comparison with others countrywide).	Assuming compatible methodologies between study years, this indicator has improved since 2000 in each area. Swindon remains the most deprived on this indicator.
<b>IMD Income Scale</b> (the number of people who are income deprived)	8 9 3	2004: Kennet: 4,736 North Wiltshire: 7,951 Salisbury: 7,792 West Wiltshire: 9,398 Swindon: 17,487	2000: Kennet: 9,071 North Wiltshire: 15,045 Salisbury: 15,004 West Wiltshire: 16,944 Swindon: 30,549	The number of income deprived people has decreased. In North and West Wilts and Kennet and Salisbury, numbers appear to have nearly halved.	Swindon has approximately double the number of income deprived people in comparison with West Wiltshire.
<b>IMD Income Scale Rank</b> (see explanation of ranking above)	8 9 3	2004: Kennet: 315 North Wiltshire: 244 Salisbury: 249 West Wiltshire: 213 Swindon: 108	2000: Kennet: 314 North Wiltshire: 228 Salisbury: 245 West Wiltshire: 210 Swindon: 103	Assuming compatible methodologies between 2000 and 2004, each area has improved at least marginally in relation to other districts.	

<b>IMD Employment Scale</b> (number of people who are employment deprived)	8 9 3	2004: Kennet: 2,124 North Wiltshire: 3,404 Salisbury: 3,507 West Wiltshire: 4,174 Swindon: 7,516	2000: Kennet: 2,152 North Wiltshire: 3,276 Salisbury: 3,472 West Wiltshire: 3,923 Swindon: 7,539	Employment deprivation in North and West Wilts and Salisbury has increased. In Swindon and Kennet it has decreased marginally.	Swindon has markedly more employment deprived people than West Wiltshire, North Wiltshire, Salisbury and Kennet.
<b>IMD Employment Scale Rank</b>	8 9 3	2004: Kennet: 317 North Wiltshire: 255 Salisbury: 251 West Wiltshire: 221 Swindon: 122	2000: Kennet: 313 North Wiltshire: 257 Salisbury: 245 West Wiltshire: 223 Swindon: 116		There has been little change in employment scale deprivation ranking, but some indication of slight deterioration in North and West Wiltshire and Swindon. Slight improvement in Kennet and Salisbury. Swindon is lowest ranked (i.e. most employment deprived).
<b>People living in households where at least one person in receipt of housing benefit or council tax rebate</b>	5	Wiltshire: 40,695 (9.4% of population)			
<b>Children living in poverty</b>	5	In nearly 20% of Wiltshire wards one quarter of children are living in poverty. The worse affected wards are (2000): Bemerton (Salisbury), Westbury with Storridge, Warminster West, John of Gaunt (Trowbridge) and Amesbury.			

Topic: Housing																																																						
<b>Average dwelling prices, 2002</b>	9  10	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Types of Housing</th> <th colspan="6">Area and average dwelling price for 2002/2005</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Swindon 2002</th> <th>Swindon 2005</th> <th>Wiltshire 2002</th> <th>Wiltshire 2005</th> <th>South West 2005</th> <th>England 2005</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Detached house</b></td> <td>215,695</td> <td>237,597</td> <td>251,861</td> <td>303,877</td> <td>296,576</td> <td>227,842</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Semidetached house</b></td> <td>137,628</td> <td>155,194</td> <td>145,750</td> <td>183,702</td> <td>182,458</td> <td>130,577</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Terraced house</b></td> <td>116,390</td> <td>134,867</td> <td>126,886</td> <td>159,333</td> <td>159,190</td> <td>110,485</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Flats/maisonettes</b></td> <td>97,451</td> <td>120,000</td> <td>98,116</td> <td>127,763</td> <td>143,437</td> <td>143,615</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Average price for all dwellings</b></td> <td>139,599</td> <td>153,652</td> <td>: 175,355</td> <td>212,359</td> <td>199,362</td> <td>148,184</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Types of Housing	Area and average dwelling price for 2002/2005						Swindon 2002	Swindon 2005	Wiltshire 2002	Wiltshire 2005	South West 2005	England 2005	<b>Detached house</b>	215,695	237,597	251,861	303,877	296,576	227,842	<b>Semidetached house</b>	137,628	155,194	145,750	183,702	182,458	130,577	<b>Terraced house</b>	116,390	134,867	126,886	159,333	159,190	110,485	<b>Flats/maisonettes</b>	97,451	120,000	98,116	127,763	143,437	143,615	<b>Average price for all dwellings</b>	139,599	153,652	: 175,355	212,359	199,362	148,184
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		Average house price change in last year (prior to March 2005) Swindon: +3.2% Wiltshire: +10.7% S West: +13.2% House prices in the South West as a whole increased more than in Wiltshire and substantially more than in Swindon. The average Swindon dwelling costs less than the average national, and Wiltshire dwelling			
<b>Percent increase 2001/02 (all dwellings)</b>		Swindon UA: 12.9 Wiltshire: 23.8	England: 21.5 2005: Swindon: Wiltshire: England:	Wiltshire house prices increased more between 2001 and 2002, than the national average, and Swindon average (which represents a substantially lower margin of increase).	
<b>Stock of dwellings (thousands)</b>	<sup>9</sup>	2004 Swindon UA: 79 Wiltshire: 183	2004 South West: 2,173 England: 21,361		
<b>Average household size</b>	<sup>1</sup>	Wiltshire: 2.38 Swindon UA: 2.38	South West: 2.31		
<b>Vacant household spaces</b>	<sup>1</sup>	Wiltshire: 5,800 (3.2%) Swindon UA: 2,199 (2.8%)	South West: 61,601 (2.8%)		
<b>Owner occupied</b>	<sup>1</sup>	Wiltshire: 127,205 (72.0%) Swindon UA: 55,320 (73.6%)	South West: 1,524,122 (73.1%)		

**Topic: Economy and Employment**

**Wiltshire employment structure 2001**

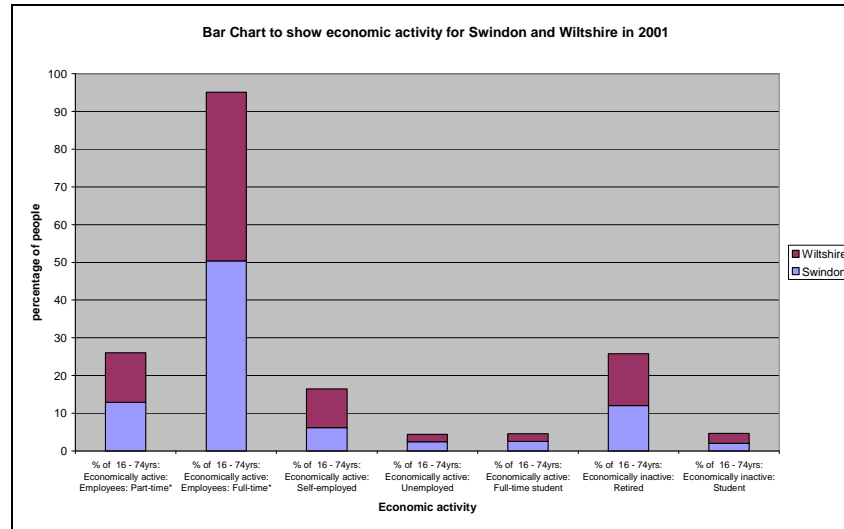
5

Sector	Total	Percentage
Public administration, education and health	44,500	25.0%
Distribution, hotels and restaurants	44,000	24.8%
Banking, finance, insurance etc.	36,500	20.6%
Manufacturing	27,600	15.5%
Construction	8,800	5.0%
Other services	7,700	4.2%
Transport and communications	7,300	4.1%
Agriculture (probably an underestimate)	900	0.5%
Energy and water	500	0.3%

Manufacturing employment has declined from 20% in 1998 to 15.5% in 2001.

**Economic Activity Swindon & Wiltshire 1**

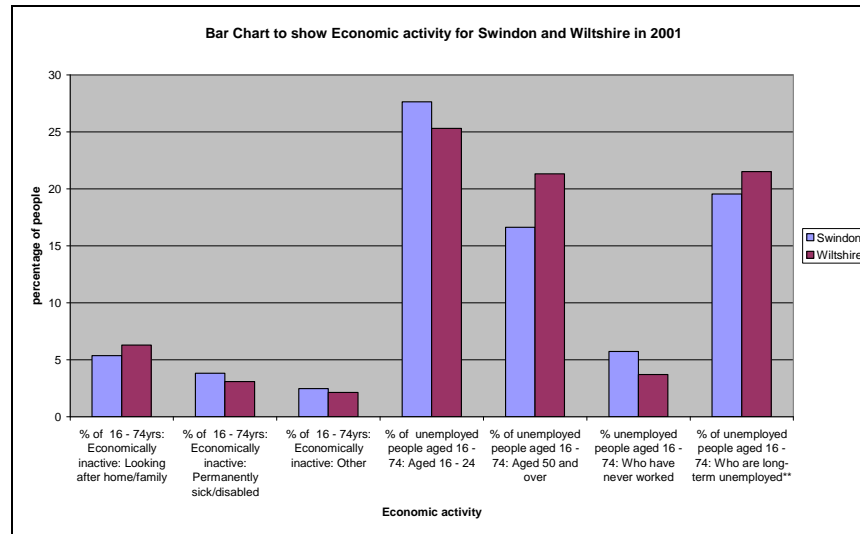
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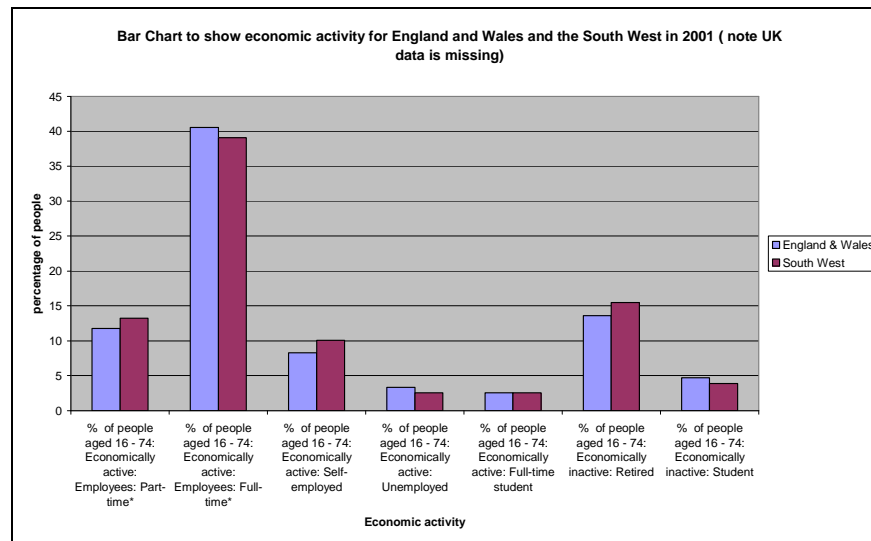
Data only available for Swindon, Wiltshire, South West and England and Wales. UK data not available.

Due to different types of economic activity two bar charts have been produced for each set of comparators.

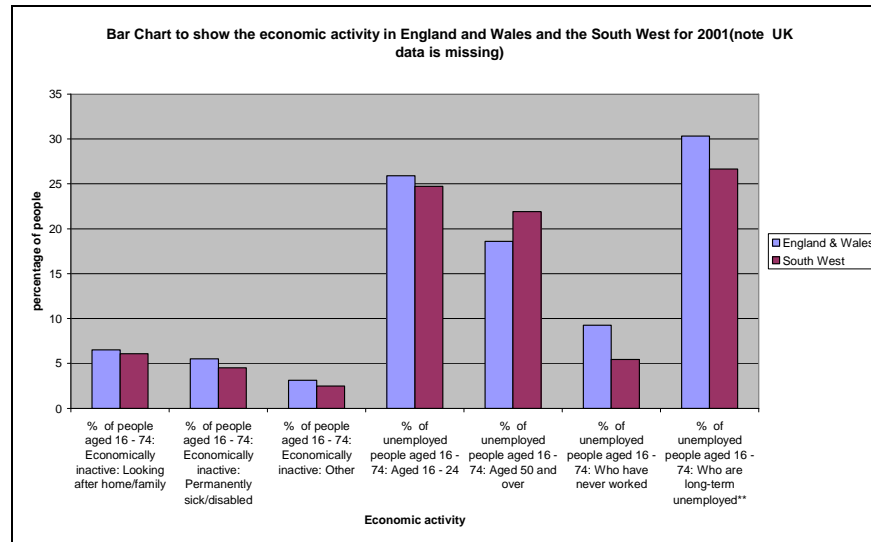
**Economic Activity  
Swindon & Wiltshire 2**



**Economic Activity  
England and Wales 1**



**Economic Activity  
England and Wales 2**



**Gross Value Added (GVA) per head.**

1

Area	GVA £ per head	
	2000	2002
Swindon	22,433	24,113
Wiltshire	12,640	13,861
South West	12,902	14,286
UK	13,867	15,273

Results show that the GVA £ per head for Swindon is almost double that of Wiltshire and is almost double the UK and South West average. The GVA £ per head across all areas shows a positive trend.

**Unemployment Rate**

5

Wiltshire: June 2003. 2,790 (1.1%)

**Claimant unemployed**

1

Area	% of economically active 17-74yr old employees unemployed
Wiltshire	1.97
Swindon	2.46
South West	2.57
England	3.35

The table highlights that both Wiltshire and Swindon are below the national average of those unemployed.

<b>Employment</b>	1	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>% of economically active 17-74yr old employees in full time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Wiltshire</td> <td>44.75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Swindon</td> <td>50.46%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South West</td> <td>39.08%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>England</td> <td>36.18%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Area	% of economically active 17-74yr old employees in full time	Wiltshire	44.75%	Swindon	50.46%	South West	39.08%	England	36.18%	<p>The results show that both Swindon and Wiltshire have a higher than average percentage of economically active 17-74yr olds in employment compared to England and the rest of the South West.</p> <p>The charts show the total jobs for 1998 and 2001 in Wiltshire and Swindon. From 1998 – 2001 the total number of jobs have increased. However, comparative data with the rest of the South West and UK was not available from this data source.</p>
	Area	% of economically active 17-74yr old employees in full time											
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7	<p><u>Wiltshire and Swindon</u></p> <p>Total employee jobs in 1998 = 273,010. Total employee jobs in 2001 = 292,800.</p>												

Topic: Transport																																																																				
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		<b>Mode</b>	<b>% of people from Swindon</b>	<b>% of people from Wiltshire</b>	<b>% of people in the South West</b>	<b>% of people in E&amp;W</b>
		Driver in a car or van	59.0	60.5	58.8	55.2
		Passenger in a car or van	7.3	6.0	6.3	6.3
		Bus, mini-bus, or coach	7.7	2.8	5.1	7.4
		Train	0.9	1.7	0.9	4.1
		Underground, metro, light rail or tram	0.04	0.1	0.1	3.0
		Motorcycle, scooter or moped	1.8	1.2	1.5	1.1
		Taxi	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.5
		Bicycle	5.1	3.6	3.3	2.8
		Walk	10.3	12.2	12.2	10.0
		Other	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5
		Work from home	7.1	11.1	11.0	9.2
<b>People killed or seriously injured on roads.</b>	<sup>32</sup>	Wiltshire 2006/7: 351 2005/6: 296 2004/5: 326 2003: 351	Wiltshire 2002: 322 2001: 351 Target: 40% reduction by 2010.	Not on track to meet target.		
<b>Number of children killed or seriously injured on roads.</b>	<sup>32</sup>	Wiltshire 2006/7: 27 2005/6: 24 2004/5: 22 2003/4: 22	Wiltshire 2002: 14 2001: 29 Target: 50% reduction by 2010.	Fluctuating trend but indicator remains on track to meet target.  1994-98 mean = 33		
<b>Cyclists casualties</b>	<sup>32</sup>	Wiltshire 2006/7: 93 2005/6: 90 2004/5: 88 2003/4: 89				
<b>Pedestrian Casualties</b>	<sup>32</sup>	Wiltshire 2006/7: 132 2005/6: 137 2004/5: 145 2003/4: 160				

<b>Topic: Cultural Heritage</b>						
<b>World Heritage Sites</b>	<sup>11</sup>	Avebury and Stonehenge World		The Avebury World Heritage Site includes remains of the largest stone circle in the British Isles, the longest stone avenue (West		

		Heritage Site Designated in 1987.		Kennet), one of the longest Neolithic burial mounds (West Kennet long barrow) , one of the largest causewayed enclosures (Windmill Hill), and the largest prehistoric mound in Europe (Silbury Hill).  The Stonehenge World Heritage Site is considered to be architecturally the most complex circle of Neolithic and early Bronze Age Britain.
<b>Number of listed buildings and monuments</b>		Wiltshire and Swindon have approximately 14,000 listed buildings. Grade I listed buildings include Salisbury Cathedral, Wilton House and Wardour Castle.		
<b>Number of archaeological sites of interest</b>	<sup>28</sup>	In Wiltshire there are approximately 4,500 sites of prehistoric remains, and over 14,000 sites of Roman and medieval remains, including 50 known Roman villa sites.		
<b>Historic Battlefields</b>	<sup>12</sup>	1 Historic Battlefield Site in Wiltshire. None in Swindon.	Battle of Roundway Down (1643) fought between Royalists and Parliamentarians in the English Civil War. Site is North of Devizes.	
<b>Number of listed buildings on English Heritage "At Risk" Register</b>	<sup>12</sup>	Swindon UA :2 Wiltshire: 26	S-West: 170	No trend data.
<b>Conservation Areas</b>	<sup>24</sup> 22 28	Wiltshire and Swindon: > 250 conservation areas Swindon: 28 W.Wilts: 39		Wiltshire Structure Plan 2001 - 2011 gives priority for preserving and enhancing the special character of 22 settlements.
<b>Historic Parks and Gardens</b>	<sup>24</sup> 22	Swindon: 3 W.Wilts: 7 (2 Grade I, 1 Grade II*, 4 Grade II)		

<b>Topic: Water Resources</b>				
<b>Chemical river water quality</b> G = Good F = Fair P = Poor B = Bad	<sup>13</sup>			Trends generally improving. North Wiltshire saw a reduction in quality between 2000 and 2003.

		<p>Chemical Quality</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="4">1995</th> <th colspan="4">2000</th> <th colspan="4">2006</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>%G</th> <th>%F</th> <th>%P</th> <th>%B</th> <th>%G</th> <th>%F</th> <th>%P</th> <th>%B</th> <th>%G</th> <th>%F</th> <th>%P</th> <th>%B</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Kennet</td> <td>60.5</td> <td>24.2</td> <td>15.3</td> <td>0</td> <td>64.8</td> <td>21.5</td> <td>13.7</td> <td>0</td> <td>78.2</td> <td>8.1</td> <td>13.7</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N.Wilts</td> <td>50</td> <td>44.9</td> <td>4.7</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>69.1</td> <td>30.2</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>56.6</td> <td>43.2</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salisbury</td> <td>87.5</td> <td>11.4</td> <td>0</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>94.8</td> <td>3.3</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>0</td> <td>91.8</td> <td>8.2</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Swindon</td> <td>36.9</td> <td>58.9</td> <td>4.3</td> <td>0</td> <td>52.1</td> <td>43.6</td> <td>4.3</td> <td>0</td> <td>58</td> <td>49.1</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W. Wilts</td> <td>45.8</td> <td>34.4</td> <td>19.8</td> <td>0</td> <td>74.2</td> <td>11.1</td> <td>14.7</td> <td>0</td> <td>78.8</td> <td>6.6</td> <td>14.7</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S-West</td> <td>74</td> <td>22.3</td> <td>3</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>81</td> <td>16.5</td> <td>2.5</td> <td>0</td> <td>88.8</td> <td>10.1</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>0.4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		1995				2000				2006					%G	%F	%P	%B	%G	%F	%P	%B	%G	%F	%P	%B	Kennet	60.5	24.2	15.3	0	64.8	21.5	13.7	0	78.2	8.1	13.7	0	N.Wilts	50	44.9	4.7	0.4	69.1	30.2	0.3	0.4	56.6	43.2	0.2	0	Salisbury	87.5	11.4	0	1.1	94.8	3.3	1.8	0	91.8	8.2	0	0	Swindon	36.9	58.9	4.3	0	52.1	43.6	4.3	0	58	49.1	0.1	0	W. Wilts	45.8	34.4	19.8	0	74.2	11.1	14.7	0	78.8	6.6	14.7	0	S-West	74	22.3	3	0.7	81	16.5	2.5	0	88.8	10.1	0.7	0.4	
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<p><b>General Comment</b></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>'Swindon is one of the most water sensitive areas of southern England' (Rural Futures – Sustainable Development, Chris Bains 2000).</p>																																									

**Water quantity/availability**

CAMS	District/ Borough	River/ groundwater Unit	Status (2005)
Bristol Avon	A significant part of North Wilts and part of West Wilts	Bristol Avon Sherston Avon By Brook Semington Brook	No Water Available No Water Available No Water Available No Water Available
Dorset Stour	Salisbury District (part of, around Mere)	Mere (River Shreen)	Over licensed
Cotswold	North Wilts (northern part of)	River Chum River Colne River Leach River Thames	No data published
Hampshire Avon	Kennet, West Wilts (southern part of), Salisbury District	River Avon River Bourne River Nadder River Wyle River Ebbles	Over Licensed Over Licensed Over Abstracted Over Abstracted Over Abstracted
Kennet & Pang	Kennet (Eastern part of)	Upper Kennet	Over Abstracted
Vale of White Horse	Swindon Borough	River Ray River Cole	No Water Available No Water Available

Water Available = Water available for new licence abstractions during the whole year.

No Water Available = Water available for new abstractions during higher flows but conditions on the licence issued will stop or limit the abstraction during low flows.

Over Licensed = If all abstraction licence holders abstract their full legal limit during low flows, the current amount of abstraction licences may cause an environmental impact.

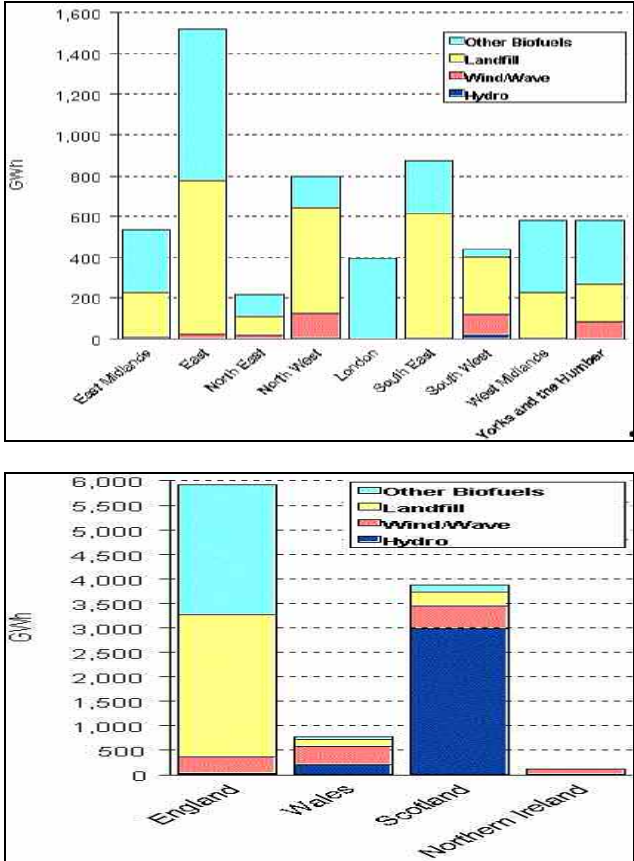
Over Abstracted = At recent actual abstraction levels there may be an impact on the environment during low flows.

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/southwest/1028992/1318460/?version=1&lang= e>

Topic: Air Quality																																																																																																																																																														
<p><b>Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAS)</b></p>	14	<p><b>7 AQMAS declared</b> (Reason for declaration)</p> <p><b>West Wiltshire DC –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Westbury. (NO<sub>2</sub>) (Sections of Haynes Rd &amp; Warminster Rd)</li> <li>Bradford on Avon (NO<sub>2</sub> &amp; PM<sub>10</sub>) (Masons Lane, Market St, Silver St, St Margaret's St.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Salisbury DC –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brown St. (NO<sub>2</sub>)</li> <li>Fisherton St. (NO<sub>2</sub>)</li> <li>Milford St. (NO<sub>2</sub>)</li> <li>Minster St. (NO<sub>2</sub>)</li> <li>Wilton (NO<sub>2</sub>)</li> </ul>		<p>Note no AQMAS declared in Swindon, Kennet, or North Wiltshire.</p>																																																																																																																																																										
<p><b>Estimated background Air Pollution Data</b></p> <p>Figures derived by calculating the average of the predictions for all sites in each of the districts (962 Kennet, 763 N.Wilts, 1,000 Salisbury, 520 W.Wilts, and 235 Swindon)</p>	15	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Pollutant</th> <th colspan="3">Kennet</th> <th colspan="3">North Wiltshire</th> <th colspan="3">Salisbury</th> <th colspan="3">West Wiltshire</th> <th colspan="3">Swindon</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2001</th> <th>2005</th> <th>2010</th> <th>2001</th> <th>2005</th> <th>2010</th> <th>2001</th> <th>2005</th> <th>2010</th> <th>2001</th> <th>2005</th> <th>2010</th> <th>2001</th> <th>2005</th> <th>2010</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>NO<sub>x</sub></td> <td>19.4</td> <td>16.5</td> <td>13.1</td> <td>26.8</td> <td>22.3</td> <td>17.4</td> <td>16.9</td> <td>14.3</td> <td>11.5</td> <td>21.4</td> <td>18.6</td> <td>14.7</td> <td>35.8</td> <td>29.5</td> <td>22.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO<sub>2</sub></td> <td>14.6</td> <td>12.8</td> <td>10.3</td> <td>18.5</td> <td>16.3</td> <td>13.4</td> <td>13.1</td> <td>11.2</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>15.7</td> <td>14.0</td> <td>11.4</td> <td>22.6</td> <td>19.8</td> <td>16.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PM<sub>10</sub></td> <td>17.4</td> <td>16.8</td> <td>15.7</td> <td>17.9</td> <td>17.2</td> <td>16.0</td> <td>17.4</td> <td>16.8</td> <td>15.6</td> <td>18.1</td> <td>17.4</td> <td>16.2</td> <td>18.6</td> <td>17.9</td> <td>16.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SO<sub>2</sub></td> <td>2.18</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>2.10</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>2.08</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>3.17</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>2.48</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Benzene</td> <td>0.18</td> <td>0.16</td> <td>0.13</td> <td>0.23</td> <td>0.21</td> <td>0.17</td> <td>0.16</td> <td>0.15</td> <td>0.12</td> <td>0.24</td> <td>0.22</td> <td>0.17</td> <td>0.35</td> <td>0.31</td> <td>0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CO</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.22</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.19</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.21</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.27</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,3-butadine*</td> <td>0.08</td> <td>0.07</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.11</td> <td>0.09</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.07</td> <td>0.06</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.10</td> <td>0.09</td> <td>-</td> <td>0.15</td> <td>0.13</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* Figures for 1,3-butadine in the 2005 column relate to 2003.</p> <p>Units: NO<sub>x</sub> (ugm-3 as NO<sub>2</sub> annual mean); NO<sub>2</sub> (ugm-3 annual mean); PM<sub>10</sub> (ugm-3 grav. annual mean); SO<sub>2</sub> (ugm-3 annual mean); Benzene (ugm-3 annual mean); CO (mgm-3 annual mean); 1,3-butadine (ugm-3 annual mean).</p> <p>Wiltshire figure averages are all lower than Swindon. More detailed analysis needs to be carried out to determine the hotspots within the Wiltshire districts based on the grid references provided with the data-sets.</p>														Pollutant	Kennet			North Wiltshire			Salisbury			West Wiltshire			Swindon			2001	2005	2010	2001	2005	2010	2001	2005	2010	2001	2005	2010	2001	2005	2010	NO <sub>x</sub>	19.4	16.5	13.1	26.8	22.3	17.4	16.9	14.3	11.5	21.4	18.6	14.7	35.8	29.5	22.9	NO <sub>2</sub>	14.6	12.8	10.3	18.5	16.3	13.4	13.1	11.2	9.0	15.7	14.0	11.4	22.6	19.8	16.6	PM <sub>10</sub>	17.4	16.8	15.7	17.9	17.2	16.0	17.4	16.8	15.6	18.1	17.4	16.2	18.6	17.9	16.5	SO <sub>2</sub>	2.18	-	-	2.10	-	-	2.08	-	-	3.17	-	-	2.48	-	-	Benzene	0.18	0.16	0.13	0.23	0.21	0.17	0.16	0.15	0.12	0.24	0.22	0.17	0.35	0.31	0.24	CO	0.2	-	-	0.22	-	-	0.19	-	-	0.21	-	-	0.27	-	-	1,3-butadine*	0.08	0.07	-	0.11	0.09	-	0.07	0.06	-	0.10	0.09	-	0.15	0.13	-
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<p align="center"><b>Number of days when air pollution reported as moderate or higher</b></p>	17	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Region</th> <th>Site type</th> <th>2002</th> <th>2003</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bristol Centre</td> <td>Urban centre</td> <td>12</td> <td>48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Somerton</td> <td>Rural</td> <td>29</td> <td>68</td> </tr> <tr> <td>England</td> <td>Urban</td> <td>19</td> <td>51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>England</td> <td>Rural</td> <td>34</td> <td>68</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Region	Site type	2002	2003	Bristol Centre	Urban centre	12	48	Somerton	Rural	29	68	England	Urban	19	51	England	Rural	34	68	<p>Two centres in the South West were taken ( one urban and one rural to compare with the national rural and urban average).</p>							
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**Topic: Climatic Factors**

<p><b>Greenhouse gas emissions (overall / per capita)</b></p> <p><b>Headline Indicator H9</b></p>	<p>19</p>	<p><b>2001</b>  <b>South West =</b>          1,500kg/capita</p> <p><b>England =</b>          2,300kg/capita</p>	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions were estimated to have fallen by 14 % between 1990 and 2003.</p>		<p>Target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% from 1990 levels by 2008-12 and to have a 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> by 2010.</p>
<p><b>Electricity generated from renewable sources (2003)</b></p>	<p>20</p>	 <p>The first graph demonstrates that the east generated more electricity from renewable sources in 2003 compared to other regions England.</p> <p>The second graph demonstrates that England generated more electricity from renewable sources in 2003 compared to Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>65% of the renewable electricity in the SW comes from landfill gas.</p>			<p>The first graph demonstrates that the east generated more electricity from renewable sources in 2003 compared to other regions England.</p> <p>The second graph demonstrates that England generated more electricity from renewable sources in 2003 compared to Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>65% of the renewable electricity in the SW comes from landfill gas.</p>

**Topic: Biodiversity**

<p><b>Special Areas for Conservation (SAC)</b></p>	<p>21</p>	<p>10 SACs in Wiltshire &amp; Swindon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bath and Bradford on Avon Bats</li> <li>▪ Chilmark Quarries</li> <li>▪ Great Yews</li> <li>▪ Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain</li> <li>▪ New Forest</li> <li>▪ North Meadow and Clattinger farm</li> <li>▪ Pewsey Downs</li> <li>▪ Prescombe Down</li> <li>▪ River Avon</li> <li>▪ Salisbury Plain</li> </ul>		<p>Wiltshire holds over 50% of the UK's resource of flower rich chalk grassland. (CCFC 2004).</p>
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**European Designated Sites in Wiltshire (Source: Joint Nature Conservation Committee)**

Site and Area	Primary Reason/s for Designation (Habitats and/or Species)
<p>Salisbury Plain SAC and SPA. Area: SAC: 21,466ha. SPA: 19,715ha</p>	<p>Salisbury Plain represents the best remaining example in the UK of lowland juniper scrub on chalk.</p> <p>Salisbury Plain in central southern England is believed to be the largest surviving semi-natural dry grassland within the EU and is therefore the most important site for this habitat in the UK.</p> <p>This site probably contains the largest area of 6210 semi-natural dry grassland in the Atlantic Biogeographical Region.</p> <p>Salisbury Plain represents marsh fritillary in chalk grassland in central southern England, and contains a cluster of large sub-populations where the species breeds on dry calcareous grassland.</p> <p>Salisbury Plain SPA is important for breeding populations of Stone Curlew and over-wintering populations of Hen Harrier. It is also of importance for Quail and Hobby.</p>
<p>Porton Down SPA Area: 1,237ha</p>	<p>Porton Down SPA is important for downland breeding birds and supports important numbers of Stone Curlew.</p>
<p>River Avon SAC Area: 490ha</p>	<p>The Avon in southern England is a large, lowland river system that includes sections running through chalk and clay, with transitions between the two. Five aquatic <i>Ranunculus</i> species occur in the river system, but stream water-crowfoot and river water-crowfoot are the main dominants.</p> <p>There is an extensive population of Desmoulin's whorl snail along about 20 km of the margins and associated wetlands of the Rivers Avon, Bourne and Wylde.</p> <p>The Avon represents sea lamprey in a high-quality river in the southern part of its range.</p> <p>The Avon is a high-quality river that represents the southern part of the range of brook lamprey.</p> <p>The Avon in southern England represents a south coast chalk river supporting Atlantic salmon. There has been limited modification of the river course by comparison with many other southern lowland rivers in England.</p>

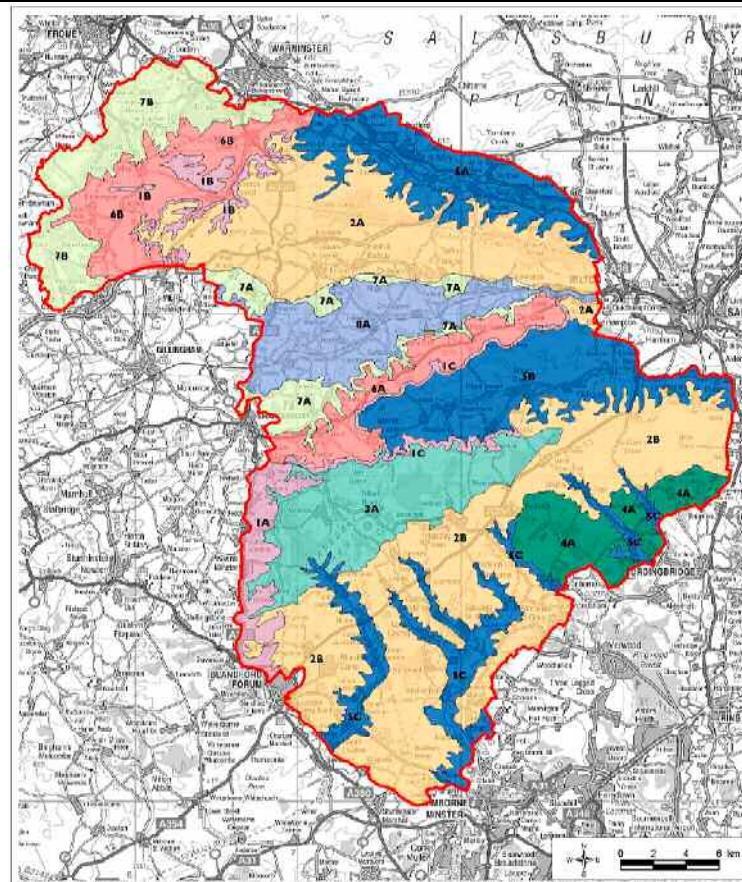
	The Avon represents bullhead in a calcareous, relatively unmodified river in the southern part of its range in England.
Bath and Bradford upon Avon Bats SAC Area: 108ha	This site in southern England includes the hibernation sites associated with 15% of the UK greater horseshoe bat population and is selected on the basis of the importance of this exceptionally large over-wintering population.  Small numbers of Bechstein's bats have been recorded hibernating in abandoned mines in this area, though maternity sites remain unknown.  The site is also of importance for Lesser Horseshoe Bats.
Pewsey Downs SAC Area: 154ha	This site is situated on the southern edge of the Marlborough Downs on the Wiltshire chalk and consists largely of semi-natural dry grassland. It contains a large population of the nationally scarce burnt orchid. The uncommon green-winged orchid, autumn lady's-tresses and frog orchid are also present, together with a rich assemblage of more widespread species, including bee orchid, fragrant orchid and pyramidal orchid.  Pewsey Downs is one of three sites selected in the central part of the range for early gentian. It holds a very significant population of hundreds of thousands of plants growing in high-quality chalk grassland
North Meadow and Clattinger Farm SAC Area: 105ha	North Meadow and Clattinger Farm in the Thames Valley in southern England is one of two sites representing lowland hay meadows near the centre of its UK range. This site represents an exceptional survival of the traditional pattern of management and so exhibits a high degree of conservation of structure and function. This site also contains a very high proportion (>90%) of the surviving UK population of fritillary, a species highly characteristic of damp lowland meadows in Europe and now rare throughout its range.
Great Yews SAC Area: 29ha	Great Yews represents yew woods in the south-west of the habitat's range. Although it is the smallest example of the habitat within the SAC series, it is important for the presence of about 300 old trees.
Prescombe Down SAC Area: 76ha	Prescombe Down is one of three sites selected in the central part of the range for early gentian. It holds very significant populations of hundreds of thousands of plants in high-quality chalk grassland that has been sympathetically managed for many years.
Chilmark quarries SAC Area: 10ha	This complex of abandoned stone mines provides suitable hibernation conditions for a range of bat species and has a long history of usage by greater horseshoe.  This complex of abandoned mines in central-southern England is regularly used by small numbers of barbastelle as a hibernation site.  This complex of abandoned mines in central-southern England, is regularly used as a hibernation site by small numbers of Bechstein's bat.  The site is also of importance for Lesser Horseshoe Bats.
Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC Area: 115ha	The cluster of sites selected in the Kennet and Lambourn valleys supports one of the most extensive known populations of Desmoulin's whorl snail in the UK and is one of two sites representing the species in the south-western part of its range in the important chalk stream habitat.
New Forest SAC Area: 29,254ha	The New Forest covers a small area in the south east of Wiltshire. It has been primarily designated as a SAC for a variety of habitat types and species including Hatchet Pond oligotrophic waterbody

		<p>Vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea.          Most extensive stands of lowland northern Atlantic wet heaths in southern England.          Largest area of lowland heathland in the UK. It is particularly important for the diversity of its habitats and the range of rare and scarce species which it supports.          Molinia meadows in southern England.          Largest area in England of Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion, in complex habitat mosaics associated primarily with the extensive valley bogs of this site.          Largest area of mature, semi-natural beech woodland in Britain and represents Atlantic acidophilous beech forests in the most southerly part of the habitat's UK range.          Largest area of mature, semi-natural beech woodland in Britain          Representative of old acidophilous oak woods in the southern part of its UK range. It is the most extensive area of active wood-pasture with old oak and beech in north-west Europe and has outstanding invertebrate and lichen populations.          Contains many streams and some small rivers that are less affected by drainage and canalisation than those in any other comparable area in the lowlands of England.          Outstanding locality for southern damselfly, with several population centres and strong populations estimated to be in the hundreds or thousands of individuals and with a long history of records          The New Forest represents stag beetle in its Hampshire/Sussex population centre, and is a major stronghold for the species in the UK. The forest is one of the most important sites in the UK for fauna associated with rotting wood, and was identified as of potential international importance for its saproxylic invertebrate fauna by the Council of Europe (Speight 1989).</p>		
<b>Special Protection Areas (SPA)</b>	<sup>21</sup> 5	2 SPAs in Wiltshire & Swindon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Salisbury Plain</li> <li>▪ Porton Down</li> </ul>		Salisbury Plain is the largest area of chalk grassland in NW Europe. (Over 41% of the total)
<b>Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</b>	<sup>21</sup> 33	136 SSSIs  January 2008 % Area Favourable: 87.83% Unfavourable recovering: 54.22% Unfavourable no change: 4.47% Unfavourable declining :8.08 % Destroyed/part destroyed: 0%	<u>March 2005</u> % Area Favourable: 54.14% Unfavourable recovering: 32.75% Unfavourable no change: 5.02% Unfavourable declining : 8.08% Destroyed/part destroyed: 0%	English Nature target to have 95% of SSSI in Favourable or Unfavourable Recovering categories by 2010.  Currently there is a positive trend.  % area meeting PSA target: 87.83%  9 SSSIs in Swindon.  25 SSSIs have been notified for their Earth Heritage importance.
<b>National Nature Reserves (NNR)</b>	<sup>21</sup>	7 NNRs in Wiltshire and Swindon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fyfield Down - Kennet</li> <li>▪ Langley Wood and Homan's Copse -</li> </ul>		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salisbury</li> <li>▪ North Meadow, Cricklade (Spotlight reserve) – N.Wilts</li> <li>▪ Parsonage Down - Salisbury</li> <li>▪ Pewsey Downs - Kennet</li> <li>▪ Prescombe Down - Salisbury</li> <li>▪ Wylde &amp; Church Dean Downs - Salisbury</li> </ul>		
<b>Local Nature Reserves (LNR)</b>	21 24	<p>4 LNRs in Swindon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coate Water</li> <li>▪ Seven Fields</li> <li>▪ Stanton Park</li> <li>▪ Barbary Castle</li> </ul> <p>8 LNRs in Wiltshire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Avon Valley – Salisbury</li> <li>▪ Corston Quarry and Pond</li> <li>▪ Bemerton Heath and Barnard's Folly - Salisbury</li> <li>▪ Drews Pond Wood - Kennet</li> <li>▪ Flouse Hole - Salisbury</li> <li>▪ Oakfrith Wood - Kennet</li> <li>▪ Scotchel Nature Reserve - Kennet</li> <li>▪ Smallbrook Meadows – W.Wilts</li> </ul>		Radnor Street Cemetery (Swindon) is likely to be designated as an LNR.
<b>County Wildlife Sites</b>	22	Approximately 1,500 in Swindon and Wiltshire		
<b>Areas of High Ecological Value (AHEVs)</b>	22 28	<p>W.Wilts: 6 sites</p> <p>Wiltshire and Swindon total: 19 sites.</p>		
<b>Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)</b>		60 RIGS in Wiltshire and Swindon		
<b>Protected Verges</b>	23	<p>Wiltshire has 50 Verges which are protected for wildlife:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Kennet – 7</li> <li>▪ N.Wilts – 17</li> <li>▪ Salisbury – 20</li> <li>▪ W.Wilts - 6</li> </ul>		
<b>EN Natural Areas</b>	21	<p>Wiltshire is covered by the following English Nature Natural Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cotswolds</li> <li>▪ Thames and Avon Vales</li> <li>▪ Mid-Vale Ridge (very small area)</li> <li>▪ Berkshire and Marlborough Downs</li> <li>▪ London Basin (very small area)</li> <li>▪ Hampshire Downs</li> </ul>		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ South Wessex Downs</li> <li>▪ Wessex Vales</li> <li>▪ New Forest</li> </ul> <p>Swindon is covered by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Thames and Avon Vales</li> <li>▪ Mid-Vale Ridge</li> <li>▪ Berkshire and Marlborough Downs</li> </ul>		
<b>Swindon 'Country Wildlife Sites'</b>	<sup>24</sup>	88 Country Wildlife Sites in Swindon.		
<b>Woodland</b>	<sup>24</sup> <sup>25</sup>	<p>Great Western Community Forest – 36,260 Ha around Swindon extending into Wiltshire and Oxfordshire.</p> <p>Swindon 4% woodland Wiltshire 7% woodland</p>	UK: 7.7% (Europe 30%)	
<p>English Nature is leading a major four-year restoration project, which began in September 2001, called the Salisbury Plain LIFE Project to improve the conservation management at four sites: <b>Salisbury Plain, Porton Down, Parsonage Down National Nature Reserve (NNR) and Pewsey Downs National Nature Reserve (NNR).</b></p> <p>The European Commission (EC) have agreed to contribute 50% of the total project cost of £2,130,000 and the other 50% is matched partner funding from Headquarters Army Training Estate (HQ ATE), Defence Estates (DE), English Nature, Defence Science Technology Laboratory (DSTL formerly DERA), the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Butterfly Conservation (BC) and the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH).</p> <p>Three Biodiversity Action Plans exist for the area – Wiltshire, Swindon, and Cotswold Water Park. (See Review of Plans and Programmes for a summary).</p>				

Topic: Landscape and Townscape				
<b>Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)</b>		<p>Approximately 43% of Wiltshire lies within an AONB.</p> <p>The North Wessex Downs AONB covers a large area of Kennet, the southern portion of Swindon, and the far south-east of North Wiltshire.</p> <p>The Cotswolds AONB covers the western extreme of North Wiltshire and the north-west tip of West Wiltshire.</p> <p>The Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB covers a large area of Salisbury district and the southern portion of West Wiltshire.</p>		See Review of other Plans and Programmes for a summary of the AONB Action Plans.
<p><b>Cotswolds AONB:</b> The Cotswolds is the largest AONB in England and Wales covering an area of 790 sq miles extending into parts of Somerset, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire. Limestone gives the Cotswolds its distinctive, unified appearance, visible in the buildings and walls which blend in with their surroundings. The Cotswolds has a diverse landscape with limestone grasslands contrasting with ancient beech woodlands and intimate valleys.</p>				
<p><b>North Wessex Downs AONB:</b> Is the largest AONB in the South East England and the third largest nationally, covering parts of Wiltshire, Hampshire and Oxfordshire. Although the North Wessex Downs has chalk downlands at its backbone, the AONB is made up of a variety landscape types which range from open downland, river valleys and vales and wooded plateau.</p>				
<p><b>Cranborne Chase &amp; West Wiltshire Downs AONB:</b> Covering 379 sq miles this AONB is the sixth largest in the country, and is part of the extensive chalk belt which stretches across Southern England. Chalk uplands dominate, and the AONB is made up of the rolling scenery of the West Wiltshire Downs separated from the wooded chalk landscape of Cranborne Chase by the Vale of Wardour. Nearly half of the area lies within Salisbury District, with the remainder stretching into parts of West Wiltshire, Dorset, Hampshire and Somerset.</p>				



CRANBORNE CHASE AND WEST WILTSHIRE DOWNS AONB LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Figure B.1: Landscape Character Areas

AONB boundary	2 Open Chalk Downland	6 Greensand Terrace
1 Chalk Escarpments	2A West Wiltshire Downs	6A Fovant Terrace
1A Melbury to Blandford	2B Southern Downland Belt	6B Kilmington Terrace
1B West Wiltshire Downs	3 Wooded Chalk Downland	7 Greensand Hills
1C Stour and Avon Tributary Valleys	3A Cranborne Chase	7A Dorset - Fovant
4 Downland Hills	4 Downland Hills	7B Pentelwood - Longstant
5 Chalk River Valleys	4A Marton - Whitbury	8 Rolling Clay Vales
5A Wyke River Valley	5 Chalk River Valleys	8A Vale of Wardour
5B Ebble River Valley	5A Wyke River Valley	
5C Stour and Avon Tributary Valleys	5B Ebble River Valley	

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Now Digitised data is held by the AONB Management Unit on GIS

Source: [http://www.cwwdaonb.org.uk/pdfs/lca/8\\_Landscape\\_Character\\_AONB.pdf](http://www.cwwdaonb.org.uk/pdfs/lca/8_Landscape_Character_AONB.pdf)

<b>National Parks</b>		The status of the New Forest as a new National Park was confirmed on 1 March 2005.		A National Park Authority to manage the Park was established on 1 April 2005 with a limited range of statutory powers and functions. It became fully operational on 1 April 2006.
<b>Quiet Lanes</b>	<sup>26</sup>	Pewsey Vale Quiet Lanes Network introduced in July 2004.		
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>	<sup>28</sup>	South Wessex Downs Avon Valley		
<b>Landscape Character</b>	<sup>27</sup> <sup>24</sup>	Swindon is covered by the following Countryside Agency Landscape Character Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mid Vale Ridge</li> <li>▪ Upper Thames Clay Vales</li> <li>▪ Berkshire and Marlborough Downs</li> </ul> 8 Character Areas defined for Swindon in SPG 'Landscape Character Areas': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ High Downs</li> <li>▪ Downs Plain</li> <li>▪ Scarp</li> <li>▪ Wroughton Vale</li> <li>▪ Lydiard Ridge</li> <li>▪ Midvale Ridge</li> <li>▪ Vale of White Horse</li> <li>▪ Thames Vale</li> </ul>		
		Wiltshire is covered by the following Countryside Agency Landscape Character Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cotswolds</li> <li>▪ Avon Vale</li> <li>▪ Mid-Vale Ridge (very small area)</li> <li>▪ Upper Thames Clay Vales</li> <li>▪ Berkshire and Marlborough Downs</li> <li>▪ Thames Basin Heath (very small area)</li> <li>▪ Hampshire Downs</li> <li>▪ Salisbury Plain and West Wiltshire Downs</li> <li>▪ Blackmoor Vale and the Vale of Wardour</li> <li>▪ Dorset Downs and Cranbourne Chase</li> <li>▪ New Forest</li> </ul>		
<b>Kennet Landscape</b>	<sup>28</sup>	Kennet District has carried out a landscape character assessment and has identified 11 local landscape character areas, which sub-divide the Berkshire and Marlborough Downs, Salisbury Plain and West Wiltshire Downs, Hampshire Downs and Avon Vale National character areas into more locally specific classifications.  Kennet has also identified landscape types and sub- types (eg; Type: Chalk Upland Landscape Sub-type: Open Chalk Upland) as well as devising a landscape		

enhancement classification based on the categories 'conserve', 'strengthen', and repair.

Within Wiltshire a county wide landscape classification has just been completed - see [http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mainindex/environment/countryside/environmentcountrysidelandscape/environmentcountrysidelandscapecharacterassessment/environment-wiltshire\\_landscape\\_character\\_assessment\\_draft\\_document.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mainindex/environment/countryside/environmentcountrysidelandscape/environmentcountrysidelandscapecharacterassessment/environment-wiltshire_landscape_character_assessment_draft_document.htm)

The LCA divides Wiltshire into 16 character types. These are:

Type 1: Open Downland Type 2: Wooded Downland Type 3: High Chalk Plain Type 4: Low Chalk Plain Type 5: Chalk River Valley Type 6: Greensand Terrace Type 7: Wooded Greensand Hills Type 8: Limestone Ridge Type	Type 9: Limestone Wold Type 10: Limestone Valleys Type 11: Rolling Clay Lowland Type 12: Open Clay Vale Type 13: Wooded Clay Vale Type 14: Forest-Heathland Mosaic Type 15: Greensand Vale Type 16: Limestone Lowlands
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Each of the generic landscape types has a distinct and relatively homogenous character with similar physical and cultural attributes, including geology, landform, land cover, biodiversity and historical evolution. The main character areas that have been affected by mineral development are:

- Type 12: Open Clay Vale - there has been extensive quarrying of sand, gravel and some clay (deriving from the Jurassic Limestone of the Cotswolds Hills) in area 12A: Thames Open Clay Vale. These pits flooded and the lime rich waters have formed the Marl lakes of the Cotswold Water Park;
- Type 10: Limestone Valleys – where there is some small scale quarrying activity; and
- Type 13: Wooded Clay Vale and Type 16: Limestone Lowlands where old quarries form high scientific interest for geological reasons.

Results from the Countryside Agency "Countryside Quality Counts" reports show changes in the character of the landscape character areas over the period 1990 to 1998. Changes are classified using the following categories:  
Marked changes consistent with character; Marked changes inconsistent with character; Some changes inconsistent with character; Limited changes but consistent with maintaining character; and Small or limited changes consistent with character.

For the Character Areas within Wiltshire the classifications of overall change are as follows:

**Marked changes inconsistent with character**

- Avon Vale;
- Blackmoor Vale and the Vale of Wardour;
- Dorset Downs and Cranborne Chase;
- Salisbury Plain and West Wiltshire Downs; and
- Upper Thames Clay Vales.

**Some changes inconsistent with character**

- Berkshire and Marlborough Downs;

- Hampshire Downs;
- Mid-Vale Ridge (very small area in Wiltshire);
- New Forest; and
- Thames Basin Heath (very small area in Wiltshire).

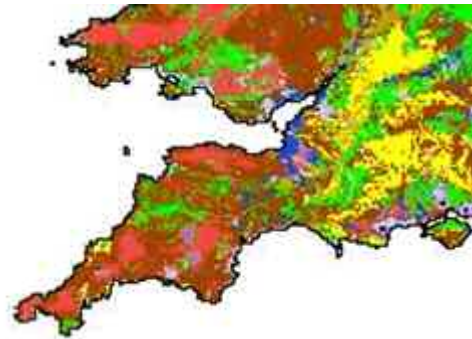
**Limited changes but consistent with maintaining character**

- Cotswolds.
- (Source: Countryside Quality Counts. Countryside Agency)

**Topic: Soil**

29

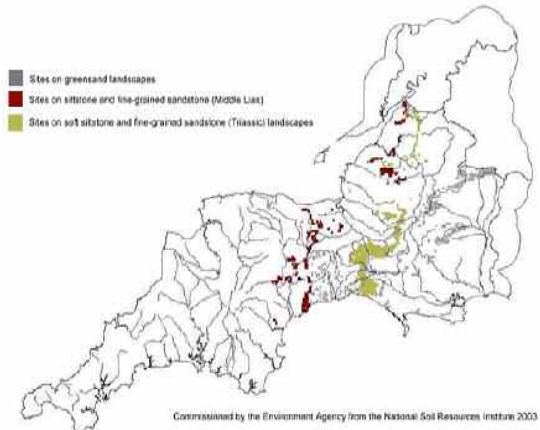
**South West map showing major soil groups**



- Raw gley soils
- Lithomorphous soils
- Pelosols
- Brown soils
- Podzolic soils
- Surface-water gley soils
- Ground-water gley soils
- Man-made soils
- Peat soils

Source: National Soil Resources Institute

**Distribution of vulnerable soils in the South West**

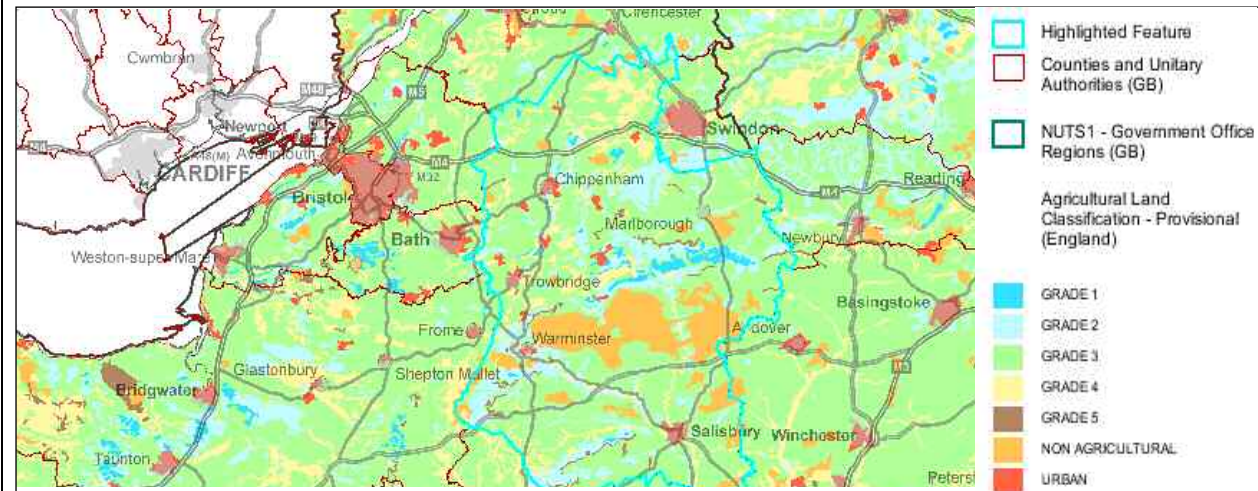


Source: National Soil Resources Institute

These areas of the Southwest soils have an inherent vulnerability to structural problems and are easily sealed by heavy rain causing local flooding, mud on roads and damage to property.

This also causes water pollution as sediment and pollutants enters rivers affecting river habitats and spawning grounds for salmon, trout and other aquatic wildlife. Incidents associated with soil structure problems increased in recent years, and this would also be made worse through the predicted changing weather patterns associated with climate change with climate change.

**Agricultural Land Classification**



Source: magic.gov.uk

<p><b>Mining and Quarrying in Wiltshire</b></p>	<p>30</p>	<p>Most of the sites produce material that is used as aggregate in the construction industry, although there is some quarrying for Bath Stone and Portland Stone from the 'Stone Belt' in the north west of the county.</p> <p>There are currently 23 active mineral workings in Wiltshire and currently none in Swindon. Of these, 6 produce sand and gravel, 4 produce building sand, 2 produce chalk, 3 extract clay and 8 produce building stone (limestone and small amounts of sandstone). The County also has 10 Dormant (sand and gravel / building sand / crushed rock) and 5 temporarily inactive (sand and gravel / building sand / crushed rock / chalk) quarries. The majority of these are open-cast but some take the form of extensive underground mine complexes.</p> <p>The Upper Thames Valley has been particularly intensively and widely worked for sand and gravel, and as a result the area has the largest concentration of gravel pit lakes in Britain.</p>	<p>Historically, there have been numerous small-scale mineral workings in Wiltshire, serving local markets. In more recent years, there has been a shift towards fewer, larger sites serving wider markets.</p> <p>Swindon Borough has seen comparatively little mineral working in the past and, at present has no permitted mineral extraction sites.</p>	<p>It is expected that there will be further large-scale mineral operations here in the future.</p>																
<p><b>Agricultural Land Use</b></p>	<p>28</p>	<p>Wiltshire &amp; Swindon</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="719 820 1290 1086"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Agricultural Use</b></th> <th><b>Area in hectares</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cropping</td> <td>122,201</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grassland</td> <td>97,255</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rough Grassland</td> <td>16,921</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Woodlands on Agricultural Holdings</td> <td>8,155</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Set aside</td> <td>17,300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>6,456</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>268,759</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: June 1999 Agricultural and Horticultural Census England and Wales, Regions and Counties.</p>	<b>Agricultural Use</b>	<b>Area in hectares</b>	Cropping	122,201	Grassland	97,255	Rough Grassland	16,921	Woodlands on Agricultural Holdings	8,155	Set aside	17,300	Other	6,456	<b>Total</b>	<b>268,759</b>	<p>No trend data.</p>	
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**Topic: Minerals and Waste**

Baseline information for these topics is contained within Wiltshire and Swindon's Minerals and Waste Development Framework Evidence Base (2008). Therefore this information has not been duplicated within this report.

## Sources of Data

- 
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  - <sup>4</sup> Wiltshire County Council, Department of Environmental Services. April 2005.
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  - <sup>20</sup> [www.restats.org.uk/statistics](http://www.restats.org.uk/statistics)
  - <sup>21</sup> English Nature
  - <sup>22</sup> Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Records Centre
  - <sup>23</sup> Wiltshire County Council. Environmental Services.
  - <sup>24</sup> Sustainability Appraisal of Swindon Borough Council Local Plan: revised deposit draft. Scoping Report. Oct. 2003 (Enfusion)
  - <sup>25</sup> Swindon BA
  - <sup>26</sup> Wiltshire County Council website – [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)
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  - <sup>30</sup> 'Wiltshire and Swindon Mineral Local Plan: Deposit Draft (January 1999)' and 'Wiltshire and Swindon Mineral Local Plan: Proposed Changes (December,1999)', Wiltshire County Council and Swindon Borough Council
  - <sup>31</sup> Countryside Agency
  - <sup>32</sup> [http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/local-transport-plan-progress-2007progress\\_report\\_2007\\_web\\_.pdf](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/local-transport-plan-progress-2007progress_report_2007_web_.pdf)
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