

Appendix III: SEA Objectives, decision-aiding questions and indicators

The indicators below have been selected from the Swindon Core Strategy Proposed Submission Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report. The indicators were selected for their ability to provide objective data that will, over time, offer an insight into general trends taking place in Swindon Borough. As such, they may be useful in undertaking the SEA of the LTP 3 and considering the impacts of the plan on the wider environment. The indicators will also be considered when developing monitoring recommendations for the Environmental Report for LTP3.

| SEA objective & decision-aiding questions | Relevant Indicators |
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| <p>1. Maintain and enhance biodiversity <u>and soils</u> and avoid irreversible losses NATA sub-objectives: Biodiversity SEA Topics: Biodiversity, fauna, flora, soil</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Affect designated sites? ■ Affect habitat quality or integrity? ■ Affect protected species? ■ <u>Lead to habitat creation and enhancement?</u> ■ Lead to a loss of soil or soil function through, for example, soil sealing, <u>or contamination?</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ % of SSSIs in ‘favourable’ or ‘unfavourable recovering condition. ■ Change in area of designated biodiversity sites (Ha). ■ % change in Community Forest planted area. ■ Changes in habitats identified in the Swindon BAP. ■ Quantity and proportion of new development designated as new strategic green corridor (Ha and % of area). ■ Area of habitat created as a benefit of new development (NOT including compensatory or translocated habitat) ■ Area of degraded habitat restored and sensitively managed as a benefit of new development. |
| <p>2. Use land and existing buildings efficiently and prioritise development on Previously Developed land NATA sub-objectives: Landscape; townscape SEA Topics: Landscape, soil</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Minimise the need for new infrastructure? Regenerate or upgrade existing infrastructure where possible? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ % dwellings and/or development completed on previously developed land. ■ Average density of new housing per ha (all sites). ■ Housing density of new developments in Swindons Central Area. ■ Amount of best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development (Ha). |

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| <p>3. Promote sustainable waste management solutions NATA sub-objectives: N/A SEA Topics: Material assets</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce demand for aggregate and materials use in construction and future management of transport infrastructure? ▪ Reuse materials where possible? Integrate and promote recycling? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % household waste landfilled. ▪ % household waste recycled. ▪ % household waste composted. ▪ Amount of waste produced per person/household. ▪ Amounts of industrial, commercial, demolition and agricultural waste produced in the Borough. ▪ % new developments with ‘on-site’ sustainable waste management facilities. ▪ % households with kerbside recycling collection schemes. ▪ % households living within 300 metres of a local “bring site” for recycling or Household Recycling Centre. |
| <p>4. Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner NATA sub-objectives: Water environment SEA Topics: Water</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have any effect on water quality? ▪ Have any effect on water consumption? ▪ Have any effect on the physical form of water bodies? ▪ Have any effect on the risk of flooding? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Daily domestic water consumption per capita. ▪ % of new developments with water efficiency measures, including use of grey water and rainwater reuse. ▪ Groundwater quality/quantity. |
| <p>5. Protect people and property from the risk of flooding NATA sub-objectives: Water environment SEA Topics: Water</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have any effect on the risk of fluvial flooding? ▪ Have any effect on the risk of groundwater flooding? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of new development incorporating Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS). ▪ No. of applications subject to objection by the EA on flood risk grounds. ▪ New development situated in Flood Zones 2 & 3. ▪ No. of properties considered at risk of flooding. |
| <p>6. Reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable forms of transport NATA sub-objectives: Access to the transport system; Physical fitness SEA Topics: Population HIA Topics: Transport to work, shops, schools and healthcare; Walking and cycling</p> | |

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| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage the use of sustainable alternative fuel sources? ▪ Locate key infrastructure and facilities close to the point of demand? ▪ Encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport? ▪ Encourage an overall reduction in road transport? ▪ <u>Reduce congestion?</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of residents who travel to work by public transport/private motor vehicle/walking/cycling. ▪ No. of vehicles entering the urban centre in the morning peak. ▪ % of schools with Travel Plans. ▪ No. of employees working for businesses with Green Travel Plans. ▪ % of people travelling to work in private car involved in carshare schemes. ▪ Number and patronage of Park & Ride Schemes. ▪ % of housing development completed within or adjacent to Swindon settlement boundary. ▪ Length of dedicated bus lanes/ cycleways. ▪ % of new residential developments in the Central Area that include mixed uses. ▪ % change in parking spaces in the Central Area. ▪ No. of parking spaces per dwelling in new major developments in the Central Area. ▪ No. of parking spaces per dwelling in new major developments in the Southern Development Area. ▪ No. of bicycle parking spaces within new major developments. |
| <p>7. Reduce impacts on climate change through energy efficiency measures and promotion of renewable energy solutions and minimise the emissions of greenhouse gases. NATA sub-objectives: Greenhouse gases SEA Topics: Climatic factors</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Help reduce CO₂ emissions from road transport? Help reduce CO₂ emissions from the construction or upgrading of new infrastructure? ▪ Integrate or promote renewable energy schemes? Increase the proportion of energy needs being met through renewable sources? ▪ <u>Help adapt to the predicted effects of climate change?</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % household waste used to recover heat, power and other energy sources. ▪ % energy production met by renewable sources. ▪ % renewable energy use within the Borough. ▪ Number of renewable energy schemes approved. ▪ Number and/or output of energy from waste schemes. ▪ Number of schemes using Combined Heat & Power (CHP). ▪ % buildings meeting Code 3 of the Code for Sustainable Homes and/or 'excellent' BREEAM Eco-Homes standards. |

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| <p>8. Reduce environmental pollution including noise and air pollution. NATA sub-objectives: Noise; Local Air quality SEA Topics: Air, Human health HIA Topics: Air Pollution, noise</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Help to reduce emissions to air from road transport when compared to the baseline? ■ Help tackle existing and/or projected noise issues relating to transport? ■ Help tackle existing and/or projected vibration issues relating to transport? ■ Help to reduce traffic congestion particularly in areas of poor air quality? ■ <u>Help to minimise light pollution?</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Concentrations of selected local air quality indicators as set out in the Local Air Quality Management Progress Report. ■ No. of Air Quality Management Areas. ■ % new residential developments meeting set standards in accordance with WHO Environmental Health Criteria 12 (Noise). ■ No. of complaints received/resolved with regard to lighting, noise and odour. ■ % of residential developments permitted against the advice of Environmental Health. ■ % river length of good/fair chemical quality. ■ % river length of good/fair biological quality. ■ No. of incidents of major significant water pollution occurring in a year in the Borough. |
| <p>9. Reduce social exclusion and poverty NATA sub-objectives: Access to the transport system; Consumer users SEA Topics: Human health; Population HIA Topics: Ageing population and increasing disability ; Transport to work, shops, schools and healthcare</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Improve accessibility for disadvantaged communities and <u>rural areas</u>? ■ Promote community cohesion (i.e. by avoiding severance effects or tackling existing issues)? ■ Enhance access to services and amenities? ■ <u>Account for the needs of an ageing population?</u> ■ Promote access to green space through sustainable forms of transport? ■ <u>Reduce health inequalities between areas and groups?</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ % of population living within 400m walking distance of a bus stop. ■ % of population living within 300m walk or 20 mins bus travel (15 mins frequency) of a Primary School. ■ % of households living within 1 mile of a static public library. ■ % of rural villages with a General Store/Post Office. ■ % of rural villages with a Level 1 Journey to Work Public Transport Service. ■ % of representations received to LDD consultation from ‘Hard to Reach’ groups, as defined in the Statement of Community Involvement. ■ IMD Rank ■ Ward unemployment levels. ■ Employment by gender. ■ Average earnings. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unemployment rate. ▪ BVPI156 - % Local Authority buildings suitable for and accessible by disabled people. |
| <p>10. Provide decent and affordable housing for everyone NATA sub-objectives: Community severance SEA Topics: Human health; Population</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affect the delivery of new housing schemes? ▪ Affect the regeneration of existing housing? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affordable' housing completed as % of all new completions. ▪ Average house price/ household gross earned income ratio. ▪ No. of households classified as homeless. ▪ BV184a - LA homes which are non-decent. ▪ % of private sector homes judged unfit to live in. ▪ % of dwellings in new developments designed for disabled access. ▪ No. of households in overcrowded dwellings. |
| <p>11. Provide a safe and healthy environment in which to live NATA sub-objectives: Security; Consumer users; Accidents; Physical fitness SEA Topics: Human health; Population HIA Topics: Frequency and severity of crashes; Collisions causing injury and fatal accidents</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Promote healthy and active lifestyles and assist in reducing obesity?</u> ▪ Improve road safety for pedestrians when compared to the baseline? ▪ Improve safety for all road users when compared to the baseline? ▪ Improve rail safety when compared to the baseline? ▪ Improve personal security e.g. for those using public transport, <u>pedestrians and cyclists?</u> ▪ <u>Reduce crime and fear of crime?</u> ▪ <u>Enhance existing & promote opportunities for new green infrastructure?</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % change in crime levels (various categories). ▪ % of residents feeling 'safe' or 'fairly safe' outside in the local authority area after dark. ▪ Standard Mortality Rates (all causes). ▪ % of SOAs in lowest 20% IMD Health Domain. ▪ No. of GPs per 1000 population. ▪ % of population suffering from fuel poverty. ▪ % of population living within 600m walk or 30mins bus travel (15mins frequency) of a GP surgery/Health clinic. ▪ BVPI 178 - % length of rights of way easy to use by the public |

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| 12. Provide a high quality built environment NATA sub-objectives: Townscape SEA Topics: Human health; Population | |
| Will the strategy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide the opportunity to improve the public realm? Improve navigability of the town centre? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Value of Public Art provision. ▪ Value of developer contributions to the public realm from new developments. |
| 13. Maintain the integrity and function of individual settlements NATA sub-objectives: Community Severance; Public accounts SEA Topics: Human health; Population HIA Topics: Community Severance, Transport to work, shops, schools and healthcare, Walking and cycling | |
| Will the strategy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the need for inter-settlement journeys? Promote use of public transport between settlements? ▪ Enhance transport links between settlements reducing journey time? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No. of Parish Plans in place. ▪ Quantity (ha & % of area) of development permitted within Rural ▪ Buffers. ▪ Loss of essential rural facilities. |
| 14. Conserve and enhance the historic built environment and archaeological assets NATA sub-objectives: Heritage; Townscape; Landscape SEA Topics: Cultural heritage | |
| Will the strategy... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affect historic and archaeological monuments and buildings and/or their settings? ▪ <u>Improve access to the historic environment?</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of grade I and II* listed buildings considered ‘at risk’ . ▪ No. of listed buildings or listed features lost or damaged through development. ▪ No. and % of Scheduled Ancient Monuments considered at risk. ▪ No. of historic parks and gardens lost or damaged through development. ▪ BVPI % Conservation Areas with published management proposals. ▪ BVPI % Conservation Areas with an up-to-date character appraisal. ▪ % of applications where further archaeological evaluation was recommended. |

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| <p>15. Conserve and enhance rural and urban landscapes <u>and townscapes</u> NATA sub-objectives: Townscape; Landscape SEA Topics: Landscape; Cultural heritage</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affect any areas designated for landscape value? ▪ <u>Protect and enhance landscape character?</u> ▪ Introduce new infrastructure into built up areas that will impact on the local landscape? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 106 agreements contributing to Great Western ▪ Community Forest landscape enhancement and new and/or existing areas of Open Space. ▪ % of Open Space provision in strategic development areas which meets local plan standards. ▪ % and area of existing strategic green corridors developed for alternative uses. ▪ No. of applications that make a positive contribution to the achievement of the North Wessex Downs AONB Management Plan. ▪ No. of approved applications that provide for the restoration of degraded landscape features. ▪ Quantity of the countryside developed for alternative uses (Ha and % of area). |
| <p>16. Promote a sustainable, diverse and vibrant sub-regional economy NATA sub-objectives: Consumer users; Business; Public accounts SEA Topics: Human health; Population; Material Assets HIA Topics: Transport to work, shops, schools and healthcare</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance Swindon as both a place to work and live? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gross Value Added (GVA) ▪ Business premises vacancy rates ▪ Business premises rental values ▪ Jobs density ▪ Economic Activity ▪ % change in VAT registrations ▪ Employment land availability ▪ Average earnings ▪ Unemployment rate ▪ Business registrations and de-registrations ▪ Loss and gain of major employers ▪ % registered working age disabled people in employment ▪ % working age BME people in employment |

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| <p>17. Provide opportunities for a highly skilled and educated workforce NATA sub-objectives: Access to the transport system SEA Topics: Human health, population</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Create new jobs? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ % of 16 year olds achieving 5+ GCSEs Grade A*-C. ■ % of people with NVQ level 3 or 4 (or equivalent) or a tradeapprenticeship. ■ Business surveys of staff/skills shortages. ■ % of adults on a registered further education course. ■ No. of companies experiencing skills shortages. ■ No. of residents attending University. ■ % of employees undertaking job related training. |
| <p>18. Enhance the image and role of Swindon's Central Area as a sub-regional centre and destination NATA sub-objectives: Access to the transport system; Consumer users, Business Users & Providers; Public accounts SEA Topics: Human health; Population; Material Assets HIA Topics: Transport to work, shops, schools and healthcare; Walking and cycling</p> | |
| <p>Will the strategy...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Promote better national transport links? ■ Enhance the aesthetic appearance of Swindon? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Footfall in Central Area. ■ % change in office floorspace within Central Area. ■ Value of public realm improvements within the Central Area. ■ Unit vacancy rate within the Central Area. ■ % change in floorspace of Class A1 retail frontages in the Central Area. ■ Shopping centre yields |