

COPELAND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Conservation Area Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

Sustainability Appraisal



November 2017

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NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The European Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive requires that a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is undertaken for any Local Development Document that is produced by a Local Planning Authority. The purpose of this Sustainability Appraisal is to identify in general terms whether the Conservation Area Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is likely to move the area towards or away from greater sustainability in the long term.

The aim of the Conservation Area Design Guide SPD is **to help property owners, designers and developers to achieve good, respectful design and to protect Copeland’s heritage.**

The SPD advises on ten areas of design including for shopfronts and advertising; windows and doors; walls and wall finishes; roofs and chimneys; dormer windows and roof lights; soil and rainwater goods; paint colours; external equipment on buildings; lighting and; frontage and front garden areas.

The results of the SA of the SPD are predominantly positive, where SA objectives are relevant. This SA has demonstrated that the Conservation Area Design Guide SPD has performed well in sustainability terms. By raising awareness and providing practical solutions for improving development standards in conservation areas the SPD will improve and protect the heritage we share.

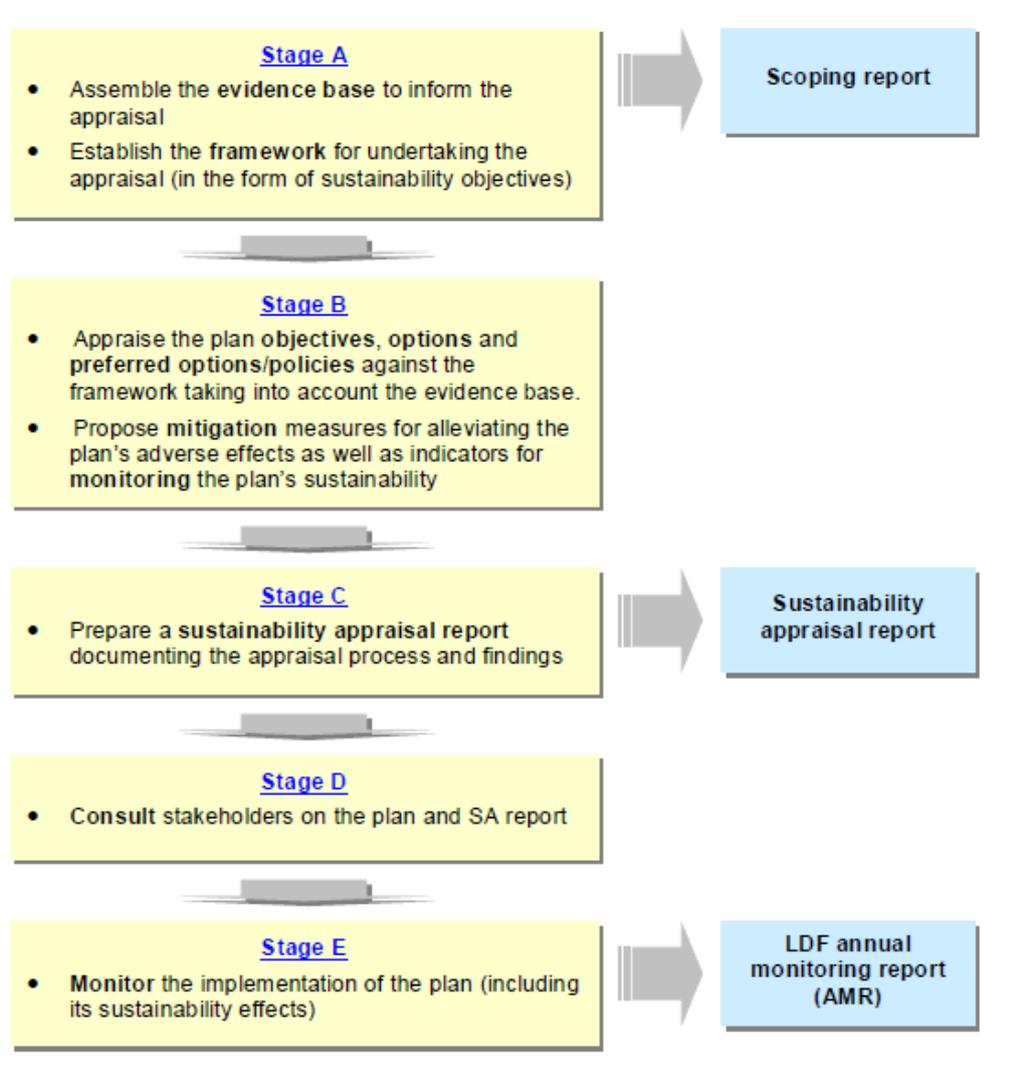
The aim of the SPD has been assessed against a set of 17 Sustainability Objectives:

	SA Objective Abbreviation	SA Objective (High Level Objective)
1	Biodiversity	To conserve and enhance biodiversity in Copeland.
2	Landscape & Conservation	To protect and enhance place, landscape and buildings of historic, cultural and archaeological value.
3	Water Resources	To maintain and enhance the water quality of Copeland’s inland and coastal water and coasts and to sustainably manage water resources.
4	Climate Change	To promote adaptation to climate change.
5	Flood Risk	To reduce flood risk in Copeland from surface water, rivers, estuaries and sea level change.
6	Energy	Increase energy efficiency in the built environment and promote the use of renewable energy sources.
7	Land Quality	To promote and improve land quality in Copeland.
8	Air Quality	To improve air quality in Copeland.
9	Waste & Recycling	To minimise waste production and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates.
10	Services & Facilities	To improve access to services and facilities in Copeland.
11	Health & Wellbeing	To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Copeland.
12	Education & Skills	To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough.
13	Sustainable Economy	To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth.
14	Leisure & Tourism	Support the sustainable development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry.
15	Housing	To improve access to a range of good quality housing that meets the needs of the Copeland community.
16	Retail	To maintain, enhance and develop a diversity of retail services in the Borough.
17	Transport	To enhance and develop sustainable transport networks in Copeland.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Sustainability Appraisal (SA) accompanies the Copeland ‘Conservation Area Design Guide’ Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The purpose of this SA report is to identify, in general terms, whether the SPD is likely to move the Conservation Areas either towards or away from greater sustainability in the long term.
- 1.2 There are nine conservation areas in the Borough of Copeland each with their own unique characteristics. These conservation areas include Beckermest, Cleator Moor, Corkickle, Egremont, Hensingham, Millom, St. Bees and Whitehaven. Ravenglass conservation area lies within the Lake District National Park and is administered by the Lake District National Park Authority.
- 1.3 The Conservation Area Design Guide SPD is principally designed to preserve and enhance the historic character of buildings within conservation areas and where replacement is necessary, encourage high standards of traditional design and materials. The guide is targeted at property owners, designers and developers and, once adopted, will be used as a material planning consideration for planning officers and Planning Panel members when determining relevant planning applications.
- 1.4 A Sustainability Appraisal (SA), which is now integrated with Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), is a statutory requirement for the preparation of Development Plan Documents. The UK Strategy for Sustainable Development (1999), SEA Directive (2001), Regulations (2004) and ODPM Guidance (2005) advise that the principal topics of concern in any sustainability appraisal will be whether the development proposals would achieve:
 - Social progress that recognises the needs of everyone,
 - Effective protection of the environment,
 - Prudent use of natural resources and
 - Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

1.5 The Government’s guidance on the Sustainability Appraisal process advocates a 5 stage approach to undertaking the SA.



1.6 The SA has been carried out on the draft Conservation Area Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document which was subject to a six-week formal consultation period between Monday 10th July and Friday 18th August 2017.

1.7 Following this formal consultation period and due to there being no representations received regarding the SA itself, the Council has not made any amendments to the SA since being in its draft form.

1.8 The SA and modified Design Guide is now available to the public via the Council’s website [www.copeland.gov.uk] since the Conservation Area Design Guide has been adopted as an Supplementary Planning Document.

1.9 The SA will be monitored via the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) which is required to be produced annually by the Local Planning Authority. The indicators identified in the sustainability framework will be monitored as and when necessary through the annual monitoring process.

2.0 INFORMATION

INCORPORATING SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL INTO POLICY DEVELOPMENT

2.1 When considering the flow chart above, the SEA Directive requires the production of an Environmental Report that provides certain information. Table 1 below outlines the information requirements and demonstrates how these have been met in the Sustainability Appraisal documentation that has been prepared.

Table 1: SEA Directive Environmental Report Information Requirements

Environmental Report Requirements	Document
An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other plans or programmes.	Chapters 2-11, 14 and Appendix 1 of LDF Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.	Chapters 2-12 of LDF Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	Chapters 2-12 of LDF Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC (The Birds Directive – now superseded by Directive 2009/147/EEC) and 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive).	Chapter 2 of LDF Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
The environmental protection objectives, established at the international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	Chapters 2-11 and Appendix 1 of LDF Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
The likely significant effects on the environment, including on biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage), landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.	This SA document.
The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.	This SA document.
An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (including technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.	Conclusion of this SA document.
A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10.	This document – SA Framework – Table 2.
A non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	This SA document.

THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

2.2 The Sustainability Appraisal is based around the Appraisal Framework in Chapter 15 of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (September 2009) which accompanies the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Management Plan (DPD). The Framework provides a balanced assessment of potential environmental, social and economic effects relevant to Copeland. It is based on an objectives-led approach whereby the potential impacts of a plan are appraised in relation to a series of objectives for sustainable development.

Table 2: Sustainability Appraisal Framework for Copeland’s Local Development Framework

	SA Objective Abbreviation	SA Objective (High Level Objective)	Locally Distinctive sub-criteria	Indicators that will be used to Monitor the Effects of the LDF Policies and Allocations
1	Biodiversity	To conserve and enhance biodiversity in Copeland.	<p>To ensure that development does not impact upon the condition of sites of biodiversity interest including SSSI and other local and national designations.</p> <p>To protect Natura 2000 sites from the adverse impacts of human activity, pollution and coastal erosion.</p> <p>To Promote biodiversity provision and enhancement within new development and seek to link these to existing species and habitats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of developments including landscaping schemes to benefit biodiversity; ▪ Change in habitats and species rated priority in the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP); ▪ Number of developments including schemes to protect and/or enhance existing biodiversity; ▪ Loss of designated habitat.
2	Landscape & Conservation	To protect and enhance place, landscape and buildings of historic, cultural and archaeological value.	<p>Protect and enhance features of historical and archaeological importance which contribute to the cultural and tourism offer of the borough, including the Lake District National Park.</p> <p>Ensure that all new development meets high standards in terms of the quality of design, safety, security, and accessibility and relates well to existing development and the public realm.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of planning permissions refused on the basis of design; ▪ % of new development meeting BREEAM standards; ▪ Number of derelict properties; ▪ % of Grade 1 and 2* Listed Buildings at Risk; ▪ Number of parks with Green Flag status; ▪ Number of up to date Conservation Appraisals; ▪ Number of refusals due to impact on landscape character/ designation;

	SA Objective Abbreviation	SA Objective (High Level Objective)	Locally Distinctive sub-criteria	Indicators that will be used to Monitor the Effects of the LDF Policies and Allocations
			Protect, conserve and enhance the character and quality of all landscapes and townscapes in the borough, especially those that contribute to local distinctiveness, such as the unique maritime history of Copeland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) made; ▪ Loss of TPOs; ▪ Number of S106 enhancements resulting from planning applications; ▪ Number of Listed Building enforcement actions.
3	Water Resources	To maintain and enhance the water quality of Copeland's inland and coastal water and coasts and to sustainably manage water resources.	<p>Promote sustainable design and construction measures that reduce water consumption and result in decreased run-off of polluted water (including during construction phase).</p> <p>Encourage the allocation and location of new development where water abstraction can occur sustainably.</p> <p>Ensure efficient use and management of water resources throughout the borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of main river water quality classified as good or fair (chemical or biological) under the general quality assessment; ▪ Daily domestic water use (per person); ▪ Number of applications including Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDs); ▪ Number of beaches with Blue Flag status.
4	Climate Change	To promote adaptation to climate change.	<p>Promote new development that minimises the emission of greenhouse gases.</p> <p>Seek to provide a built environment and green infrastructure network that will minimise the impacts on humans and the environment associated with climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of renewable energy in new development; ▪ % of development meeting Code for Sustainable Homes standards; ▪ Number of planning applications including on-site renewables.
5	Flood Risk	To reduce flood risk in Copeland from surface water, rivers, estuaries and sea level change.	<p>Ensure new development incorporates SUDS.</p> <p>Avoid development in areas of flood risk and mitigate any residual flood risk through appropriate measures including through design.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of approvals contrary to Environment Agency (EA) advice on flooding; ▪ Number of approvals incorporating EA advice on flood mitigation guidelines.

	SA Objective Abbreviation	SA Objective (High Level Objective)	Locally Distinctive sub-criteria	Indicators that will be used to Monitor the Effects of the LDF Policies and Allocations
6	Energy	Increase energy efficiency in the built environment and promote the use of renewable energy sources.	<p>Promote high sustainable design and construction standards for housing and non-housing development, in order to ensure that Copeland meets the government target for all new residential development being zero carbon by 2016.</p> <p>Clear guidelines and support for the use of renewable energy sources in new and existing developments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energy efficiency – the average Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) rating of social housing (1 highly inefficient – 100 highly efficient); ▪ Provision of renewable energy in new development.
7	Land Quality	To promote and improve land quality in Copeland.	<p>To protect and enhance soil quality in Copeland.</p> <p>Develop brownfield sites where these can support wider sustainability objectives (e.g. reduce travel by car, improve the public realm, avoid loss of biodiversity interest, gardens etc.).</p> <p>Ensure new development will not result in contamination of land and promote the remediation of existing contaminated sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of development on greenfield sites; ▪ (Ha) contaminated land reclaimed as open space/natural green space or for development; ▪ % of contaminated land reclaimed in total; ▪ % of new development on brownfield sites; ▪ % of development on protected open space.
8	Air Quality	To improve air quality in Copeland.	<p>Seek to reduce the amount of CO2 emissions attributable to the transport sector.</p> <p>Reduce the number of journeys made by car in order to reduce the high levels of nitrogen dioxide in areas of traffic congestion in the borough.</p> <p>Consider and mitigate the impacts on air quality that might result from specific developments, including major infrastructure projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Estimated traffic flows for all vehicle types (million vehicle kilometres); ▪ % of development outside Key Service Centres (KSC) and Local Service Centres (LSC); ▪ CO2 emissions; ▪ NO2 emissions; ▪ Respiratory related health issues.

	SA Objective Abbreviation	SA Objective (High Level Objective)	Locally Distinctive sub-criteria	Indicators that will be used to Monitor the Effects of the LDF Policies and Allocations
			Seek to promote opportunities for incorporating clean and emission free technologies in new development.	
9	Waste & Recycling	To minimise waste production and increase re-use, recycling and recovery rates.	<p>Reduce the proportion of waste that goes to landfill in the borough.</p> <p>Promote the integration of waste management facilities to enable efficient recycling and energy from waste as part of new developments.</p> <p>Ensure the safe storage of radioactive waste in the borough.</p> <p>Support the adaptive reuse of buildings where appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Volume of household waste collected per person per year (kg per head); ▪ Number of new developments incorporating recycling facilities; ▪ % household waste collected which is recycled/composted; ▪ Number of derelict properties.
10	Services & Facilities	To improve access to services and facilities in Copeland.	<p>Provide improved physical access to services and facilities on foot, cycle and by public transport, particularly in rural and deprived areas.</p> <p>Secure economic inclusion in the most deprived wards in the borough i.e. access to jobs.</p> <p>Ensure that issues of both rural and urban deprivation are considered in development proposals.</p> <p>Support the adaptive reuse of buildings where appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of rural households within set distances (either 4km or 2km) of key services; ▪ % of development in KSCs and LSCs; ▪ Number of households within 30mins of key service centres by public transport; ▪ Number of planning applications refused on accessibility grounds; ▪ % of the population within 20 mins travel time of different sports facility types; ▪ Number of households (or proportion of population) with access to broadband.
11	Health & Wellbeing	To improve physical and mental health and well-being of people and reduce health inequalities in Copeland.	<p>Maintain accessible healthcare facilities throughout Copeland.</p> <p>Promote healthy and active lifestyles through encouraging walking and cycling as well as the provision and improvement of sporting, recreational and community facilities in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Doctor/Patient ratio; ▪ Length of cycleway created/maintained; ▪ % adults taking part in sport; ▪ Number of developments with restrictions of opening hours/noise reduction measures; ▪ Number of visits to leisure centres; ▪ Design out Crime layouts

	SA Objective Abbreviation	SA Objective (High Level Objective)	Locally Distinctive sub-criteria	Indicators that will be used to Monitor the Effects of the LDF Policies and Allocations
			Copeland. Reduce crime and the fear of crime, by adhering to 'designing out crime' principles in all new development.	included in application; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % households with one or more person with a limiting long term illness; ▪ Childhood obesity figures.
12	Education & Skills	To improve education, skills and qualifications in the Borough.	Improve linkages between higher education providers and local employers. Encourage educational and training opportunities for all sectors of the population, particularly amongst deprived communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The percentage of pupils in schools maintained by the local authority achieving five or more GCSEs at grades A*-C or equivalent; ▪ % of the population whose highest qualification is a first degree (or equivalent); ▪ % of the population with no or low qualifications; ▪ Levels of NVQ attainment.
13	Sustainable Economy	To support a strong, diverse, vibrant and sustainable local economy to foster balanced economic growth.	Retain existing jobs and create new employment opportunities. Promote major employment in Whitehaven and Key Service Centres that can provide access to an available workforce. Provide a positive planning framework for exploiting new opportunities in tourism, creative and knowledge based industries and the energy sector, including renewable energy technologies. Maximise opportunities of the nuclear sector (decommissioning and potential new build) offer, building on skills and expertise in Copeland. Provide support for economic development that is appropriate for rural locations, including small businesses or home based working.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amount of land supply available for B1, B2 and B8 uses; ▪ Gross floor space of completed retail and leisure; ▪ Gross floor space of completed B1, B2 and B8; ▪ Amount of employment land lost to residential development per financial year (in hectares); ▪ Economic activity rate for males and females of working age (expressed as a % of all people of working age); ▪ Office of National Statistics (ONS) Annual Population Survey; ▪ Proximity of jobs from residences; ▪ % change in the number of VAT registered businesses; ▪ Unemployment rate % (male and female); ▪ Gross Value Added (GVA) £ per capita.

	SA Objective Abbreviation	SA Objective (High Level Objective)	Locally Distinctive sub-criteria	Indicators that will be used to Monitor the Effects of the LDF Policies and Allocations
			Seek to attract employment and training programmes specifically targeted at maintaining and increasing the proportion of young people in the borough.	
14	Leisure & Tourism	Support the sustainable development of the sustainable leisure and tourism industry.	<p>Improve the quality of supporting infrastructure for tourism in the borough, such as accommodation, leisure and cultural facilities.</p> <p>Encourage the use of the boroughs natural and cultural features for tourism development, within their environmental limits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Visitor numbers; ▪ Tourism expenditure in the borough; ▪ Tourism expenditure per head.
15	Housing	To improve access to a range of good quality housing that meets the needs of the Copeland community.	<p>Ensure that all new development meets the lifetime homes standards, in order to meet the needs of an ageing population.</p> <p>Seek to develop mixed income communities and flexibility of tenure and housing type in the borough.</p> <p>Co-ordinate housing provision with investment in employment and community services to ensure that settlements meet the needs of their communities.</p> <p>Provide decent good quality and affordable housing for all including intermediate and key worker housing in line with housing targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ % of households rated unfit; ▪ Number of unfit dwellings demolished; ▪ Number of affordable homes completed; ▪ Number of people on housing waiting lists; ▪ % of housing development incorporating community green space/ children's play areas; ▪ Average house price; ▪ Income to average house price ratio; ▪ % of new homes meeting Lifetime Homes standard; ▪ % of new homes scoring good or very good on Building for Life Standard.
16	Retail	To maintain, enhance and develop a diversity of retail services in the Borough.	<p>Protect the shopping and community services function of Key and Local Service Centres</p> <p>Reduce the number of vacant retail properties in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Retail hierarchy and ranking; ▪ Number of vacant premises; ▪ New business start-up / closure rates; ▪ Number of new business support initiatives or events;

	SA Objective Abbreviation	SA Objective (High Level Objective)	Locally Distinctive sub-criteria	Indicators that will be used to Monitor the Effects of the LDF Policies and Allocations
			Whitehaven and the other smaller service centres in Copeland. Improve the quality of the public realm in order to improve the attractiveness of the service centres to new investment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of street scene improvement schemes.
17	Transport	To enhance and develop sustainable transport networks in Copeland.	<p>Improve the provision and quality of bus and rail services in Copeland, particularly in rural areas.</p> <p>Develop and maintain safe, efficient and integrated transport networks within Copeland, with good internal and external links.</p> <p>Reduce car dependency by providing services and facilities accessible by a range of modes of transport.</p> <p>Promote a pattern of development which reduces private vehicle dependency in the location of homes, jobs, leisure and community services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Methods of travel to work; ▪ Vehicle ownership; ▪ Distance travelled to work; ▪ Number of road accidents; ▪ % of development located in KSC and LSC; ▪ Number of households within 30 minutes of KSC by public transport; ▪ Length of cycleways created/maintained (km).

Source: Copeland LDF Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report – prepared by Scott Wilson (September 2009)

- 2.3 The 17 criteria in the SA Framework are applied below to the aim of the SPD document.
- 2.4 The Local Plan policies that the SPD relates to have already been subject to their own higher level Sustainability Appraisal and this is not replicated here.

APPRAISING THE AIM OF THE CONSERVATION AREA DESIGN GUIDE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

- 2.5 The Conservation Area Design Guide aims to help property owners, designers and developers to achieve good, respectful design and thus protect the heritage that we share. The guide provides examples of authentic architectural components, that contribute to the streetscape of the conservation areas and demonstrate what should be retained, and how new building elements should be designed and constructed to sensitively make their contribution whilst not harming the historic environment.
- 2.6 Table 3 provides an overview of the likely effects of the SPD on each of the SA Objectives.

Table key:

++	Strongly positive	+	Positive
~	Neutral, no obvious effect	-	Negative
--	Strongly negative	?	Uncertainty, impacts not predicted

Table 3: Appraisal of the SPD

	Sustainability Objective	Impact	Evidence for judgement
1	Biodiversity	~	No direct impact anticipated.
2	Landscape & Conservation	++	The distinctive and unique heritage will be protected and enhanced with respectful design which considers the unique characteristics of each conservation area.
3	Water Resources	~	No direct impact anticipated.
4	Climate Change	~	No direct impact anticipated.
5	Flood Risk	~	No direct impact anticipated.
6	Energy	-	The guide encourages retention of original windows which would not be as efficient as new double glazed windows yet the guide does state that thermal performance can be improved with the addition of draught seals and weather strips.
7	Land Quality	~	No direct impact anticipated.
8	Air Quality	~	No direct impact anticipated.
9	Waste & Recycling	+	The guide supports the adaptive reuse of buildings where appropriate with an emphasis on good and respectful design which encourages repair rather than replacement.
10	Services & Facilities	+	The guide supports the adaptive reuse of buildings where appropriate with an emphasis on good and respectful design which encourages repair rather than replacement.
11	Health & Wellbeing	~	No direct impact anticipated.
12	Education & Skills	+	The guide will work towards educating users on the importance of protecting the historic environment. It may also provide opportunities for the development of skills by local builders to work on historic buildings.
13	Sustainable Economy	+	The guide will work towards enhancing the historic environment making Copeland's conservation areas attractive to visitors, workers and residents, and thereby keeping the borough's centres vibrant.
14	Leisure & Tourism	+	The guide will work towards enhancing the historic environment making Copeland's conservation areas attractive to visitors, workers and residents.
15	Housing	~	No direct impact anticipated.
16	Retail	+	The guide will work towards enhancing the historic environment which will enhance and make more appealing the setting of the conservation area, including shopfronts and signage.
17	Transport	~	No direct impact anticipated.

3.0 CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The Sustainability Appraisal Objectives are designed to cover a wide range of Local Development Framework (LDF) Documents. These objectives are detailed within Table 2: Sustainability Appraisal Framework for Copeland's Local Development Framework of this document.
- 3.2 By considering the table appraising the aim of the Conservation Area Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) it is concluded that the aim of the Design Guide SPD is socially, economically and environmentally sustainable.
- 3.3 There is one identified negative impact around energy efficiency whereby the Guide SPD encourages retention of original windows which would not be as efficient as new double glazed windows yet the guide does state that thermal performance can be improved with the addition of draught seals and weather strips.
- 3.4 The aim of the Design Guide SPD has a strongly positive impact upon the Landscape and Conservation sustainability objective and has positive impacts on Waste and Recycling; Services and Facilities; Educations and Skills; Sustainable Economy; Leisure and Tourism and; Retail sustainability objectives.
- 3.5 The results of the appraisal indicate that compared to a 'no plan' scenario, the development of the Conservation Area Design Guide SPD is a positive addition to the LDF in helping to ensure that development is sustainable in the Borough.
- 3.6 The results of this Sustainability Appraisal identify no recommendations for improvement. The SPD provides guidance and advice that will help to improve the quality of the built environment in the Borough's conservation areas.