

Appendix 8: SA Framework Sites: Strategic & Non-Strategic

Adapted SA Framework Strategic Sites (2009)

SA/SEA is an iterative process, and the SA Framework prepared through the Scoping Process (Summer 2007) was adapted to make it more relevant to the appraisal of strategic sites. Table 1 below presents the adapted SA Framework tailored to address strategic site specific issues. In particular, the decision aiding questions have been developed so that they more effectively relate to sustainability issues arising from development impacts and effects occurring at [strategic] site level.

Adapted SA Framework Strategic Sites

No	SA Objective	Site Decision Aiding Questions
Economy and Employment <i>SEA Topic: population, human health</i>		
1	To develop a healthy, active and diverse economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Does the site provide a range of employment opportunities? ■ Does development involve the net loss of employment land or diversity and number of jobs? ■ Is the site in an area of higher unemployment? ■ Avoid adverse impact on existing retail/town/civic centres? ■ Is the site within the Rural regeneration Zone?
Strengthening Communities <i>SEA Topic: population</i>		
2	To maintain and improve communities to meet the needs of the population and promote social inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Can the site accommodate mixed use development? ■ Will the site bring regeneration benefits? ■ Can the site be well integrated with existing communities? ■ Will the site help reduce social exclusion through the provision of new community facilities or transport links?
Infrastructure <i>SEA Topic: population, human health</i>		
3	To provide for timely delivery of infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Can the site fund the delivery of infrastructure that meets the needs of new development? (See also objective 6 - ensuring appropriate timing and phasing of infrastructure delivery and transport objectives.) ■ Offer the enhancement of green and blue infrastructures (strategic network of protected sites, green spaces, linkage, waterways)?

No	SA Objective	Site Decision Aiding Questions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the existing health and education facilities cope with the level of development? Will demands created by the development be met by the developers?
Housing <i>SEA Topic: population, human health</i>		
4	To provide good quality housing for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of affordable housing will be dependent on the implementation of appropriate policy and can be applied to all sites (depending on policy thresholds). Can the site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver affordable and sustainable housing in urban and rural areas and consistent with local character? Provide for an appropriate mix of dwelling size, type, density and phasing to meet local needs? Provide for a range of adaptable housing that meets the needs of specific groups (e.g. elderly, young, disabled)?
Quality Design and Sustainable Construction <i>SEA Topic: material assets, human health, population</i>		
5	To promote quality design and sustainable construction for buildings and places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to policy implementation Can this be required now? i.e. levels of CSH Merton rule? Can the site accommodate high density development? Is the site, or part of the site, previously developed land? (and the contrary- is it a green field site)
Health <i>SEA Topic: human health</i>		
6	To contribute towards improving the health and wellbeing of all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See infrastructure and transport objectives. Is there/will there be access to health care facilities by public transport or walking? And access to open space, biodiversity and recreational facilities by cycling, walking and public transport. Provide for allotment space? Secure by Design? Can be applied to all sites.
Climate Change <i>SEA Topic: climatic factors, air</i>		
7	To reduce the causes of climate change and adapt to its impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly covered by objectives on sustainable construction, water and transport. Is the site location and orientation conducive to maximising passive solar gain? Is the site high quality agricultural land i.e. Grade 3/3a or above? (Long term food production potential)

No	SA Objective	Site Decision Aiding Questions
Waste <i>SEA Topic: material assets, human health</i>		
8	To minimise waste and promote recycling, reuse and recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site in a location where existing kerb side recycling services can be extended, or big enough to provide onsite recycling facilities?
Travel and transport <i>SEA Topic: climatic factors, air, human health</i>		
9	To reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable travel options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site served well by public transport i.e. ½ hour service?- or capable of being so served in the future ■ Within walking distance of public transport stops, employment, leisure, health and education facilities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Target distance of 300m and maximum 600m of food shop and primary school ○ Other facilities (including health) 600m -1km ○ Bus stop – target distance 200m, maximum distance 400m ○ Bus station 600m ○ Railway station 800m ○ See objective 3 for infrastructure delivery ■ Can the site promote walking and cycling through the delivery of or addition to strategic networks? e.g. national/Sustrans cycle routes ■ Can the site help create an integrated sustainable transport system (e.g. safe cycle storage, green lane linkage, improved public transport)?
Biodiversity and Geodiversity <i>SEA Topic: biodiversity, flora, fauna</i>		
10	To improve, restore and recreate biodiversity and geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Will the site have any adverse impact on sites designated under international, European, national or local designations? ■ Will the site incorporate Green Infrastructure? ■ Can the site provide new habitats or enhance the connectivity of existing sites?
Landscape and Townscape <i>SEA Topic: landscape, cultural heritage</i>		
11	To protect and enhance landscape and townscape character and quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Will the site have any adverse impact on Historic Parks and Gardens, protected landscapes e.g. AONB ■ Is the site in the Green Belt? ■ Can the landscape accommodate the proposed scale and type of development? ■ Can the site incorporate public open space? ■ Will the site provide or enhance public spaces?
Historic Environment <i>SEA Topic: cultural heritage</i>		

No	SA Objective	Site Decision Aiding Questions
12	To protect and enhance the historic environment, historic character and quality of landscapes and townscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Will the site have any adverse impact on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation Areas ○ Listed Buildings ○ Archaeological sites ○ Historic Parks and Gardens ○ Historic landscape
Pollution SEA Topic: air, water, soil		
13	To minimise pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site near, or could have an adverse impact on, any existing AQMAs? ■ Provide for ways of reducing existing poor air quality e.g. in town centres? ■ Are there any adjacent uses to the site which may cause noise, light or air pollution conflicts? ■ Will the proposed use of the site cause noise, light or air for existing development?
Water SEA Topic: water, climatic factors		
14	To manage water in a sustainable manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site in a flood plain? ■ Is there sufficient water supply without water abstraction causing problems with river quality? ■ Are there existing foul drainage capacity problems?

Adapted SA Framework Non-Strategic Sites (2011)

As described above, the SA Framework prepared through the Scoping Process (Summer 2007) was adapted in 2009 as part of the SA/SEA of Strategic Sites. SA/SEA is an iterative process and the SA Framework was therefore further revised to make it more relevant to the appraisal of non-strategic site allocations. The Table below presents the revised SA Framework tailored for SA/ SEA of the non-strategic site allocations.

The changes to the SA objectives and decision-aiding questions are marked in red (additions) and ~~strike through~~ (deletions). The SA objectives have been adapted so that they better relate to sustainability issues surrounding non-strategic site allocations. Some SA Objectives were deleted from the Site Appraisal framework because all developments would be required to meet these objectives in accordance with the Development Strategy (SWDP 3, 26, 30, 31), irrespective of site location. Those appraisal categories are:

- Housing
- Quality Design and Sustainable Construction
- Climate Change

- Waste

The category **6. Health**, was also deleted as the key decision aiding questions are also considered under the strengthening communities and travel & transport objectives.

Adapted SA Framework Non-Strategic Sites

No	SA Objective	Site Decision Aiding Questions
Economy and Employment <i>SEA Topic: population, human health</i>		
1	To develop a healthy, active and diverse economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Does the site provide a range of employment opportunities? ■ Will Does development involve the net loss of employment land or diversity and number of jobs? ■ Is the site in an area of higher unemployment? ■ Avoid adverse impact on existing retail/town/civic centres? ■ Is the site within the Rural regeneration Zone?
Strengthening Communities <i>SEA Topic: population</i>		
2	To maintain and improve communities to meet the needs of the population and promote social inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Can the site accommodate mixed use development? ■ Could Could the site promote integrated communities with a range of housing size and tenure? ■ Could Will the site bring regeneration benefits? ■ Can the site be well integrated with existing communities? ■ Could Will the site help reduce social exclusion through the provision of new community facilities or transport links?
Infrastructure <i>SEA Topic: population, human health</i>		
3	To provide for timely delivery of infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Could Can the site fund the delivery of infrastructure that meets the needs of new development? (note: see also objective 6 - ensuring appropriate timing and phasing of infrastructure delivery and transport objectives.) ■ Could Offer the site deliver enhancements of green and blue infrastructures (strategic network of protected sites, green spaces, linkage, waterways)? ■ Will the existing health and education facilities cope with the level of development? Will demands created by the development be met by the developers?
Housing <i>SEA Topic: population, human health</i>		
4	To provide good quality housing for all	<p>(note: not applicable to site appraisals as all sites required to achieve this and the provision of affordable housing will be dependent on the implementation of appropriate policy, depending on policy thresholds)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Can the site: ■ Deliver affordable and sustainable housing in urban and rural areas and consistent with local character? ■ Provide for an appropriate mix of dwelling size, type, density and phasing to meet local needs? ■ Provide for a range of adaptable housing that meets the needs of specific groups (e.g. elderly, young, disabled)?

No	SA Objective	Site Decision Aiding Questions
Quality Design and Sustainable Construction SEA Topic: material assets, human health, population		
5	To promote quality design and sustainable construction for buildings and places	<p>(note: note applicable to site appraisals as all sites required to achieve these requirements)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Can this be required now? i.e. levels of GSH ■ Merton rule? ■ Could Can the site accommodate high density development? ■ Is the site, or part of the site, previously developed land? (and the contrary - is it a green field site)
Health SEA Topic: human health		
6	To contribute towards improving the health and wellbeing of all	<p>(note: see infrastructure and transport objectives)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is there/will there be access to health care facilities by public transport or walking? And access to open space, biodiversity and recreational facilities by cycling, walking and public transport. ■ Will there be provision Provide for allotment space? (note: secure by design can be applied to all sites)
Climate Change SEA Topic: climatic factors, air		
7	To reduce the causes of climate change and adapt to its impacts	<p>(note: not applicable as objective addressed by decision aiding questions in sustainable construction, and transport objectives)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site location and orientation conducive to maximising passive solar gain? ■ Is the site high quality agricultural land i.e. Grade 3/3a or above? (Long term food production potential)
Waste SEA Topic: material assets, human health		
8	To minimise waste and promote recycling, reuse and recovery	<p>(note: not applicable to site appraisal as sustainable waste management can be incorporated into all sites)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site in a location where existing kerb side recycling services can be extended, or big enough to provide onsite recycling facilities? ■ Can existing kerbside recycling facilities meet the site need?
Travel and transport SEA Topic: climatic factors, air, human health		
9	To reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable travel options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site served well by public transport i.e. ½ hour service?- or capable of being so served in the future ■ Is the site within walking distance of public transport stops, employment, leisure, health and education facilities? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Target distance of 300m and maximum 600m of food shop and primary school ○ Other facilities (including health) 600m - 1km ○ Bus stop – target distance 200m, maximum distance 400m ○ Bus station 600m ○ Railway station 800m ○ See objective 3 for infrastructure delivery ■ Could Can the site promote walking and cycling through the delivery of or addition to strategic networks? e.g. national/Sustrans cycle routes ■ Can the site help create an integrated sustainable transport system (e.g. safe cycle storage, green lane linkage, improved public transport)?

No	SA Objective	Site Decision Aiding Questions
Biodiversity and Geodiversity <i>SEA Topic: biodiversity, flora, fauna</i>		
10	To improve, restore and recreate biodiversity and geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Could Will the site have any adverse impact on sites designated under international, European, national or local designations? ■ Will the site incorporate Green Infrastructure? ■ Could Can the site provide new habitats or enhance the connectivity of existing sites?
Landscape and Townscape <i>SEA Topic: landscape, cultural heritage</i>		
11	To protect and enhance landscape and townscape character and quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Could Will the site have any adverse impact on Historic Parks and Gardens, protected landscapes e.g. AONB ■ Is the site in the Green Belt? ■ Can the landscape accommodate the proposed scale and type of development? ■ Could Can the site incorporate public open space? ■ Could Will the site provide or enhance public spaces?
Historic Environment <i>SEA Topic: cultural heritage</i>		
12	To protect and enhance the historic environment, historic character and quality of landscapes and townscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Could Will the site have any adverse impact on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation Areas ○ Listed Buildings ○ Archaeological sites ○ Historic Parks and Gardens ○ Historic landscape
Pollution <i>SEA Topic: air, water, soil</i>		
13	To minimise pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site near, or could have an adverse impact on, any existing AQMAs? ■ Provide for ways of reducing existing poor air quality e.g. in town centres? ■ Are there any adjacent uses to the site which may cause noise, light or air pollution conflicts? ■ Could Will the proposed site cause increased noise, light or air pollution for existing development?
Water <i>SEA Topic: water, climatic factors</i>		
14	To manage water in a sustainable manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is the site in a flood plain? ■ Is there sufficient water supply without water abstraction causing problems with river quality? ■ Are there existing foul drainage capacity problems? (note: all development can incorporate sustainable water use)