

Cinderford Northern Quarter Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report June 2009



FoDDC and HCA

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

Final Report

June 2009

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1 THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF THE NORTHERN QUARTER AREA ACTION PLAN AND MASTERPLAN

The purpose of this chapter is to explain to the reader the Sustainability Appraisal process, the purpose of this Scoping Report and to provide an outline of the report content.

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Forest of Dean District Council (FoDDC) and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), previously English Partnerships, are proposing a comprehensive redevelopment of the Northern Quarter landholdings at Cinderford, for which both a Cinderford Area Action Plan (AAP) and a comprehensive Masterplan are being prepared.

As part of the process of developing the draft AAP and Masterplan and in fulfilment of their commitment to progressing sustainable development, the FoDDC and the HCA have commissioned a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the draft AAP and Masterplan.

This Appraisal is being managed and undertaken by Environmental Resources Management (ERM).

1.2 THIS REPORT – THE SCOPING REPORT OF THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

The Sustainability Appraisal (hereafter referred to as the Appraisal) of the draft AAP and Masterplan will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of UK Guidance, the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and the SEA Directive. The first stage in the undertaking of this Appraisal is to determine the scope of and methodology for the Appraisal and to identify appropriate data that may be of relevance to the study. This Report represents the outputs of this scoping stage. The subsequent stages and overarching process of the Appraisal are explained in *Chapter 3*.

This Scoping Report has been issued to Consultation Bodies (CBs), as defined within Government SEA guidance, namely:

- Natural England;
- Environment Agency; and
- English Heritage.

By issuing this Scoping Report, the study team is seeking comments on the proposed methodology and scope of the Sustainability Appraisal from the

consultation bodies and wider stakeholders. In particular, comment is sought on:

- **Baseline conditions:** The existing and likely future state of the environment and socio-economic conditions which can usefully inform the direction and contents of the AAP and Masterplan and the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken of it;
- **Appraisal criteria:** The Draft Sustainability Appraisal Framework;
- **Summary:** Key sustainability issues and challenges.

Comments received from the CBs on the Scoping Report will be taken into account in the assessment going forward and the Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report. The ways in which these comments are addressed in the developing AAP and Masterplan, will also be reported in the Appraisal.

1.2.1 *Structure of the Scoping Report*

Following *Chapter 1*, the report is structured as follows:

- *Chapter 2* provides an overview of the Area Action Plan and Masterplan objectives, and the options which are currently being proposed for consideration;
- *Chapter 3* presents an introduction to the Appraisal and the process by which this is being carried out;
- *Chapter 4* reviews the regional, national and international policies, plans, programmes and strategies which should inform or have a bearing on the development of the draft AAP and Masterplan;
- *Chapter 5* outlines the process of reviewing baseline conditions within the study area and a summary of key sustainability issues and opportunities which are informed by this review and the review of policies, plans and programmes in *Chapter 3*;
- *Chapter 6* proposes a set of objectives which form the basis of the Appraisal Framework - an overview of the approach to the assessment of alternatives is also outlined; and
- *Chapter 7* sets out the methodology for the remainder of the Appraisal process - *next steps* - including the proposed structure for the Draft Sustainability Report.

The report includes the following annexes:

Annex A provides a review of the economic, social and environmental objectives set out in the 'relevant' plans, policies, programmes and strategies

identified in *Chapter 4* which may link to the Review & draft AAP and Masterplan; and

Annex B presents a review of baseline sustainability conditions, encompassing economic, social and environmental conditions.

2.1

INTRODUCTION

In 2005, The Forest of Dean undertook a review of the Local Plan in which a series of sites were identified within the Northern Quarter for future development. This was followed in 2007 by a Business Plan which emphasised the importance of stimulating regeneration within the Cinderford area, encompassing the Northern Quarter and its development sites, previously identified within the Local Plan Review.

In pursuance of the objectives set out in the Local Plan and Business Plan, the FoDDC and partners, are proposing the redevelopment of the Northern Quarter at Cinderford, this is to be progressed through the Area Action Plan and Masterplan which this Sustainability Appraisal will assess.



2.2

THE DEVELOPMENT

The AAP and Masterplan will facilitate the integration of the Northern Quarter area with the Statutory Forest, Steam Mills and Newtown residential areas, Steam Mills Lake, green spaces and town centre facilities.

It is proposed that the AAP and Masterplan will provide for a mixed use development within the area, as identified in the Masterplan this is currently expected to include a hotel, office space and a potential education hub. There may also be accommodation for innovation / enterprise businesses, residential accommodation and a multi-purpose community leisure facility. The residential accommodation will provide a mix of unit types and tenures

and will include an affordable housing provision to be agreed with the FoDDC.

There will be new provision of attractive and safe pedestrian and cycling linkages, as well as improved highways access and the development of public transport facilities to enable easy access between the site and the surrounding areas and facilities.

The AAP and Masterplan will seek to promote exemplar standards of energy efficiency and sustainability. It is envisaged that provision will be made for reaching Level 4 Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH) for residential development in 2010, and further to this, that attainment of Level 5 and Level 6 in accordance with Government policy.

Given the area's rich natural surroundings, it is recognised that any development must seek to sensitively integrate with the physical environment and it is proposed that outside spaces will be managed in a way which promotes opportunities for nature conservation.

These, and other key issues, have been considered within the context of the Appraisal Framework, which sets out the key sustainability challenges and opportunities for the AAP and Masterplan. This is explored within *Section 6* of this Report.

2.3

THE AAP AND MASTERPLAN: CENTRAL OBJECTIVES

The draft AAP and Masterplan will consider the ways in which sustainability can be embedded within the regeneration of the Cinderford area.

The draft AAP aims to form part of the new Local Development Framework (LDF) for the FoD District Council. Once adopted, the AAP will be used to guide an outline planning application and then detailed planning applications for the Northern Quarter site. The draft AAP and Masterplan seeks:

- Integrate new development in with existing shops, services and transport infrastructure;
- Ensure that the social and cultural heritage of the FoD is maintained through development works by providing sources of information for the public in the form of a visitor centre, sign boards and cultural trails;
- Promote a range of uses that maximise the potential benefits and leisure opportunities of the surrounding FoD and ensure that all development is in keeping with the Forest; and
- Facilitate the delivery of homes in Cinderford to help the FoD meet housing targets set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy.

2.3.1 *Anticipated Key Outcomes of the Draft AAP and Masterplan*

The key outcomes from the draft AAP and Masterplan will be to make Cinderford:

- A model of sustainable development, standing out from other towns;
- An exciting place to work and do business;
- A desirable and affordable place to live
- An accessible place which is well connected; and
- A more active community with better facilities

2.3.2 *Proposed Options for the Development of the Draft AAP and Masterplan*

The Cinderford Business Plan Issues and Options Report was published in 2007 and details spatial options for the regeneration of Cinderford, with a specific focus on the Northern Quarter. The options were structured on the basis of four thematic scenarios which were summarised as follows:

- 1) A leisure and recreation led-development scenario;
- 2) A housing-led development scenario;
- 3) An employment and education-led development scenario; and
- 4) A mixed use scheme.

Chapter 7 of the Business Plan subsequently identified the preferred approach for the Northern Quarter and two alternative preferred option scenarios. These alternative scenarios took into consideration uncertainty surrounding the likely constraints posed by flood risk issues and uncertainty around the likely relocation of the college to Cinderford.

Development of Options for the Appraisal and Drafting of the AAP & Masterplan

In seeking to identify those options which would be taken forward for consideration in the drafting of the AAP & Masterplan, the Business Plan Preferred Option and key constraints were considered within the context of additional sources of information, namely:

- 1) The Baseline Report, which provided a detailed review of Business Plan options plus additional research including a detailed analysis of opportunities and constraints present on the site; and
- 2) Road transport options following a workshop with the Highways Agency.

Following this stage, three new Options were created, using the Preferred Option from the Business Plan as their premise. These Options detailed differing visions of what the mixed use development could comprise and took into account flood and wider constraints mapping. The Options are as follows:

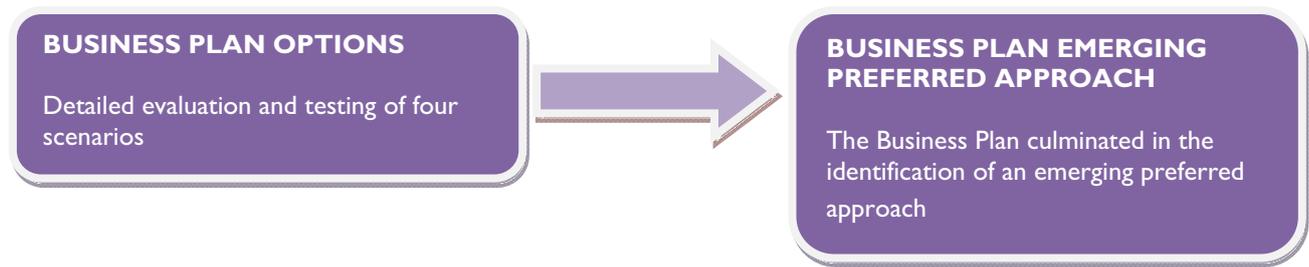
- **Option 1: New Civic Spine for Cinderford**

- **Option 2: Campus at the Centre for employment and housing**
- **Option 3: A distinctive local community**

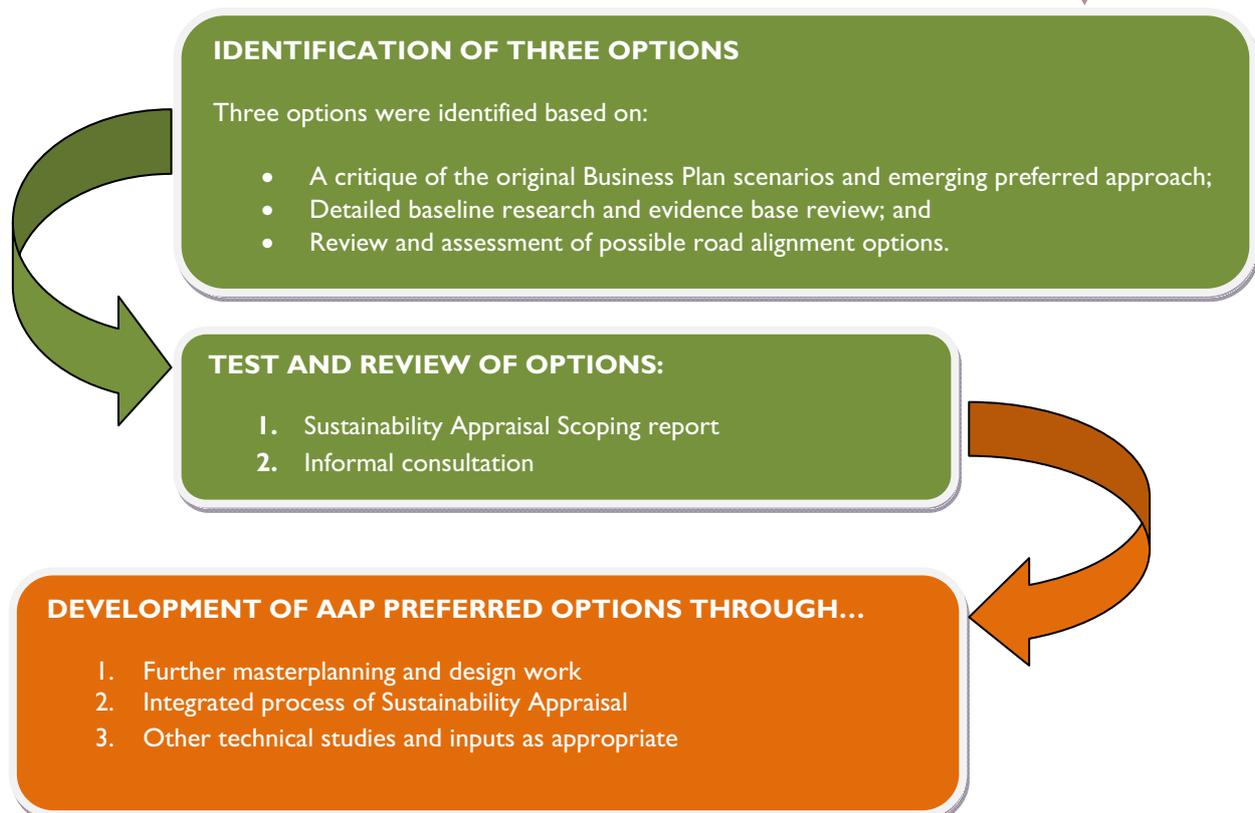
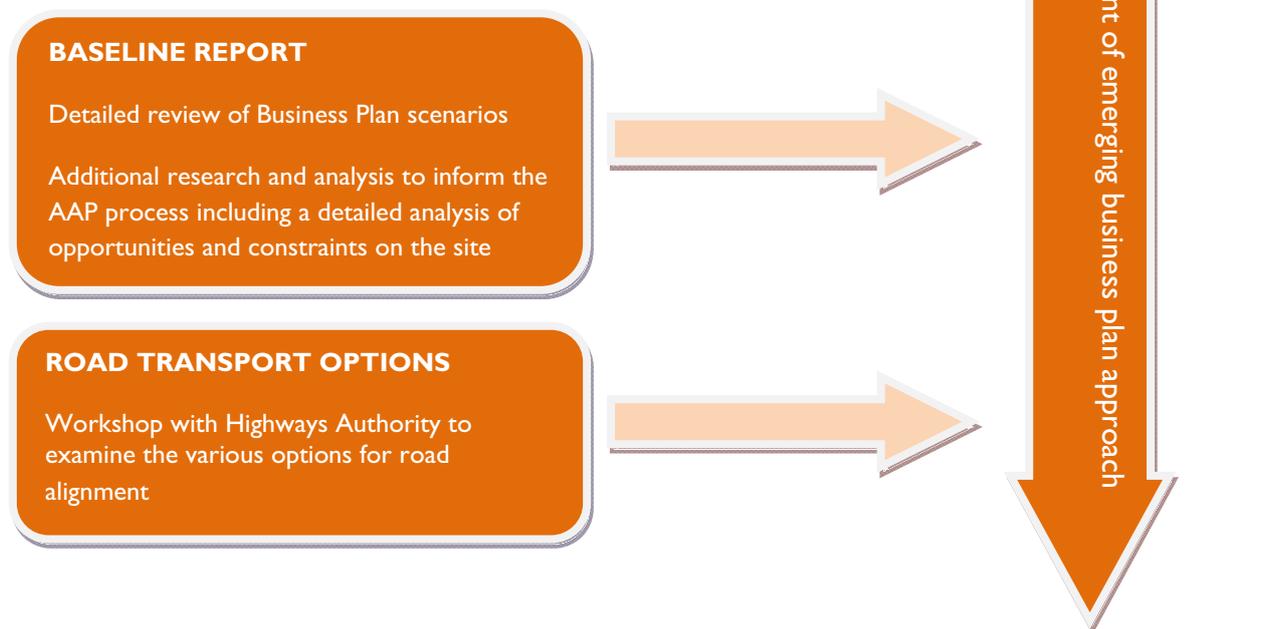
The three Options and their visualisation are subsequently presented in the following pages. There is also a figure detailing the Options process. These Options constitute the ‘options’ or ‘alternatives’ for assessment in the Appraisal and will be assessed against the detailed sustainability objectives listed in *Chapter 6*.

The Appraisal will assist in identifying and refining the Preferred Option for the AAP and Masterplan, this then being subject to public consultation. Contingent upon the assessment and consultation stages, the Preferred Option may comprise one of the aforementioned options or integrate aspects of the options to develop a new or alternative, Preferred Option. *Chapter 3* further details the process and approach of the Appraisal, and the role which this assumes in informing the development of the AAP and Masterplan.

BUSINESS PLAN



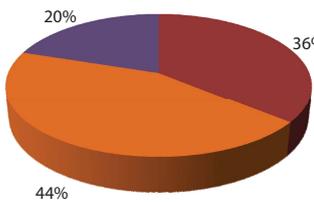
AREA ACTION PLAN



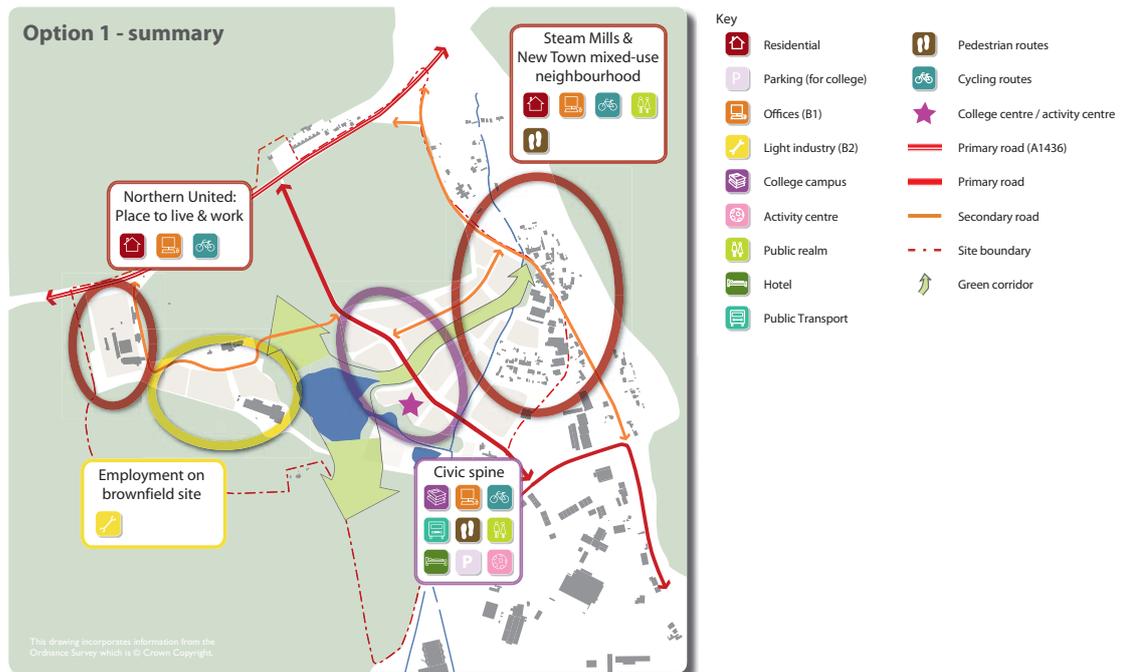
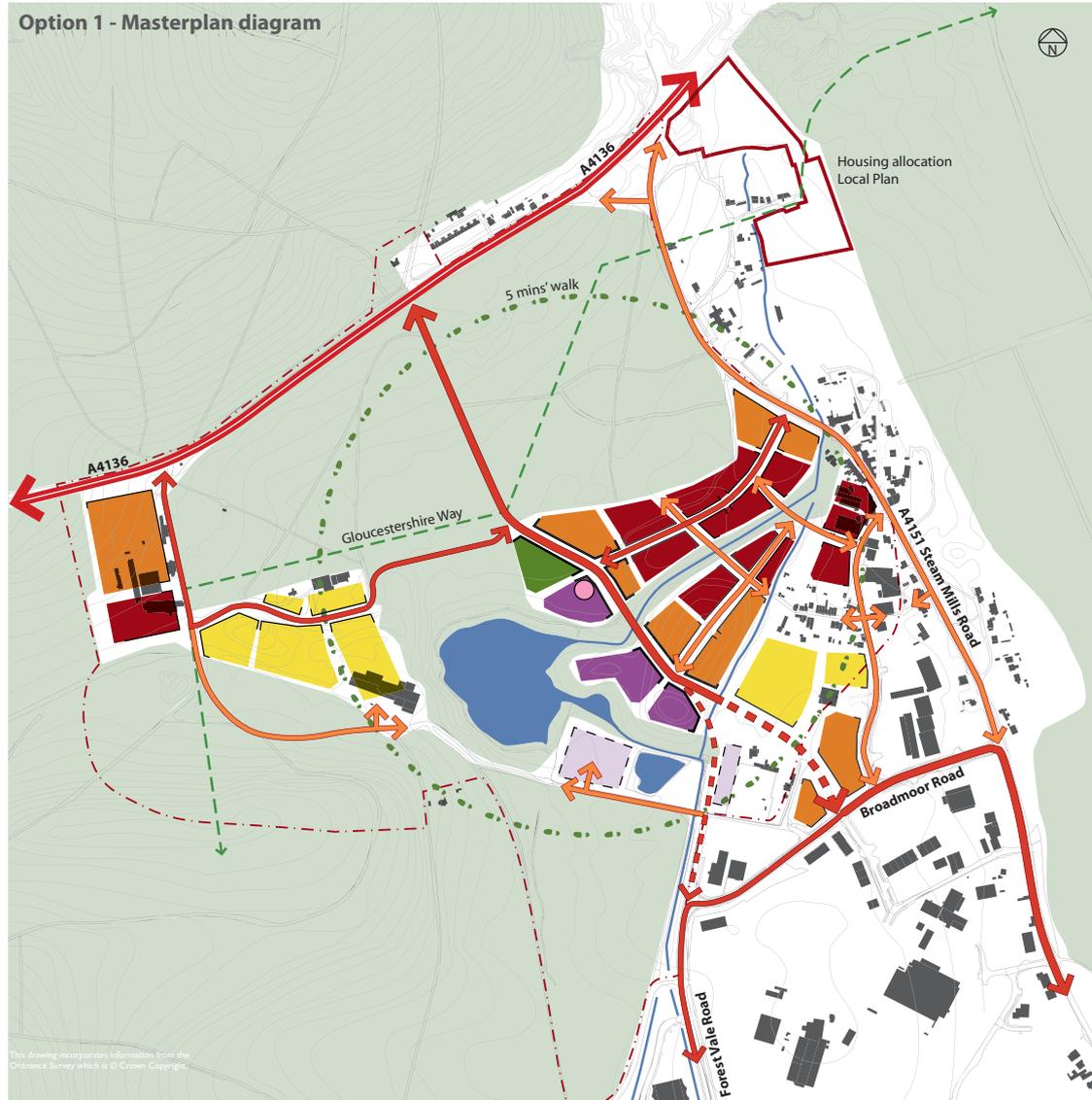
Summary

1. New civic spine to Cinderford with the college / activity centre, hotel and offices located on a new road connecting to Cinderford Town Centre.
2. College / activity centre set close to the lake and related to landscape. The college will have an open campus character with green spaces and water bodies between the buildings, offering spectacular views.
3. Hotel located at the northern gateway to Cinderford.
4. Steam Mills and New Town revitalised with new business spaces and housing connecting through to new civic spine.
5. The Northern United site will provide opportunities for high quality business space.
6. Option 1 assumes the following mix of uses:

- 36% residential (approximately 130 dwellings);
- 44% employment; and
- 20% college / amenities.



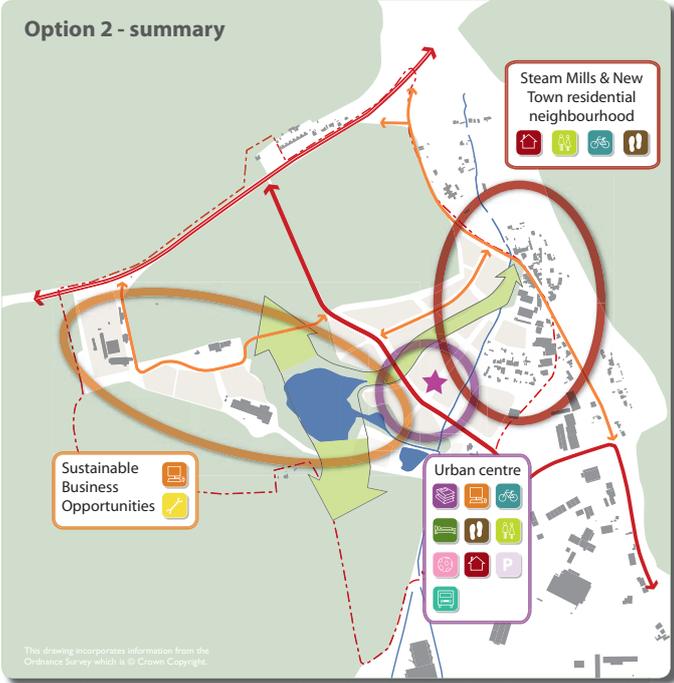
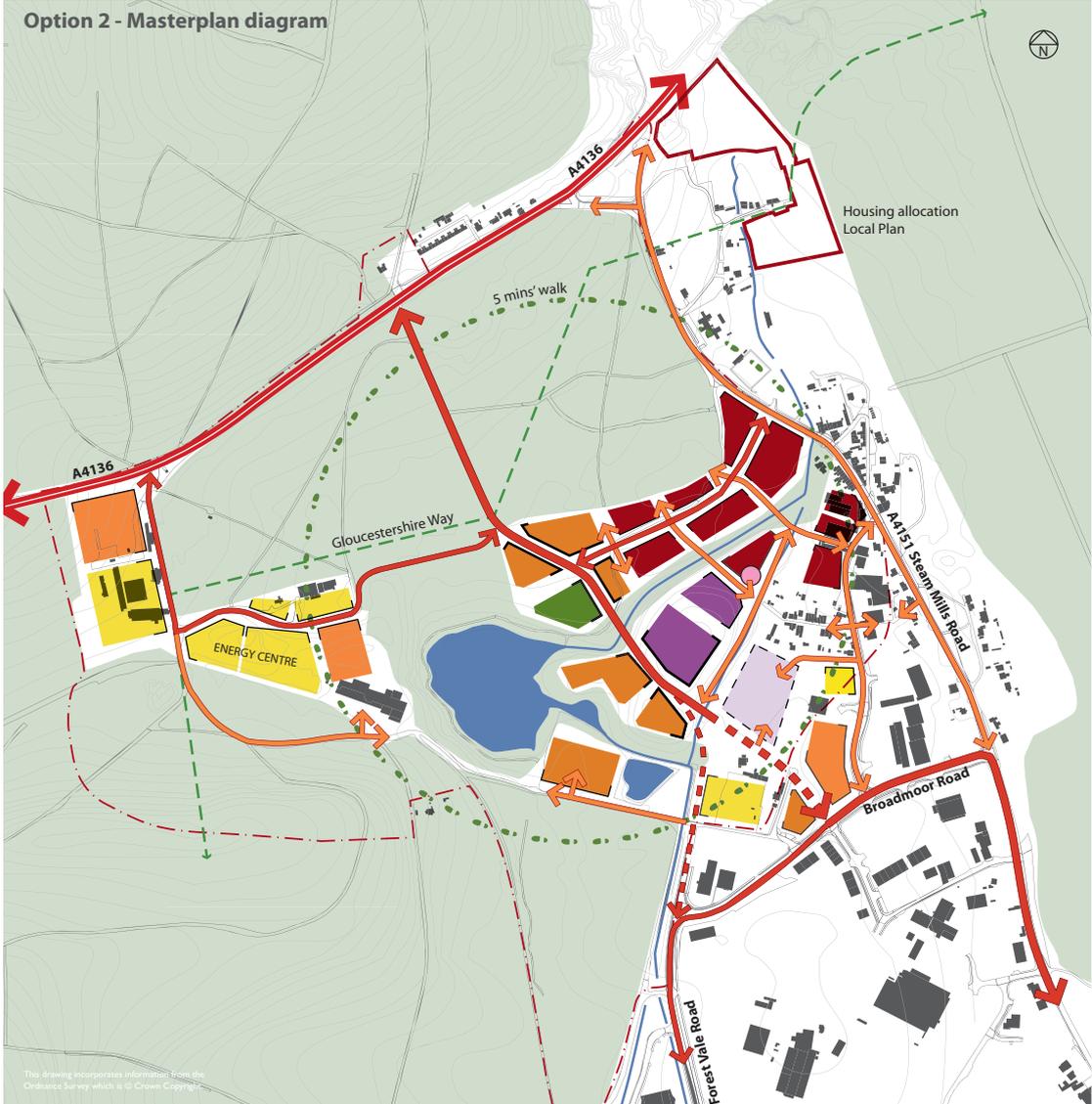
■ Residential ■ Employment ■ College / amenities



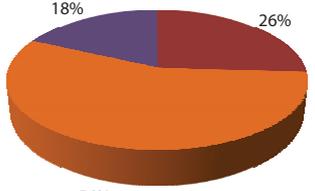
Summary

1. College / activity centre creates a central landmark for a place to live and work set in natural landscape.
2. New employment uses will be located along the spine road.
3. High quality green business uses in lake and landscape setting.
4. Steam Mills and New Town consolidated with sustainable housing, closely linked to the forest, lake, college / activity centre and business uses.
5. Hotel located by the lake.
6. Character of the Northern United site retained and regenerated through sympathetic employment uses.
7. Option 2 assumes the following mix of uses:

- 26% residential (approximately 100 dwellings);
- 56% employment; and
- 18% college / amenities.



Key	
	Residential
	Parking (for college)
	Offices (B1)
	Light industry (B2)
	College campus
	Activity centre
	Public realm
	Hotel
	Public Transport
	Pedestrian routes
	Cycling routes
	College centre / activity centre
	Primary road (A1436)
	Primary road
	Secondary road
	Site boundary
	Green corridor

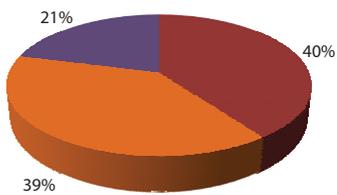


■ Residential ■ Employment ■ College / amenities

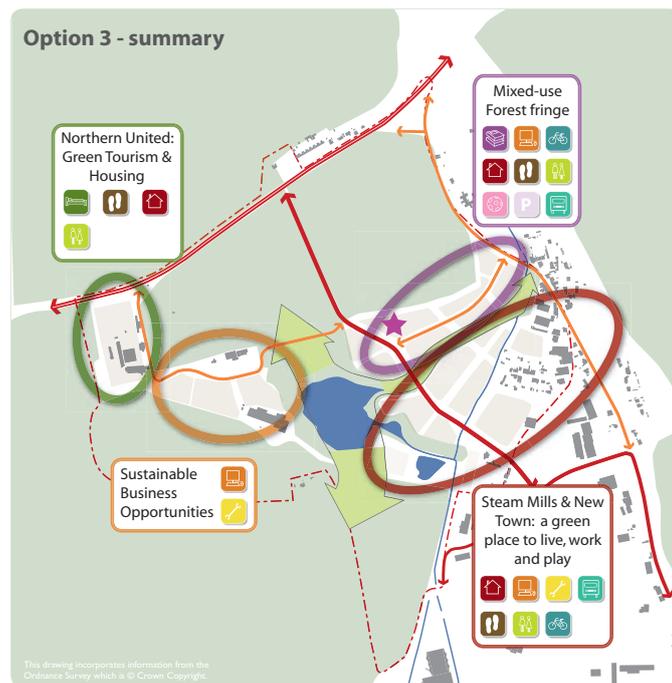
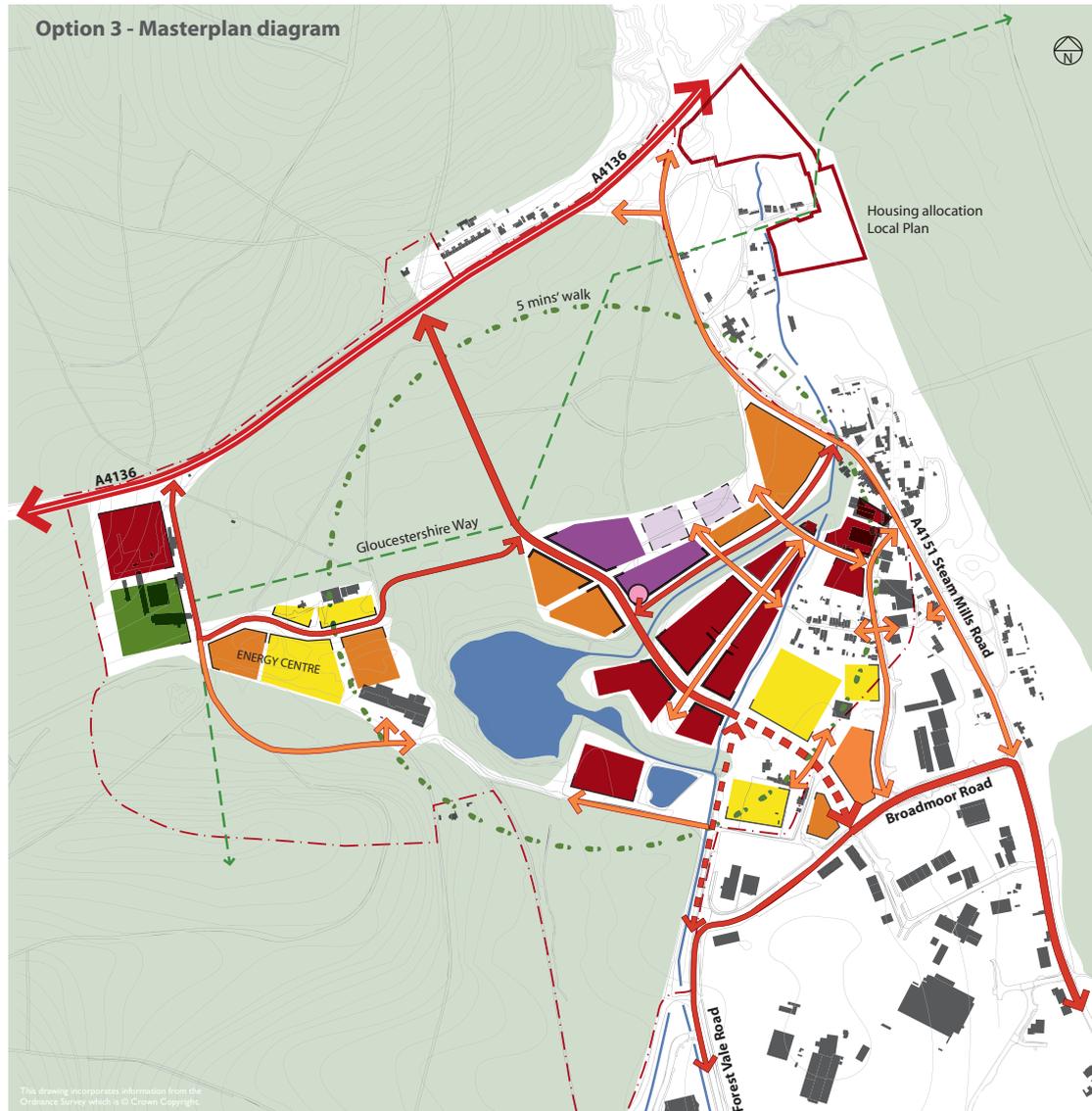
Summary

1. College / activity centre forms a new northern gateway to Cinderford, drawing from the forest as a key asset and connecting to Steam Mills.
2. East-west link connects the Northern United site to Steam Mills and New Town via new business space, the college and housing.
3. Higher proportion of housing creates a self contained community connecting lake with Steam Mills.
4. Northern United site becomes a destination for green hotel/ tourism and exemplar sustainable housing.
5. Business space provided on selected brown field sites throughout the development.
6. Option 3 assumes the following mix of uses:

- 40% residential (approximately 150 dwellings);
- 39% employment; and
- 21% college / amenities.



■ Residential ■ Employment ■ College / amenities



Key	
	Residential
	Parking (for college)
	Offices (B1)
	Light industry (B2)
	College campus
	Activity centre
	Public realm
	Hotel
	Public Transport
	Pedestrian routes
	Cycling routes
	College centre / activity centre
	Primary road (A1436)
	Primary road
	Secondary road
	Site boundary
	Green corridor

The purpose of this chapter is to provide the reader with an understanding of what a Sustainability Appraisal is, the key stages within this and the role of the Scoping Report within this.

3.1 WHAT IS A SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL?

A Sustainability Appraisal is an assessment process which seeks to **predict and assess the economic, social and environmental effects which are likely to arise from the draft AAP and Masterplan. The Appraisal** integrates a statutory assessment process called Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and incorporates this within a broader context of sustainability focused objectives and assessment, as opposed to the primarily 'environmental' focus of the SEA assessment.

SEA is a process inscribed in European law by Directive 2001/42/EC: 'On the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment'. The objective of the SEA Directive is to:

'provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes, with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment'.

This integrated assessment methodology has been called 'SEA/SA' to indicate that:

- the assessment follows and is fully compliant with the requirements of the SEA Directive; and
- it goes beyond the scope of SEA to include social, health, cultural, heritage and economic issues in a similar way; this being compliant with current UK Guidance.

3.2 THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

The Sustainability Appraisal is guided by a set of sustainability objectives which establish the criteria for assessment of the draft AAP and Masterplan. These objectives address all key aspects of sustainability, ensuring that the assessment considers the range of potential effects of the draft AAP and Masterplan. The objectives are set out the Sustainability Appraisal Framework, detailed in *Chapter 5*.

UK Guidance summarises that a Sustainability Appraisal comprises the following key tasks:

- Preparation of an SEA/SA Scoping Report (this Report);
- Developing an SA Framework (incorporated within this Scoping Report);
- Consultation with the Statutory Environmental Bodies (Consultation bodies);
- Assessment of Appraisal Options; and
- Preparation of an SA Report (incorporating an SEA Environmental Report).

To achieve this, the key stages involved in the SA/SEA process (as per Guidance and the SEA Directive) are as follows:

- **Stage A:** Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope;
- **Stage B:** Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects;
- **Stage C:** Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal/Environmental Report;
- **Stage D:** Consulting on the draft plan or programme and the Sustainability Appraisal/Environmental Report; and
- **Stage E:** Monitoring implementation of the plan or programme

These stages are intended to chronologically flow but it is important to note that during the course of the Sustainability Appraisal, a review of previous stages is undertaken as appropriate, for example, where new plans, policies or programmes emerge, these are fed into the review of such documentation conducted as part of the Scoping Stage.

The following provides further details on the respective stages:

Stage A

As outlined above, Stage A of the Sustainability Appraisal process focuses on the scoping of baseline conditions within the impacted area, namely Cinderford and the wider Forest of Dean area, the review of relevant plans and programmes and the identification of key sustainability issues and opportunities which arise from the draft AAP and Masterplan, and its future application.

To produce this *Scoping Report* the following tasks have been carried out:

- Reviewing national, regional and local policies, plans and programmes as they relate to sustainable development, giving specific regard to policies and targets or objectives affecting or relating to Cinderford and the proposed AAP and Masterplan: **Chapter 4.**

- Establishing the baseline sustainability conditions in the Cinderford area. This is based on a desktop review of available information, in particular, the baseline study conducted already, though this is supplemented by additional required data, as and where appropriate: *Chapter 5*.
- Through the policy and baseline reviews, identification of the key sustainability issues and priorities that the AAP should be seeking to address. This draws upon, and is consistent with, the Baseline Report drafted: *Chapter 6*.
- The Sustainability Appraisal Framework will be drafted, linking the key objectives identified with tangible goals which the AAP and AAP and Masterplan should seek to meet. As noted previously, we would anticipate that the SDF will form the substantive basis for the Appraisal Framework – subject to refinement - unless otherwise discussed: *Chapter 7*.
- Selected stakeholder engagement will be undertaken with, as minimum, statutory consultees, to ensure there is buy-in from relevant parties on the scope and progression of the Appraisal. All comments received will be considered and responses provided.

Stage B

- ERM will review the draft AAP options and Masterplan against the SA framework and assess how far the draft plans go towards achieving the objectives set. This will involve predicting and evaluating different outcomes of the plan, alone and in-combination, and considering how it performs against alternative feasible options.
- Summary recommendations will be made as to how changes could be made to mitigate against adverse effects and maximise benefits. These recommendations will be informed by, and specifically incorporate, the recommendations identified in concurrent assessments.
- Suggestions will be made as to how the success of the preferred option could be most usefully monitored, and identify the key performance indicators for these plans.

Stage C

- ERM will document the assessment process and findings in an SA Report which will be provided initially in draft form for internal consultation but then finalised, post incorporation of project team comments. The SA Report will explicitly address the role of the SA concurrent to, but also overarching in its scope, with wider assessments.

Stage D

- The SA Report will be issued for public consultation for a period of 12 weeks. Within this period, engagement with statutory consultees will be undertaken to ensure their key issues are fully and effectively addressed.

- Consultation with wider stakeholders will also be undertaken to ensure that they have been provided with adequate opportunity engage with, input to, and feel ownership of, the AAP and Masterplan.

Stage E

- Following the consultation process, the comments/issues raised by consultees will be taken into account in finalising the AAP and Masterplan and the Appraisal itself.
- The final Sustainability Appraisal Report will be issued, detailing all final mitigation and monitoring proposals.

3.5

INTEGRATED APPROACH

Integral to ensuring that the SA achieves its primary objective of delivering a catered, value-adding, analysis of where and how the AAP and Masterplan can maximise sustainability, are the following:

- Ongoing close collaboration between all strands of the project team;
- Ensuring the set of sustainability objectives established within the SA Framework, are thoroughly 'owned' by the project team and wider stakeholders, ensuring alignment and effective delivery throughout all deliverables. This is important not only for the development and drafting stages but also implementation, where wider stakeholder buy-in is particularly important in ensuring successful delivery; and
- Ensuring a clear 'line of sight' between and across assessments, AAP and Masterplan development. More broadly, ensuring clear and consistent alignment between the AAP and Masterplan's aspirations and those of wider sustainability strategising at local, regional and national level.

3.6

CONCURRENT ASSESSMENTS

The following assessments are being carried out concurrently with this scoping report:

- An Appraisal of Flood risk
- Ecological appraisal;
- Minerals & mining legacy;
- Contaminated land;
- Cultural heritage; and
- Visual impact assessment.

These will all be taken into consideration as part of the assessment.

The purpose of this Chapter is to identify and summarise other relevant plans, policies and programmes, and their respective sustainability objectives, so that this can usefully inform the Appraisal of the Review and draft AAP and Masterplan.

4.1

INTRODUCTION

In establishing relevant Sustainability Objectives for the Appraisal, it is important to demonstrate an understanding of the wider strategic sustainability context, aspirations and established policy to which the development will contribute. The relevant sustainable development planning policy context for the development of the Northern Quarter landholdings at Cinderford comprises international, national, regional, county, borough and ward level policy.

This chapter addresses the strategic context within which the Appraisal is being undertaken, addressing key policies, plans and programmes that will inform the undertaking of the Appraisal. There are two key components to this chapter:

- 1) The overarching sustainability context; and
- 2) Specific policies, plans and programmes addressing key aspects of sustainability. Further detail of these policies is provided in *Annex A*.

4.2

UK STRATEGIC CONTEXT FOR SUSTAINABILITY

4.2.1

Plans considered

- UK Government's Sustainable Development (SD) Strategy 'Securing the Future'
- 'One future - Different Paths - The UK's Shared Framework for Sustainable Development'
- 'Sustainable Development Framework indicators'
- Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1)
- South West Sustainable Development Framework
- The South West Plan
- The Regional Economic Strategy
- Gloucestershire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-17
- Sustainable Community Plan for the Forest of Dean 2008-2020
- Forest of Dean Sustainability Appraisal
- Cinderford Business Plan

4.2.2

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The planned regeneration of Cinderford interacts with all of the overarching sustainability objectives promoted and progressed by the strategies, frameworks, statements and plans outlined in this section. It will be important that the resource, environmental and social effects of the draft AAP and Masterplan options are assessed in an integrated manner.

The draft AAP and Masterplan will play a key role in firstly determining how the industrial legacy of Cinderford is regenerated and secondly in the future opportunities available for residents of Cinderford. Regeneration in Cinderford will also have a significant impact on the Forest of Dean and larger South West region.

Securing value for money should be integral – with ‘value’ taken in its wider sense to include the environmental and social value of decisions. Thus, funding streams and procurement for the regeneration works should be focused to encourage practice with positive environmental, social and economic effects (such as new employment opportunities in growth sectors).

Regional and local strategies for the area aim at reducing the ecological footprint of the areas, in particular focusing on the need to address climate change at the local level and operate low carbon economies. The draft AAP & Masterplan needs to ensure that these objectives are met through a wide variety of means (e.g. buildings, infrastructure and public transport).

4.3

SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY

4.3.1

Economic Sustainability: Plans considered

- EU European Employment Strategy – EES (2005)
- A Government Action Plan for Small Business
- South West Regional Economic Strategy 2006:2015

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The direct financial cost of implementing the draft AAP and Masterplan will be an important consideration in selecting the preferred approaches to regeneration. Drivers and incentives exist in a number of areas to reduce costs or promote alternative options. However, the effects of decisions made regarding implementation of the draft AAP and Masterplan are much broader than simply the direct financial costs (to the public and private sector) of regeneration works. Indirect impacts upon the wider economy (e.g. job creation) will be an integral element of the assessment of the ‘cost’ of the draft AAP and Masterplan options.

The draft AAP and Masterplan provides economic opportunities for Cinderford, the Forest of Dean and the wider South West region. The South

West Regional Economic Strategy seeks to promote successful and competitive businesses and an effective and confident region. The draft AAP and Masterplan will have a role in progressing these objectives through the appropriate targeting of infrastructure and development.

4.3.2 *Population, health and well-being: Plans considered*

- EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - The Environmental Noise Directive (EU, 2002)
- Forest of Dean District Council Disability Equality Scheme 2006:2009

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

Regeneration of Cinderford will have impacts upon the well being of the population, through the direct effects of improved services, facilities, infrastructure and transport. There will also be opportunities for education and career opportunities and development once implementation has occurred. It is important that disabled people are equally catered for in the regeneration works. In line with the EU Directive, it will be important to monitor noise levels during the regeneration works to prevent adverse impact on well-being. Increased service levels are likely to result in a larger population for the area

4.3.3 *Climatic factors: Plans considered*

- Stern Review on the economics of climate change (2006)
- Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change (UN, 1997)
- EU Directive to promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EEC)
- EU Emissions Trading scheme (2005)
- Climate Change: The UK Programme (2001)
- Our Energy Future - 'Creating a Low Carbon Economy' - UK white paper on energy (2003)
- Climate Change - The UK Programme: Tomorrow's Climate Today Challenge (DEFRA 2006)

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The process of regeneration interacts with climate change in multiple ways. Firstly, through the redevelopment process itself which involves operation of machinery, building materials and their transport and secondly in terms of the site layout and transport provision for the completed scheme. Throughout the implementation of the draft AAP and Masterplan, efforts must be made to ensure that the regeneration process results in minimum CO₂ emissions and that the completed development allows for the operation of a low carbon economy, through following the *Code for Sustainable Homes* and *BREEAM* requirements in building and in the provision of an adequate public transport network. Opportunities for the use and creation of renewable energy should also be sought throughout the project timeframe.

The draft AAP and Masterplan will have a key role in reducing emissions which contribute to climate change associated with the regeneration works and then operation of Cinderford in the South West region.

4.3.4

Material assets: Plans considered

- Plans considered
- Waste Framework Directive 2006/12/EC (as amended by Directive 2008/98/EC)
- EU Waste to Landfill Directive (99/31/EC)
- EU Directive on the Incineration of Waste (2000/76/EC)
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive 2006
- End of Life Vehicles Directive (2000/53/EC)
- Taking sustainable use of resources forward: A Thematic Strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste (COM(2005) 666)
- DEFRA Waste Strategy for England 2007
- Waste Management (England and Wales) Regulations 2006
- The Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002
- Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
- European Commission White Paper on the European Transport Policy (EC, 2001)
- Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition – JREC (2002)
- UK Fuel Poverty Strategy (2001)
- Forest of Dean District Council Procurement Strategy 2009:2012
- Forest of Dean District Council Anti-Poverty Strategy 1995

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan has several interactions with the legislation and strategies outlined in the table above. Inevitably waste will be produced both during regeneration works and also once works are completed. In accordance with the plans above, waste produced should firstly be minimised and then should be managed in as sustainable way as possible, aiming to reduce the volume disposed of at landfill. Post-regeneration, opportunities for residents and businesses to manage the waste they produce in a sustainable way must be provided and integrated into the plan.

The draft AAP and Masterplan will need to consider the implications of the various options for the delivery of renewable energy. It will also need to interact with transport policy as the different options will affect the transportation requirements for the site. The draft AAP and Masterplan needs to consider the need to reduce unnecessary transport mileage (by reducing road construction/total road length) in order both to reduce emissions and also to reduce the negative impacts on the environment.

4.3.5

Air Quality: Plans considered

- Clean Air for Europe (CAFE) (2001)
- Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution (1979)
- The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (DEFRA 2007)

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan should aim to incorporate practicable measures to reduce pollution to air resulting from the regeneration works and future use of the site. Although it will not be possible to make quantitative predictions regarding changes in Air Quality in Cinderford or the Forest of Dean region resulting from the implementation of different options, the implications for air quality of the various options (such as the extent and timescale of emissions resulting from different options) will be considered as part of the SA. This should include consideration not just of the direct air emissions resulting from industrial activity in the regenerated Cinderford area but also the emissions likely to result from areas such as associated transportation.

4.3.6

Biodiversity and Geodiversity: Plans considered

- Ramsar Convention on wetlands of international importance especially as waterfowl habitat (1971)
- Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979)
- Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)
- The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro (1992)
- EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC)
- EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)
- EU Biodiversity Strategy (EU, 1998)
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (UK) (2006)
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (UK)
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan (Defra, 1994)
- Conservation (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1994
- Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) (Amendment) Regulations 2007

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan will contain a detailed study into the impacts of regeneration works on biodiversity in the area. It is anticipated that the impacts will vary largely with the option.

Redevelopment of land interacts with biodiversity in a number of ways, for example:

- Land take and land use for new buildings and developments, with resulting impacts on habitats and species;
- The impact of emissions (to air, land or water) from redevelopment works and industrial/manufacturing activities on habitats and species; and
- Indirect impacts on biodiversity resulting from changes in demand for raw materials during redevelopment and also during use of the site.

4.3.7

Water and Flood Risk: Plans considered

- Directive on the assessment and management of flood risks (2007/60/EC)
- EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)
- EU Directive Establishing a Framework for the Community Action in the Field of Water Policy (2000/60/EC) – The Water Framework Directive
- EU Freshwater Directive 78/659/EEC
- Water resources for the future: a water resources strategy for England and Wales (2001)
- Water for People and the Environment – developing a water resources strategy for England and Wales (2007)
- A Better Environment, Healthier Fisheries: Better Fisheries for our nations 2006-2011 (EA, 2006)
- Severn River Basin District Significant Water Management Issues (Environment Agency, 2007)

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan will contain a detailed study into the flood risks associated with different options and need to mitigate against potential flood risks. Therefore flood risk assessment is being carried out concurrently and will be used to inform assessment of the various options.

Any redevelopment work interacts with water quality, water resources and flood risk, primarily through land take and land use for new development and the nature of emissions to water resulting from redevelopment activities and new industrial activities.

4.3.8

Cultural heritage: Plans considered

- UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)
- The Charter for the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (1987)
- Charter for the Protection of and Management of Archaeological Heritage (1990)
- The Florence Charter (1981)
- Traffic Management in Historic Areas (Cadw, 2003)

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan will need to consider the potential impacts on sites of specific cultural heritage or archaeological significance. Impacts will be site specific and will therefore vary with options. Regeneration interacts with cultural heritage, primarily through land take and land use for building works and the potential impact on visual amenity.

4.3.9 *Landscape: Plans considered*

- World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972)
- European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, 2000)
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) (ODPM, 2000)
- National Park Management Plans Guidance (CCW, 2007)

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan will need to consider the potential impacts of development on the landscape of both Cinderford and the wider Forest of Dean area. Regeneration interacts with landscape, primarily through land take and land use for buildings and so will vary with the options. Obviously the nature of the buildings will impact upon the landscape impact.

4.3.10 *Soil: Plans considered*

- EU Thematic Strategy on Soil Protection 2006
- Soil 'A Precious Resource' (Environment Agency 2007)

Implications for the draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan will need to consider the potential impacts of development on the soil in both Cinderford and the wider Forest of Dean area. However, the management of waste interacts with soils, primarily through land take and land use for buildings and roads.

4.4 *IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DRAFT AAP AND MASTERPLAN*

The AAP and Masterplan sets out to deliver many of the sustainability objectives laid out above; addressing the overarching aims of the UK in a way which responds to the regional priorities and local needs. This policy review identifies the needs and sustainability objectives pertaining to the Cinderford area, and as such, informs the sustainability framework set out in *Chapter 5*.

This Chapter highlights key baseline conditions and identifies key sustainability issues and opportunities for the draft AAP and Masterplan to address in relation to these baseline conditions.

5.1

INTRODUCTION

A key component of the Scoping Report is the provision of baseline data on the social, economic and environmental conditions of relevance to the draft AAP/Masterplan being assessed. The purpose of this baseline is to highlight what the key issues for the area are in the context of the draft AAP and Masterplan and, therefore, to identify the key sustainable development issues relating to the draft AAP and Masterplan.

The Scoping Report draws upon data available from a wide range of sources, these include data collected and analysed by agencies shown in **Box 5.1**

Box 5.1 Sources of Baseline Data

- British Geological Survey
- Census 2001
- Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report
- DEFRA
- English Heritage
- Entec Ecological Appraisal Report
- Forest of Dean District Council
- Forestry Commission
- Gloucestershire County Council
- Health & Safety Executive
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee
- Natural England
- Office of National Statistics
- Ordnance Survey
- The Coal Authority
- The Countryside Agency
- The Environment Agency
- South West of England Regional Development Agency
- South West Observatory
- Stockholm Environment Institute
- UK Government

The data seeks to represent available, up to date, information which provides an accurate snapshot of the current status of key sustainable development issues within the region. It also allows a view to be formed on how the baseline may develop in the future, in the absence of the draft AAP and Masterplan. The data will continue to be updated, where appropriate and reported in the SA report.

It is important to note that the baseline data presented within this Report will be refined and supplemented throughout the course of the Sustainability Appraisal. The data presented within this Report is intended to provide the reader with a brief summary of key headline issues and is not intended to be all-encompassing with respect to the detail it has included.

An overview of the key baseline issues is shown in *Table 5.2*.

Table 5.2 *Overview of Baseline Conditions*

Issue	Commentary
Environment	
Air Quality	Whilst there is one entry on the Pollution Hazard Inventory to the south of the site for air pollution, air quality within the area is generally good and it is important that the AAP/Masterplan does not negatively impact upon this; and where possible, promotes opportunities for enhancement.
Biodiversity and Geodiversity	The Forest of Dean is considered as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty comprising a mixture of habitats, in particular extensive areas of coniferous plantations and deciduous woodlands. Parts of the Forest have an industrial legacy. Multiple nature conservation designations are present within 10 km of the site and, within these; a number of protected species are present.
Birds	Schedule 1, Annex I, Red List and uncommon breeding bird species have been identified using the site. It is important the AAP/Masterplan provides adequate protection, and where possible, enhancement of such sites.
Climatic Factors	CO ₂ emissions estimates have been calculated for the South West region, totalling 42,360 kt CO ₂ , which results in emissions per capita of 8.27t capita (South West Observatory, Environmental data, CO ₂ 2005 & 2006 data - www.swenvo.org.uk). The promotion of public transport and more sustainable forms of transport patterns, energy efficiency, renewable energy use, amongst other measures, provide opportunities to reduce emissions within the area.
Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment	The Forest of Dean has an industrial legacy including coal mining and railways. Cinderford town developed rapidly at this time. Whilst, Cinderford does not contain any conservation areas, there are some listed buildings and archaeological sites. It is important the AAP/Masterplan seeks to sensitively integrate such assets within the proposed development.
Ecological Footprint	An ecological footprint has been estimated for the

Issue	Commentary
Landscape	<p>South West region for 2004. This is 5.42 global hectares (gha) per capita. This compares to the UK average for 2004, which is 5.30gha/capita (South West Observatory, Environmental data, Ecological Footprint data - www.swenvo.org.uk). By promoting sustainable development, the AAP/Masterplan can facilitate a reduction in the area's Ecological Footprint.</p> <p>The Forest of Dean was once heavily forested and then gradually the forest turned into agriculture. The site is located on the northern edge of Cinderford. Previously, Cinderford and the surrounding areas supported several large collieries. There are also clay extraction pits associated with brickworks. The area's cultural heritage and landscape is an active feature for consideration in developing the AAP/Masterplan, providing integration between current and envisaged development.</p>
River Quality	<p>The most recent river quality data is available from 2007 at Bilson Green to the south of the site, where a 'B' classification (good) was awarded. It is important the AAP/Masterplan does not negatively impact upon river quality and where possible, seeks to enhance this.</p>
Waste	<p>Cinderford is located within a two tier authority area. The Forest of Dean District Council (FoDDC) acts as the waste collection authority while Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) acts as the waste disposal authority. The FoDDC will be responsible for the municipal waste collection arrangements for the Northern Quarter Masterplan Area while GCC will be responsible for treating and disposing of the waste. For the South-West region in 2007/08, 59% was sent to landfill, 41% was recycled or composted and 0.1% was incinerated with Energy from Waste (EfW) and 0.1% was incinerated without EfW. More sustainable forms of waste management are an important consideration in terms of both infrastructural provision and in encouraging behavioural change amongst the businesses and the public. This will be an important consideration for the AAP/Masterplan going forward.</p>
Water and Flood Risk	<p>The Cinderford Brook is the primary watercourse in the vicinity of the Cinderford Regeneration site, being classed as a 'main river' south of Cinderford, where it flows 12 km south east to its confluence with the River Severn. The River Severn floodplain does not influence the site or its immediate surrounds directly. The two Local Plan housing sites, Cinderford 9 and 5 are within the 1:100 year floodplain. A stage 2 flood risk assessment is currently being undertaken and will be used to inform the development of the</p>

Issue	Commentary
	AAP/Masterplan and this assessment.
Economic	
Employment	The economic activity rate for the Forest of Dean is 80.2% (2006-2007) and the employment rate for the Forest of Dean is 75.0% (2006-2007). Unemployment is above national/ county averages with a rate of 4.4% for the Forest of Dean (2006-2007). Promoting and facilitating economic development is a clear priority for the AAP/Masterplan.
Benefit dependency & Workless Households	Statistics for the Forest of Dean for all people of working age claiming a key benefit is 12% and 6% of the Forest of Dean population are receiving incapacity benefit. As with above, it is a clear priority in stimulating regeneration, that employment is maintained and generated, thereby reducing worklessness and some elements of benefit dependency. Wider improvements in terms of access to health, leisure and sporting facilities/opportunities, should also be beneficial in this respect.
Social	
Accessibility	Cinderford is the only town within the boundary of the Forest of Dean. Closure of the railways has resulted in increased dependency on cars and access to the M5 is also poor. The nearest train stations are at Lydney (10 miles) and Gloucester (15 miles). It is important that the AAP/Masterplan seeks to promote accessibility within and beyond the area, with respect to physical, social and economic connectivity.
Active Community Participation	There are a number of communities within and beyond the Northern Quarter; the opportunity existing for greater engagement between such communities and across the area as a whole. The AAP/Masterplan provides an opportunity to enhance cohesion and active participation as a whole.
Crime	Forest of Dean statistics for crime detail that the two crimes with the highest offence rates are 'violence against the person' (920 offences) and 'criminal damage including arson' (1009 offences) for the 2007-2008. Designing out crime and enhancing general safety and wellbeing will be considered through the development of the AAP and Masterplan.
Education	The 2001 census found that less than 10% of Cinderford ward's population held a degree or higher qualification and over 60% had no qualifications or only Level 1 qualifications (GCSE, NVQ etc). No post-16 education is available in Cinderford. Educational provision is obviously a key determinant in enhancing skills and opportunities for residents. Enhancing access to such provision will facilitate a more skilled future workforce and provide for enhanced future quality of life more broadly.

Issue	Commentary
Health	The number of people in the Forest of Dean classified to be of 'good health' was 54,358 (April 2001). Enhancing health and wellbeing more broadly, through both access to direct services and facilities, will provide for a better quality of life for residents, and this is an active consideration for the AAP/Masterplan.
Housing	The Cinderford ward has the lowest levels of owner-occupation in the district, below 36%. Household deprivation (up to 60%) is significantly higher than the county/national average (29/35%) (Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report). The AAP/Masterplan will actively address the need for affordable housing within the area, this providing the opportunity to increase owner-occupation and enhance quality of life for residents.
Population	The Forest of Dean has a population of around 80,000. Net population growth for the district between 1991-2006 was 7.8%, consistent with growth rates across the county/nationally (Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report). Retaining and sustainably increasing population in the area is a recognised need and once which regeneration can actively contribute to. The AAP/Masterplan provides, therefore, a tangible means of enhancing the image and attractiveness of the area, both for current and potential residents.

The baseline will be updated as and when is appropriate, throughout the duration of this Appraisal.

5.3 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

5.3.1 Introduction

The following is intended to provide a summary of the key sustainability issues and opportunities relevant to the draft AAP and Masterplan and its Sustainability Appraisal, as informed by the review of policies, plans and programmes and baseline data.

It has been presented in accordance with UK guidelines to address key topics, guided by the SEA Directive requirements but expanded upon in line with what we perceive to be key socio-economic, health and cultural issues to be considered.

The categorisation and key issues addressed within it are subsequently mirrored in the structure and content of the SA Framework objectives.

Broad Sustainability/Material Assets

Issues:

- How to ensure that the draft AAP/Masterplan is workable and will enable Cinderford and Gloucestershire County Council to meet sustainability, carbon and ecological footprint objectives;
- How to address the needs of Local Authorities in meeting challenging targets and how best to address disparate Local Authority geographical and socio-economic contexts; and
- How to engage with private, public and third sectors to maximise the benefits of the overall regeneration programme, assign clear responsibility and motivate engagement in this context from the public in particular, and generally enhance management in an integrated manner.

Collective Opportunities:

- The wider opportunity for Cinderford to be recognised as an emerging centre of excellence in sustainable development and be branded as such;
- To enhance the quality of life for current and future residents;
- To promote sustainable construction by using local materials in constructing new buildings. Cinderford has two brickworks, a large quarry and a number of companies using local timber from the Forest of Dean in their products. Linked to this, the potential to provide a showcase for using local products and therefore minimising transport costs;
- The potential to reduce the volume of waste created during redevelopment works and ensure that this waste is disposed of through means other than landfill, therefore reducing the dependence on this disposal option;
- To contribute towards enhanced accessibility of services and facilities particularly amongst those with reduced mobility and lack of car ownership.

Landscape, Biodiversity, Cultural Heritage & Historic Environment

Issues:

- How to protect and enhance the distinctive character, visual identity and industrial heritage of Cinderford and the Forest of Dean landscapes including ensuring forest designations are adhered to whilst regenerating the Northern Quarter of Cinderford;
- Ensuring designated landscapes and areas/biodiversity are adequately protected when considering the location of new facilities and services (including transportation of materials to and from locations);
- How to prioritise the use of brownfield sites for the siting of new facilities; and

Opportunities:

- To promote and contribute to national, regional and local targets with respect to brownfield land use and more sustainable use of land resources generally;
- To design new buildings that respect local styles and use local materials;
- To encourage commercial operations in line with this policy and ensure investment occurs in line with broader sustainability criteria generally, for example, advocacy of green procurement and supply chain management;
- To protect the integrity of designated and non-designated sites of ecological and biodiversity value. Planning conditions for the protection of newts are attached to the brick works clay extraction site and Gloucestershire County Council consent is required to extract or store clay at the brickworks site; and
- To protect and enhance landscapes of cultural and historic importance in line with local, regional and national policy and also enhance biodiversity, potentially developing a check list to ensure that biodiversity is protected;

Soil Resources

Issues & Opportunities:

- How to ensure that soil resources and vulnerable soils are adequately protected in the deployment of new facilities; and the refurbishment or redeployment of existing facilities; how to exploit the opportunities for soil resource protection which such technologies can bring;
- How to protect against the potential for emissions to soil arising from the development that will occur; and
- How to address particular sources of waste such as agricultural or construction waste and the potential for adverse emissions to soil.

Water & Flood Risk

Issues:

- How to protect areas prone to flood risk in the siting of new facilities including how to best use flood risk assessments, where appropriate, to inform the selection of sites for redevelopment as well as ensuring that existing flood risk sources and pathways do not pose an unacceptable threat to Cinderford residents;
- How to make sure that flood risk is not exacerbated elsewhere by the redevelopment ; and
- How to ensure that new buildings and facilities employ sustainable water consumption (e.g. SUDS) but also do not pose a threat to groundwater or surface water quality.

Collective Opportunities:

- To reduce runoff and potential flood risk through sustainable strategic planning and soil resource management;
- To enhance the quality of the water environment including wetland resources for wildlife;
- The potential to use water from the existing wet clay mining pits in the area for non-potable water uses; and
- Through promoting waste minimisation during the demolition and construction works, it may be possible to reduce the waste going to landfill, thereby reducing the potential leachate emissions to surface and groundwaters.

Climatic Factors & Air Quality

Issues:

- How to maximise the contribution which the regeneration of Cinderford can make to the South-West and UK's targets for GHG emission reduction;
- How to balance the immediate costs of investment in low carbon technologies and infrastructure in the short term against longer-term sustainability and climate change gains; and
- How to facilitate the level of engagement required in the absence of a full/adequate understanding and sometimes sceptic public over climatic change
- How to minimise impact to air arising from the increased need for transportation in and around Cinderford
- To reduce traffic build up on specific routes and localised impacts to air;
- How to mitigate against the need for access by private transport i.e. car and recognising the challenge posed for areas with low car ownership.
- How to ensure that emissions to air are monitored and mitigated against with respect to transportation of construction and waste materials during both development works and also once the regeneration is complete and new industries are operating in Cinderford.

Collective Opportunities:

- The opportunities for generation of renewable energy through micro-generation means such as PV, solar panels, geothermal and wind;
- The opportunities to integrate a district heat and power network from a centralised renewable source
- To ensure that new buildings constructed as part of the draft AAP/Masterplan achieve the energy efficiency standards outlined in the Code for Sustainable Homes.
- To enhance access to, and use of, public transport, walking and cycling and reduce reliance upon private transport use

Economy, Education & Skills

Issues:

- To address the need for training and/or up skilling amongst some sections of the community, in line with projected employment need and potential drivers for economic development;
- To address aspects of poor accessibility within and into Cinderford and the need for improvement to major transport routes; and
- The need to protect the interests of businesses currently operating in the area and enhance the attractiveness of the area to potential investors.

Collective Opportunities:

- To offer an attractive and secure environment in which to invest, thereby increasing investment in Cinderford;
- To increase infrastructure and services in line with business and wider need;
- To offer new sources of employment and training, of particular benefit to areas with high socio-economic deprivation;
- The opportunity to increase access to Cinderford by public transport in particular; and
- Can the draft AAP/Masterplan provide an impetus to the environmental technology sector and can R&D departments and stakeholders such as Universities be usefully engaged in this context?

Social Fabric: Public Participation

Issues:

- How to address aspects of social and physical severance within and across the area, including the lack of connectivity between some communities in the area;
- How to select the location and scale of housing, commercial and community facilities that are accessible to communities in terms of proximity;
- How to create buy-in and ownership of the development amongst communities;
- How to create a vision that aligns with the aspirations of communities and consistent with best practice sustainability.

Collective Opportunities:

- To enhance connectivity between communities;
- To engage communities and wider stakeholders in an inclusive, development process;

- To create greater understanding of the challenge of progressing sustainability and the role which communities can assume in this;
- To create behavioural change commensurate with more sustainable forms of consumption;
- To engender a sense of empowerment amongst members of the public in the collective response to progressing sustainability within and beyond Cinderford

Population, Health & Wellbeing

Issues:

- The need to retain and where possible, grow, the population within the local area; mitigating against outward migration and the detrimental impact this has on local communities;
- The need to maintain a good standard of living, access to services and opportunities and general quality of life for residents;
- The need to provide affordable housing;
- The need to address crime and fear of crime within the local area.

Collective Opportunities:

- To successfully join up the new development with Steam Mills and Newtown and make good use of existing facilities;
- To improve access to the Forest, providing opportunities for improved health and wellbeing;
- To maximise employment and access to services and facilities (amongst others) and the beneficial impact this has upon health and wellbeing; and
- Combating poverty and giving those on low incomes the opportunity to play a more active role in decisions that affect their lives.

5.4

REVIEW OF KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The summary of key issues and opportunities is provided as a first indication or preliminary review of the draft AAP and Masterplan and the issues which they have the opportunity to address and opportunities to exploit. This will be subject to ongoing review and refinement throughout the duration of the Appraisal.

Comments from consultees as to additional issues are welcomed and will be taken forward for consideration during the assessment stage of the Appraisal.

This Chapter establishes the set of sustainability objectives and criteria against which the draft AAP and Masterplan will be assessed. This is a key component of the Sustainability Appraisal and takes the form of a Sustainability Appraisal Framework.

6.1 INTRODUCTION

This section sets out the key sustainability objectives that will form the Sustainability Framework and be used as the basis for the assessment of the impacts of the draft AAP Masterplan, reflecting the sustainability priorities for the development to address. These key objectives emanate from the draft AAP and Masterplan and from the strategic framework and baseline review outlined in *Chapters 4* and *5*.

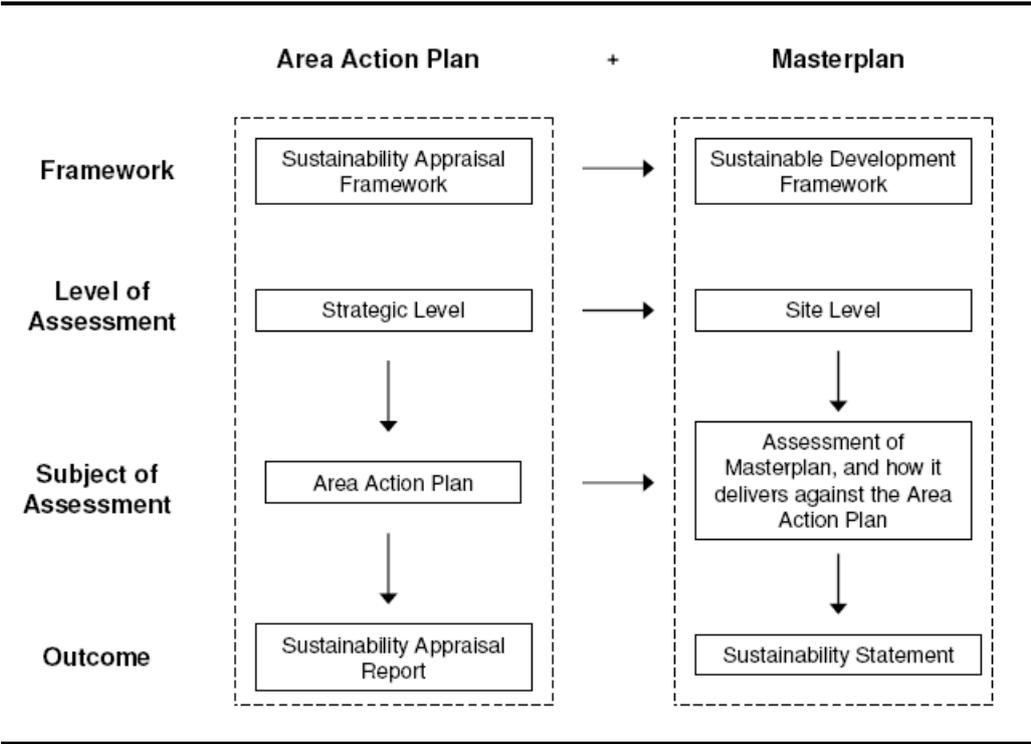
6.2 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR THE SITE AS A WHOLE AND THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

To guide the development of all assessment and planning work for the regeneration of the Northern Quarter, a Sustainable Development Framework (SDF) was produced. The SDF provides the basis for the Appraisal Framework contained within this Report but differs with respect to the scope of objectives it contains.

The Appraisal Framework comprises strategic level objectives for consideration in assessing the draft AAP and Masterplan. The SDF elaborates upon this, to include additional objectives aimed at site level application and governing wider assessments and work being commissioned in respect of the regeneration of the area.

The Appraisal Framework and the SDF are, therefore, closely related but distinct frameworks. The Sustainability Appraisal and the assessment of the AAP/Masterplan against the Appraisal Framework, will feed into the overarching SDF and the Sustainability Statement which emerges from this. The two inter-related processes are illustrated in *Figure 6.2*.

Figure 6.2 The Sustainability Assessment processes and links



6.3 THE APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

6.3.1 Overview

Appraisal objectives provide a statement of what is intended by specifying a desired direction towards promoting sustainability in this context. The objectives are intended to provide clear measures against which the sustainability impacts of a given option can be assessed, and will form the criteria for assessment. In defining the Appraisal objectives, however, it is important to recognise their distinction from, and relationship with, the overall objectives of the draft AAP and Masterplan.

Objectives have been identified from the checklist of operating principles highlighted in the ‘General Sustainability Checklist’ of the South West Sustainable Development Framework (shown as ‘regional objectives’), and the South West’s Sustainability Objectives for Developments (listed accordingly in the second column). These are juxtaposed against the strategic objectives outlined in the Cinderford Business Plan and the FoDDC Sustainability Criteria to demonstrate alignment between regional and local objectives. The key contribution these make is highlighted across sustainability.

6.3.2 Framework Structure

The Framework has been structured to allow the reader to clearly identify where the specific objectives for the development have derived from, and their

alignment with wider strategic sustainability objectives for Cinderford and the region more broadly.

Whilst the objectives are strategic with respect to regional coverage, they also provide clear guidance with respect to the progression of sustainability in all contexts. The Framework summarises the attributes of the development which will contribute to each of the sustainability objectives, and sets out actions that can be taken during the development process which will further assist in delivering sustainability benefits for the local and wider area.

In reviewing the draft AAP/Masterplan, it is important to make explicit those features and aspects of the proposals which will deliver real sustainability benefits for the site and its surroundings, as well as the wider sustainability benefits which will result from sustainable waste management, energy provision and resource efficiencies.

A systematic assessment of the proposals against the Sustainability Framework will be undertaken to identify relevant AAP and Masterplan attributes in relation to the sustainable development objectives, and to identify opportunities for additional sustainability wins, deliverable within the existing planning application. Measures include process-based (rather than purely design-based) commitments e.g. to sustainable procurement of materials and labour during construction.

The key issues and objectives which are included in the Appraisal Framework are set out in *Table 6.3* below.

Table 6.3 Sustainability Framework for Cinderford

Overarching objective, as set out in the Cinderford Business Plan: <i>To progress Cinderford as a regional model of sustainable new development and management, and reduce the town's "carbon footprint"</i>					
SW Regional Sustainability Objectives	Regional SD Objectives for Developments	Cinderford Business Plan Objective	Local FoDDC Objective	Cross-Linkages Across Sustainability	Sustainability Objectives for the Development (and suggested mechanisms for delivery)
1) Environmental and Resource Sustainability					
1a) To Protect and Enhance the Physical and Built Environment					
<p>Address resource use</p> <p>Enhance Local Distinctiveness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure individual buildings underpin the sustainability of the development. To ensure that the landscaping scheme is attractive and appropriate to the local environment To achieve visual and physical connectivity that makes it easy to find the development and to navigate around it, whilst integrating it into the surrounding area. To ensure access to green space for all To reduce the risk of flooding on proposed development sites and adjacent areas of land. & To reduce the risk and impact of flooding on the development and reduce the longevity of any effects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create an attractive, green and sustainable environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce vulnerability to flooding, sea level rise (taking account of climate change) 	<p>All aspects of Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure sensitive integration of the development within the wider Cinderford town and its surrounding area To promote sustainable access to, and use of, the Forest of Dean To promote social and physical connectivity between and across communities within the area To promote more sustainable patterns of travel and modes of transport, such as the use of public transport, walking and cycling To ensure the development does not involve building in areas at risk of

<p>Address resource use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase the volume of low environmental impact materials used during the construction of the infrastructure and public realm of developments. • To reduce carbon emissions emanating from energy sources used in the development • To promote the increased use of renewable energy sources to reduce dependence on fossil fuels producing carbon emissions • To ensure that the development's lighting scheme is as energy efficient as possible and minimises light pollution. • To ensure that the quality of ground water, water courses or aquifers is protected both during construction and when the site is completed. • To reduce the overall consumption of clean water for non-potable uses. • To minimise / manage the waste produced on site to limit diversion to landfill. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce vulnerability of the local economy to climate change and harness opportunities arising • To reduce non-renewable energy consumption and 'greenhouse gas' emissions • To reduce the risks associated with unstable or contaminated land • To conserve water resources and protect water quality • To minimise consumption and extraction of minerals • To minimise land, water, air, light, noise and genetic pollution 	<p>Economic Social, Community and Health</p>	<p>flooding or contribute to flooding elsewhere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the carbon footprint of the development, and its wider area, through design, delivery and operation • To encourage the use of renewable energy where appropriate • To develop new residential building to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4 (by 2010 and increasing with Government policy thereafter), non residential Buildings to achieve at least BREEAM excellent or relevant equivalent. • To support the improvement of contaminated land and reduce the impact of unstable land • To protect and enhance water resources within and surrounding the development and Cinderford • To integrate sustainable waste management facilities and services within the development, to the benefit of it and Cinderford more broadly • To promote sustainable procurement of both materials and personnel through both construction and operation of the
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							development
Overarching objective, as set out in the Cinderford Business Plan: To progress Cinderford as a regional model of sustainable new development and management, and reduce the town's "carbon footprint"							
SW Regional Sustainability Objectives	Regional SD Objectives for Developments	Cinderford Business Plan Objective	Local Objective	Cross-Linkages Across Sustainability	Sustainability Objectives for the Development (and suggested mechanisms for delivery)		
1b) Designated & Non-Designated Ecological Sites: Biodiversity							
<p>Enhance local distinctiveness including biodiversity (focusing on biodiversity – see links under Social Sustainability)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To determine the ecological value of the habitats in and around the site in order to maintain and enhance biodiversity and protect existing natural habitats. To improve and strengthen the ecological value of the site and existing habitats. To improve the ecological value of the site and support the viability of species by linking populations and habitats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To bring the quality of the Forest and environment surrounding Cinderford into the town itself and ensure that any new development respects its forest setting. 		Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect and enhance designated and non-designated sites within and adjacent to the development, and across Cinderford To ensure that the development contributes to the protection of the wider wildlife interest of the district, especially strengthening of links between 'wild' areas to increase adaptation to climate change 		

**Overarching objective, as set out in the Cinderford Business Plan:
To progress Cinderford as a regional model of sustainable new development and management, and reduce the town's "carbon footprint"**

SW Regional Sustainability Objectives	Regional SD Objectives for Developments	Cinderford Business Plan Objective	Local Objective	Cross-Linkages Across Sustainability	Sustainability Objectives for the Development (and suggested mechanisms for delivery)
1c) To Promote More Sustainable Forms of Transport Provision					
Reduce high carbon travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage and enable the use of public transport. To ensure the availability of frequent and convenient public transport links to train, tram or tube. To reduce levels of car parking available as an incentive to use public transport and other methods of mobility and communication. To enable residents to use and enjoy space around homes whilst maintaining vehicular access. To reduce any need or requirement to travel by car to essential facilities by having them within a reasonable walking distance. To make pedestrian movement attractive and safe, reducing reliance upon private cars for local journeys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote Cinderford as a regional model of sustainable new development and management, and reduce the town's "carbon footprint". To create an accessible place which is well connected; to provide better road, pedestrian and cycle access both to, and within, Cinderford. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce the need/desire to travel by car 	Economic Social, Community and Health Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance sustainable transport infrastructure To promote more sustainable patterns of travel and modes of transport, such as the use of public transport, walking and cycling To promote economic patterns that avoid unnecessary dependence on long-distance trade and travel To help reduce the need to travel, such as by ensuring that people can live closer to their work and by improving local access to services To reduce the distance to, and/or ease of accessing, schools, shops, places of work and recreation

Overarching objective, as set out in the Cinderford Business Plan: To progress Cinderford as a regional model of sustainable new development and management, and reduce the town's "carbon footprint"					
SW Regional Sustainability Objectives	Regional SD Objectives for Developments	Cinderford Business Plan Objective	Local Objective	Cross-Linkages Across Sustainability	Sustainability Objectives for the Development (and suggested mechanisms for delivery)
2) Economic Sustainability					
Use local and ethical goods and services Move towards a low carbon economy	Refer also to 'Reduce High Carbon Travel' above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create an exciting place to work and do business: to stimulate economic development which raises the skills level of the local workforce, providing higher skilled and higher paid employment opportunities for self 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To diversify the range of employment opportunities within the district To meet local needs locally 	Economic Resources Social, Community and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote/help facilitate economic sustainability within the area
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To align with the strategic economic aspirations for Cinderford and enhance the attractiveness of Cinderford as a place for business investment To enhance infrastructure and services, to support local businesses To enhance access to employment and up-skilling opportunities To promote integration of educational and skills training in line with identified need (linking into Social sustainability below)

		employment			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote sustainable business practice within Cinderford • To help encourage and increase the number of people who stay/visit the area • To promote sustainable access to, and use of, the Forest of Dean, including sustainable tourism initiatives such as walking/cycling tourism
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Overarching objective, as set out in the Cinderford Business Plan: To progress Cinderford as a regional model of sustainable new development and management, and reduce the town's "carbon footprint"					
SW Regional Sustainability Objectives	Regional SD Objectives for Developments	Cinderford Business Plan Objective	Local Objective	Cross-Linkages Across Sustainability	Sustainability Objectives for the Development (and suggested mechanisms for delivery)
3) Social Sustainability					
3a) To Promote Sustainability Skills and Learning					
Develop sustainability learning and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage sustainable behaviour and help integration into the local community. To avoid detrimental effects upon the surrounding community and highlight issues that the development must address. To promote community involvement in the design of the development to ensure their needs, ideas and knowledge are taken into account to improve the quality and acceptability of the development To ensure that community facilities are maintained and community has sense of ownership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create supportive and inclusive place to learn: to promote lifelong learning to deliver sustainable economic development, social progress and health and well-being. 		Economic Social, Community and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote and facilitate awareness raising and understanding of sustainability To promote access to education and vocational skills training To promote civic engagement amongst the population of Cinderford and surrounding area To promote integration between communities within and surrounding Cinderford To engage stakeholders during the design and delivery of the development
Improve physical and mental well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote outdoor recreation, health and community interaction. To apply design principles to increase the security of the development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote Cinderford as a regional model of sustainable new development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve health 	Economic Social, Community and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance the health and wellbeing of residents and workers within Cinderford To enhance access to social, leisure and sporting facilities in and surrounding

		<p>and management, and reduce the town's "carbon footprint".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create a supportive and inclusive place to learn: to promote lifelong learning to deliver sustainable economic development, social progress and health and well-being. To create an exciting place to work and do business: to stimulate economic development which raises the skills level of the local workforce, providing higher skilled and higher paid 		<p>Cinderford, including the Forest, for all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To engage stakeholders in the development of proposals for regeneration of their area
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		employment and opportunities for self employment.			
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Overarching objective, as set out in the Cinderford Business Plan: <i>To progress Cinderford as a regional model of sustainable new development and management, and reduce the town's "carbon footprint"</i>					
SW Regional Sustainability Objectives	Regional SD Objectives for Developments	Cinderford Business Plan Objective	Local Objective	Cross-Linkages Across Sustainability	Sustainability Objectives for the Development (and suggested mechanisms for delivery)
3b) To Promote Equality of Opportunity					
Improve equality in meeting basic needs	To prevent social inequalities and foster a socially inclusive community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a mix of new housing types, deliver more affordable housing for first time buyers and low income families and make better use of the existing housing stock. To stimulate economic development which raises the skills level of the local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide new housing to meet local need To reduce poverty and income inequality To help everyone access basic services easily, safely and affordably To maintain and enhance cultural and historical assets 	Environment Economic Social, Community and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet identified housing need, in particular, the provision of affordable housing To promote equality of opportunity and access for all within Cinderford To ensure physical and social access to infrastructure, services and opportunities

		<p>workforce, providing higher skilled and higher paid employment and opportunities for self employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide significantly improved community facilities, to serve both the local population and also a wider catchment area. 		Social, Community and Health	
<p>Enhance local distinctiveness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that heritage or archaeologically important features are conserved or preserved if present. • To create a place with a clear identity that is easy to understand and navigate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fun and imaginative place to visit; to put Cinderford 'on the map'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect and enhance landscape and townscape 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect and enhance local identity and heritage within and across Cinderford • Ensure that the social and cultural heritage of the FoD is maintained through development works • To support the protection of culturally and historically significant assets and qualities. Not just designated sites and buildings, but also locally valued features and landmarks • To engage stakeholders in the process of designing and realising a sustainable

					<p>vision for Cinderford (as before)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To capitalise upon the area's rich industrial heritage to develop sustainable tourism within Cinderford and the surrounding area
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6.3.3 *Temporal Scope*

The temporal scope or timeframe for the Appraisal therefore focuses on the period up to 2026 and the assessment of impacts considers short, medium and long-term impacts, amongst its wider consideration of effects, ensuring that the duration of the draft AAP and Masterplan is adequately considered.

6.3.4 *Technical Scope*

The technical scope of the SEA/SA will cover the environmental topics listed in Annex I (f) of the SEA Directive and the wider sustainability topics associated with the objectives set out in the Appraisal Framework.

6.4 *SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS*

To ensure alignment and consistency with wider indicators, it is proposed to select indicators from Defra's *Indicators in the South West* document which are set out below. Of consideration for the Appraisal, is the question of which indicators can most usefully inform the Framework and assessment of the draft AAP and Masterplan. From this set of indicators we will allocate indicators to each of the key objectives in the Framework. It is important to note that it may also be necessary to include indicators from additional sources, to support the Framework. Comments from consultees are welcomed in regard to this.

The South West Regional Development Agency has produced a Regional Sustainable Indicators Factsheet (March 2009). These regional indicators pull together already published statistics to enable comparisons to be made between regions and with progress nationally. The South West Indicators are:

Sustainable Consumption & Production

- Greenhouse gas emissions;
- Carbon dioxide emissions by end user;
- Waste;
- Household waste;

Natural Resources

- Bird populations;
- Land use;
- Land recycling;
- Dwelling density;
- Emissions of air pollutions;
- River quality;

Sustainable Communities

- Active community participation;
- Crime;
- Fear of crime;
- Employment;
- Workless households;

- Economically inactive;
- Childhood poverty;
- Young adults;
- Pensioner poverty;
- Education;
- Health inequality;
- Healthy life expectancy;
- Mortality rates;
- Smoking;
- Childhood obesity;
- Getting to school;
- Accessibility;
- Road accidents;
- Environmental quality;
- Air quality and health;
- Housing conditions;
- Households living in fuel poverty;
- Homelessness;
- Local environment quality;
- Satisfaction in local area;
- UK international assistance;
- Wellbeing;
- Child wellbeing;

Contextual Indicators

- Economic output;
- Productivity
- Investment;
- Demography; and
- Households and dwellings.

6.5 PREDICTION AND EVALUATION OF EFFECTS

The Appraisal Framework will provide a basis for assessing the effects of the draft AAP and Masterplan on the objectives set out within the framework. This Appraisal will involve identifying the changes to the environmental, social and economic baseline (where available) that are predicted from the draft AAP and Masterplan.

It will describe these changes in terms of, for example, their magnitude, geographical scale, timeframe, permanence, positive/negative impact, frequency etc. Predictions do not have to be in quantitative terms, but should certainly identify whether the AAP and Masterplan are performing positively or negatively against the objective in question (with reference to baseline conditions where appropriate). This will enable us to assess whether the draft AAP and Masterplan will promote or hinder the achievement of the region's sustainable development objectives.

- **Direct impacts** impacts that are a direct result of a development
- **Indirect impacts** impacts that may be 'knock-on' effects of direct impacts

- **Cumulative impacts** impacts that accrue over time and space as a result of a number of developments or activities
- **Irreversible impacts** impacts that result in the permanent loss of the character, distinctiveness, diversity or reproductive capacity of an environment
- **Synergistic impacts** impacts that are of greater significance than the sum of their constituents
- **Residual impacts** impacts that will remain present post mitigation

6.6 ASSESSMENT AGAINST 'OPTIONS'

The Appraisal must take into account the process by which 'reasonable alternatives' or draft AAP and Masterplan 'options' have been considered and how these have affected the development of the draft AAP and Masterplan. Section 2 outlined first thinking on options for the Area Action Plan and Masterplan. It is anticipated that these will be subject to refinement or possible amendment.

The Draft Sustainability Assessment Report will address the issue of options and how they have influenced the development of the AAP and Masterplan and the implications of each of the alternatives for sustainable development. The Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report will also detail the full list of options and the assessment of the relative sustainability performance of each against the Framework objectives.

6.7 MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation will be considered at the appropriate level, addressing key challenges and measures which will need to be considered and implemented in this context and at the appropriate scale. Measures will be considered as part of the Appraisal to *prevent, offset or reduce any significant adverse effects that the AAP and Masterplan are anticipated to have*. Although these are called 'mitigation measures', they may also include steps to prevent negative effects through changing the draft AAP and Masterplan themselves (e.g. adding, deleting or changing aspects of the proposals).

The Appraisal will also look to develop measures to take advantage of opportunities which are identified, i.e. to maximise the positive effects which the draft AAP and Masterplan may bring.

This Chapter outlines the completion of Stage A –and how the subsequent Stages in the Sustainability Appraisal will occur.

7.1

INTRODUCTION

The production of the Scoping Report marks the completion of the initial stage in the Sustainability Appraisal process. This is followed by a 5 week period of consultation with stakeholders, to ascertain their views on the scope of the draft AAP and Masterplan and scope of the Sustainability Appraisal to be subsequently conducted of the draft AAP and Masterplan.

Box 7.1

Overview of Next Steps

-
- Consultation period of five weeks on the Scoping Report.
 - The consultation responses will be collated and used to inform the Appraisal.
 - Assessment of the significant effects of the draft AAP and Masterplan options will be conducted; this being informed by the feedback from the consultation stage
 - A Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report (incorporating Environmental Report) will be produced for public consultation; this consultation is expected to last 12 weeks.
 - The consultation responses will again be collated and used to inform the ongoing Appraisal.
 - The final Sustainability Appraisal Report will be produced and accompanied by a Post-Adoption Statement.
-

7.2

CONSULTATION & ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Engagement with stakeholders is being scheduled to take place throughout the duration of the Sustainability Appraisal. This has commenced with meetings and discussion currently being undertaken with the consultation bodies and is due to be expanded upon with the consultation on the Scoping Report and then during the assessment and 12 week consultation period on the Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report. In line with guidance, the draft AAP and Masterplan will be put out for public consultation alongside the draft Sustainability Appraisal Report.

The assessment will seek to ensure it is informed by the thoughts and inputs of key stakeholders and that both concerns and opportunities are reflected in the Appraisal, as and where appropriate. A summary of the key findings of the consultation on the Scoping Report will be made to ensure key issues and considerations are documented and there is a clear audit trail of how these issues have been considered within the assessment. This summary will be included in the Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report.

A Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report, incorporating an Environmental Report, will be produced for release alongside the draft AAP and Masterplan. In line with UK Guidance, the report is likely to include the following information:

- **Baseline & Issues Identification; The Environmental Report':** Environmental, social and economic baseline situation, including any issues/problems identified.
- **Alternatives/Options:** How the alternatives or options were chosen and what they are.
- **Assessment of Effects:** Predicted effects of the alternatives/options in the draft AAP and Masterplan.
- **Influencing the draft Plan and Masterplan:** How sustainability considerations have been addressed by the draft AAP and Masterplan.
- **Mitigation:** How measures to mitigate problems and/or take advantage of opportunities have been incorporated into the draft AAP and Masterplan.
- **Monitoring:** Proposed monitoring arrangements.

The draft AAP and Masterplan and Draft Sustainability Report will be subject to a 12 week period of public consultation. The FoDDC and HCA will invite stakeholders and the public to comment upon the draft AAP and Masterplan and the Appraisal findings. As per the SEA Directive and UK Guidance, the Consultation Bodies will be formally invited to participate, as part of this consultation exercise.

After the findings of the 12 week consultation period have been considered, a summary statement of the Appraisal process and its influence on the drafting or development of the draft AAP and Masterplan will be produced. This is an important element of the Sustainability Appraisal process and a requirement under SEA.

Annex A

Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes

Table 1.1 *Sustainable Development***Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements****World Summit on Sustainable Development - Earth Summit leading to the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (Johannesburg, 2002).**

The Earth Summit as it is more commonly known was a key event in reasserting the importance of addressing the global challenge of promoting sustainability. Highlighting the inextricable links between protection and enhancement of the environment, social welfare, health and wellbeing, equity and equality, within the context of sustainable economic development, the Summit posed the question to all States of how best to achieve a fairer, more sustainable world for all populations. The Implementation Plan inscribes key principles and commitments to which all States should adhere, yet the biggest challenge faced by the Summit and more broadly, the globe, is how to ensure adequate cooperation and commonality of aspiration to tackle a challenge which only collectively can be met.

EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)

Europe has sought to demonstrate leadership in its approach to promoting greater sustainability and this Strategy sets out its further aspirations in this context. Addressing both current and future timescales, the Strategy seeks to align Member State activity behind a common set of goals and principles, requiring Member States to legislate and act in a manner which contributes to the collective European response.

The challenge of sustainable development is outlined through European action on environmental protection and enhancement, social equity and cohesion, economic prosperity and international responsibility. To guide this, the Strategy enshrines key principles which Member States must seek to translate and apply within all respective national level policy, as well as their own Action Plans and Strategies for Sustainable Development. Key amongst these principles are:

- Human rights;
- Inter-generational equity and collectivity of purpose;
- Democracy and engagement;
- Governance and policy integration;
- Precautionary Principle, Polluter Pays Principle and adherence to best practice.

Securing the Future - UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)

The Strategy for Sustainable Development aims to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations.

The Strategy contains:

- A new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions.
- Five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits.
- Four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities.
- A new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

One future: different paths – UK Shared Framework for Sustainable Development (2005)

This document presents a shared framework for sustainable development across the UK.

The framework comprises:

- A shared understanding of sustainable development;
- A common purpose outlining what the UK is trying to achieve and the guiding principles to be followed;
- The sustainable development priorities for UK action, at home and internationally; and
- Indicators to monitor the key issues on a UK basis.

The framework is supported by separate strategies for each administration.

The Strategy intends to meet the following key aims:

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

South West Sustainable Development Framework

The South West Regional Assembly (SWRA) has an established framework for progressing sustainability guided by regional policy and by “A Sustainable Future for the South West”, the Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) for the South West of England (2001). This guidance is produced by the Regional Round Table for Sustainable Development, ‘Sustainability South West’. This RSDF has been updated more recently as an evolving tool, “the Sustainability Shaper”. Within this, a number of sustainability operating tools are detailed:

- Develop sustainability learning and skills;
- Improve physical and mental well-being;
- Improve equality in meeting basic needs;
- Be resource wise;
- Support thriving low carbon economies;
- Reduce high carbon travel;
- Use local and ethical goods and services;
- Enhance local distinctiveness and diversity including biodiversity;
- Help everyone to join in public decision-making; and
- Take a long term approach

These principles have been set out in order to work towards the South west’s Mission for Sustainability; namely that *"People in the South West of England choose to live, work and prosper within environmental limits, pursuing justice and well-being and valuing diversity and distinctiveness."* The principles are further developed in the region through the South West Plan.

The South West Plan

Emphasises four key sustainable development policies:

- Reduce the ecological footprint of the area;
- Address the threat of climate change;
- Protect/enhance the environment and natural resources; and

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

- Create sustainable communities with thriving economies.

The Strategic Sustainability Appraisal of the Plan⁽¹⁾ reaffirms the importance of and outlines the likely benefits of sustainable regeneration within the South West region, although it warns of the need to guard against an increase in carbon emissions through increased reliance on car travel, citing greenhouse gas release as one of the primary negative impacts likely to be seen in South West Area over the duration that the South West Plan is in place.

The Regional Economic Strategy

The Regional Economic Strategy (RES) for South West England 2006 - 2015⁽²⁾ states that regeneration of disadvantaged areas needs significant and sustained investment, and needs to be supported by implementation of sustainable transport measures.

Gloucestershire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-17

"Our Place: Our Future; Building a Better Gloucestershire", the Gloucestershire Conference Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-17, agrees the ten-year aims for the Gloucestershire region. Through the Strategy, Gloucestershire aims to deliver:

- **A place where the future matters** (addressing climate change, environmental protection, sustainable waste management and preserving local heritage).
- **A place where communities matter** (community involvement in shaping local services, ensuring communities *feel* safe and *are* safe, developing strong and positive relationships between people of different backgrounds and circumstances).
- **A place where everyone matters** (more deprived urban and rural communities, access to affordable homes, supporting children, young people, older people and families, improving health, encouraging independent living).
- **A place where people want to live:** (clean, pleasant towns and villages, good and accessible community facilities, improving work, play and learning opportunities, effective, accessible and affordable transport, varied cultural and creative opportunities, retaining young people).
- **A place that thrives** (flourishing businesses, sustainable levels of investment, opportunities to develop and improve work skills).

Forest of Dean District Council Corporate Plan 2008-2012

The Corporate Plan for the FoD sets out four priorities: providing value for money services that meet the needs of the community, promoting safe and thriving communities, encouraging a thriving economy, and protecting and improving the environment. The plan also identifies three key issues that will have an impact on the future of the FoD area:

Our people – population forecast to grow by around 8% by 2026 (significantly faster than for the county as a whole). Notably, the proportion of older people in the 65+ age group is set to increase by 62% by 2026.

Our economy – impact of significant development on urban centres in must consider the impact on the Forest and its economy. Need to further diversify the economy and reduce dependence on local manufacture while addressing the problem of out-commuting. Pressures on housing and infrastructure are likely; clear need to narrow the gap between affluent and most deprived communities.

Our environment – serious challenge of protecting the natural and built environment of the FoD in the face of climate change. FoD has the highest level of car ownership in the county. Key challenges will be improving public transport, reducing car journeys and current and future waste management.

(1) <http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/media/SWRA/RSS%20Documents/Final%20Draft/ssamainreport1.pdf>

(2) <http://download.southwestra.org.uk/res/general/RES2006-2015.pdf>

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements	
Sustainable Community Plan for the Forest of Dean 2008-2020	<p>The Sustainable Community Plan reiterates the key issues identified in the Corporate Plan, and outlines a set of sustainability outcomes for the FoD area.</p> <p>Forest of Dean Sustainability Appraisal</p> <p>The FoD District Council is currently undertaking Sustainability Appraisals for the Local Development Framework.</p> <p>http://www.forestofdean.gov.uk/content.asp?nav=765%2C888&parent_directory_id=200</p> <p>Cinderford Business Plan</p> <p>The Cinderford Business Plan (2007) sets out a ten year action plan for the town which aims to improve the quality of life of people in Cinderford and to regenerate the area. The redevelopment of the Northern Quarter landholdings is, however, identified as the key opportunity for regeneration and redevelopment in the Cinderford area, owing to its potential to accommodate a range of facilities and land use.</p> <p>The objectives are to make Cinderford:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A model of sustainable new development; • A more desirable and affordable place to live; • A more exciting place to work and do business; • A more fun and imaginative place to play and visit; • A more accessible place which is well connected; • A more attractive, green and sustainable environment; • A more active community with better facilities; and <p>A more supportive and inclusive place to learn.</p>
Implications for the Draft AAP and Masterplan	<p>The planned redevelopment of Cinderford interacts with all of the overarching sustainability objectives promoted and progressed by the strategies, frameworks, statements and plans outlined in this section. It will be important that the economic, environmental and social effects of the draft AAP and Masterplan options are assessed in an integrated manner.</p> <p>The draft AAP and Masterplan will play a key role in firstly determining how the industrial legacy of Cinderford is redeveloped and secondly in the future opportunities available for residents of Cinderford. Redevelopment in Cinderford town will also have a significant impact on the Forest of Dean and the larger South West region.</p> <p>Securing value for money should be integral – with ‘value’ taken in its wider sense to include the environmental and social value of decisions. Thus, funding streams and procurement for the redevelopment works should be focused to encourage practice that results in positive outcomes for environmental, social and economic impacts.</p>

Table 1.2 *Economy*

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements	
EU European Employment Strategy – EES (2005)	

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

The ambition of the European Employment Strategy (EES), which was launched at the Luxembourg Jobs Summit (November 1997), was to achieve decisive progress within five years. In 2002 an extensive evaluation of the first five years identified major challenges and issues for the future of the EES. It also highlighted the need to revamp the EES in order to align it more closely with the Lisbon goal of sustained economic growth, more and better jobs and greater social cohesion by the horizon year of 2010. New simpler guidelines were produced in 2003. The EES was renewed again in 2005 with the adoption of new guidelines. In February of 2005, the Commission presented a Communication on growth and jobs which proposed a new start for the Lisbon strategy. The new strategy was to refocus efforts on two goals: delivering a stronger, lasting growth and more and better jobs. The new strategy also included a complete revision of the EES governance in order to maximise the synergies and efficiency between national measures and Community action.

Strategic goals for the next decade:

- to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion;
- to regain the conditions for full employment and to strengthen cohesion by 2010;
- to increase the overall EU employment rate to 70%; and
- to raise the total number of women in employment from an average to more than 60% by 2010.

A Government Action Plan for Small Business

This action plan aims to build a Britain where enterprise is open to all, and small businesses get the support and the range of accessible, coherent and high quality services they need.

South West Regional Economic Strategy 2006:2015

This Strategy has been developed within the framework of the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy. The Regional Economic Strategy (RES) already defines the scope of what the RDA is going to do over the next three years. The RES strategic objectives are:

- Successful and competitive businesses;
- Strong and inclusive communities; and
- An effective and confident region.

Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan

The direct financial cost of implementing the draft AAP and Masterplan will be an important consideration in selecting the preferred option for redevelopment. Drivers and incentives exist in several areas which promote aspects of particular options by reducing costs or providing other incentives. The effects of decisions made regarding implementation of the draft AAP and Masterplan are much wider than simply the direct financial costs (to the public and private sector) of redevelopment works. Indirect impacts upon the wider economy (e.g. job creation, procurement of services and products) will be an integral element of the assessment of the 'cost' of the draft AAP and Masterplan options.

The draft AAP and Masterplan provides economic opportunities for Cinderford, the Forest of Dean and the wider South West region. The South West Regional Economic Strategy seeks to promote successful and competitive businesses and an effective and confident region. The draft AAP and Masterplan will be important in advancing these objectives through the appropriate targeting of infrastructure and development.

Table 1.3 *Population, Health and Wellbeing*

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<p>EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - The Environmental Noise Directive (EU, 2002)</p> <p>The Environmental Noise Directive (END) seeks to define a common approach across the European Union for avoiding, preventing or reducing on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise.</p> <p>Forest of Dean District Council Disability Equality Scheme 2006:2009</p> <p>This scheme outlines how the District Council will work towards a situation that will meet the hopes and aspirations of disabled people in the District.</p>
<p>Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan</p> <p>Redevelopment of Cinderford will have impacts upon the well being of the population, through the direct effects of improved services, facilities, infrastructure and transport. There will also be increased opportunities for education and career development once implementation has occurred. It is important that disabled people are adequately catered for in the redevelopment works. In line with the EU Environmental Noise Directive, it will be important to monitor noise levels during the redevelopment works to prevent adverse impact on human well-being. Increased service levels are likely to result in a larger population for the area.</p>

Table 1.4 *Climatic Factors*

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<p>Stern Review on the economics of climate change (2006)</p> <p>This Review was announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in July 2005. The Review set out to provide a report to the Prime Minister and Chancellor by Autumn 2006 assessing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The economics of moving to a low-carbon global economy, focusing on the medium to long-term perspective, and drawing implications for the timescales for action, and the choice of policies and institutions; • The potential of different approaches for adaptation to changes in the climate; and • Specific lessons for the UK, in the context of its existing climate change goals. <p>Summary of Conclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is still time to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, if we take strong action now; • Climate change could have very serious impacts on growth and development; • The costs of stabilising the climate are significant but manageable; delay would be dangerous and much more costly; • Action on climate change is required across all countries, and it need not cap the aspirations for growth of rich or poor countries; • A range of options exists to cut emissions: strong, deliberate policy action is required to motivate their take-up; and • Climate change demands an international response, based on a shared understanding of long-term goals and agreement on frameworks for action. <p>Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change (UN, 1997)</p> <p>The Kyoto Protocol supports the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change which sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 3 contains the key obligation requiring reduction in anthropogenic CO₂ levels

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

to at least 5% below 1990 levels by 2012.

- The UK has a target under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels by 2008-2012.
- Article 10(b-1) requires signatories to implement and publish regular plans detailing how reduction targets will be met in specific sectors.

EU Directive to promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EEC)

The Renewables Directive aims to promote a substantial increase in the proportion of electricity generated from renewable energy sources across the European Union by 2010. Individual Member States have all been required to take appropriate steps to encourage greater consumption of electricity from renewables, in order that the overall EU target. These national indicative targets should also be consistent with any national commitment made as part of the climate change commitments accepted by the Community under the Kyoto Protocol. Where they use waste as an energy source, Member States must comply with current Community legislation on waste management.

EU Emissions Trading scheme (2005)

In January 2005 the European Union Greenhouse Gas Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS) commenced operation as the largest multi-country, multi-sector Greenhouse Gas emission trading scheme world-wide. The scheme is based on Directive 2003/87/EC, which entered into force on 25 October 2003. It aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to nationally agreed caps in a cost effective manner by applying economic principles.

Climate Change: The UK Programme (2001)

The UK's climate change programme sets out the Government's and the devolved administrations' approaches to the challenge of climate change. It explains why the climate is changing and what its effects might be. It explains the new measures the Government and the devolved administrations are introducing to reduce emissions further and achieve the UK's climate change targets and how climate change is expected to affect the UK, how the UK might need to adapt, and the action the Government and the devolved administrations have started to take to prepare for this.

The UK goal is a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2010, and in the longer term, to cut UK carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050.

Our Energy Future - 'Creating a Low Carbon Economy' - UK white paper on energy (2003)

The white paper defines a long-term strategic vision for energy policy combining our environmental, security of supply, competitiveness and social goals. The implementation of the White Paper is being taken forward via the Sustainable Energy Policy Network (SEPN).

Climate Change - The UK Programme: Tomorrow's Climate Today Challenge (DEFRA 2006)

The UK's climate change programme sets out the Government's and the devolved administrations' approaches to the challenge of climate change. The programme sets out the Government's commitments both at international and domestic levels to meet the challenge of climate change. It also sets out their approach to strengthening the role that individuals can play.

The Tomorrow's Climate Today Challenge reinforces the UK commitment to meeting the UK's Kyoto target, moving towards the UK's national goal of 20% below 1990 levels by 2010 and putting the UK on a path towards a 60 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050.

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<p>Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan</p> <p>The process of redevelopment interacts with climate change in several ways. Initially, this is through the redevelopment process itself which involves the operation of machinery, production of building materials and their transportation. Secondly, interaction occurs in terms of the site layout, accessibility of amenities and the transport scheme for the redevelopment. Throughout the implementation of the chosen draft AAP and Masterplan option, efforts must be made to ensure that the redevelopment process results in minimum CO₂ emissions and that the completed development encourages a low carbon economy. This can be achieved through following residential buildings following the <i>Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4</i> (by 2010 and increasing with Government policy thereafter), non-residential buildings achieving at least BREEAM excellent standards or a relevant equivalent as well as the development providing an adequate public transport network. Opportunities for the use and creation of renewable energy should also be sought throughout the project timeframe.</p> <p>The draft AAP and Masterplan will play a key role in reducing emissions which contribute to climate change associated with the both the redevelopment works and then the functioning of Cinderford as a town in the South West region.</p>

Table 1.5 **Material Assets**

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<p>Waste Framework Directive 2006/12/EC (as amended by Directive 2008/98/EC)</p> <p>This Directive establishes the legislative framework for the handling of waste in the community, and describes major principles such as the obligation of Member States to handle waste in a way that does not have a negative impact on the environment or human health and an encouragement to Member States to apply the waste hierarchy in a practical way in accordance with the polluter-pays principle. It describes how waste prevention should be the first priority of waste management, and how re-use and material recycling should be preferred to energy from waste, where they are more ecologically beneficial options. The amendment to the Directive further strengthened the requirement for waste prevention, introducing a life-cycle approach which further reduces the environmental impacts of waste generation and strengthens its economic value.</p> <p>EU Waste to Landfill Directive (99/31/EC)</p> <p>The Directive aims at reducing the amount of waste landfilled; promoting recycling and recovery; establishing high standards of landfill practice across the EU, and preventing the shipping of waste from one Country to another.</p> <p>The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment (in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health) from the land-filling of waste, by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.</p> <p>The Directive requires the reduction of the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill to 75% of the total generated in 1995 by 2006, 50% by 2009 and 35% by 2016.</p> <p>EU Directive on the Incineration of Waste (2000/76/EC)</p> <p>The Directive builds upon existing requirements to prevent or reduce, as far as possible, air, water and soil pollution caused by the incineration or co-incineration of waste, as well as the resulting risk to human health. These measures include a prior authorisation requirement for incineration and co-incineration plants, and emission limits for certain pollutants released to air or to water.</p> <p>Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive 2006</p>

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

The European Union (EU) is taking measures to prevent the generation of electrical and electronic waste and to promote reuse, recycling and other forms of recovery in order to reduce the quantity of such waste to be eliminated, whilst also improving the environmental performance of economic operators involved in its management. In addition, in order to contribute to the recovery and elimination of equipment waste and the protection of human health, the EU is also taking measures to restrict the use of hazardous substances in this type of equipment.

End of Life Vehicles Directive (2000/53/EC)

The EC directive on End-of-Life vehicles (ELVs) aims to reduce, or prevent, the amount of waste produced from ELVs and increase the recovery and recycling of ELVs that do arise. The End-of-Life Vehicles Directive passed into European law in October 2000 and was due to be transposed into national law in all Member States by 21 April 2002. This was delayed (as in most other Member States), the UK is currently in the process of introducing the remaining provisions relating to producer responsibility Articles of the ELV Directive (5 and 7) and these will be transposed through the End-of-Life Vehicles (Producer Responsibility) Regulations 2005.

Articles 5 and 7 require that: -

- Owners must be able to have their complete ELVs accepted by collection systems free of charge, even when they have a negative value, from 1 January 2007 at the latest;
- Producers (vehicle manufacturers or professional importers) must pay 'all or a significant part' of the costs of take back and treatment for complete ELVs;
- Rising targets for re-use, recycling and recovery must be achieved by economic operators by January 2006 and 2015

Taking sustainable use of resources forward: A Thematic Strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste (COM(2005) 666)

This Strategy presents a review of EU waste policy, sets objectives and outlines the means by which the EU can move towards improved waste management and better regulation in EU waste law. It also builds on existing legislation and extensive stakeholder consultation, and concludes that full and effective implementation by Member States is necessary for making progress towards the goals set in the strategy.

DEFRA Waste Strategy for England 2007

This strategy builds on the previous Waste Strategy 2000 and details progress made since then but it is more ambitious than the previous strategy in addressing the key challenges for the future through a number of additional steps.

The strategy sets out five main elements, which are to:

- incentivise efforts to reduce, re-use, recycle waste and recover energy from waste;
- reform regulation to drive the reduction of waste and diversion from landfill while reducing costs to compliant businesses and the regulator;
- target action on materials, products and sectors with the greatest scope for improving environmental and economic outcomes;
- stimulate investment in collection, recycling and recovery infrastructure, and markets for recovered materials that will maximise the value of materials and energy recovered; and
- improve national, regional and local governance, with a clearer performance and institutional framework to deliver better coordinated action and services on the ground.

The Strategy also sets out the way in which incentives will be used in order to meet national targets and the way in which the requirements of the Strategy will be regulated.

Waste Management (England and Wales) Regulations 2006

The Regulations extend to agricultural waste the controls that are already in place in the UK

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

for other waste streams to comply with the Directives.

The Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002

The Landfill Regulations implement the Landfill Directive (Council Directive 1999/31/EC), which aims to prevent, or to reduce as far as possible, the negative environmental effects of landfill.

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act deals with many of the problems affecting the quality of our local environment - which forms part of a continuum with anti-social behaviour, vandalism, disorder and levels of crime. The Act provides local authorities, parish and community councils and the Environment Agency with more effective powers and tools to tackle poor environmental quality and anti-social behaviour. In particular the Act includes sections on nuisance and abandoned vehicles, litter, graffiti, waste, noise and dogs.

European Commission White Paper on the European Transport Policy (EC, 2001)

The White Paper proposes an Action Plan aimed at bringing about substantial improvements in the quality and efficiency of transport in Europe. It also proposed a strategy designed to gradually break the link between constant transport growth and economic growth in order to reduce the pressure on the environment and prevent congestion while maintaining the EU's economic competitiveness.

Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition - JREC (2002)

The JREC is a coalition of Governments that are committed to achieving the commitments on renewable energy made at the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) which took place at Johannesburg (South-Africa) in 2002. The JREC is co-chaired by the European Commission and the Government of Morocco.

Objectives as follows:

- to commit to the promotion of renewable energy;
- to increase the use of renewable energy;
- to co-operate in the further development and promotion of renewable energy technologies;
- to adopt targets for the increase of renewable energy and to encourage others to do likewise; and
- to commit to working with others to achieve this goal, especially through partnership initiatives.

UK Fuel Poverty Strategy (2001)

The strategy identifies the main causes of fuel poverty in the UK (a combination of poor energy efficiency in homes and low incomes) and outlines its effects on quality of life and health.

The strategy aims to reduce fuel poverty especially of vulnerable members of society, such as children and the elderly.

Forest of Dean District Council Procurement Strategy 2009:2012

The Procurement Strategy responds to the requirements of the National Procurement Strategy for Local Government in England (2003) by helping the Council to improve 'the delivery and cost effectiveness of quality public services to citizens. Procurement is the process of obtaining supplies, services and construction works over the whole life cycle of the asset or service. The life cycle goes from the initial identification of the business need through to the end of the useful life of the asset or service, including any disposal costs.

Forest of Dean District Council Anti-Poverty Strategy 1995

The Council developed an Anti Poverty Strategy which incorporates a review of charging and debt counselling services. The Council considered the following aims as a means of combating poverty and disadvantage:

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A commitment to combating poverty and working with local people and organisations to set priorities for anti-poverty action; • Making every effort to ensure that people on low incomes play a more active part in decisions that affect their lives; and • Developing cross-departmental and inter-agency approaches to service planning and delivery.
<p>Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan</p> <p>The draft AAP and Masterplan options have several interactions with the legislation and strategies outlined in the table above. Inevitably waste will be produced both during redevelopment works and also once works are completed. In accordance with the plans detailed above, waste produced should firstly be minimised and then should be managed in a sustainable way as possible, aiming ultimately to reduce the volume disposed of at landfill. Post-regeneration, opportunities for residents and businesses to manage the waste they produce in a sustainable way must be provided and integrated into the plan.</p> <p>The draft AAP and Masterplan will need to consider the implications of the various options for the delivery of renewable energy. It will also need to interact with transport policy as the different options will affect the transportation requirements for the site. Unnecessary transport mileage should be reduced by minimising road construction and total road length in order both to reduce emissions and also to reduce the negative impacts on the environment.</p>

Table 1.6 *Air Quality*

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<p>Clean Air for Europe (CAFE) (2001)</p> <p><i>CAFE is a programme of technical analysis and policy development that underpinned the development of the Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution under the Sixth Environmental Action Programme.</i></p> <p>The major elements of the CAFE programme are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution (COM(2005) 446). • Directive on Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (the “CAFE” Directive) (COM (2005) 447). <p>The CAFE Directive brought together the following instruments under one legal act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Directive 96/62/EC on ambient air quality assessment and management (“Framework Directive”). • Council Directive 1999/30/EC relating to limit values for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead in ambient air, (“First Daughter Directive”). • Directive 2000/69/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to limit values for benzene and carbon monoxide in ambient air, (“Second Daughter Directive”). • Directive 2002/3/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to ozone in ambient air, (“Third Daughter Directive”). • Council Decision 97/101/EC establishing a reciprocal exchange of information and data from networks and individual stations measuring ambient air pollution within the member States, (“Exchange of Information Decision”).

Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution (1979)

The aim of the Convention is that Parties shall endeavour to limit and, as far as possible, gradually reduce and prevent air pollution including long-range transboundary air pollution.

The aim of the Convention is that Parties shall endeavour to limit and, as far as possible, gradually reduce and prevent air pollution including long-range transboundary air pollution.

The principles are to :

- protect man and his environment against air pollution.
- gradually reduce and prevent air pollution including long-range transboundary air pollution.
- develop policies and strategies which shall serve as a means of combating the discharge of air pollutants, taking into account efforts already made at national and international levels.
- exchange of information on and review their policies, scientific activities and technical measures aimed at combating, as far as possible, the discharge of air pollutants which may have adverse effects.
- consultations shall be held, upon request between companies/organisations which are actually affected by or exposed to a significant risk of long-range transboundary air pollution and the offending companies/organisations who present the risk.

The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (DEFRA 2007)

This Air Quality Strategy sets out air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK from today into the long term. As well as direct benefits to public health, these options are intended to provide important benefits to quality of life and help to protect our environment.

The strategy objectives include:

- improved protection for SSSIs and other designated sites by strengthening the application of the current ecosystem and vegetation objectives.
- objectives for controlling particulate matter, in particulate fine particles (known as PM 2.5), and other pollutants such as nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide and lead.

Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan should aim to incorporate practicable measures to reduce pollution to air resulting from the redevelopment works and future use of the site. It will not be possible to make quantitative predictions regarding changes in Air Quality in Cinderford or the Forest of Dean region resulting from the implementation of different options. However, the implications for air quality of the various options (such as the extent and timescale of emissions resulting from different options) will be considered as part of the SA. This should include consideration not just of the direct air emissions resulting from industrial activity in the redeveloped Cinderford area but also the emissions likely to result from areas such as associated transportation.

Table 1.7 Biodiversity and Geodiversity

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

Ramsar Convention on wetlands of international importance especially as waterfowl habitat (1971)

The Ramsar Convention provides a framework for the conservation of wetlands and their resources. 146 parties signed the convention with 1469 wetland sites, totalling 128.9 million hectares, designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.

Mission Statement: "The Convention's mission is the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".

Contracting Parties make a commitment to protect the ecological character of listed sites.

Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979)

The Bonn Convention aims to improve the status of all threatened migratory species through national action and international Agreements between states within the range of particular groups of species.

Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)

The convention aims:

- to conserve wild flora, fauna and natural habitats;
- to promote co-operation between States; and
- to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species.

The Convention includes obligations for contracting parties to conserve wild flora and fauna and all natural habitats in general, including by taking conservation into account in regional planning policies and pollution abatement.

The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro (1992)

The convention is designed to conserve biological diversity, ensure the sustainable use of this diversity and share the benefits generated by the use of genetic resources.

Each Contracting Party should (Article 6a) Integrate the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC)

Directive 1979 and its amending acts aims at providing long-term protection and conservation of all bird species naturally living in the wild within the European territory of the Member States (except Greenland).

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.

EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)

The aim of this Directive is to contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies. Measures taken pursuant to this Directive are to be designed to maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest.

Article 6.2: Take appropriate steps to avoid degrading or destroying natural habitats within SACs, and avoid disturbance of designated species insofar as this would result in further decline in numbers or the loss of habitat that maintains the species.

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

Article 6.3: Any plan or project not directly concerned with the management of a designated site (SAC/SPA), but which is likely to have a significant impact on it (individually or in combination with other projects), should undergo assessment of its implications for the conservation objectives of the site.

EU Biodiversity Strategy (EU, 1998)

The European Commission adopted a Communication on a European Biodiversity Strategy in 1998, aiming to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biodiversity at the source.

Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (UK) (2006)

The Act aims to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering government policy.

Of particular note is the Biodiversity Duty in section 40 of the Act, which requires that 'every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (UK)

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).

UK Biodiversity Action Plan (Defra, 1994)

The UK BAP is the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) signed in 1992, describes the UK's biological resources, and commits a detailed plan for the protection of these resources. It contains 391 Species Action Plans, 45 Habitat Action Plans and 162 Local Biodiversity Action Plans with targeted actions.

Conservation (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1994

Transposition into UK law of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC and the Wild Birds Directive 79/409/EEC.

Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) (Amendment) Regulations 2007

Updates the 1994 transposition into UK law of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC and the Wild Birds Directive 79/409/EEC to remove certain defences in law previously available.

Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan

The draft AAP and Masterplan will undertake an appraisal of the redevelopment works on biodiversity in the area. It is anticipated that the impacts will vary largely with the option chosen:

Redevelopment of land interacts with biodiversity in a number of ways, for example:

- Land take and land use for new buildings and developments, with resulting impacts on habitats and species;
- The impact of emissions (to air, land or water) from redevelopment works and industrial/manufacturing activities on habitats and species; and
- Indirect impacts on biodiversity resulting from changes in demand for raw materials during redevelopment and also during use of the site.

Table 1.8 *Water and Flood Risk*

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

Directive on the assessment and management of flood risks (2007/60/EC)

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements

This Directive requires Member States to assess if all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk. This Directive also reinforces the rights of the public to access this information and to have a say in the planning process.

The purpose of the Directive is to establish a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks, aiming at the reduction of the adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community.

EU 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 marine waters generally.

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.

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

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.

EU Freshwater Directive 78/659/EEC

The Freshwater Directive seeks to protect freshwater bodies identified by member states as water suitable for sustaining fish populations. It requires that certain designated stretches of water (rivers, lakes or reservoirs) meet quality standards that should enable fish to live or breed in the designated water, although this will also depend on physical conditions.

Water resources for the future: a water resources strategy for England and Wales (2001)

The strategy examines the uncertainties about future water demand and availability including the potential effects of climate change and different societal values. The strategy concludes with a series of actions that will provide the right amount of water for people, agriculture, commerce and industry and an improved water-related environment.

Water for People and the Environment – developing a water resources strategy for England and Wales (2007)

Consultation document towards a Water Resources Strategy to be completed by end 2008.

Vision: Abstraction of water that is environmentally and economically sustainable, providing the right amount of water for people, agriculture, commerce and industry, and an improved water-related environment.

A Better Environment, Healthier Fisheries: Better Fisheries for our nations 2006-2011 (EA, 2006)

This sets the strategy for fisheries in England and Wales. The aim is enable fisheries to play a greater role in England and Wales to encourage more people to help us protect and improve the environment and to help fishing contribute more to society.

Severn River Basin District Significant Water Management Issues (Environment Agency, 2007)

Significant water management issues identified for the Severn River Basin District are grouped in the following categories:

- alien species;
- flow problems (abstraction and other artificial flow pressures, physical modification (rivers and lakes));

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diffuse pollution from rural areas (nitrates, pesticides, phosphorous and sediment (rivers and lakes)); • diffuse pollution from urban areas and transport (nitrates, pesticides, phosphorous, sediment (rivers and lakes) urban and transport pollution); • physical modification (rivers and lakes, estuaries and coasts); and • point source pollution (organic pollution, pesticides, phosphorous and sediments).
<p>Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan</p> <p>The draft AAP and Masterplan will an appraisal of flood risks associated with different options and need to mitigate against potential flood risks. Therefore flood risk assessment is being carried out concurrently and will be used to inform assessment of the various options.</p> <p>Any redevelopment work interacts with water quality, water resources and flood risk, primarily through land take and land use for new development work. The volume and nature of emissions to water resulting from redevelopment activities and new industrial activities will also impact upon water quality.</p>

Table 1.9 Cultural Heritage

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<p>UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)</p> <p>World Heritage Convention as adopted on the general conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization meeting in Paris from 17 October to 21 November 1972 at its seventeenth session. It aims to protect and enhance the world's cultural heritage.</p> <p>Amongst others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each State Party to this Convention recognizes that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage. • to ensure that effective and active measures are taken for the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage situated on its territory. <p>The Charter for the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (1987)</p> <p>Charter for the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas, adopted by ICOMOS in 1987. The charter concerns historic urban areas, large and small, including cities, towns and historic centres or quarters, together with their natural and man-made environments. Beyond their role as historical documents, these areas embody the values of traditional urban cultures.</p> <p>Charter for the Protection of and Management of Archaeological Heritage (1990)</p> <p>Charter for the Protection of and Management of Archaeological Heritage, adopted by ICOMOS in 1990.</p> <p>The archaeological heritage is a fragile and non-renewable cultural resource. Land use must therefore be controlled and developed in order to minimise the destruction of the archaeological heritage.</p> <p>The Florence Charter (1981)</p> <p>Charter for the preservation of historic gardens, adopted by ICOMOS in December 1982.</p> <p>Traffic Management in Historic Areas (Cadw, 2003)</p>

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
This guidance outlines ways in which traffic engineering and highway improvements can be sensitively designed in historic areas.
Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan
Options of the draft AAP and Masterplan will need to consider the potential impacts on sites of specific cultural heritage or archaeological significance. Impacts will be site specific and will therefore vary according to the chosen option. Redevelopment interacts with cultural heritage, primarily through land take and land use for building works and the potential impact on visual amenity.

Table 1.10 *Landscape*

Plans and Relevant Objectives and requirements
<p>World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972)</p> <p>The purpose of this Convention is the identification and protection of the world’s cultural and natural heritage, places of ‘Outstanding Universal Value’. It defines the kind of natural or cultural sites which can be considered for inscription on the World Heritage List and sets out the duties of parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them.</p> <p>European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, 2000)</p> <p>The European Landscape Convention was developed by the Council for Europe and came into force in the UK in 2007. 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.</p> <p>The ELC sets out four general measures as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) (ODPM, 2000)</p> <p>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. Emphasises the public’s right of access to open country and common land, and gives additional protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).</p>

Plans and Relevant Objectives and requirements
<p>Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan</p> <p>The draft AAP and Masterplan will need to consider the potential impacts of development on the landscape of both Cinderford and the wider Forest of Dean area. Redevelopment interacts with landscape, primarily through land take and land use for buildings and so will vary according to the chosen option. Obviously the nature of the buildings will determine the impact upon the landscape.</p>

Table 1.11 *Soil Resources*

Plans and Relevant Objectives and Requirements
<p>EU Thematic Strategy on Soil Protection 2006</p> <p>The Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection consists of a Communication from the Commission to the other European Institutions, a proposal for a framework Directive (a European law), and an Impact Assessment. It sets out common principles for protecting soils across the EU. Within this common framework, the EU Member States will be in a position to decide how best to protect soil and how use it in a sustainable way on their own territory.</p> <p>Ensuring protection and sustainable use of soil, by preventing further soil degradation and preserving its functions and by restoring degraded soils to a level of functionality consistent at least with current and intended use.</p>
<p>Implications for the Draft AAP & Masterplan</p> <p>The draft AAP and Masterplan will need to consider the potential impacts of development on the soil in both Cinderford itself and in the wider Forest of Dean area. Impacts to soil will depend largely on the redevelopment work undertaken in terms of land use for buildings, infrastructure and surface covering. Soil impacts will therefore vary according to the chosen option.</p>

Annex B

Environmental, Economic and Social Baseline

Note to consultees: The baseline data in this information was directly sourced from data available within the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report (Alan Baxter, March 2009), Cinderford Business Plan (Halcrow Group Limited, December 2007) and Entec Ecological Baseline Report (Entec, February 2009) as well as publically available sources of information. It is recognised that additional information will and should be included as appropriate. It is, therefore, anticipated that this Annex will continue to be updated throughout the course of the Appraisal.

The information outlined below identifies the existing and likely future state of the sustainability conditions that exist in Cinderford and the wider Forest of Dean and South West regional area. This baseline will usefully inform the direction and contents of the AAP and Masterplan, and the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken of it.

Subject: Air	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air pollution data for the Forest of Dean area recorded the following industrial emission levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO2 - 10,000t - 100,000t Nitrogen oxides - 100t or less Sulphur oxides - 100t or less PM10 particulates - 10t or less Dioxins - 0.01g or less There is one entry on the Environment Agency's Pollution Hazard Inventory, at Forest Vale Industrial Estate to the south of the site. Emissions are noted to be to air (associated with waste incineration).
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for increase in air pollution levels or specific-industry related air pollution incidents as a result of increased industrial activity; and Potential for increase in air pollution levels as a result of a new road link and the extra traffic that will result from increased employment and housing in Cinderford.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring the options of cleaner technology in the form of using renewables for power generation. For Cinderford residents, the need to travel may be reduced as more employment opportunities are present in the town. Increased employment opportunities could also result in more people travelling into Cinderford for work, however, greater housing provision could overcome this; and Limiting emissions from residential buildings by achieving Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH) for residential development in 2010, and further to this, attainment of Level 5 and Level 6 in accordance with Government policy. Non-residential buildings should achieve BREEAM standards.
Cross reference to	<p>Full commentary can be found in the Baseline Report:</p> <p>Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report, March 2009, (prepared for the Forest of Dean District Council); and</p> <p>The Environment Agency. www.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby</p>

Subject: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <p><i>Landscape</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The landscape of the Forest is a mixture of habitats including woodland, grassland, clear fell sites, rides and wetlands; • The key characteristic of the Forest is extensive areas of coniferous plantations and deciduous woodlands; • The Forest is being considered to become an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; • Historic and current land uses of the site include coal mining activities, transport infrastructure and historic landfill sites which may have resulted in contaminated land; and • The method of infilling used for former mines is generally unknown and therefore voids below the surface may exist and there is a risk of collapse and sub-surface stability constraints. <p><i>Nature conservation designations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four sites designated of European importance for nature conservation are present within 10 km of the site. These sites include three Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and one Special Protection Area (SPA); • Two national statutory site designations, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for nature conservation are present within 10 km of the site; • The Wye Valley and Forest of Dean (Bat Sites) SAC is a complex of small sites situated in the Forest of Dean, one of which is located approximately 1.5km to the NE of the site boundary; • Fourteen sites with non-statutory designations for nature conservation (referred to locally as Key Wildlife Sites) are present within 2 km of the site; • Three non-statutory sites overlap with the Masterplan area. A large part of Cinderford Linear Park extends into the southern part of the Masterplan area. Laymoor Quag Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (GWT) Nature Reserve is located adjacent to the southern part of the Masterplan area and the Hawkwell Enclosure occurs partly within the northern part of this area. The non-statutory sites are considered to be of county importance for nature conservation; • Two areas of UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority habitats including Lowland Dry Acid Grassland and Calcareous Grassland occur within the north western part of the site and within 500 m of the site. These are also listed on the Natural England Grassland Inventory. These are considered to be of National Importance for nature conservation; and • An area of priority UK BAP habitat, Upland Oakwood is present on the site. A further area of priority UKBAP habitat, Wet Woodland occurs which are included on the Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI). These are considered to be of national importance for nature conservation. <p><i>Species</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wetland habitats within the site include a lake, ponds and streams which support a variety of riparian vegetation and provide habitat suitable for protected species including birds, invertebrates, bats and otter. These habitats are considered to be of County importance for nature conservation; • A medium to large (as defined by Natural England guidance) population of great crested newts is present within the site and these are known to use a minimum of six ponds. The site is considered to be of County importance for great crested newts; • Seven bat species have been recorded from the site and therefore the site is

	<p>considered to be of District to National importance for bats. It supports the greatest concentration of lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) in the UK, totalling about 26% of the national population;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The River Wye SAC has been designated primarily for the type of watercourse it is, the vegetation present as a result and for the species present within it. However, the Old Engine Brook (the only watercourse on site) drains into the River Severn catchment and therefore there is no hydrological link between the River Wye SAC and the site; • All four common reptile species (common lizard, slow worm, grass snake and adder) have been recorded from the site which includes a range of habitat types for backing, foraging and hibernating. The site is considered to be of County importance for reptiles; • A single otter spraint was recorded on a rock adjacent to the Stream Mills Lake. The site is considered to be of local value for the otter, however as a European Protected Species and given the suitability of wetland habitats within the site, Natural England will need to be consulted on the impacts of the Masterplan; • Historical records of water vole within the Forest indicate their presence near to the Masterplan area however Entec survey findings indicate water voles are not currently present. The site is considered to be of local value for water vole; • A sett comprising two active entrances was recorded at the location of the former Bowson Colliery during the Entec survey but no further evidence of badger activity was recorded within the rest of the Masterplan area. The site is considered to be of low value for this species but the presence of the active sett will require monitoring and mitigation; • Despite the presence of suitable habitat, dormice are not currently present at the site. The site is considered to be of local importance to dormouse and their presence needs monitoring given their occurrence within the Forest; and • All the water bodies are considered to be relatively species-rich in terms of invertebrates. Of the Red Data Book and Notable species recorded, none are dependant on habitats specific to the Cinderford site. It is considered that collectively the site comprises a relatively important resource for invertebrates at the District level.
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building work and development will put pressure on habitats and therefore monitoring and mitigation measures will be required to ensure that habitat is provided for species.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites for redevelopment will take into account the location of sites of bio and geodiversity; and • It will be necessary to minimise the impact of any development work on sensitive receptors.
Cross references	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Cinderford Business Plan Final Report, Halcrow, December 2007;</p> <p>Biodiversity Action Plans; www.ukbap.org.uk</p> <p>Defra; www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics</p> <p>Cinderford Regeneration Site Draft Ecological Appraisal Report, Entec UK Ltd December 2008 for Homes and Communities Agency;</p> <p>A site walk over was also undertaken by one of ERM's ecologists on 3rd December 2008; and</p> <p>The South West Observatory. http://www.swenvo.org.uk/data/</p>

Subject: Bird Populations	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 79 bird species (farmland and woodland) have been identified in the South West region. In the 1994 – 2006 period, there was no percentage change in the number of species; • A single Schedule 1 species (crossbill) and Annex 1 species (nightjar) were recorded during surveys within habitat adjacent to the northern part of the site but neither were recorded using the site; • Further notable species including 6 Red Listed species, all of which are UK BAP priority and Section 41 species and 12 Amber listed species, 2 of which are UK BAP and Section 41 species; • Five breeding species considered uncommon at county level were recorded on site: tree pipit, woodcock, cuckoo, grey wagtail and redstart of which three were considered to have definitely bred within the site boundary; and • It is considered that the site is of District to County importance for a number of nationally common (but locally uncommon) breeding passerines, and possibly also for woodcock.
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building work and development will put pressure on bird habitats and therefore monitoring and mitigation measures will be required to ensure that habitat is provided for bird species.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that implementation of the draft AAP and Masterplan does not have a detrimental impact on bird populations; and • Encourage development works to reduce their impacts on sensitive habitats.
Cross reference	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Entec Ecological Baseline Report (Entec, February 2009);</p> <p>National Biodiversity Network; www.nbn.org.uk</p> <p>The South West Observatory; and http://www.swenvo.org.uk/data/</p> <p>Defra. http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wildlife/research/rwbi.htm</p>

Subject: Climate Factors	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO₂ emissions estimates have been calculated for the South West region, totalling 42,369 kt CO₂, which in emissions per capita equals 8.27t. This total comprises results from the following emissions sources: • Industrial & commercial – 16,691kt CO₂; • Domestic – 12,995 kt CO₂; • Road transport – 11,791 kt CO₂; • Land use, land-use change and forestry – 892 kt CO₂; and • 2007 records of energy consumption, reported the average domestic consumption for the South West region to be 4991kWh.
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is anticipated that with increased development, CO₂ emissions resulting from both industry and domestic users will increase. It is likely that incentives for producing renewable energy will increase therefore leading to an increase in the proportion of renewable supply.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the generation of renewable energy in the redevelopment works; • Discourage the adoption of energy inefficient practices and options. • Reduce the need to travel by meeting needs more locally and for where travel is necessary, provide low carbon options and facilities such as footpaths, cycle ways and public transport; and • Reduce the amount of waste produced during redevelopment works, thereby reducing the volume sent to landfill.
Cross references	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>The South West Observatory; http://www.swenvo.org.uk/data/</p> <p>Department of Energy and Climate Change, Regional and local electricity consumption statistics, December 2008;</p> <p>National Statistics; and http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html</p> <p>Defra. http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/globalatmos/galocalghg.htm</p>

<p>Subject: Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment</p>	
<p>Summary</p>	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forest of Dean has provided a resource for living in the area since ancient times. Evidence shows that the area was extensively mined for coal from about 8000 BC to 1965 AD; • Rapid change occurred during the industrial revolution in terms of both technology and transport links; • After the decline of the iron and coal industry and the dismantling of the railway, the Forest established itself as a centre for manufacturing and light industries; • In 1805, Cinderford was a tiny hamlet which then developed very rapidly through the 19th century as a commercial town, built around industry. Cinderford and the Forest of Dean had its heyday in the early 20th century with the expansion of local passenger railways and trams. In the 1960s, some stations including Cinderford closed and together with the closure of the colliery, this resulted in a decline in Cinderford; • Cinderford contains 4 Grade II listed buildings, all of which are churches; • There are no conservation areas in Cinderford; and • Archaeological sites have been identified within the proposed development and in the wider area, associated with the iron and coal mining activities of the 18th and 19th century. However, initial assessment concludes that these sites have no major archaeological importance and the potential for other cultural heritage sites within the proposed development area is likely to be low.
<p>Figures/ Tables</p>	<p>Archaeological sites</p>

	<p>Location</p> <p>1 Modern North United Colliery 2 C19 Never Fear Colliery & lime kiln 3 C19 Churchway Colliery 4 C19 Hawkwell Tinplate Works 5 Post-mediaeval shaft of Mountpleasant Colliery 6 C19/C20 clay pit 7 Bronze Age axe head 8 C19 brick kiln 9 C19 Winning Colliery 10 Modern Hawkwell brickworks 11 Site of C19 coal shaft 12 C19 New Bowson Colliery (C16-18 material excavated) 13 C19 coal shaft 14 Post-mediaeval coal shaft 15 C19 coal shaft 16 C19 chemical works 17 C19 coal shaft 18 Post-mediaeval coal shaft 19 Post-mediaeval disused flour/steam mill 20 Post-mediaeval Haywood Engine Works and Cinderford Steam Mills</p> <p>A - Post-mediaeval Hawkwell Colliery and associated tramway B - Post-mediaeval Forest of Dean tramroad, inc. branch to Nofold Colliery C C19 Brain's Tramway D C19 tramway at Winning and Duck Collieries</p> <p><i>Source: Alan Baxter Baseline Report</i></p>
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the known locations of archaeological sites and other sites of cultural heritage, the Cinderford redevelopment project should not have an impact on existing, known sites. In addition, the potential for other cultural heritage sites within the proposed development area is thought to be low.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the implementation of the draft AAP and Masterplan does not have a detrimental impact on cultural heritage and the historic environment, through effective positioning of new development; and • Encourage redevelopment works to reduce their impacts on sensitive landscapes and habitats.
Cross references	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report, March 2009, (prepared for the Forest of Dean District Council);</p>

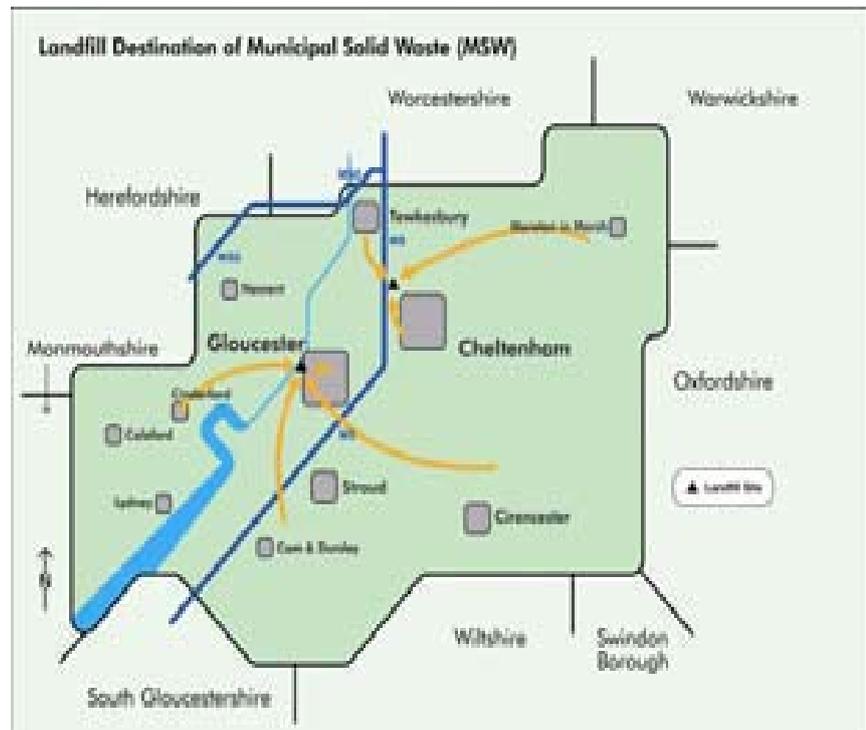
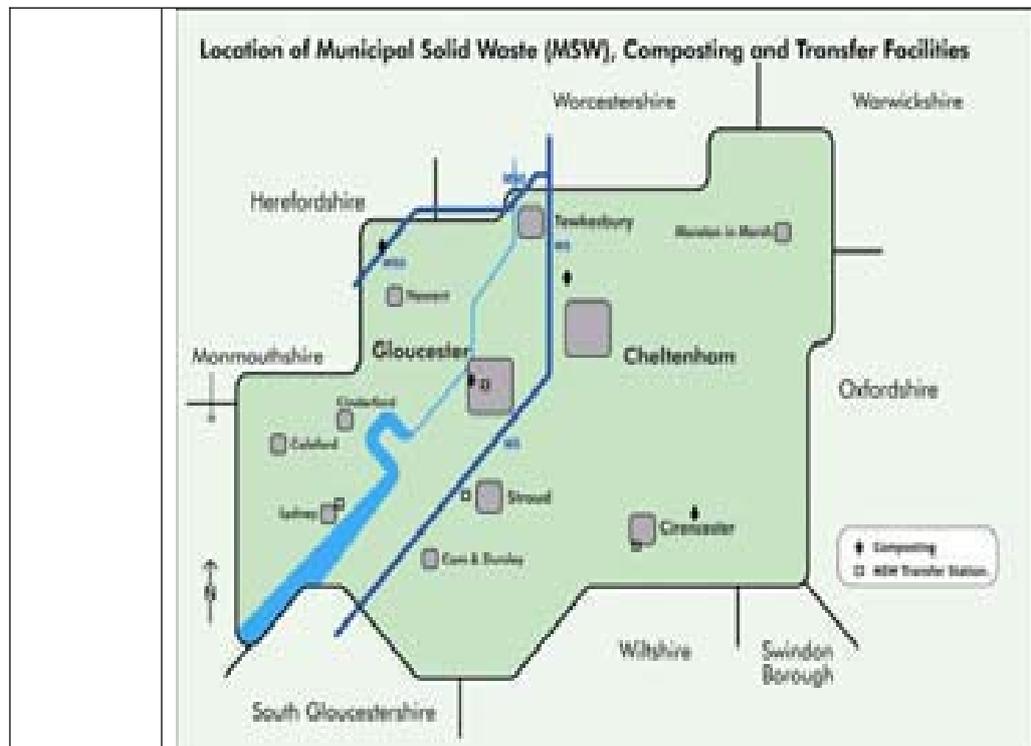
Subject: Ecological Footprint	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ecological footprint has been estimated for the South West region for 2004. This is 5.42 global hectares (gha) per capita. This compares to the UK average for 2004, which is 5.30gha/capita; • A carbon footprint has also been estimated for the South West region for 2004, which is equal to 12.37tonnes CO₂/capita; and • A GHG footprint has also been calculated, which is equal to 16.70 tonnes of CO₂e/capita.
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One aim of the draft AAP and Masterplan is to promote the town as a regional model of sustainable new development and reduce the town's carbon footprint.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage sustainable living practices through providing the necessary opportunities and facilities (examples include providing employment proximal to residential areas and footpaths and cycle routes); • Raise awareness of society's ecological footprint; and • Ensure that the regenerated Cinderford does not increase ecological footprint of the area per capita.
Cross reference	<p>The South West Observatory; http://www.swenvo.org.uk/data/</p> <p>Ecological Footprint estimates generated using Version 2 of the Resources and Energy Analysis Programme (REAP). The 2004 estimates supersede the 2001 estimates generated through REAP Version 1 and previously available online at www.sei.se/reap; and</p> <p>Defra. http://www.encams.org/uploads/publications/leqsereport0405.asp</p>

Subject: Landscape																																				
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forest of Dean was once heavily forested with extensive, uninterrupted woodland. Large amounts of forest have been lost to agriculture and development but the protection over the Forest of Dean means that it is the only remaining uninterrupted wooded area in the district (over 110 km²). The area of 'greenspace' measured in the Forest Dean in 2005, was 485,673m² (2005); • The site is located on the north eastern edge of Cinderford. It is bordered to the north, south and west by coniferous plantation woodland and to the east by Cinderford Business Park. The site is characterised by operational brickworks, a waste sorting depot and several small industrial units, a large fishing lake and large areas of re-vegetated grassland and planted woodland habitat on land previously mined for coal; and • Previously, Cinderford and the surrounding areas supported several large collieries of which two were located within the site, namely Bowson Colliery and Northern United (which closed in 1965). Clay extraction pits are also present as a result of the brickworks on site. 																																			
Figures/ tables:	<p>Physical environment: land use, January 2005</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)</th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Domestic buildings</td> <td>%</td> <td>15.2</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>1.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non domestic buildings</td> <td>%</td> <td>3.2</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Road</td> <td>%</td> <td>14.2</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>2.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Domestic gardens</td> <td>%</td> <td>54.5</td> <td>3.1</td> <td>4.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenspace</td> <td>%</td> <td>4.2</td> <td>85.0</td> <td>87.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water</td> <td>%</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>8.4</td> <td>2.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: percentages will not usually sum to 100% as not all possible land uses are shown <i>Source: Office for National Statistics</i></p>			Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)	Forest of Dean	England	Domestic buildings	%	15.2	0.7	1.1	Non domestic buildings	%	3.2	0.3	0.7	Road	%	14.2	1.6	2.2	Domestic gardens	%	54.5	3.1	4.3	Greenspace	%	4.2	85.0	87.5	Water	%	0.0	8.4	2.6
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Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed redevelopment site is bordered to the north, south and west by forest plantation woodland. Careful planning of the redevelopment area will not impact upon this forested area. However, the site itself contains water bodies, re-vegetated grassland and planted woodland habitat and these areas will have to be considered in the redevelopment plans in order to minimise or mitigate the impacts arising; and • There could be opportunities to utilise features of industrial heritage such as the clay extraction pits as part of the redevelopment planning. 																																			
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure strategic and location decisions within the draft AAP and Masterplan take into account the needs of areas of landscape importance; • Encourage sensitive location and promote high quality design for new developments; and • Promote greater use of renewables with care regarding the choice of their location. 																																			

Cross references	Full commentary can be found in: Cinderford Business Plan, Final Report, December 2007; and Office for National Statistics. www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk
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Subject: River Quality	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most recent river quality data is available from 2007 at Bilson Green to the south of the site, where a 'B' classification (good) was awarded; • High levels of phosphates and nitrates were noted. The watercourse is classified as being at risk of not meeting WFD targets pertaining to biological quality and ecological quality is currently noted as poor (grade 4); • The Cinderford Brook has been classified as being 'Over Abstracted' indicating that existing abstraction is causing unacceptable damage to the environment at low flows; • No groundwater abstractions are noted within 1000 m of the site; • Groundwater quality presents a potential risk in the area due to the influence of industrial land uses to the east and past mining activities and discharges; and • For the South West in 2007, 87% of the river length was classified as very good or good for chemical river quality. 89% of the river length was classified as very good or good biological river quality. 43% of the river lengths were classified to have high phosphate levels and 26% of the river lengths were classified to have high nitrate levels.
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With increased redevelopment of the Cinderford site, it is likely that there will be an increase in abstraction from the Cinderford Brook. Monitoring and regulation of these abstractions will be required to limit the potential impact of this increased abstraction.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the redevelopment works and then operation of new buildings do not have an impact on the chemical or biological quality of the rivers in the Cinderford/Forest of Dean area; and • Encourage best practices for dealing with waste from redevelopment so as to reduce the potential impact of waste on river quality.
Cross reference	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Environment Agency; and http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/library/data/34383.aspx</p> <p>The South West Observatory. http://www.swenvo.org.uk/data/</p>

<p>Subject: Waste</p> <p>Summary</p>	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cinderford is located within a two tier authority area. The Forest of Dean District Council (FDDC) acts as the waste collection authority while Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) acts as the waste disposal authority. The FDDC will be responsible for the municipal waste collection arrangements for the Northern Quarter Masterplan Area while GCC will be responsible for treating and disposing of the waste; • In 2006/07 Gloucestershire’s households produced a total of 324 thousand tonnes (kt) of municipal waste (MSW). This is approximately 1220kg of household waste generated per household each year; • In 2007/08, the municipal waste arisings for the South-West region were 2,929kt, of which 2,644kt was from household waste; • For the South-West region in 2007/08, 59% was sent to landfill, 41% was recycled or composted and 0.1% was incinerated with Energy from Waste (EfW) and 0.1% was incinerated without EfW; • The nearest Household Recycling Centre (HRC) to the Northern Quarter Masterplan Area is located near Coleford; and • The nearest waste transfer station is located north east of Lydney and composting facilities located north of Newent and at Gloucester. It is anticipated that any waste for landfill from the Northern Quarter Masterplan Area will be transported to Gloucester.
<p>Figures/ Tables</p>	



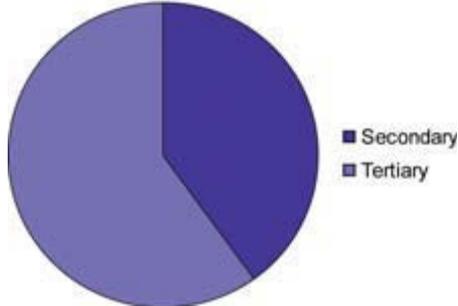
Source: Waste Core Strategy, Technical Paper WDS-A Waste Data, Living Draft, September 2007, figure 2, 3 & 5.

Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is anticipated that the total MSW produced by Gloucestershire will increase with the growth in population and industry that is planned in the Cinderford Masterplan.; and • The increased waste produced will also require transportation to the nearest appropriate waste treatment or disposal facility.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sustainable waste management; • Encourage waste movement up the waste hierarchy, away from landfill; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote waste minimisation both during redevelopment works and also once the new buildings (residential and commercial) are operating, for example with the provision of sufficient recycling facilities.
Cross reference	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Forest of Dean District Local Plan Review Adopted November 2005;</p> <p>Forest of Dean District Council, Core Strategy Second Preferred Options March 2008;</p> <p>Gloucestershire Waste Local Plan 2002-2012 Adopted 2004;</p> <p>Gloucestershire Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options, January 2008;</p> <p>Waste Core Strategy, Technical Paper WCS-A Waste Data, Living Draft, September 2007;</p> <p>Gloucestershire Minerals and Waste Development Framework's Minerals and Waste Annual Monitoring Report 2007-08; and</p> <p>The South West Observatory. http://www.swenvo.org.uk/data/</p>

Subject: Water and Flood Risk	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The River Severn floodplain does not influence the site or its immediate surrounds directly; • The Cinderford Streams sub-catchment falls within the Severn Vale catchment area; • The Cinderford Brook is the primary watercourse in the vicinity of the Cinderford redevelopment area, being classed as a Main River south of Cinderford, where it flows 12 km south east to its confluence with the River Severn. Old Engine Brook, which crosses the site, joins Cinderford Brook approximately 800 to 1000 m south of the southern site boundary; • Within the Cinderford Streams Sub-Catchment, 40 commercial and 130 residential properties are noted to fall with the Flood Zone 3, over an area of 138 ha; • The greatest risk of flooding locally is considered to result from blockage or from high intensity rainfall flowing from the steep sided valleys upstream of the site; and • The two Local Plan housing sites, Cinderford 9 and 5 are within the 1:100 year floodplain.
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a potential for increased flooding events in the future with construction of residential and industrial properties within the 1:100 year floodplain.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effects of flooding must be considered in the positioning of new buildings; and • Water efficiency should be encouraged both during construction and in the design and operation of new buildings.
Cross references	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report, March 2009, (prepared for the Forest of Dean District Council);</p> <p>Environment Agency; and http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/default.aspx</p> <p>The South West Observatory. http://www.swenvo.org.uk/data/</p>

Subject: Benefit Dependency	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics for the Forest of Dean for all people of working age claiming a key benefit in 2006 was 12%, which compares to the statistic for England of 14%; • 6% of the Forest of Dean population were receiving incapacity benefit in 2006, which compares to the statistic for England of 7%; • 2% of the population were claiming Job Seekers Allowance in 2007, the same percentage as for England; and • The number of Income Support claimants in the Forest of Dean in 2007 was 1,930. In the South West, the number was 141,980 and for England, the number was 1,785,215; • The number of the population claiming Housing Benefit/Council Tax benefit in the Forest of Dean in 2005 was 5,850. In the South West, this number was 390,880 and for England, the number was 4,540,015; and • In 2006, the total number of children receiving Child Benefit was 775 and in the Forest of Dean, it was 76,990.
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The redevelopment plan for Cinderford aims to increase educational and employment opportunities in the area, thereby decreasing the number of people who need to claim some kinds of benefits.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote direct job creation; • Promote local job benefits; and • Promote indirect job creation.
Cross reference	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Office for National Statistics http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</p>

<p>Subject: Employment</p>	
<p>Summary</p>	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The towns surrounding Cinderford all have aspects competing with Cinderford in terms of attractive business and providing high quality jobs or amenities. This shows that Cinderford has the potential for successful redevelopment; • There is significant out-migration of young people and graduates due to poor career prospects; • The economic activity rate of the working age population for the Forest of Dean is 81.6% (2007-2008); • The employment rate for the Forest of Dean is 75.0% (2006-2007); • 40% of the working population work in manufacturing and construction (this is double the national/county averages); • 60% work in the service sector. This is significantly lower than national/county averages. There is a need to maintain traditional manufacturing strengths and skills as well as expanding in areas such as office employment; • Unemployment is above national/county averages with a rate of 4.4% for the Forest of Dean (2006-2007); • There are the lowest levels of self-employment in the district; • The existing industrial estates feature low-density, sprawling land uses, with low levels of employment; and • In addition to enhancing the quality and quantity of land supply, there is a need to rejuvenate and intensify existing employment sites, particularly on industrial sites.
<p>Figures/ Tables</p>	<p>Employment by sector</p>  <p>Source: Alan Baxter Baseline Report</p>

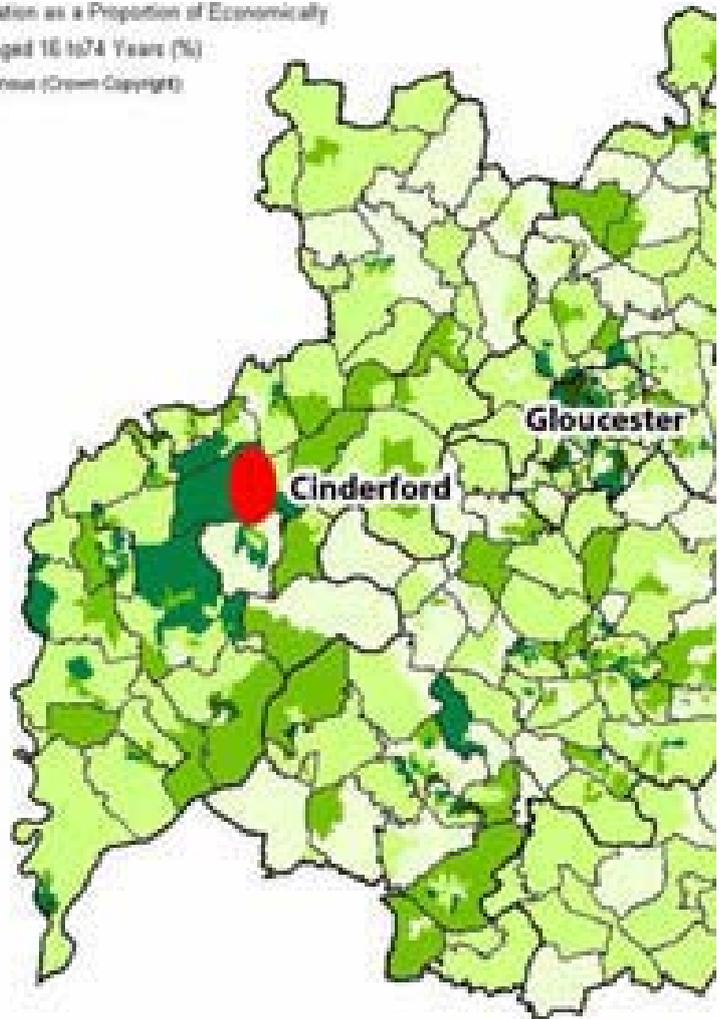
Unemployment rates

(Unemployed population as a proportion of economically active population in the 16-74 years). Gloucestershire average is 3.7%. Average for England and Wales is 5.0%.

Gloucestershire Average = 3.7%
England & Wales = 5.0%

Unemployed Population as a Proportion of Economically Active Population Aged 16 to 74 Years (%)

SOURCE: ONS 2001 Census (Crown Copyright)



Source: Alan Baxter Baseline Report

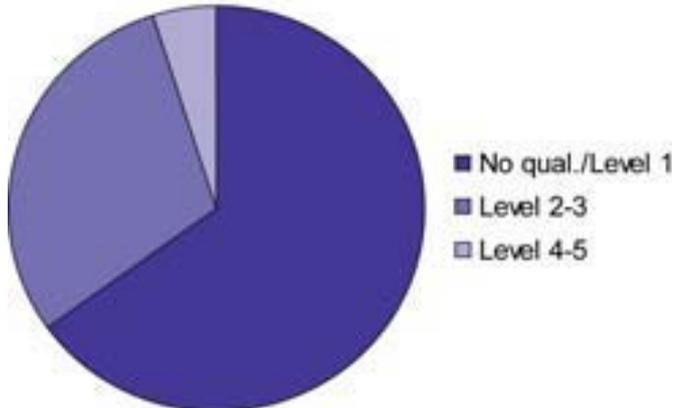
Occupations of all people in employment, April 2001

		Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)	Forest of Dean	England
Managers and senior officials	%	9.7	14.0	15.3
Professional occupations	%	6.4	9.0	11.2
Associate professional and technical occupations	%	10.2	12.2	13.8
Administrative and secretarial occupations	%	10.7	11.5	13.4

	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Skilled trades occupations</td> <td>%</td> <td>16.9</td> <td>15.1</td> <td>11.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personal service occupations</td> <td>%</td> <td>9.4</td> <td>7.1</td> <td>6.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sales and customer service occupations</td> <td>%</td> <td>6.6</td> <td>6.1</td> <td>7.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Process; plant and machine operatives</td> <td>%</td> <td>16.5</td> <td>12.0</td> <td>8.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elementary occupations</td> <td>%</td> <td>13.6</td> <td>13.0</td> <td>11.8</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Source: Office for National Statistics</i></p>	Skilled trades occupations	%	16.9	15.1	11.6	Personal service occupations	%	9.4	7.1	6.9	Sales and customer service occupations	%	6.6	6.1	7.7	Process; plant and machine operatives	%	16.5	12.0	8.4	Elementary occupations	%	13.6	13.0	11.8
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Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The potential for the Cinderford to rise in importance in the local area due to the industry occurring there and the services provided; • An increase in job and career prospects which may result in greater numbers of younger people staying in Cinderford; and • A decrease in the unemployment rate as a result of an increase in the industrial and service sector. 																									
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct employment opportunities both during redevelopment works and in the redeveloped Cinderford due to new commercial and educational activities; • Indirect employment opportunities through supply chain and procurement; • Potential for skilled and unskilled workers to be needed during redevelopment; and • Options for training and skills development especially through the provision of new educational facilities. 																									
Cross references	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report, March 2009, (prepared for the Forest of Dean District Council);</p> <p>Office for National Statistics; http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</p> <p>The South West Observatory; and http://www.swenvo.org.uk/data/</p> <p>ONS, Annual Population Survey. www.nomisweb.co.uk</p>																									

Subject: Accessibility	
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cinderford is the only town within the statutory Forest of Dean boundary; • The closure of passenger railways, in some respect, cut the region off from the rest of the country and increased reliance on the private car. A significant proportion of the local population out-commute to surrounding towns and cities; • Poor access to and from the M5 is identified as a problem; • Railways and tramlines that have now been dismantled have been converted to walking and cycling trails; • Cinderford is one of the four market towns in the region, together with Coleford, Lydney and Newent; • There are two rail stations in the region (Lydney - 10 miles & Gloucester - 15 miles) but they are poorly linked to the overall network and do not offer quick or frequent services; • 4186 people work in Cinderford town, of which 58% of these people live in the town, 26% commute out of the Cinderford wider area for work; • 4300 people commute out of the Cinderford wider area for work; • 42% of the out-commuters are employed in routine or semi-routine work; • 4000 people who live outside the area commute into the Cinderford wider area for work; and • Cinderford is served by three frequent bus services leading towards Gloucester, Coleford and Lydney.
Figures/ Tables	<p>Residence of people working in Cinderford town</p> <p>■ Cinderford area residents ■ Forest of Dean residents ■ Commute from elsewhere</p> <p><i>Source - Office of National Statistics</i></p>
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential decrease in numbers of people currently out-commuting from Cinderford due to increased employment prospects; and • Potential for increased numbers of people commuting into Cinderford due to increased employment prospects.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased employment opportunities within Cinderford will mean less out-of-town travel to work is required; and • Increased wealth and redevelopment (through employment and incomes) may increase the number of shops and services within Cinderford.

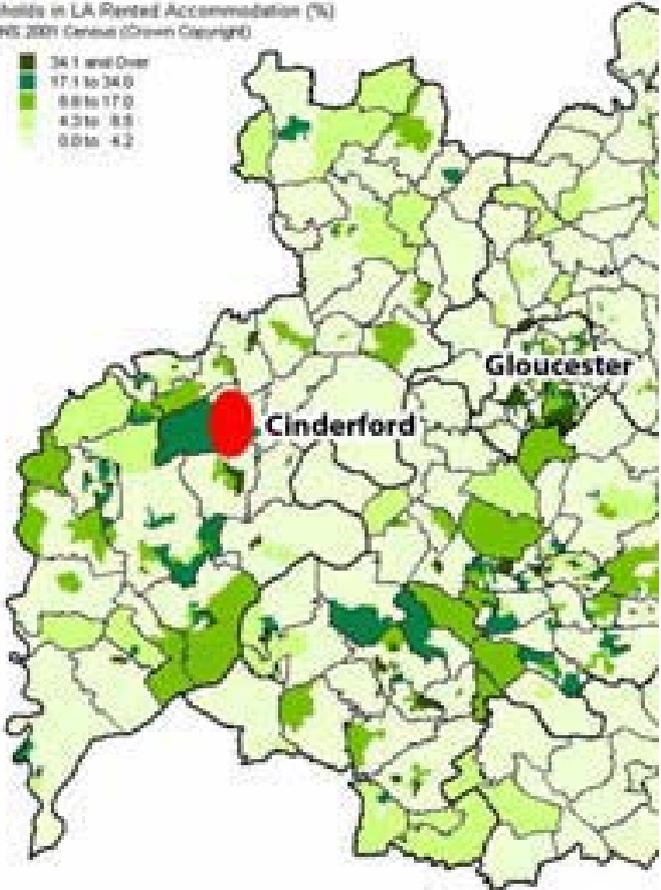
Cross reference	Full commentary can be found in: Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report (March 2009)
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Subject: Education																																									
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2001 census found that less than 10% of Cinderford ward’s population held a degree or higher qualification and over 60% had no qualifications or only Level 1 qualifications (GCSE, NVQ etc); • No post-16 education is available in Cinderford; and • The ward was in the highest 10% for deprivation in education and skills nationally. 																																								
Figures/ Tables	<p>Qualifications held</p>  <p>Source: Office of National Statistics</p> <p>Educational attainment</p> <p>The education system is structured such that by age 16 pupils will have passed through four 'Key Stages'.</p> <p>Key Stage 1 is usually assessed at age 7, and pupils are expected to have reached Level 2 or above in Reading, Writing and Maths.</p> <p>Key Stage 1 assessments: pupils achieving Level 2 or above, 2006 - 2007</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)</th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Reading</td> <td>%</td> <td>78</td> <td>86</td> <td>84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Writing</td> <td>%</td> <td>83</td> <td>83</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maths</td> <td>%</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>91</td> <td>90</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Key Stage 2 is usually assessed at age 11, and pupils are expected to have reached Level 4 or above in English, Maths and Science.</p> <p>Key Stage 2 assessments: pupils achieving Level 4 or above, 2006 - 2007</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean004A (Cinderford)</th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>English</td> <td>%</td> <td>71</td> <td>81</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maths</td> <td>%</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>77</td> <td>77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Science</td> <td>%</td> <td>76</td> <td>89</td> <td>88</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>By the Key Stage 3 assessments, usually at age 14, pupils are expected to have</p>			Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)	Forest of Dean	England	Reading	%	78	86	84	Writing	%	83	83	80	Maths	%	n/a	91	90			Forest of Dean004A (Cinderford)	Forest of Dean	England	English	%	71	81	80	Maths	%	n/a	77	77	Science	%	76	89	88
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	<p>reached Level 5 or above in English, Maths and Science.</p> <p>Key Stage 3 assessments: pupils achieving Level 5 or above, 2006 - 2007</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)</th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>English</td> <td>%</td> <td>76</td> <td>79</td> <td>74</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maths</td> <td>%</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>78</td> <td>76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Science</td> <td>%</td> <td>71</td> <td>77</td> <td>73</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>At Key Stage 4 it is usual for pupils to take GCSEs (General Certificates of Secondary Education) or equivalent qualifications.</p> <p>Pupils achieving 5 or more A*-C grade passes, including English and Maths, at GCSE or equivalent, 2006 - 2007</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)</th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>All pupils</td> <td>%</td> <td>27</td> <td>47</td> <td>46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Males</td> <td>%</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>42</td> <td>41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Females</td> <td>%</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>52</td> <td>50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)	Forest of Dean	England	English	%	76	79	74	Maths	%	n/a	78	76	Science	%	71	77	73			Forest of Dean 004A (Cinderford)	Forest of Dean	England	All pupils	%	27	47	46	Males	%	n/a	42	41	Females	%	n/a	52	50
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Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the Cinderford redevelopment plan is a new campus for the Royal Forest of Dean College. Through this college, it is anticipated that the percentage the population with higher level qualifications will increase. 																																								
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training opportunities associated with employment opportunities and within new post-16 educational facilities; • Improving socio-economic status of families in the long term (employment and income) and therefore reducing cost barrier to education; • Motivation to achieve standard of education in order to attain a particular employment level; and • Promote regeneration and population movement (in-immigration of people with higher education). 																																								
Cross reference	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report, March 2009, (prepared for the Forest of Dean District Council); and</p> <p>Office for National Statistics. http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</p>																																								

Subject: Health Inequality																													
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor A&E units are in Lydney and in Cinderford; • For the Forest of Dean, life expectancy at birth for males is 77.1 years and for females 82.2 years (January 2004 – December 2006); • The Forest of Dean infant mortality rate is 5.9/1000 (January 2003 – December 2005); and • The number of people in the Forest of Dean classified to be of ‘good health’ was 54,358 (April 2001). 																												
Figures/ Tables	<p>Life expectancy, 2004 - 2006</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Life Expectancy at Birth, Males</td> <td>Years</td> <td>77.1</td> <td>77.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Life Expectancy at Birth, Females</td> <td>Years</td> <td>82.2</td> <td>81.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>People's health, April 2001</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Good</td> <td>%</td> <td>68.0</td> <td>68.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fairly Good</td> <td>%</td> <td>23.6</td> <td>22.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not Good</td> <td>%</td> <td>8.5</td> <td>9.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Source: modified from Office for National Statistics</i></p>			Forest of Dean	England	Life Expectancy at Birth, Males	Years	77.1	77.3	Life Expectancy at Birth, Females	Years	82.2	81.6			Forest of Dean	England	Good	%	68.0	68.8	Fairly Good	%	23.6	22.2	Not Good	%	8.5	9.0
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Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is anticipated that the number of people classified to be of ‘good health’ is likely to increase with improved provision of safe cycling and walking routes. 																												
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved wellbeing as people feel better living in an improved local environment; • Increased health with the provision of footpaths and cycle ways that encourage people to incorporate regular exercise into their lifestyles; and • Increased employment and income with associated physical and mental health benefits. 																												
Cross reference	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report, March 2009, (prepared for the Forest of Dean District Council); and</p> <p>Office for National Statistics. www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</p>																												

Subject: Housing																					
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cinderford ward has the lowest levels of owner-occupation in the district, below 36%; • It also has the highest levels of housing association/social landlord tenure. • 9% of households are classed as ‘overcrowded’; • Household deprivation (up to 60%) is significantly higher than the county/national average (29/35%); • Population size has increased by 6% between 1991 and 2001 with growth in the 35-44 and 45-49 age bands but the younger age bands have experienced declining or only marginal population increases. This could be due to ‘pricing out’ of younger groups from the housing market and the need for entry-level housing; and • The Cinderford Business plan recommends that one job be provided for each house built. To safeguard the long-term future of the town there is a need to ensure that sites come forward for housing but these are complementary to necessary employment growth in the town. 																				
Figures/ Tables	<p>Housing tenure</p> <p>Source: Office of National Statistics</p> <p>Dwellings by tenure, April 2008</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Owner occupied/private rented</td> <td>%</td> <td>86.8</td> <td>81.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local authority</td> <td>%</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>8.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Registered social landlord</td> <td>%</td> <td>12.5</td> <td>9.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other public sector</td> <td>%</td> <td>0.6</td> <td>0.3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Office for National Statistics</p>			Forest of Dean	England	Owner occupied/private rented	%	86.8	81.8	Local authority	%	0.0	8.3	Registered social landlord	%	12.5	9.5	Other public sector	%	0.6	0.3
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	<p>Housing tenure (Local Authority rented) (Proportion of households in Local Authority rented accommodation. Gloucestershire average is 8.5%. The average for England and Wales is 13.2%).</p> <p>Gloucestershire Average = 8.5% England & Wales = 13.2%</p> <p>Proportion of Households in LA Rented Accommodation (%) (SOURCE: ONS 2001 Census (Crown Copyright))</p>  <p><i>Source: Alan Baxter Baseline Report</i></p>
Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One aim of the Cinderford Business Plan is to provide a mix of new housing types, deliver more affordable housing for first time buyers and low income families and make better use of existing housing stock; and • There is a growing housing need within the town and district as Cinderford has a lower level of owner occupation than the district and regional levels.
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the local environment through providing new, well-designed housing; and • Improving opportunities for owner-occupation of housing.
Cross reference	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report, March 2009, (prepared for the Forest of Dean District Council); and</p> <p>Office for National Statistics. www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</p>

Subject: Population																									
Summary	<p>Baseline data was collated to inform the Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report and this together with additional sources detailed below, have highlighted the following key points for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2006, the population of the Forest of Dean local authority was 81,741; • A very high proportion of the population is aged 0-15 compared to national levels; • There is a lower proportion of working age people compared to county or national levels; • An average proportion of the population is retired age; • There is a low average population density across the ward (less than 10 people per hectare); • Net population growth for the district between 1991- 2006 was 7.8%, consistent with growth rates across the county/nationally; • This was solely due to in-migration: the Cinderford district had the highest number of migrant worker registrations in the county during 2002 – 2003; and • The majority of migrants are Eastern European, which suggests the impact may not be long-term as these are primarily economic migrants who intend to return home within a few years. 																								
Figures/ Tables	<p>Age group proportions</p> <p>Source: Office of National Statistics</p> <p>Estimated population by broad ethnic group, mid-2006</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Forest of Dean</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>White</td> <td>%</td> <td>97.6</td> <td>88.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed</td> <td>%</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>1.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asian or Asian British</td> <td>%</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>5.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black or Black British</td> <td>%</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>2.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chinese or Other</td> <td>%</td> <td>0.5</td> <td>1.4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: Office for National Statistics</p>			Forest of Dean	England	White	%	97.6	88.7	Mixed	%	0.8	1.6	Asian or Asian British	%	0.7	5.5	Black or Black British	%	0.4	2.8	Chinese or Other	%	0.5	1.4
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Expected trend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With increased employment opportunities, the proportion of working age people in Cinderford is likely to increase
Influence of AAP & Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is necessary to consider the current migration patterns and demographic changes when determining the housing needs of Cinderford; and • Ensure that infrastructure planning is aligned with changing demographics.
Cross references	<p>Full commentary can be found in:</p> <p>Cinderford Northern Quarter Baseline Report, March 2009, (prepared for the Forest of Dean District Council); and</p> <p>Office for National Statistics. www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk</p>