Appendix 1: Responses to Draft Scoping Report

Organisation	Comment	Page Paragraph		Comment	Response
1 - English Heritage	1	13	8.8	Paragraph 8.8 contains a brief description of the historical development of the Borough and identifies one or two key events. I say brief because it is extremely cursory	Agree - Paragraph added to highlight the importance of the historic environment to the identity of Stockton.
	2	20	8.45	Paragraphs 8.45-47 provide a little more detail but not much. Listed Buildings are usually categorised as Grade I, II, II*.	Agree - Text added to expand on the status of the Borough's historical assets.
	3	23	9.13	Climate change has the potential to impact upon the historic components of the built environment. Reference to this would be helpful in relation to the sustainability agenda.	Agreed - reference to the historic components of the built environment has been added to paragraph 9.18.
	4	24	9.19	Advises that 4 listed buildings are at risk. This is misleading, in as much as this figure relates solely, I assume, to Grade I and II* listed buildings on the English Heritage Register. The figures should also include those buildings which are listed Grade II or of local heritage value and are at risk.	Agreed - Text added to Stage A2, baseline information, to expand on listed buildings at risk and on the situation of other heritage assets. Paragraph 9.19 has also been expanded to include reference to this additional information.
	5	24	9.19	An assessment of risk should be carried out in regard to other types of heritage asset - namely Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Monuments and other important archaeology and Conservation Areas.	Agreed - See above response.
	6	24	9.21	Welcome the observation in 9.21	Support welcomed. No changes required.
	7	27	11.10	This section begins with testing the Regeneration DPD against SA objectives. I question why the opportunity has not been taken to test the Core Strategy DPD.	The Core Strategy has already been tested in a separate Sustainability Appraisal and has been subject to a Examination in Public. The Core Strategy was adopted by the Council in March 2010.
	8	27	11.4	Nowhere is there recognition of the importance of the historic environment to the achievement of regeneration objectives, particularly in relation to delivering sustainable tourism, enhancing Stockton Town Centre (or other centres), or green infrastructure.	Noted - The comment has been noted. However, the Regeneration DPD is not intended to include policy relating to the historic environment. This document will be read in conjunction with the Core Strategy and the Environment DPD, which will contain policies for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment.
	9	27	11.4	There must be a positive relationship between DPD objective G and SA objective 10.	Agree - Change made.
	10	27	11.4	Many well loved buildings can be utilised to achieve DPD objective j, rendering the relationship likely to be compatible.	Agree - Change made
	11	27	11.4	Housing market restructuring could either be compatible or could conflict with SA objective 10, depending on whether interventions are informed by historic area characterisation.	Agree - Change Made
	12	29	11.6	I consider it inconceivable that DPD objective D could be anything other than compatible with SA Objective 10; this is despite the fact that DPD Objective D makes no reference to the historic environment as such.	Agree - Relationship changed and objective altered to include specific reference to the historic environment.
	13	30	11.8	YEAPP DPD Objective E should be expanded to make reference to buildings and features etc that lie within those areas.	Agree - Objective E amended to include reference to historic buildings and features.
	14	31	11.9	Government accepts that the historic environment has a role to play in achieving sustainable communities. As such, SPD objective A is likely to be compatible with SA objective 10.	Noted - The SPD has been removed from the Scoping Report as the Planning Act 2008 has removed the requirement for SPDs to be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal providing the parent DPD has been appraised.
	15	31	11.9	Applying BREEAM standards to existing buildings could be compatible or could conflict depending on the manner in which the work is carried out. The same could be said of SPD objective D and SA objective 10.	See above response.

Organisation Comment		Page Paragraph		Comment	Response
1 - English Heritage	16	32	11.1	If the development of the North Shore will be achieved in conjunction with improvements to the link between it and Stockton town centre, it must necessarily bring with it benefits to the conservation area and the Church Road are in particular. There must therefore be compatibility between SPD objective D and SA objective 10.	The Greater North Shore Design Framework SPD will not be progressed and reference to it has been removed from the Scoping Report.
2 - One North East	1			The Agency welcomes the Council's intention to reflect the current policy framework, including the sustainability objectives of the Integrated Regional Framework (IRF) produced by Sustaine.	No change requested. Support Welcomed.
3 - Sport England	1	25	10.6	Sport England considers documents, such as the Regional Plan for Sport and Physical Activity, North East Regional Facilities Strategy and Stockton PPG17 Local Needs Assessment, should have been used to inform the development of sustainability objectives.	Agreed - Reference to these documents has been included in Appendix 1.
	2	25	10.6	It is disappointing that sport and recreation is not included within/or referred to by at least one of the sustainability objectives.	Noted - However, the sustainability objectives have been developed from the Intregrated Regional Framework. While i is acknowledged that sport and recreation are not referred to explicitly, it is considered that increasing participation in spor and recreational activites will be a key action to achieve objective 6- improved health and well being.
	3	21	9	It is considered that the scope of the document is light on the social issues. There is no mention of health or "quality of life" within Stage A3.	Agreed - Improving health and well being as been added as an issue for the Borough. Text has been added which clarifie the link between increasing sport and physical activity and improving health and well being.
	4	61		Sport England suggested the following as potential indicators; Healthy Communities - percentage of adults participating in sport and physical activity. Inclusive Communities - satisfaction with local sports facilities / percentage of population 20 minutes of 3 sports facilities.	Agreed - Three new indicators have been added to measure participation in sport and physical activity, satisfaction with leisure provision and to record self-reported measure of hea and well being.
4 - Natural England	1	14	8.7	This should also refer to the Growth Point status in the Borough.	Agreed - Text referring to to Growth Point Status added to Stage A2.
	2	17	8.28	Natural Environment / Environmental Infrastructure These sections should include baseline data on landscape character, biodiversity and geodiversity resources, access to greenscape and the green infrastructure network in the Borough; and information should be provided/linked to the emerging Stockton Green Infrastructure Strategy and emerging Stockton Landscape Character Assessment.	Agreed - Information relating to landscape character, biodiversity and geodiversity sites and open space and gree infrastructure has been added to Stage A2.
	3	18	8.33	The most up to date position on SSSI condition can be found on the Natural England website.	Agreed -The condition assessment data compiled in July 200 was viewed and used to update the figure relating to the % ir favourable condition. The Borough's position in relation to national and regional levels remains the same.
	4	18	8.32	(8.35 and 8.36) refers only to North East Region - what is the position in Stockton on Tees Borough?	Noted - However, the data relating to bird populations, river quality and environmental stewardship is only compiled on a regional basis. The river quality data has been updated to reflect the most recent 2008 assessment.
	5	20	8.42	This section should refer to walking and cycling routes in the Borough, linked to the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.	Agreed - Information on Public Rights of Way and data from the Rights of Way Improvement Plan has been added to this section.
	6	21	9	This information should be in the previous sections on p17/18. Some of the information is replicated within para 9.17. Part of the Cleveland Coast and Teesmouth SPA/Ramsar site is within the Borough.	Agreed - Information has been included within Stage A2 and reference has been made to the Cleveland Coast and Teesmouth SPA/Ramsar site.

Organisation	Comment	Page	Paragraph	Comment	Response
4 - Natural England	7	21	9	This section should also refer to the need to reflect the objectives in the emerging green infrastructure strategy and landscape character assessment.	Agreed - Reference made to the need for protection of the rural landscape character and green infrastructure.
	8	29	11.6	Suggest A should read ' protect and enhance special habitats, species and geodiversity'.	Agreed - Objective changed.
	9	29	11.6	Suggest B should read ' protect and enhance landscape quality and character, and countryside'.	Agreed - Objective changed.
	10	35		Appendix 1;	Agreed - The recommended documents have been included into Appendix 1 with the exception of the Tees Forest Plan,
				International, National, Regional and Local documents suggested.	which is no longer a valid document.
	11	35	0	Typo Ramsar Convention;	Agreed - Change made.
				waterfowl not waterfoul	
	12	62	0	SA7	Agreed - Indicators added to consider local sites, BAP
				This should also consider data/indicators covering landscape quality and character; local sites, BAP habitats, Angst standards, green infrastructure network.	habitats, percentage of the population within 300m of an area of urban natural green space and development within strategic gaps.
	13	68	0	SA9 This could link to data collected as part of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.	Agreed - Indicator added to measure percentage of Public Rights of Way that are easy to use.
	14	78	0	Typo - should read landscape character.	Agreed - Change made.
5 - England and Lyle (on behalf of Northumbrian Water)	1	12		In order to allow the careful phasing of the future implementation of development plans and programmes, NWL would advise that it is important for the LDF, SA and SEA to take account of the Company's five-year investment plan. This will allow the Company to plan and time strategic investment in its infrastructure as necessitated by futue areas of growth and sites to be allocated.	Not Agreed - Supporting infrastructure capacity is a consideration within the LDF process. However, it is considered that the most appropriate place to deal with this issue is through the Infrastructure Strategy, on which Northumbrian Water will be fully consulted.
	2	12		NWL consider adequate infrastructure capacity should be available to support future development in the Borough - subject to early and full consultations on the detail of location, size and phasing of proposed developments.	Supporting infrastructure capacity is dealt with in the LDF process through the Infrastructure Strategy.
	3	13		Although NWL is not aware at this present time of any further Baseline Indicators, the Company notes that the Scoping Report does not make explicit reference to Utilities Infrastructure as a key issue of sustainability. On this basis, the Company would continue to seek consultation at the earliest possible stage on proposals to ensure key issues and problems with water and sewerage infrastructure can be addressed by the LDF.	The provison of supporting infrastructure is considered within the Infrastructure Strategy. NWL will be fully consulted on the document.
	4	22	9.7	In relation to the sustainability of Economic Growth the Company has identified potential water supply capacity issue in relation to proposed development at Wynyard. In addition, when considering the de-allocation of employment and mixed sites for alternative uses, NWL would strongly advise that the capacity of the water and sewerage infrastructure should be taken into account.	The capacity of the water and sewage system will be considered within the Infrastructure Strategy.
	5	23	9.15	NWL is currently considering how best to contribute to the Regions SFRAs and also any SWMPs and WCS. Nevertheless, the Company would request to be closely involved in the SFRA and considers that the SFRA should address the risk of flooding from all sources, in compliance with PPS25.	No changes required - The SFRA is produced in a separate process. Comments will be noted.
	6	25		NWL support the 10 Sustainability Objectives identified on pages 25-26 of the report and considers that they encompass all necessary issues.	No change required - Support is welcomed.
6 - Environment Agency	1	24	9.17	Para 9.17 should be amended to include the Major Sandstone Aquifer which is an important geological feature. It's protection and quality must be taken into consideration within the LDF.	Agree - Paragraph amended

Organisation	Comment	Page Paragraph	Comment	Response
6 - Environment Agency	2	25	The impacts of flooding and climate change have been addressed in over- arching objectives, however we would strongly suggest that they also be included in the objectives of the DPDs. These principles are particularly important to incorporate into large scale regeneration schemes as these are located in areas that are already prone to flooding, and the risk will only increase over time due to the effects of climate change.	Agree - New objective added for Regneration DPD.
	3	30	The Yarm and Eaglescliffe AAP. The objectives for this area should include provision to ensure that flood risk to people and property is not increased. This is a key issue in these areas and should be addressed within any Supplementary Planning Document.	Not agreed - The YEAPP will not encourage development within the Yarm area and does not, therefore, consider issues of flood risk. The main flooding related policies within the Core Strategy will apply to any development within this area.
	4	35	Appendix 1 should be amended to include the following relevant documents: Contaminated Land Reprt 11 (CLR11) ' Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination'; and Groundwater Daughter Directive 2006/118/EC; and Circular 03/99.	Agreed - Suggested documents have been added to Appendix 1.
	5	55	We consider that the comparator/trend for indicator 2v is appropriate. The following comparator/trend should also be included: Number of applications incorporating SUDs.	Noted - Individual indicators relating to flood risk were agreed seperately between Stockton Borough Council, JBA Consulting and the Environment Agency.
	6	55	Regarding indicator 2vi, we consider that the comparators/trends are not appropriate to demonstrate that this indicator has been achieved. We consider that the following comparator/trend would be more appropriate: No applications approved contrary to the Environment Agency's advice. We refer you to the High Level Target 5 Report (HLT5), which is undertaken by the Environment Agency and a copy can be provided.	Noted - Individual indicators relating to flood risk were agreed seperately between Stockton Borough Council, JBA Consulting and the Environment Agency.
	7	58	The amount of new developments to be built on previously developed land should be informed by the recently adopted RSS, which indicates 70% in Tees Valley by 2008 and 75% in the North East by 2016. We consider that indicator 3iv should be amended to reflect these regional targets.	Agreed - Data for indicator updated.
	8	63	PPS9 states that SSSIs should be given a high degree of protection uder the planning system and we consider that this requirement will not be met. We consider that the comparator/trend should be amended to ensure that all SSSI's are in recovering or favourable condition and that there is no further destruction or harm caused by development proposals in the future.	Part Agreed - Target of 95% in favourable or recovering condition to be maintained in line with PSA target. However, additional target of no increase in percentage unfavourable or destroyed has been added to ensure no further increase in harm caused by development proposals.