

Appendix 1 – SEA Directive self-assessment

Information required in SEA Directive	Where addressed in the Scoping Report / draft SA Report
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is (Art. 5 and Annex I):	This draft SA Report and appendices incorporate the SA findings of both the ‘issues and options’ and ‘preferred options’ stages of the Core Strategy. Specific requirements are set out in the column below:
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	Scoping Report ‘context review’ (task A1); Task B1 (para 5.2.1 – 5.2.8) in the draft SA Report.
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.	Scoping Report ‘baseline information’ (task A2); Draft SA Report – Task B2 – B5 and Appendix 3.
c) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	Scoping Report ‘baseline information’ (task A2) and ‘sustainability issues’ (task A3).
d) any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.	Scoping Report task A3 ‘sustainability issues’; Draft SA Report – para 2.3.5. 2.3.6 Appropriate Assessment explanation.
e) the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	Scoping Report ‘context review’ (task A1) identifies relevant policies, plans, programmes, strategies and initiatives (PPPSI’s). The SA Framework (task A4) in the Scoping Report shows how these have influenced the choice of SA objectives and therefore plan preparation.
f) the likely significant effects ¹ on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.	Issues and Options – Appendix 2 and chapter 4 of the draft SA Report. Preferred Options – Appendix 3, 4, 5 and 6 and chapter 5 of the draft SA Report.
g) the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any	Issues and Options – para 4.5.1, and Appendix 2,

¹ These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects.

significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.	Preferred Options – chapter 5 and Appendices 3, 4 and 6.
h) an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.	Some specific examples of how the Issues and Options led to the preferred options being selected in chapter 4; “difficulties in compiling the required information” will be included in final SA Report.
i) a description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10.	Draft SA Report chapter 6 sets out the proposed measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Core Strategy, which will be documented in the Annual Monitoring Report. These are indicative at this stage and will be finalised when the ‘publication’ version of the Core Strategy is produced.
j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	A non-technical summary will be produced alongside the final SA Report.
The report shall include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Art. 5.2).	This will be completed as part of Stage C ‘preparing the SA Report’.
<p>Consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4). 	The draft Scoping Report was sent to the statutory consultees (the Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage) and selected others including neighbouring local authorities, Government Office for the South West and the Regional Development Agency – the full list is in Appendix 1 of the Scoping Report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities with environmental responsibility and the public shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Art. 6.1, 6.2). 	The draft Scoping Report was sent to the statutory consultees (the Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage) and selected others including neighbouring local authorities, Government Office for the South West and the Regional

	Development Agency. The draft SA Report is published for consultation alongside the 'draft Core Strategy incorporating preferred options' when a wide range of stakeholders will be encouraged to respond.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7). 	N/A.
Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8).	This will be incorporated into the final SA Report following consultation on the Core Strategy preferred options.
<p>Provision of information on the decision: When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted shall be informed and the following made available to those so informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan or programme as adopted. A statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report pursuant to Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Article 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Article 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and The measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9 and 10). 	N/A at this stage – to be prepared on adoption of the Core Strategy.
Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10).	This will be addressed in the significant effects indicators within the LDF Annual Monitoring Report – the proposed indicators are set out in Figure 6.1 in chapter 6.
Quality assurance: environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive (Art. 12).	This self-assessment demonstrates that the standard requirements of the SEA Directive have been met, or will be met within the forthcoming Stages C and D on preparing and publishing the final SA Report. Independent expert consultants (Scott Wilson) have reviewed the draft SA report.