

Draft SEA Screening Determination Letter and Sustainability Appraisal Review

Revised Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document

April 2015



1. Background

- 1.1 Following the adoption of the Core Strategy in September 2010, the Council produced and adopted a Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in January 2012. The adopted Planning Obligations SPD includes guidance on the S106 planning contributions that the Council seeks, to mitigate adverse effects of development on the borough's infrastructure, as well as adverse effects of development at the site-specific level.
- 1.2 From April 2015, the Council will charge a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to mitigate any borough-wide impacts of development and therefore the scope for negotiating Planning Obligations Agreements will become more limited to infrastructure requirements that are site specific in nature and not covered by CIL The Council therefore needs to update the Planning Obligations SPD to address these changes.
- 1.3 This document considers whether the proposed Revised Planning Obligations SPD should be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and provides a Sustainability Appraisal Review (SA). This document constitutes the Council's Determination Letter and accompanying Statement of Reasons.

2. The Revised Planning Obligations SPD

- 2.1 The Revised Planning Obligations SPD will set out guidance on how the Council will continue to apply planning obligations (also known as S106) following the introduction of CIL. Future use of Planning Obligations will be in accordance with Regulation 122 of The CIL Regulations 2010. Therefore, a Planning Obligation may only be entered into where the obligation is:
 - (a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms:
 - (b) directly related to the development; and
 - (c) fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.
- 2.2 Funds to support the delivery of local and strategic infrastructure that is required as a result of new development such as transport schemes, open spaces, schools and community facilities, will now be secured through CIL.

3. Purpose of this SA Review

- 3.1 An SA considers the potential impacts of a planning policy document on the environment, the economy, and society. It does this by assessing the extent to which the planning document will help achieve a set of objectives that cover a range of issues, including air quality, landscape, water, health and the population. The SA also has to satisfy the requirements of the EC Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain planning documents and programmes on the environment (known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment [SEA] Directive).
- 3.2 There is no longer a statutory requirement for the Council to produce an SA for Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD), however, the requirement remains for Development Plan Documents (DPD). An SA was undertaken for the Council's Core Strategy 2025, and the emerging Managing Development DPD.
- 3.3 Although it is not a statutory requirement to prepare an SA for SPDs, in pursuing best practice the Council has undertaken an SA Review for the Planning Obligations SPD. This SA review does not constitute an SA satisfying the EC Directive 2001/42/EC (or accompanying regulations), however, it will enable the Council to ensure that the social, economic and environmental impacts of the draft Planning Obligations SPD have been considered and that the SPD is a robust and coherent document that considers all aspects of sustainability. This document will also provide an efficient method of determining if the SPD is compatible with the sustainability objectives established in the SA for the Core Strategy.
- 3.4 This SA Review draws heavily on the SA review undertaken as a part of the evidence base for the adopted Planning Obligations SPD. The Revised Planning Obligations SPD is also supported by an Equalities Analysis (EA) Scoping Report. Following an external consultation on the SPD, between April to May 2015, any required changes which impact the Sustainability Appraisal will be reassessed.

4. SEA Screening Determination

Legislation

- 4.1 An SEA is an assessment of the likely effects of a plan or programme on the environment. The requirement for SEA is set down in the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC) which was transposed into UK law in 2004 through The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (known as the 'SEA Regulations').
- 4.2 The Revised Planning Obligations SPD is considered to be a plan/programme as defined by the SEA Regulations. Regulation 9 of

the SEA Regulations require the responsible authority (in this case LBTH) to determine whether or not a plan or programme is likely to have significant environmental effects and would therefore be subject to an SEA.

Previous SEAs

- 4.3 The Council has previously undertaken a Sustainability Appraisal for the Core Strategy. The Sustainability Appraisal for the Core Strategy also satisfied the requirements of the EC Directive 2001/42/EC and SEA Regulations on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.
- 4.4 The adopted Planning Obligations SPD is a supplementary document to the Core Strategy. The adopted Planning Obligations SPD was therefore considered to be in-keeping with what had already been assessed within the Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal and therefore an SEAs not required.
- 4.5 Following consultation on the determination with the statutory environmental bodies (Environment Agency, English Heritage and Natural England) as defined in Regulation 4(1) of the SEA Regulations, responses were received from the Environment Agency and Natural England (previously English Nature), both of whom confirmed that the Planning Obligations SPD does not require an SEA to be undertaken as the SPD was considered to be an elaboration of an existing plan and is therefore a 'minor modification' of that plan as defined by Regulation 5(6) of the SEA Regulations, and is unlikely to have significant effects.

5. Decision (Determination Letter)

- 5.1 This Determination Letter considers the Revised Planning Obligations SPD in relation to the previous assessments, to determine whether there would be any new likely significant effects.
- 5.2 Consideration has been given to the likely significant effects 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.
- 5.3 Regulation 5(6) identifies when an environmental assessment does not need to be carried out, which is either the use of a small area at local level, or for a minor modification to a plan or programme, unless it has been determined that it is likely to have significant environmental effects.

- 5.4 The Revised Planning Obligations SPD does not introduce new mechanisms under which a S106 contribution shall be required, rather it refines the Council's approach by removing the requirement to mitigate some forms of development impacts through S106 in favour of CIL.
- 5.5 LBTH has determined that an SEA is not required as the Revised Planning Obligations SPD is a 'minor modification' of a previous plan and significant effects are not likely.
- 5.6 Regulation 9 (3) of the SEA Regulations requires that where it has been determined that a plan or programme is unlikely to have significant effects (and accordingly does not require an environmental assessment) a Statement of Reasons should be prepared. This is set out in Table 3.

6. Consultation

6.1 A copy of this SEA Determination Letter and Statement of Reasons can be viewed online here:

http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgsl/501-550/register_of_planning_decisions/section_106_planning_obligatio.a spx

- 6.2 A copy will also be available for inspection by the public as at the Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London E14 2BG.
- 6.3 If you require any further assistance, please contact the Infrastructure Planning Team on 020 7364 1666/6363 or email CIL@towerhamlets.gov.uk

7. Revised Planning Obligations SPD Context

7.1 Table 1 below provides an overview of the Revised Planning Obligations SPD. For further details, please refer to the Revised Planning Obligations SPD.

Trovidua i laining Obii,	y
Legislative Context	Review of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990.
	 Review of Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (Regulation 122 and Regulation 123).
Policy and Guidance Context	 Review of national guidance contained within Planning Policy Statement 1 and Planning Policy Statement 12.
	 Focus on guidance contained within Circular 05/2005 which details the use of Planning Obligations.
	 Review of Regional Policy, the Draft Replacement London Plan 2010.
	 Review of Local Policy and Guidance including the Council's Community Plan 2008/2009, emerging Development Plan Documents and Area Actions Plans and the Unitary Development Plan saved policies 1998.
Approach to	Summary of the Approach to development mitigation and Infrastructure Delivery
Infrastructure	Summary of the Council's proposed use of CIL
Delivery	 Summary of the Council's proposed use of S106
Negotiating Planning	 Liaising with the Council at the pre-application stage.
Obligations	 Submission of Planning Obligation details at application stage.
	 Where application is unable to provide the contributions, a Viability Assessment is required to be submitted alongside a planning application.
Standard Obligations	This section sets out the standard Planning Obligations that the Council will seek.
and Charges	 Each Planning Obligation has been set out individually with 'justification', 'threshold' and 'approach'.
Procedure and	 Information relating to monitoring and managing planning agreements including details of;
Management	monitoring fees
	trigger points
	 pooling of contributions
	• interest bearing accounts
	• penalty clause and enforcement of obligations
	• complying with planning obligations
	monitoring and delivering planning obligations

8. Sustainability Appraisal Review

- 8.1 The objectives from the Core Strategy's SA have been used to assess the adopted Planning Obligations SPD and the Revised Planning Obligations SPD. The purpose of this exercise is to identify any negative impacts in the Revised Planning Obligations SPD, and where appropriate identify mitigation measures. The results of this assessment are set out in Table 3: Statement of Reasons.
- 8.2 In general, it is considered that the Revised SPD will contribute to achieving the principles of sustainable development and is aligned with the SA objectives established in the Core Strategy. It performs well against the SA objectives and no instances were identified where the Revised Planning Obligations SPD would conflict with the SA objectives.
- 8.3 Table 3 presents the results of the assessment against each SA objective using the key below in Table 2. Effects are permanent and of borough wide significance unless indicated otherwise in the commentary box.

Table 2: Criteria for Determining Significance of the Effect

Potential for significant positive effect	++
Potential for a minor positive effect	+
No relationship	
Potential for a minor negative effect	-
Potential for significant negative effect	
Uncertainty	?

Table 3: Statement of Reasons

Sustainability Objective and Questions to Consider As set out by the Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy (2009)	Objective Met?	Comments	Recommendations / Mitigation
 Biodiversity: To conserve and enhance natural habitats and wildlife and bring nature closer to people. Will it conserve and enhance habitats and species in accordance with the Local Biodiversity Action Plan. In particular, will it avoid harm to national or London priority species and designated sites and habitats and species identified in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan? Will it provide for the long-term management of natural habitats and wildlife? Will it improve the quality and extent of designated and non-designated sites with the intention of achieving a net gain in biodiversity? Will it provide opportunities to enhance the environment and create new conservation assets (or restore existing wildlife habitats) for example by integrating the creation of new habitats into the design of new buildings and areas? Will it protect and enhance the borough's water bodies to achieve a good ecological status? 	+	The Council will seek contributions towards enhancements to Biodiversity from all major residential and commercial developments. Where it is considered unfeasible to provide adequate on-site enhancements the Council will seek an equivalent financial contribution for off-site projects.	The Biodiversity measures respond to the impacts of climate change and an increasingly dense cityscape by maintaining areas of biodiversity value and encouraging appropriate biodiversity enhancements within the borough.

the enjoyment and benefits of the natural environment? Will it bring nature closer to people, especially in the most urbanised parts of the borough, for example through the use of green and brown roofs? Will it improve access to areas of biodiversity interest? Will it enhance the ecological function and carrying capacity of the green space network? Water Quality & Water Resources: To improve the quality of surface waters and groundwater and to achieve the wise management and sustainable use of water resources. Will it reduce discharges to surface and groundwater? Will it support sustainable urban drainage? Will it improve the water systems infrastructure (e.g. water supply/sewerage)? Will it reduce abstraction form surface and groundwater sources? Will it reduce water consumption?	+	Through the Environmental Sustainability section of the SPD, obligations may be secured towards site specific flood risk mitigation measures such as Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SUDs)	Further assessment to be provided at the detailed planning application stage, to mitigate any adverse impacts on water quality and resources.
 Will it encourage the consideration of the water cycle? 			
 Natural Resources: To minimise the global, social and environmental impact of consumption of resources by using sustainably produced, harvested and manufactured local products. Will it reduce the demand for natural resources and raw materials from unsustainable sources? Will it encourage the prudent and efficient use of natural resources? 		The principle of the objective falls outside of the Revised SPD.	Further assessment to be provided at the detailed planning application stage and through the negotiation of planning obligations, to minimise impact of

productsWill it recapita?	duce the extraction of minerals? duce the borough's ecological footprint per	+	Through the	development upon natural resources. Further assessment to
change thro greenhouse prepared for Will it mi Will it he Will it re London's Will it pr impacts' Will it av change? Will it he climate of Will it mi watercor Will it ma	ugh minimising the emissions of gases and ensuring that London is its impacts. nimise emissions of greenhouse gases? It London meet its emissions targets? duce the numbers of cars entering scongestion charge zone? otect the borough from climate change? oid exacerbating the impacts of climate of change? high the borough adapt to the impacts of change? nimise the risk of flooding from rivers and curses to people and property? anage existing flood risks appropriately id new flood risks?		Environmental Sustainability section of the SPD, financial obligations may be secured to mitigate the impacts of climate change.	be provided at the detailed planning application stage and through the negotiating of planning obligations, to minimise impacts of development on climate change.
_	To improve air quality	+	Through the Sustainable	Further assessment to
	prove air quality?		Transport section of the SPD, both financial or	be provided at the detailed planning
	elp to reduce emissions of PM10, NO ₂ ? duce emissions of ozone depleting		non-financial obligations	application stage and
substan			may be secured to	through the
Will it he standard	elp to achieve national and international dis for air quality (for example, those set out r Quality Regulations 2000 and		mitigate the impacts of air quality through Car Free agreements and sustainable transport	negotiating of planning obligations, to minimise impacts of development on air

(Amendment) Regulations 2002? (See objective 10 for further details on transport criteria including the provision of infrastructure to achieve a modal shift)		measures.	quality.
 Energy: To achieve greater energy efficiency and to reduce reliance on fossil fuels for transport, heating, energy and electricity. Will it reduce the demand and need for energy? Will it promote and improve energy efficiency (e.g. buildings)? Will it increase the proportion of energy both purchased and generated from renewable and sustainable resources? 	+	Through the Environmental Sustainability and Sustainable Transport sections of the SPD, obligations are secured to mitigate the impacts of energy inefficiency.	Further assessment to be provided at the detailed planning application stage and through the negotiating of planning obligations, to minimise impacts of development on energy efficiency.
 Waste: To minimise the production of waste across all sectors and increase reuse, recycling, remanufacturing and recovery rates. Will it minimise the production of household and commercial waste? Will it promote reuse and recycling (e.g. in the design of housing or promoting recycling schemes in existing building stock etc) particularly in high density developments? Will it help the borough achieve its statutory waste recycling targets? Will it help to promote a market for recycled products? 		The principle of the objective falls outside of the Revised SPD.	Planning applications to provide details of waste and waste management.

 Built and Historic Environment: To enhance and protect the existing built environment (including the architectural distinctiveness, townscape/landscape and archaeological heritage), and ensure new buildings are appropriately designed and constructed in a sustainable way. Will it protect and enhance sites, features and areas of historical, archaeological and cultural value/potential and their settings? Will it conserve and enhance the townscape/cityscape character including the protection of views and landmark buildings? Will it promote access to the historic environment and also contribute to better understanding of the historic environment? Will it promote high quality design and sustainable construction methods? Will it respect visual amenity and the spatial diversity of communities? Will it enhance the quality of the public realm? Will it protect and enhance areas of open space? Will it promote the creation of new accessible local parks and facilities on the City Fringe? Will it improve access to open space and improve the quality and quantity of publicly accessible greenspace? 	Through the Public Realm, Public Access and Play Space section of the SPD, obligations would be secured where applicable for • restoration and enhancement works to buildings linked to development within conservation areas or with listed status • safeguarding an area's on-going use as publically accessible open space and future maintenance to an appropriate standard • appropriate play provision (welldesigned play and recreation space) to meet the needs arising from the development.
Social Objectives Housing: To ensure that all Londoners have access to	+ Through the Affordable Further assessment to
good quality, well-located, affordable housing that	Housing, Employment, be provided at the

promotes liveability.

- Will it reduce homelessness?
- Will it reduce the number of unfit homes, including those owned by Registered Social Landlords?
- Will it reduce overcrowding?
- Will it increase the range and affordability (both upfront and over its lifetime) of housing (taking into account different requirements and preferences of size, location, type and tenure)?
- Will it ensure that appropriate services and facilities are in place for the new population?
- Will it provide housing that ensures a good standard of living and promotes a healthy lifestyle?
- Will it increase the number of Local Authority dwellings that meet the 'decent homes' standard?
- Will it increase use of sustainable design and sustainable building materials in construction?
- Will it improve energy efficiency and insulation in housing to reduce fuel poverty and ill health?
- Will it provide housing that encourages a sense of community and enhances the amenity value of the community?

Skills Training and Enterprise, Transport and Highways, Public Realm, Public Access and Children's Play Space and Environmental Sustainability sections of the SPD, obligations may be secured for:

- increasing the range and affordability of housing
- increasing the use of sustainable design and sustainable building materials in construction
- improving energy efficiency and insulation in housing to reduce fuel poverty and ill health?
- providing housing that encourages a sense of community and enhances the amenity value of the community

detailed planning application stage and through the negotiating of planning obligations on a site by site basis subject to viability.

Liveability and Place: To create and sustain liveable, mixed use physical and social environments that promote long- term social cohesion, sustainable lifestyles and a sense of place. • Will it create and sustain vibrant and diverse communities and encourage increased engagement in recreational, leisure and cultural activities? • Will it increase the provision of culture, leisure and recreational activities for all: this could include quality, affordable and healthy food, as well as cultural, sporting, or leisure opportunities including those associated with the Olympic legacy? • Will it provide opportunities for people to choose an active, fulfilling life? • Will it increase the provision of key services, facilities and employment opportunities? • Will it positively enhance and promote the perceived sense of place held by the community? • Will it protect and enhance the provision of open space? • Will it reduce the urban heat island effect associated with increasingly dense development?	+	Through the Employment, Skills Training and Enterprise , Transport and Highways , Public Realm, Public Access and Children's Play Space and Environmental Sustainability sections of the SPD, obligations would be secured where applicable for: Increasing employment opportunities protecting and enhancing the provision of open space enhancing and promoting sense of place held by the community? reducing the urban heat island effect associated with increasingly dense development	The Council can also use CIL receipts to fund strategic improvements to Liveability and Place
Education and Skills: To maximise the education and skills levels of the population. Will it increase the opportunities for educational and vocational goals to be achieved through	+	The SPD requires applicants to make a contribution towards local employment opportunities	The Council will use CIL receipts to support delivery of infrastructure which

 employment and entrepreneurial opportunities? Will it provide the infrastructure to help increase the levels of participation and attainment in education? Will it improve overall achievement of the borough's primary and secondary school children? Will it help improve employee education/training programmes? Will it help improve the qualifications and skills of young people? Will it help promote lifelong learning activities? Will it help support the voluntary sector and promote volunteering? Will it help promote sustainable development education? Will it help reduce skills shortages? Will it help to reduce the disparity in educational achievement between different ethnic groups? Will it promote multiple uses of schools? 	and skills acquisition commensurate with the proposed scheme. Obligations include commitments to engage local labour and provide training associated with the construction and end user stage of the development. Education falls outside the SPD remit and impacts of development will be mitigated through planning conditions and CIL.	
 Ownership and Participation: To promote civic participation, ownership and responsibility and enable individuals, groups and communities to contribute to decision-making at neighbourhood, borough and regional levels in London. Will it promote social cohesion and encourage engagement in community activities? Will it increase the ability of people to influence decisions? Will it support civic engagement and encourage the involvement and participation of a diverse range of stakeholders? 	The principle of the objective falls outside of the Revised SPD Developers are encouraged to undertake communi engagement with lo residents and stakeholders. The Council also undertakes consultation with local residents and stakeholders during the Planning	cal

 Will it promote community spirit and encourage community networks? Has consideration been given to cross boundary issues and the potential for working in conjunction with other authorities? 			Application stage.
 Health and Well-being: To maximise the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health. Will it reduce poverty and health inequalities? Will it improve mental wellbeing? Will it improve access to high quality public services (including health facilities)? Will it address the causes of key health issues including high rates of cardio-vascular disease and lung cancer? Will it create an environment that will promote and support physical activity and other healthy behaviours?? Will it improve access by active travel means such as walking, cycling and public transport? 	+	Through the Public Realm, Public Access and Play Space section of the SPD, obligations would be secured where applicable for:	The Council will also mitigate the impacts of new developments on the borough's health facilities using CIL receipts following an assessment of local needs.
 Safety and Security: To enhance community safety by reducing crime, antisocial behaviour and the fear of crime. Will it help reduce the number of vehicle crimes? Will it help reduce the number of burglaries? Will it help reduce the number of racial incidents? Will it reduce the fear of crime? Will it reduce antisocial behaviour? Will it reduce actual noise levels and disturbances 		The principle of the objective falls outside of the Revised SPD.	Planning applications will be required to submit a statement to ensure development does not have a significant adverse impact on the safety and security of the existing and proposed

from noise?			built environment.
Will it reduce the risk of terrorist attack?			
 Equality and diversity: To ensure equitable outcomes for all communities, particularly those most liable to experience discrimination, poverty and social exclusion. Will it reduce poverty and social exclusion in those areas and communities most affected? Will it promote a culture of equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment? Will it promote equality for black and minority ethnic communities, women, disabled people, lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people, older people, young people, children and faith groups? Will it benefit the equality target groups listed above? 	+	Securing contributions through Affordable Housing, Employment, Skills Training and Enterprise, Transport and Highways, Public Realm, Public Access and Children's Play Space and Environmental Sustainability sections will assist in improving social cohesion and help towards achieving positive equality outcomes throughout the borough.	The thrust of Equality and Diversity policies are held within the adopted Core Strategy and Managing Development DPDs. The Revised Planning Obligations SPD is also supported by Equalities Impact Analysis which identifies no negative effect on equalities groups.
Economic Objectives			
 Accessibility / Availability (Transport): To maximise the accessibility to key services and amenities and increase the proportion of journeys made by public transport, by bicycle and by foot (relative to those taken by car). Will it encourage a modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel as well as encourage greater efficiency (e.g. through car-sharing and use of waterways)? Will it provide the infrastructure required to achieve a modal shift to more sustainable forms of transport? Will it reduce the overall need for people to travel 	+	The Sustainable Transport and Public Realm, Public Access and Children's Play Space sections of the SPD will improve accessibility and encourage a modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel	Strategic transport requests will be submitted during the Planning Application stage by Transport for London. These include contributions towards provision of an improved public transport system.

h,	v improving their access to the convices light			1
	y improving their access to the services, jobs, sisure and amenities in the place in which they			
	/e?			
1				
1	/ill it reduce traffic volumes and traffic			
1	ongestion?			
	/ill it reduce the length of commuting journeys?			
	/ill it help to provide a more integrated transport			
	ervice from start to finish i.e. place of residence to			
	oint of service use or place of employment?			
	/ill it increase the capacity of public transport?			
	/ill it increase the number of sub-regional and			
	rbital public transport routes that reduce reliance			
OI	n the car?			
• W	/ill it promote locally-based employment?			
• W	/ill it improve accessibility to work by public			
tra	ansport, walking and cycling?			
• W	/ill it reduce road traffic accidents?			
• W	/ill it promote inter-borough connectivity?			
Rege	eneration & Land Use: To stimulate regeneration	+	Securing contributions	A full assessment will
and u	urban renaissance that maximises benefits for the		through the Affordable	be considered during
most	deprived areas and communities and to improve		Housing, Employment,	the detailed Planning
efficie	ency in land use through the sustainable reuse of		Skills Training and	Application stage.
previo	ously developed land and existing buildings.		Enterprise, Transport and	_
• W	/ill it provide a viable network of complementary		Highways, Public Realm,	
Ce	entres?		Public Access and	
• W	/ill the regeneration have immediate and long-		Children's Play Space	
l te	erm benefits for deprived areas?		and Environmental	
• W	/ill it help to make people feel positive about the		Sustainability sections	
	rea they live in?		may make people feel	
	/ill it help to create a sense of place and		positive about the area	
	ibrancy'?		they live in and help to	
	•		create a sense of place	

 Will it help reduce the number of vacant and derelict buildings? Will it minimise the loss of soils to development? Will it improve soil quality and tackle contamination? 		and 'vibrancy'.	
 Employment: To offer everyone the opportunity for rewarding, well-located and satisfying employment. Will it generate satisfying and rewarding new jobs? Will it help to provide employment in the most deprived areas and stimulate regeneration? Will it reduce overall unemployment, particularly long-term unemployment? Will it help to improve levels of income and help to deliver a living wage to all? Will it encourage flexibility of work, including voluntary and part-time work? Will it encourage volunteering and promote the value of unpaid work? Will it encourage the development of healthy workplaces? Will new employment opportunities be well served by public transport? 	+	The Employment, Skills Training and Enterprise section of the SPD seeks to provide new employment opportunities and training.	Further assessment of employment options are to be considered during the Planning Application stage.
 Stable Economy: To encourage a strong, diverse and stable economy and to improve the resilience of businesses and their environmental, social and economic performance. Will it improve sustainable business development? Will it improve the resilience of business and the economy? 	+	The Employment, Skills Training and Enterprise, section of the SPD seeks to provide new employment opportunities and to protect existing and provide for new facilities for small and medium	Whist major residential and commercial developments will be required to provide employment opportunities and provision of Small and

 Will it help to diversify the economy? Will it prevent the loss of indigenous businesses? Will it encourage business start-ups and support the growth of businesses? Will it encourage ethical and responsible investment? Will it reduce levels of deprivation? Will it safeguard the best of the employment land portfolio? 		enterprises.	Medium Enterprise (SME) units for start up businesses where appropriate, the SPD does not in itself facilitate a 'sustainable economy'. Applications are able to submit viability assessments should they consider that a scheme cannot be delivered with the provision of all Planning Obligations.
 Creativity and Innovation: To promote creativity and innovation in the environmental and social economy (including new clean technologies, renewable energy, pollution control and the skills sector). Will it help to diversify the economy? Will it encourage investment in new technologies, new solutions, new plans and new ideas that contribute to achieving progress towards sustainability? Will it boost the green technology sector? 	+	The Environmental Sustainability section of the SPD encourages the use of new technologies that contribute towards achieving sustainable environments.	Further assessment to be provided at the detailed planning application stage and through the negotiating of planning obligations, to promote sustainable creativity and innovation.