

**Department of the Environment,  
Transport and the Regions**  
*Quality of Life Counts*

**Annex A:**

Complete list of objectives and indicators within the framework of the sustainable development strategy (SDS), "A better quality of life: a strategy for sustainable development in the United Kingdom" DETR, CM4345, ISBN 0-10-143452-9

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>HEADLINE INDICATORS</b>		
H Headline indicators		
Maintaining high and stable levels of economic growth and employment		
• Our economy must continue to grow (3.12)	H1	Total output of the economy (GDP and GDP per head)
• Investment (in modern plant machinery, as well as research and development) is vital to our future prosperity (3.14)	H2	Total and social investment as a percentage of GDP
• Maintain high and stable levels of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities (Box after 1.8)	H3	Proportion of people of working age who are in work
Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone		
• Tackling poverty and social exclusion (7.17)	H4	Indicators of success in tackling poverty and social exclusion
• Equip people with the skills to fulfil their potential (3.16)	H5	Qualifications at age 19
• Improve health of the population overall (3.17)	H6	Expected years of healthy life
• Reduce the proportion of unfit housing stock (3.18)	H7	Homes judged unfit to live in
• Reduce both crime and fear of crime (3.19)	H8	Level of crime
Effective protection of the environment		
• Continue to reduce our emissions of greenhouse gases now, and plan for greater reductions in the longer term (3.20)	H9	Emissions of greenhouse gases
• Reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve through the longer term (3.21)	H10	Days when air pollution is moderate or higher
• Improve choice in transport; improve access to education, jobs, leisure and services; and reduce the need to travel (7.29)	H11	Road traffic
• Improving river quality (8.30)	H12	Rivers of good or fair quality
• Reverse the long-term decline in populations of farmland and woodland birds (3.24)	H13	Populations of wild birds
• Re-using previously developed land, in order to protect the countryside and encourage urban regeneration (3.25)	H14	New homes built on previously developed land
Prudent use of natural resources		
• Move away from disposal of waste towards waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery (box after 6.11)	H15	Waste arisings and management

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY</b>		
<b>A Doing more or less: improving resource efficiency</b>		
• Greater resource efficiency (6.5)	A1	UK resource use D
• Energy efficiency of the economy (6.13)	A2	Energy efficiency of economy
	A3	Energy use per household
• Move away from disposal of waste towards waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery (box after 6.11)	H15	Waste arisings and management
	A4	Waste by sector D
	A5	Household waste and recycling
	A6	Materials recycling
	A7	Hazardous waste

D Indicator to be developed

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>B Economic stability and competitiveness</b>		
• Our economy must continue to grow (3.12)	H1	Total output of the economy (GDP and GDP per head)
• Deliver low inflation (6.16)	B1	Rate of inflation
• Government borrowing at stable and prudent level (6.16)	B2	Public sector net borrowing and net debt
• Promote UK competitiveness (6.18)	B3	Labour productivity
	B4	UK imports, exports, trade balance
• Investment (in modern plant and machinery, as well as research and development) is vital to our future prosperity (3.14)	H2	Total and social investment as a percentage of GDP
• Also invest in "social assets" (3.14)	B5	Social investment as a per cent of GDP

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>C Developing skills and rewarding work</b>		
• Equip people with the skills to fulfil their potential (3.16)	H5	Qualifications at age 19
• Raise educational standards at all levels and close the widening gap between high and low achievers (6.26)	C1	16 year-olds with no qualifications
	C2	Adult literacy/numeracy
• To become a learning society in a rapidly changing world people need the skills to adapt, and opportunities to update them throughout their lives (6.22)	C3	Learning participation
• Boost workplace learning (6.29)	C4	Businesses recognised as Investors In People
• Maintain high and stable levels of employment so everyone can share greater job opportunities (Box after 1.8)	H3	Proportion of people of working age who are in work
	C5	Proportion of people of working age in workless households
	C6	Proportion of people of working age out of work for more than two years
	C7	Proportion of lone parents, long-term ill and disabled people who are economically active
• Fairness at work (6.34)	C8	People in employment working long hours
	C9	Low pay D
• Maintain a safe and healthy environment for workers(6.36)	C10	Work fatalities and injury rates; working days lost through illness
• Raise quality of life of workers in global supply chains of companies importing into the UK (6.40)	C11	UK companies implementing ethical trading codes of conduct D

**D** Indicator to be developed

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>D Sustainable production and consumption</b>		
• Give consumers better information and encourage purchasing initiatives which help to move the market (6.42)	D1	Consumer information D
• Contextual indicator	D2	Consumer expenditure
• Take-up of best practice in key sectors (6.47)	D3	Energy and water consumption by sector/Waste and hazardous emissions by sector D
• Encourage businesses to assess environmental impacts and set targets, and produce environmental reports (6.47)	D4	Adoption of environmental management systems (ISO 14001) and the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)
	D5	Corporate environmental engagement
	D6	Environmental reporting D
• Need housing which is more energy-efficient, uses fewer resources and creates less waste (6.50)	D7	Household water use and peak demand
	D8	Thermal efficiency of housing stock
• Greater use of sustainable construction materials (6.52)	D9	Primary aggregates per unit of construction value
	D10	Construction and demolition waste going to landfill
• Need more efficient appliances (6.55)	D11	Energy efficiency of new appliances
• Minimise the impact of pesticides on human health (6.63)	D12	Pesticide residues in food
• Encourage environmentally sensitive land management by farmers (8.56)	D13	Area under agreement under the Environmentally Sensitive Area and Countryside Stewardship agri-environment schemes
• Organic production methods (6.62)	D14	Area converted to organic production
• Encourage production, marketing, purchase and use of vehicles that are more fuel efficient (Box after 6.69)	D15	Energy efficiency of road passenger travel/Average fuel consumption of new cars
• UK tourism industry to grow significantly in ways which are economically, socially and environmentally beneficial (6.71)	D16	Sustainable tourism D
• Address transport issues; integrate tourism with public transport (6.71)	D17	Leisure trips by mode of transport
	D18	Overseas travel
• Reduce environmental impact of chemicals (Box after 6.72)	D19	Chemical releases to the environment D
• Develop distribution systems which support economic growth, protect the environment and benefit society (Box after 6.72)	D20	Freight transport by mode
	D21	Heavy goods vehicle mileage intensity

**D** Indicator to be developed

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES</b>		
<b>E Promoting economic vitality and employment</b>		
• Improve economic performance and enhance regional competitiveness (7.6)	E1	Regional variations in GDP
• Closing the gap between the poorest communities and the rest (7.13)	E2	Index of local deprivation
• Tackling poverty and social exclusion (7.17)	H4	Indicators of success in tackling poverty and social exclusion
	E3	Truancies and exclusions from school/teenage pregnancies
• Promoting local business diversity (7.11)	E4	New business start-ups net of closures
• Reducing disproportionate unemployment among ethnic minorities (7.16)	E5	Ethnic minority employment and unemployment

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>F Better health for all</b>		
• Improve health of the population overall (3.17)	H6	Expected years of healthy life
• Deliver key health targets (7.23)	F1	Death rates from cancer, circulatory disease, accidents and suicides
• Environmental factors affecting health (7.20)	F2	Respiratory illness
• Address major factors leading to health inequalities (7.22)	F3	Health inequalities
• Provide people with access to effective healthcare, based on patients' needs, and not on where they live or their ability to pay (7.21)	F4	NHS hospital waiting lists

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>G Travel</b>		
• Improve choice in transport; improve access to education, jobs, leisure and services; and reduce the need to travel (7.29)	H11	Road traffic
	G1	Passenger travel by mode
	G2	How children get to school
	G3	Average journey length by purpose
• The cost of traffic congestion (7.26)	G4	Traffic congestion
• The link between rising prosperity and increased travel must be broken (7.28)	G5	Distance travelled relative to income

**D** Indicator to be developed

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>J Access</b>		
• Need better access to services (7.28)	J1	People finding access difficult
	J2	Access to services in rural areas
• Ensure that disabled people have access to a wider range of goods, services and facilities (7.34)	J3	Access for disabled people
• Arts and sport should be accessible to everyone (7.39)	J4	Participation in sport and cultural activities
• Reduce the proportion of unfit (housing) stock (3.18)	H7	Homes judged unfit to live in
• Ensure that everyone has the opportunity of a decent home (7.53)	J5	Temporary accommodation/rough sleepers
• Improving significantly the energy efficiency of all residential accommodation (7.49)	J6	Fuel poverty

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>K Shaping our surroundings</b>		
• Re-using previously developed land, in order to protect the countryside and encourage urban regeneration (3.25)	H14	New homes built on previously developed land
• Bring empty homes back into use and convert buildings to new uses (7.56)	K1	Vacant land and properties and derelict land
• Shopping, leisure and entertainment, offices and other key town centre uses should, wherever possible, be located within existing centres (7.57)	K2	New retail floor space in town centres and out of town
• Contextual indicators	K3	Population growth
	K4	Household growth
• Ensure that development takes account of history and look for opportunities to conserve local heritage (7.70)	K5	Buildings of Grade I and II• at risk of decay
• Attractive streets and buildings, low levels of traffic, noise and pollution, green spaces, and community safety (7.54)	K6	Quality of surroundings
	K7	Access to local green space D
	K8	Noise levels
• Reduce both crime and fear of crime (3.19)	H8	Level of crime
	K9	Fear of crime

**D** Indicator to be developed

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>L Involvement and stronger institutions</b>		
• All local communities to have sustainable development strategies in place by 2000 (7.79)	L1	Number of local authorities with LA21 strategies
• Voluntary and community activity can promote social inclusion and cohesion (7.95)	L2	Voluntary activity
• Help build a sense of community by encouraging and supporting all forms of community involvement (7.96)	L3	Community spirit

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>MANAGING THE ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES</b>		
<b>M An integrated approach</b>		
• Must not store up pollutant problems for the future (8.6)	M1	Concentrations of persistent organic pollutants
	M2	Dangerous substances in water
	M3	Radioactive waste stocks
	M4	Discharges from the nuclear industry

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>N Climate change and energy supply</b>		
• Climate change must be kept within limits which global society can accommodate (8.8)	N1	Rise in global temperature
• Assess vulnerability to changed weather patterns and higher sea levels and develop adaptation strategies (8.17)	N2	Sea level rise
• Continue to reduce our emissions of greenhouse gases now, and plan for greater reductions in the longer term (3.20)	H9	Emissions of greenhouse gases
	N3	Carbon dioxide emissions by end user
• In the longer term more energy will have to come from new and renewable sources (8.14)	N4	Electricity from renewable sources
• Fossil fuel resources managed in an environmentally-acceptable way (8.15)	N5	Depletion of fossil fuels

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>P Air and atmosphere</b>		
• Reduce air pollution and ensure air quality continues to improve through the longer term (3.21)	H10	Days when air pollution is moderate or higher
	P1	Concentrations of selected air pollutants
	P2	Emissions of selected air pollutants
• Ensure that polluting emissions do not cause harm to human health or the environment (8.19)	P3	Sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions
	P4	Acidification in the UK
• Controls on ozone depleting substances (8.28)	P5	Ozone depletion

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>Q Freshwater</b>		
• Improving river quality (8.30)	H12	Rivers of good or fair quality
	Q1	Nutrients in water
• Safeguarding resources and ensuring affordable supplies (8.29)	Q2	Water demand and availability
	Q3	Water affordability
• Avoiding waste of water (8.30)	Q4	Water leakage
	Q5	Abstractions by purpose
• Ensure that abstraction controls play a full part in protecting the best wildlife and amenity sites (8.30)	Q6	Sites affected by water abstraction D

**D** Indicator to be developed

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>R Seas oceans and coasts</b>		
• Reduce or eliminate inputs of hazardous and radioactive substances of most concern (8.35)	R1	Estuarine water quality, marine inputs
• Aim to raise consistent compliance with the European Bathing Water Directive (Box after 8.46)	R2	Compliance with Bathing Water Directive
• Protection of marine habitats and species (8.40)	R3	Biodiversity in coastal/marine areas D
• Improve the management and conservation of fish stocks (8.44)	R4	Fish stocks around the UK fished within safe limits
• Work with other countries to achieve effective management and conservation of fish stocks (8.46)	R5	State of the world's fisheries

**D** Indicator to be developed

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>S Landscape and wildlife</b>		
• Minimise the loss of soils to new development (8.50)	S1	Net loss of soils to development
• Soil protection (8.50)	S2	Concentrations of organic matter in agricultural topsoils
• Reverse the long-term decline in populations of farmland and woodland birds (3.24)	H13	Populations of wild birds
	S3	Trends in plant diversity
• Reverse the decline in UK wildlife and habitats (8.53)	S4	Biodiversity action plans
• Protection for individual landscape features such as hedges, dry stone walls and ponds (8.56)	S5	Landscape features hedges, stone walls and ponds
• Strengthen protection for special sites (8.57)	S6	Extent and management of SSSIs
• Protecting the wider landscape (8.56)	S7	Countryside quality D
• Promoting public access and enjoyment of the landscape (8.56)	S8	Access to the countryside D
• Contextual indicator	S9	Native species at risk
• Continuing expansion of UK woodland area (8.60)	S10	Area of woodland in the UK
• Protecting and expanding ancient and semi-natural woodlands (8.60)	S11	Area of ancient semi-natural woodland in GB
• Better management of existing woodlands (8.60)	S12	Sustainable management of woodland D
• Sustainable forestry management overseas (8.60)	S13	Number of countries with national forest programmes
• Aim to maximise efficient use of materials and greater use of recycled and waste materials (8.62)	S14	Amount of secondary/ recycled aggregates used compared with virgin aggregates D
• All mineral working sites are restored to a standard suitable for a specific beneficial afteruse (8.62)	S15	Land covered by restoration and aftercare conditions

**D** Indicator to be developed

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>SENDING THE RIGHT SIGNALS</b>		
<b>T Sending the right signals</b>		
• Integrating the environment into each department's policies and operations (5.2)	T1	Greening government operations
• Help promote women's interests (box after 5.6) and fairness at work (6.34)	T2	Women in public appointments and senior positions
• Contextual indicator	T3	Prices of key resources fuel
• Explore the scope for using economic instruments to deliver more sustainable development, and avoid "perverse subsidies" which work against sustainable development (5.7, 5.9)	T4	Real changes in the cost of transport
• Cost-effective ways to comply with pollution abatement and aim to move to cleaner processes in the long term (5.10, 5.13)	T5	Expenditure on pollution abatement
• Where new regulation is used it will conform to the government's principles of better regulation and be enforced effectively (5.10)	T6	Enforcement of regulations
• Improve awareness of sustainable development (5.14)	T7	Public understanding and awareness
	T8	Awareness in schools
• Encourage individuals to do their bit (5.14)	T9	Individual action for sustainable development

Objective and SDS paragraph reference	Refno	Indicators
<b>INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
<b>U International co-operation and development</b>		
• Work with others to eliminate global poverty and raise living standards in developing countries (Box before 9.1)	U1	Global poverty
	U2	Net Official Development Assistance (oda)
• Contextual indicator	U3	Global population
• Work with others to tackle global pressures on the environment and resources (Box before 9.1)	U4	UK public expenditure on global environment protection
• International conventions aimed at protecting the environment: UK commitment to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (9.21)	U5	Implementation of multilateral environmental agreements D
• Contextual indicators	U6	International emissions of carbon dioxide per head
	U7	World and UK materials consumption levels per head

**D** Indicator to be developed