

South Gloucestershire Strategic Environment Partnership Environmental Vision for 2020

Summary of Workshop Outcomes and Alignment with Existing Community Strategy and Targets, February 2011

Workshop Outcomes – Vision for 2020	Relevant Priorities from the Community Strategy, and Existing Relevant Targets	Do the existing priorities and targets reflect the Partnership's Vision for 2020?
RESOURCE USE AND WASTE		
<p>Aspirations for 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero Waste – no waste to landfill or incineration • Waste is used as a resource • Waste being managed in the least carbon intensive ways • All residents are reducing their food waste • Big reduction in packaging/plastic bags – voluntary accreditation for retailers to demonstrate commitment • Clearer information for residents on which plastics can be recycled • Reducing waste of resources including water • Waste education in schools • Increased utilisation of landfill gas <p>Indicators / Targets / Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target for less waste collected per household or per capita (not just reduce % to landfill) - to reflect waste minimisation priority. • Measure tonnes of waste and recycling collected and 	<p>Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To cut consumption of resources, prevent pollution and waste, and live within environmental limits. (Environment) <p>Existing Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the percentage of household waste reused, recycled and composted - 50% 2010/2011 (LAA) • Reduce the percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill - 46% 2010/11 (LAA) • Improved street and environmental cleanliness Defra DSO - levels of litter - 3% SGC • Improved street and environmental cleanliness – fly tipping Defra DSO Level 2 of standard SGC 	<p>Priorities</p> <p>The Partnership's aspirations for waste management in 2020 are wider than the existing priority to prevent waste. Could expand, eg:</p> <p>“South Gloucestershire residents actively minimise the amount of waste they produce, and waste is managed as a resource in non carbon-intensive ways and not sent for landfill or incineration.”</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>Future waste targets should reflect the aspiration to <i>reduce</i> the amount of waste per household / per capita (rather than just proportions landfilled / recycled).</p>

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<p>tonnes by destination (eg landfill, incineration, etc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include industrial and commercial waste targets (Environment Agency may have data available) • Calculate the carbon footprint of waste management? • 80% of residents committed food waste reducers • Review WEP Joint waste strategy targets and data • Measure water used, and % of premises with water meters (Wessex Water / Bristol Water may have targets) • Schools waste education target (SITA)? • Need to clarify meaning of 3% in “Defra DSO - levels of litter - 3% SGC” 		<p>Indicators and targets for commercial and industrial waste and water consumption should be included.</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>The need for specific projects and campaigns to reduce packaging and use of plastic bags was identified</p>
LOCAL FOOD, LAND USE AND FOOD PRODUCTION		
<p>Aspirations for 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land is used and made available for production of food – for commercial and community use* • Allocation of land for sustainable food production* • More community supported agriculture • Everyone who wants an allotment has one and advice is freely available • South Gloucestershire is self sufficient in veg, non exotic fruit and some other foods eg milk and eggs* • All food consumed locally is locally sourced* • Local food dominates market* • South Glos is ‘Bread Basket’ for Bristol • Understand better the potential for growing crops for 	<p>Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen local supply chains and promote the use of local goods and services (Environment) • To improve productivity and competitiveness, and safeguard/increase jobs in key sectors including aerospace, engineering, other manufacturing sectors, defence, environmental technologies, high technology, financial services, creative industries, and the rural economy. (Economy and Skills) 	<p>Priorities</p> <p>The existing priorities do not specifically mention local food. Local food is considered by the Partnership to be a key priority, and should be emphasised as such, eg:</p> <p>“Land in South Gloucestershire is protected and used for sustainable food production. Food produced locally is consumed locally, and residents are actively involved in production of their own food.”</p>

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<p>biofuels on land not suitable for growing food.</p> <p>*Note - Insufficient land / quality of land to be self sufficient or for all food to be locally sourced. Number of farms in active production is declining and high quality land is at risk from development</p> <p>Indicators / Targets / Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure loss of best and most versatile agricultural land including land both in and out of production • Measure amount of land being used for food production • Increase local food production (commercial and community) • Increase number of people growing their own food • Increase access to allotments and land for community food growing 	<p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of local food special events held – 27 in 2010 (SGC) • Number of attendees at local food events – 6000 in 2010 (SGC) • Proportion of food procured locally by Traded and Support Services (SGC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meat 75% ○ Fruit and vegetables 30% ○ Dairy (cheese and eggs) 50% 	<p>In addition, the existing priority refers to competition – but does not reflect the importance of co-operation between local food producers.</p> <p>Local Food is principally an economic issue and should be included within the economic theme</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>Future indicators and targets should monitor the amount of land being used for food production, and measure any loss of agricultural land (both in and out of production currently), with a target for no loss of best and most versatile agricultural land.</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>The need for projects to increase the number of allotments and community growing projects was identified.</p> <p>Land suitable for biomass crops needs to be identified</p>

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LOCAL ECONOMY AND LOW CARBON ECONOMY		
<p>Aspirations for 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vibrant local economy based on more local production and consumption • Economic growth is tied into resource efficiency and green growth • Growth and resource consumption decoupled • More green technologies • All new economic activity should be low carbon. • Maintain and enhance heritage and natural landscape assets so that the area can attract visitors. Need to actively promote the asset and attract tourists • Promote traditional green skills (eg hedge laying) and crafts and skills in green technologies including plumbing and insulation in preparation for the Green Deal. • Sustainability standards adopted by business <p>Indicators / Targets / Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure tourism by B&B statistics and visits to areas of interest. • Could use public rights of way statistics to measure popularity of rural areas / tourism • Target to increase self sufficiency particularly in transition to low carbon economy – eg measure numbers of qualified local low carbon installers/suppliers 	<p>Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen local supply chains and promote the use of local goods and services (Environment) • To cut consumption of resources, prevent pollution and waste, and live within environmental limits. (Environment) • To increase the number, survival rates and growth rates of starter and small enterprises in South Gloucestershire including social enterprises. (Economy and Skills) • To raise skill levels and meet the skill and workforce needs of employers including the growing sustainability industry. (Economy and Skills) • To sustain and improve the vibrancy and vitality of town and district centres including Kingswood, Staple Hill, Downend, Yate and Thornbury. (Economy and Skills) • To improve productivity and competitiveness, and safeguard/increase jobs in key sectors including aerospace, engineering, other 	<p>Priorities</p> <p>The existing priorities reflect the Partnership’s aspiration to strengthen local production and consumption, and the importance of environmental technologies and the rural economy.</p> <p>However, ensuring businesses are resource efficient and the opportunity to grow the environmental sector of the local economy could be further emphasised, eg:</p> <p>“South Gloucestershire’s businesses are resource efficient, and the local economy is benefiting fully from the opportunities associated with the transition to a low carbon economy and wider environmental industries.”</p> <p>In addition, priorities should reflect the need to maintain and enhance heritage and natural landscape assets and actively promote them so that the area can attract visitors</p> <p>Targets</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure value of the low carbon and environmental goods and services sector 	<p>manufacturing sectors, defence, environmental technologies, high technology, financial services, creative industries, and the rural economy. (Economy and Skills)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise skill levels and meet the skill and workforce needs of employers including the growing sustainability industry. (Economy and Skills) <p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise skill levels and meet the skill and workforce needs of employers including the growing sustainability industry. (Economy and Skills) • Percentage of primary frontage in use in town & district centres 75% 2010/11 (SGC) • New business registration rate 48.4% (SGC) • Percentage of small businesses in an area showing employment growth 13% (SGC) • Working age people with access to employment by public transport 85% (SGC) 	<p>The existing targets do not reflect the Partnership’s local economy or low carbon economy aspirations. Options for monitoring and target setting should be investigated. For example, how can the level of local production and consumption be measured? Can the value of low carbon and wider environmental industries in S Glos be monitored, or the number of environmental sector businesses (eg qualified local suppliers for low carbon retrofit)?</p> <p>Measure value of tourism sector / number of visitors to rural / biodiversity / heritage sites / level of use of PROW network</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>Need to promote traditional green skills and crafts (eg hedgelaying) and skills in green technologies including plumbing and insulation in preparation for the Green Deal.</p>

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LOW CARBON TRAVEL		
<p>Aspirations for 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jobs are closer to where people live • More facilities close to where people live especially in new developments • Better cheaper public transport that goes where people work* • Well used effective public transport system* • Less work miles • More working from home • High speed broadband for all • Transport provision matches needs • Multi modal sustainable transport <p>*Note - Questionable funding for the development of the public transport network (JLTP3 Major Schemes)</p> <p>1</p> <p>Indicators / Targets / Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing indicators and targets about journey times encourage driving, do not take walking into account, and are not sustainable • Indicators and targets should be about reducing 	<p>Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To cut emissions of greenhouse gases and manage the impacts of climate change (Environment) • To deliver improvements to the transport system that tackle congestion, minimise air and noise pollution, reduce high carbon travel, enhance travel choice (particularly for public transport, cycling and walking). (Managing Growth) • To reduce the need to travel by promoting alternative ways of working and creating more opportunities for walking and cycling. (Managing Growth) <p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To cut emissions of greenhouse gases and manage the impacts of climate change (Environment) • Reduction in average journey time per mile in morning peak from the 2007/08 baseline 10/11 target 4mins -11% change (LAA) 	<p>Priorities</p> <p>The existing priorities on managing growth reflect the Partnerships identified aspirations, although the importance of more sustainable travel for work could be emphasised.</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>Some of the existing indicators and targets are appropriate measures for the Partnership’s low carbon travel vision.</p> <p>However, the Partnership considered the existing indicator and target on journey times is inappropriate insofar as it encourages driving (rather than walking / cycling), and because freeing up flows of traffic can encourage more vehicles to use the roads.</p> <p>The Partnership would like a target to</p>

¹ In addition – Partners identified a ‘Safer and Stronger’ aspiration to develop ‘Home Zone-like’ communities where pedestrians and children are given priority over traffic in higher density new developments.

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<p>numbers of car journeys, eg reducing % of children being driven to school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We must have a target on fast broadband particularly for rural areas to encourage home working • Have a target for electric car charging points • Measure public transport patronage • What travel to work data is available? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling within 40 mins 10/11 target 45.3% (LAA) • Children travelling to school by car 10/11 5-10 year olds 29.1%, 11-16 year olds 12.4% (SGC) • Increase in the number of people cycling over the baseline agreed with Cycle England (Still to be agreed) • Annual average Nitrogen dioxide (NO2) concentrations less than 40µg/ m3 in AQMAs (SGC) • Where AQMAs have been identified has action plan been produced within 12 to 18 months (SGC) 	<p>be set on fast broadband, particularly for rural areas, and a target for development of electric car charging points to be considered</p>
ENERGY		
<p>Aspirations for 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 carbon reduction target (34% reduction on 1990 levels) achieved locally • SG produces half the electricity it uses from renewables in the area* • Self sufficiency in energy through biomass, wind CHP etc* • Fields of PV cells • Community energy schemes • Planning issues resolved • Incentives? 	<p>Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To cut emissions of greenhouse gases and manage the impacts of climate change (Environment) • To cut consumption of resources, prevent pollution and waste, and live within environmental limits (Environment) • To ensure that all new buildings are energy efficient, are capable of being used flexibly in their lifetimes and are of high quality design 	<p>Priorities</p> <p>The existing priorities refer to energy efficiency in new development and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, but do not reflect the Partnership’s aspirations for the development of renewable energy. The importance of renewable energy should be reflected, eg:</p> <p>“South Gloucestershire’s renewable and low carbon energy potential is</p>

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<p>Indicators, Targets and Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure installed capacity renewable energy in South Gloucestershire • Measure energy consumption in South Gloucestershire • Set a target for increase in % of South Gloucestershire electricity consumption from renewable energy • Need to set a target date for roll out of Part Night lighting across South Gloucestershire • 80% of new homes achieve Code for Sustainable homes level 4 <p>*Note - The renewable energy study produced by AECOM (June 2010) to provide an evidence base for the Core Strategy identified a potential renewable electricity resource that could meet between 11% and 20% of the area’s projected electricity demand by 2020 (dependant on the approach taken to wind development) and a renewable heat potential of 8%.</p>	<p>(Managing Growth)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve housing conditions and standards for vulnerable people (Safer and Stronger) <p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve housing conditions and standards for vulnerable people (Safer and Stronger) • Reduce per capita CO₂ emissions in South Gloucestershire by 1% a year (LAA) • Increase the number of energy efficiency measures installed in domestic properties - 600 a year (LAA) • % reduction in carbon emissions from council operations - 3% a year (SGC) • Installed capacity of renewable energy in the Council Estate (indicator - target not set) (SGC) • kW renewable energy capacity given planning permission (indicator - target not set) (SGC) • % Concept statements with low carbon requirements - 100% (SGC) 	<p>effectively exploited. Residents and businesses use less energy and benefit from renewable energy developments. All new development is energy efficient and incorporates renewable and/or low carbon energy sources.”</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>The 1% per annum CO₂ reduction target needs to be more ambitious. Specific targets are needed for transport, housing, commerce and industry and delivery partners need to be held to account for achieving these targets</p> <p>The Partnership would like a target to increase installed capacity of renewable energy in South Gloucestershire, and/or increase the % of electricity consumption from locally generated renewable energy</p> <p>Investigate whether a target can be set for roll-out of part night lighting across S Gloucestershire</p>

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GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND BIODIVERSITY		
<p>Aspirations for 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networks of quality green infrastructure • Green spaces are linked with green corridors • A healthy green environment • Improved biodiversity • Endangered species protected • At least 2 new woodlands • Aquatic environment protected and enhanced • Habitats resilient to future climate • More volunteers engaged in protection and enhancement of biodiversity • Sustainable balance achieved between development and open spaces in new developments • Improve access to Local Nature Reserves as well as SSSIs <p>Indicators, Targets and Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSSIs are protected anyway – indicators and targets need to be wider in scope eg target for net loss of habitat, and monitor this • Existing biodiversity targets too limited - need to review and improve targets in the Biodiversity Action Plan • Measure access to and level of use of LNR’s/open spaces and PROW (See if any relevant targets exist 	<p>Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve and enhance the natural, historic and built environment and promote local access and enjoyment by all (Environment) • To help people to choose a healthy lifestyle by providing an environment, information, support and services that make the healthy choice the easy choice (Health) • To enhance South Gloucestershire’s attractiveness with well-managed and maintained streets and green spaces (Safer and Stronger) • To ensure that new communities have access to a full range of community facilities and formal and informal open spaces (Managing Growth) • To deliver new development that is needed in ways which improve and enhance our natural and built environment and heritage and which minimises the environmental impact (Managing Growth) <p>Targets</p>	<p>Priorities</p> <p>Enhancing the natural environment (including in new development) is reflected in the existing priorities. However the Partnership’s aspirations for accessible networks of green infrastructure and protection and enhancement of species and habitats could be better emphasised, eg:</p> <p>“South Gloucestershire’s biodiversity and green infrastructure network is protected and enhanced, with improved quality, connectivity, multi-functionality, and resilience to future climate.”</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>The Partnership identified a need to review and improve existing Biodiversity Action Plan indicators and targets.</p> <p>Future indicators and targets should reflect the importance of all habitats, not just protected sites. Targets on no</p>

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<p>in PROW Plan)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target for no net loss of land within green belt, and measure this 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved local biodiversity – Increase the number of local sites in active management - 48.5% by April 2011 (LAA) • Area of SSSI lost as a result of built development - target nil (SGC) • Local design quality measure - % of new developments that meet building for life gold and silver standards • Area of land within green belt (to be determined) • Overall/general satisfaction with local area 2011 85.7 % (SGC) • % Concept Statements and development briefs that satisfy criteria in the design quality checklist (SGC) • New residents’ satisfaction against local quality measure (SGC) • Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence or water quality grounds Nil (SGC) 	<p>net loss of habitat and green belt should be explored</p> <p>Future indicators and targets should reflect the aspiration to increase the number of people accessing green infrastructure / nature reserves / rights of way.</p> <p>Climate change adaptation targets should be included in particular in relation to flooding.</p>
LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE - ACTION, APPRECIATION AND VOLUNTEERING		
Aspirations for 2020	Priorities	Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of people volunteering - in particular young people • More people value the local environment and heritage and take action to protect / enhance it • We have attracted more visitors to our heritage and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase the involvement of people in the life of their communities and in the decision-making processes that affect their quality of life and the services they receive. (Safer and Stronger) 	<p>The existing priorities reflect the Partnership’s aspirations for involvement of residents in their communities and decision making, a thriving voluntary sector, and local</p>

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<p>environmental assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater awareness of environmental issues and readiness to respond • Heritage assets are protected and enhanced • Proactive participation of residents in neighbourhood planning • Environmental information is available to inform community choices <p>Indicators / Targets / Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer hours (with profiling eg age, BME groups etc) • Target for no loss of Heritage Sites • Measure visitor numbers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To sustain an environment for a thriving voluntary and community sector. (Safer and Stronger) • To conserve and enhance the natural, historic and built environment and promote local access and enjoyment by all. (Environment) <p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for 10,000 people a year to participate in planned promotional, educational and recreational events/activities (SGC) • Increase the number of people participating in regular volunteering 28.61% 2010/11 (LAA) • Volunteer hours engaged in managing open spaces and protecting and enhancing the local environment and heritage sites - 10,000 a year through supported projects (SGC) • Number of Heritage events held - 40 a year (SGC) • Number attending Heritage events - 6,000 (SGC) • Number of hits on HER web site plus 10% in 2010/11 (SGC) 	<p>access to and enjoyment of the local environment and historic environment.</p> <p>The Partnership emphasised the importance of protection of heritage assets.</p> <p>The importance of residents participating in neighbourhood planning is likely to increase in future, as well as increasing awareness of environmental and local heritage issues.</p> <p>Targets</p> <p>Several existing indicators and targets (participation, volunteering and heritage events and attendance) provide useful measures.</p> <p>Future measures should include visitor numbers and no loss of heritage sites</p>