

# **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2005**

## **Introduction**

Section 121 (1) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 requires the National Assembly to “make a Scheme setting out how it proposes, in the exercise of its functions, to promote sustainable development in all its functions”. Also, section 121(6) requires that “after each financial year the Assembly shall publish a report of how its proposals as set out in the Scheme were implemented in that financial year”.

This is the Welsh Assembly Government’s fourth statutory report on progress towards sustainable development, covering the financial year 2004-05.

## **A picture of the year**

### **Development of the SD Action Plan**

The last year has seen a large amount of activity on sustainable development at the National Assembly. Following the making of the second Sustainable Development Scheme on 16 March 2004, work focussed on the development of an Action Plan that sets out how the Welsh Assembly Government planned to deliver against the Scheme between 2004-07.

Cabinet agreed that the Action Plan should address the weaknesses identified by the Effectiveness Report published in 2003 and force a step change in delivery around SD. Five key inter-related actions were identified:

- pushing ahead on action connected to climate change, particularly by pursuing action on energy efficiency and renewables;
- using the substantial purchasing power of the Welsh public sector to help create new economic opportunities for businesses in Wales;
- embed SD and global citizenship at the heart of formal education;
- working with others, have a concerted ‘push’ to raise awareness of the issues; and
- get our organisational structures and processes right to underpin delivery of SD and the Government agenda.

A series of multi-disciplinary stakeholder events and a period of formal consultation in the spring and early summer of 2004, validated this list although the draft Plan was changed to reflect consultation responses on issues such as targets, resources, biodiversity, transport and leadership. The Cabinet also established a set of Top 10 actions that reflect their commitment to the SD agenda.

The Action Plan received unanimous support when discussed at Plenary in October 2004. It was published in November 2004. Annex A of this report

provides a general update of progress on the commitments in the Plan up to the end of May 2005. Progress on the Top 10 Actions is as follows:

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>UPDATE</b>
<p>1. By 2010 100% of electricity used in all Assembly buildings will be supplied from renewable sources or good quality embedded generation; and we shall work towards a similar figure for other public sector buildings.</p>	<p>From 1 April 2005 approximately 96% of electricity consumed on the NAFW Estate is from renewable sources. Other buildings will be converted as contracts come up for renewal.</p> <p>From 1 April 2005 the 57 largest hospitals in Wales have been supplied with 100% Green electricity. Smaller hospital sites to be addressed as contracts are renewed.</p>
<p>2. The Assembly Government, its agencies and the NHS in Wales will report annually on the use of energy in its estates.</p>	<p>Energy data has been compiled for 2004-05 for the NAFW Estate and has been reported on as part of the Green Dragon audit. All Welsh NHS Trust data reported annually in the Estate Condition and Performance Report published annually by Welsh Health Estates.</p>
<p>3. From January 2005 we will specify in all contracts for new or refurbished public buildings procured by or for the Welsh Assembly Government, that the design achieves as a minimum, the BREEAM 'very good' standard, or equivalent and the BREEAM 'excellent' standard wherever possible. We will work with Local Authorities to help them achieve similar standards for new and refurbished public buildings for which they are responsible.</p>	<p>Action being taken forward in the NAW Greening Operations Action Plan 04-05. The Location Strategy is seeking a BREEAM excellent rating for all buildings. Since 2002 all Trusts have used the NHS version of BREEAM (called NEAT) and achieve an 'excellent' rating. Initial Presentation on SD in school buildings given at Association of Directors of Education in Wales Conference on Schools of the Future on 21 April. Consideration being given to next steps.</p>
<p>4. By 2006 we will have established pilot projects that explore the potential of using renewable energy solutions in our policies and programmes aimed at tackling fuel poverty amongst low income vulnerable households, particularly those unable to benefit from traditional improvement solutions</p>	<p>Piloting planned for winter 2005.</p>
<p>5. The Assembly and its agencies will encourage the development of an indigenous microgeneration "renewables" industry in Wales, with</p>	<p>Discussions with key Welsh stakeholders underway to establish the scope of a microgeneration strategy and input to DTI's work.</p>

<p>a particular focus on opportunities for SMEs. WDA, Carbon Trust and EST, and where appropriate, other renewables focused organisations, to work together closely to provide a joined up approach.</p>	
<p>6. We will commission a project to investigate the benefits and barriers to promoting the uptake of alternative fuels in Wales, such as biofuels, biogas, natural gas and hydrogen</p>	<p>Project commissioned. Workshop held on 10 May looking at latest research and seeking views on barriers, practical actions and costs associated with implementation of a strategy for Wales.</p>
<p>7. We will work with Local Education Authorities and school governing bodies so that, as they come up for renewal, all specifications for contracts for school meals address issues of health and nutrition and food seasonality.</p>	<p>Being taken forward as part of a Nutrition Strategy being developed jointly by Education and Health Promotion staff within the Assembly.</p>
<p>8. We will introduce a targeted top tier agri-environment scheme to encourage co-operative action, bringing about wider environmental benefits in the countryside across farm boundaries.</p>	<p>Consultation on catchment sensitive farming held between February and end of May 2005. Objective 1 bid made in March 2005 for pilot project. Wider work continuing with stakeholders on proposals for elements of the top tier scheme to be included in the next Rural Development Plan for Wales.</p>
<p>9. With our Advisory Panel we will produce a Wales-wide strategy for Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship by Spring 2005.</p>	<p>A draft ESD/GC Strategy under development. Final version expected by end September 2005.</p>
<p>10. By Spring 2005 we will also introduce the ECOHomes environmental assessment process and set energy efficiency standards significantly above that currently required by building regulations for all new homes built in Wales by Registered Social Landlords using Social Housing Grant.</p>	<p>New Development Quality Requirements incorporating the action point published in May 2005</p>

### **The Wales Spatial Plan**

The Wales Spatial Plan - *People, Places, Futures* - was adopted by the Assembly in November 2004. It translates the Welsh Assembly Government's vision of a sustainable Wales - set out in the SD Scheme - at the regional level and will shape how each area will develop in the long term.

Within the overall framework for Wales, six distinctive areas of Wales have been recognised. The fundamental proposition of the Wales Spatial Plan is that each area will need a different response to deliver its future.

The Spatial Plan provides a framework for collaboration, linking national and local policies, and has been shaped by a huge range of organisations and individuals. It provides the basis for the Assembly Government to work with its partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors to turn the visions for the different areas of Wales into reality.

## Indicators

The Sustainable Development Scheme contains the commitment to

*“Seek to identify a small suite of high-level summary indicators to use as headline measures of progress towards sustainable development, covering at least the following issues:*

- *the global impact of consumption in Wales;*
- *biodiversity within Wales*
- *the overall level of deprivation in Wales*
- *the level of economic activity*
- *genuine economic progress, taking account of environmental factors, resources and well-being;”*

During 2004, the Sustainable Development Indicators Working Group considered appropriate summary indicators under each of these headings against the criteria set out in Annex B, and reported to Ministers in the autumn.

The Group recommended:

- use of the Ecological Footprint as an indicator of the global impact of consumption in Wales;
- adoption of an index summarising trends affecting Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species and habitats as an indicator of biodiversity;
- use of Gross Value Added or GVA (formerly known as ‘GDP at basic prices’) as an indicator of economic activity;
- development of an index of fairness/equality that would draw on data used in the Index of Multiple Deprivation; and
- monitoring development of the Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare as an indicator of genuine economic progress, and reporting it, but not adopting it as an indicator at present.

In addition the Group discussed the need for another high-level indicator, of cultural vitality.

Ministers have accepted these recommendations, and are commending them to the Assembly. These high-level indicators will – as available – be reported in our annual Statistical Bulletin and in this and subsequent Annual Reports.

The Group undertook further work during 2004-05 to establish a full more comprehensive of second-level indicators reflecting cultural, social, economic and environmental issues, also as envisaged in the Scheme, taking account of new indicators adopted at the UK level.

At the time of writing (June 2005), their final report is in preparation. Once that report has been submitted, it is likely that an indicators reference group will convene annually to review progress in using and developing indicators, and to analyse trends.

Annex B contains the most recent available data for the high-level summary indicators, for our original indicator set, and for the new UK SD indicators agreed as part of the UK Sustainable Development Strategic Framework (as described below). It also includes a brief commentary on what those indicators, and the trends they show, tell us about sustainable development in Wales.

### **Sustainable European Regions Network**

Wales is a leading partner in the Sustainable European Regions Network, funded through the European Commission's Innovative Actions programme. The network promotes best practice on sustainable development and seeks to identify how the Commission can use structural funds to promote SD.

After 3 years work, the Network last December launched its first report 'Cohesive Thinking Toward a Sustainable Future'. The report demonstrates the power of sustainable development as a unifying idea for public policy and its vital importance for the future development of the European Union, its programmes and regions. which challenged Regional Governments and the EU to push the boundaries of sustainable development thinking and delivery across Europe. This was the first time the knowledge and experience of practitioners and governments at the regional level on issues such as governance, post-industrial regeneration, low carbon economy had been used in this way.

Along with its partner regions, the Assembly Government will continue to build on the image of the network as an authority on sustainable development. There are plans to locate the Network's office in Brussels and firmly establish itself as the principal regional government network for SD in the EU.

### **nrg4SD**

nrg4SD is the international Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development formed by the First Minister and other regional governments at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002.

The first General Assembly was held in Sumatra in March 2005 where it was decided that in future the Network would organise itself on a continental basis. Carwyn Jones on behalf of Wales was appointed as a Vice-Chair of the Network and the continental contact point for Europe. There are five other vice-chairs representing each continent and two Co-Chairs representing the Network globally.

The main outcomes of the General Assembly were:

- The nrg4Sd Strategy for 2005-11
- Guidelines for the Tsunami crisis Solidarity Action Taskforce
- Policy papers on Fair Trade & Sustainable Forest Management

The Welsh Assembly Government attended the UN's Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) annual meeting as members of the UK delegation as well as the NRG4SD. The Network had several bilateral meetings while it was in New York, some of which were with representatives of the UN.

## **Procurement**

The importance of procurement in helping create a sustainable Wales is identified in the SD Action Plan. Each year, the Welsh public sector spends £4 billion of taxpayers' money on purchasing goods and services for the people of Wales, so it is vital that we think about how we do this. When we decide what to buy we need to think about the broader issues; protecting scarce resources, consuming less, recycling more and choosing options that meet wider objectives. Two documents launched in 2004 have made a substantial contribution to moving this agenda forward.

The Welsh Assembly launched the Welsh Procurement Initiative's (WPI – now Value Wales) Sustainable Procurement Programme, which produced guidance - *Buy Now Don't Pay Later* – that helps procurement professionals to look more closely at the impact of their activities. SMEs can play a part in this change too, and the WPI seeks to open doors to public sector contracts through developments such as its web-site [www.sell2wales.co.uk](http://www.sell2wales.co.uk).

Food is particularly important. Its distribution contributes to 30% of transport across Wales, while the impact of diet on long term health is a growing social issue. 'Food for Thought' published in July 2004 introduced a new approach to public sector food procurement. Produced in collaboration with the Welsh Local Government Association and the Welsh Procurement Initiative, it contains comprehensive and practical advice on how to rethink the role of the public sector food procurement to support the sustainable development agenda, while at the same time remaining compliant with the EU Directives for procurement.

Positive results have already been seen. Welsh Health Supplies, the central contracting body for the NHS in Wales has reworked its meat supply chain to

bring locally reared meat into hospital meals. This has meant a reduction in travel and reinvestment in the local economy. Other successes have been seen in changes to school meals services, providing better quality meals and new supply opportunities for local producers.

## **Policy Integration**

Prior to each public consultation on a strategic policy, the Welsh Assembly Government has committed itself (from April 2005) to holding a Policy Gateway session using the policy Integration Tool on the final consultation draft of the policy, and to publishing a summary of the session. Such summaries now accompany major consultation documents.

Staff are encouraged to use the tool throughout the development of policy, but use is mandatory only immediately prior to consultation.

A bespoke training course for staff has been developed during 2004-05, covering all aspects of the Policy Gateway process.

## **The UK Sustainable Development Framework**

The SD Scheme committed us to engage in development of a UK Strategy to succeed the 1999 UK SD Strategy *A Better Quality of Life*. This we did, engaging at Ministerial and official levels. In April 2004, the Welsh Assembly Government joined with the UK Government and the Scottish and Northern Ireland administrations to launch the consultation *Taking it on: developing UK sustainable development strategy together*. This led to the development of an innovative approach to a UK-wide issue:

- All 4 administrations agreed upon a UK Strategic Framework for sustainable development, *One Future - different paths*, which was launched by Carwyn Jones and by Scotland's First Minister Jack McConnell in Edinburgh on 7th March 2005. It sets out a shared understanding of SD, a common purpose and guiding principles, shared priorities for UK action, and indicators to monitor key issues on a UK basis;
- Each administration has or will have its own separate supporting strategy of practical actions to put the Framework into effect.

We believe this is the first instance of the impact of devolution being recognised in such a way. Our SD Action Plan, though its prime purpose is to put our Scheme into effect, will also serve as our separate supporting strategy to deliver the Framework (at least until 2007 when it will in any case need to be renewed). It includes action on all the shared priorities for UK action that the Framework identifies. The UK Government launched its supporting SD strategy *Securing the Future* on the same day as the Framework. The Scottish Executive and the Northern Ireland administration are presently developing their supporting strategies.

We shall continue to work with the other administrations to deliver sustainable development in and beyond the UK.



**Sustainable Development Action Plan  
Implementation of Commitments to the end of May 2005**

**Living Differently**

**Climate Change**

<p>implementing the Energy Saving Wales plan across all sectors by <b>November 2004</b>;</p>	<p>Completed. Energy Saving Wales (ESW) launched in October 2004</p>
<p>driving forward our clean energy policies in Wales, by publishing and implementing a clean energy action plan, which will include establishing an increased role for Wales in developing next generation renewables technologies by <b>December 2004</b>;</p>	<p>The Energy Route map, to be published later this year, will set out objective for a clean energy agenda, including the development of renewable energy. Clear target for producing 4twh (approximately 10%) of energy from renewable sources by 2010 and 7twh) approximately 20%) by 2020 already in place.</p>
<p>develop community renewables and innovative energy projects through stakeholders and agencies with the benefit of European funding support by <b>January 2005</b>.</p>	<p>A number of community renewables projects have been funded through the Objective 1 programme</p>
<p><i>with Carbon Trust Wales, WDA and others, implementing a step change in the adoption of the latest energy efficiency techniques, and small scale renewable energy generation in buildings of all types in Wales. This will build on the Carbon Trust's study of the profile of energy use and carbon emissions in Wales, due in spring 2005;</i></p>	<p>Additional funds have been secured to ensure that the work of the Carbon Trust in Wales can continue to support the uptake of energy efficiency practices. Their future activities will be guided in part by the results of the energy use and carbon emissions profile that they are currently evaluating</p>
<p>with DTI, Carbon Trust and others, strengthening the</p>	<p>Discussion underway with partners on the scope of the work</p>

knowledge/research base in Wales for emerging marine energy and hydrogen economy systems, including participating in a renewable's strategic environmental assessment of Welsh waters – by mid 2005	necessary and hope to have a timetable for the various work streams
<b>ing that our developing policies on farming, forestry and the byside, help to conserve the carbon stored in Welsh soils;</b>	Research - due for completion in March 2006- is in progress to develop guidelines on land-use for conservation of carbon stocks in soils. The guidelines will then be considered for implementation under the CAP reform policy.
ensuring that lighting for trunk roads employs renewable technologies to deliver at least 20% energy saving;	Two year contract (05/06 and 06/07) in place for the supply of 100% green energy for all Assembly street lighting, as part of the Wales Streetlighting Energy Purchase consortium.
commissioning a study to explore the feasibility of offsetting the carbon generated by induced traffic arising from Assembly road schemes.	Study commissioned. Presentation of findings due in September.

### **Liveable Places, Strong Communities**

between <b>now and 2007</b> work with developers, construction clients and funders, the Design Commission for Wales and Constructing Excellence to ensure the built environment meets our sustainable development goals;	A set of actions already put in hand including giving funds to Design Commission's local planning authority training and Planning Officers Society Wales to publish a model residential design guide; input to the WWF guide to sustainable residential construction; facilitated DCFW engagement with SD public procurement guide Publication of draft TAN 8 –planning for Renewable Energy- to facilitate meeting energy policy targets
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<p>issue improved Transport Appraisal Guidance early in 2005;</p>	<p>Delayed. Revisions necessary to the brief allowing more thorough treatment of the social impacts of transport proposals. Guidance now due by the end of 2005. Interim guidance based on the new principles is available to promoters of schemes.</p>
<p><i>the sustainable development clause in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act to embed sustainable development in planning policies. Local Development Plans Wales guidance will be issued in September 2005, and as Technical Advice Notes are issued they will incorporate sustainable development principles;</i></p>	<p>Local Development Plan (LDP) Wales guidance to be issued in autumn 2005 and the SD clause in the Act as it relates to Wales will be at the same time.</p> <p>Some TANs are being reviewed at the moment and will be checked for SD but they flow from Planning Policy Wales 2002 which has already been SD proofed. It is up for review in 2006/7.</p>
<p><i>to appraise a revised transport framework for Wales and to test our sustainable development framework;</i></p>	<p>The framework is to be replaced with a Welsh Transport Strategy, which will be a statutory duty on us when the Transport (Wales) Bill becomes law. The Strategy is being drafted with both the SD framework and the Spatial Plan as building blocks. The Strategy will be tested against the framework later in 2005</p>
<p>encourage National Park Authorities to work with developers to provide small scale, low cost, sustainable housing, within National Parks;</p>	<p>Specific target set in the Strategic Grant Letter 2005/6 issued to the three Welsh Parks in April 2005.</p>
<p><i>the introduction of the Strategic Environmental Assessment required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act and the wider area issues and linkages are properly addressed.</i></p>	<p>See action point on the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act. An LDP Manual is being prepared by consultants, and this will include information on Sustainability Appraisal processes, including SEA.</p>

## Our Natural Environment

take action on diffuse pollution, as we are required to do under the Water Framework Directive, consulting on the issue as it relates to agriculture in the <b>latter part of 2004</b> .	Consultation on Catchment Sensitive Farming in Wales launched in February 2005 (deadline for responses 31 May). Bid submitted for Objective 1 funding for a demonstration project in two catchments in north and south Wales.
to have in place by <b>1 January 2005</b> Assembly legislation and supporting advice to give effect to the EU CAP reform package: to make Single Farm Payment to farmers between 1 December 2005 -30 June 2006, subject to their meeting cross compliance requirements (for example to meet environmental goals)	Achieved. The Common Agricultural Policy Single Payment and Support Schemes (Cross Compliance)(Wales) Regulations 2004 came into force on 1 January 2005 having been debated in Plenary on 8 December 2004.
open for applications in <b>spring 2005</b> a new agri-environment scheme, Tir Cynnal. It will offer opportunities for farmers in Wales to engage in agri-environment work to protect the wildlife habitats, traditional landscapes and historic features on their land, and to reduce pollution	Applications for Tir Cynnal invited in April 2005 as part of the Single Application Form for Common Agricultural Policy subsidy payments. Subject to EC approval of the scheme, which is still awaited, applications will be processed and first payments made in early 2006.
consult on an Environment Strategy in <b>spring 2005</b> and publish it in its final form in <b>autumn 2005</b> . This will take forward work on the draft soil and biodiversity strategies for Wales	The Environment Strategy to be published on 6 July. The consultation will run until the start of October and the final Strategy will be published by the end of the year.
introduce tougher public health assessments for new land use developments by <b>end of 2005</b>	Under development
develop and consult on visions for the future of countryside and landscape zones, contributing to sustainable development in an integrated way. In the light of consultation, the Assembly	The <i>Managing the Land and Sea</i> chapter in the consultation on the Environment Strategy takes forward initial work on this action. Further work will be needed before the

<p>Government, the Countryside Council for Wales, the Environment Agency and Forestry Commission Wales will use them to drive forward their work in the implementation of agricultural schemes, forestry and woodland practice, grant regimes, planning and regulation. Our Environment Strategy will develop how this will be taken forward.</p>	<p>'consultation on visions' can go ahead.</p> <p>The consultation on the Environment Strategy will be published in July.</p>
<p>promote greater use of indigenous Welsh grown timber in construction, initially through the Pren Cymru 'AXIS' ERDF project that aims to develop Welsh timber products for the social housing construction market.</p>	<p>The 'AXIS' project is being progressed by the Welsh Forest Industries Group with UK Woodchain Group, working with BSI and timber trade organisations to establish a 'sustainable production' standard; also continuing to work with manufacturers and RSLs to create links between Welsh suppliers and customers</p>
<p>assist private woodland owners in Wales to obtain accreditation for sustainable management through revision of the Forestry Commission Woodland Grant Scheme;</p>	<p>Assistance for private woodland owners in gaining certification of their woodlands will be part of a new grant scheme called 'Better Woodland for Wales', due to start in Wales in spring 2006.</p> <p>Private woodland agents have been invited to apply for registration to be able to advise woodland owners on the new scheme and the production of long term management plans that will enable them to gain certification.</p>
<p>work with partners to develop a framework for integrated management of our marine environment;</p>	<p>The Welsh Assembly Government is developing a high level aim for Welsh waters, set within the context of the UK vision. The Wales Coastal and Maritime Partnership has worked with us to develop a marine aim which has been included in the draft Environment Strategy consultation paper.</p> <p>'The marine environment around Wales will be valued by all,</p>

	<p>understood and respected for what it contains and provides. Our seas will be clean, support vibrant economies, and healthy and functioning ecosystems that are biologically diverse, productive and resilient, while being sensitively used and responsibly managed.'</p> <p>Our seas are a resource that should be preserved for future generations to use and enjoy. Coastal authorities already play a leading part in protecting this resource, and will continue to play a part in the delivery of this aspirational and achievable aim. An internal stakeholders group, made up of work areas that have marine interests, has been set up to ensure that Assembly policies keep this aim at the centre of decision-making and link in to wider UK, European and International initiatives.'</p>
<p>implement our woodlands strategy, so that by 2023 50% of the National Assembly's Woodlands will have converted from clear-felling to continuous cover. Clear fell will be replanted with species appropriate to specific sites; taking account of local ecological objectives; the carbon balance and economic potential where that is appropriate; or be left to natural regeneration.</p>	<p><b>The commitment regarding continuous cover is progressing well through the identification in our woodland design plans of suitable areas for this to take place. The most recent estimate is about 26,000 hectares or 23% of the Assembly's woodland estate has been identified for this type of management and this will increase as the assessment of suitable areas continues.</b></p> <p>There has been a significant increase in the use of broadleaved trees and natural regeneration within Assembly woodlands over the last three years with an estimated 450,000 broadleaved trees, including 39,000 native Oak trees being planted as part of our re-stocking operations. Large areas of felled ground are now left to natural regeneration of conifer species where this is appropriate to</p>

	the site conditions and is within our design plans.
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### Supporting Welsh Business in Sustainable Production

<p>over the next 3 years encourage the construction industry to adopt minimisation measures to achieve significant reductions in waste generated by design and site operations, by continuing to promote the Assembly sponsored 'Construction Waste Minimisation Good Practice Guide'.</p>	<p>A construction and demolition waste action plan is being drawn up for Wales with the aim of promoting the sustainable management of waste in the construction industry.</p>
<p>from <b>now until February 2006</b>, match fund two 'waste adviser' posts that have been recruited by Arena Network within their Objective One funded Green Dragon project to provide advice to businesses in the Objective One area. We will explore ways to expand this advice to non Objective One areas;</p>	<p>The two posts are being funded along with a third to cover the non-Objective One /Two posts</p>
<p>promote sustainable development to businesses through the use of a diagnostic tool being developed by the WDA in liaison with the Welsh Assembly. This tool will be embedded into the WDA's newly established Business Eye web-site and General Business Advisory Service by <b>December 2004</b>;</p>	<p>A diagnostic tool has been developed and is currently in use. Sustainable development has been integrated within this tool, covering areas such as efficient use of resources including waste and cost reduction, impact on communities and other environmental issues. Sustainable development guidelines are being used to help recognise needs and make referrals to appropriate specialists.</p>
<p>develop guidance in <b>late 2004</b> for social enterprise to take a stronger role in sustainable production, eg in renewable energy production, through a sub-group of a capital investment</p>	<p>Specific sustainable development training for advisers has been developed and is due to be piloted in July.</p>

<p>working group. [date should be July 2005 – typo in final doc]</p>	
<p>by the <b>end of 2004</b> support the establishment of a Constructing Excellence in Wales Benchmarking Club, and encourage all sectors of construction industry to participate in the measurement of performance against industry standard sustainable development indicators;</p>	<p><b>Completed. Assembly Government grant funding given in November 2004. The first Annual Meeting was held in November 2004 and the Club was launched at a conference in Cardiff in December 2004. A Steering Group including representatives of major contractors, Local Authorities, CLAW and RSLs has been set up to oversee the working methods of the Club and agree a range of performance indicators.</b></p>
<p><b><i>on a second phase Business and Environment Action Plan in developed with the help of the newly established resource management expert panel;</i></b></p>	<p>The Expert Panel on Resources Management are at the final stages of agreeing their first annual report to be published in July. This report provides an overview of the panels considerations and scope of work during its first year of appointment. It also sets out a work plan for next year in which the panel will begin to formulate recommendations for a next phase action plan.</p>
<p>commission a review of our Waste Strategy in <b>2007</b> and identify the further targets and action required to ensure the efficient and sustainable management of waste and resources in Wales.</p>	<p>Support for the exemplar projects is ongoing as is a review of their performance.</p>



## Reducing Consumption

<p>by <b>December 2004</b>, promote waste minimisation and recycling to householders through a major media campaign run by the Waste Awareness Wales initiative that is supported by the Assembly Government;</p>	<p>Completed. Three year Waste Awareness Wales media campaign, funded by the Assembly Government, commenced in November 2004</p>
<p>by March 2005 assist the public sector in Wales to implement the Wales Public Sector Sustainable Waste Management Guidance Manual through the production of a resources pack and the provision of training;</p>	<p>NafW induction training now includes a green housekeeping element. A programme of NafW Staff Green Awareness training has been launched, which includes waste issues. ARENA Network provided waste awareness training for Local Property Managers/Accommodation Services staff. A presentation on waste awareness was given at the NafW Local Property Managers' Conference 2004</p> <p>The Resources Pack to be disseminated to public sector bodies in Wales this summer. Two training courses have already taken place and more are planned under the new Materials Action Programme.</p>
<p>create consumer awareness as part of an overall awareness campaign, building on the study by the Consumer Council and WWF Cymru;</p>	<p>Research project completed gauging current consumer awareness. Future communications to be determined following analysis of this research.</p>
<p>promote information to householders on energy efficiency and renewables within the scope of the Energy Efficiency Action Plan</p>	<p>Completed. Energy Saving Wales launched in October 2004. Energy efficiency and renewable energy to be promoted through a 'one-stop shop' web portal for all sectors including householders</p>

## Leadership and Delivery

## Creating Organisational Excellence

<p>By the end of <b>December 04</b> set out our future approach to public service delivery, in order to link the Assembly's vision to action on the ground</p>	<p>The Welsh Assembly Government set out its vision for improving public services in Wales in its document <i>Making the Connections</i> published in October 2004. This was endorsed in the subsequent consultation and an action plan to take it forward was published in June 2005.</p>
<p>ensure sustainable development is embedded in core training programmes and, commencing <b>December 2004</b>, include questions about in annual Assembly Staff Attitude surveys;</p>	<p>Completed.</p>
<p><b>from January 2005</b>, measure ourselves against the benchmark organisational standard being developed by Forum for the Future reinforcing sustainable development as a central driver of our internal change programme, Management Plan and policy planning;</p>	<p>Delayed. Framework to be developed in 2005 at the same time as the one for local government.</p>
<p><b>from April 2005, as part of the review of the Assembly's Performance Management System, embed sustainable development into staff appraisal systems through core competencies and objectives;</b></p>	<p>SD incorporated into the staff Competency Framework and guidance; into the training courses for newcomers and the Assembly Government's Policy Training course 'Shaping the Future of Wales'.</p>
<p><b>from April 2005</b>, apply the policy integration tool to all strategic policies to ensure they coherently deliver our strategic vision, publish the results as part of consultations, and keep the tool under review. Also develop a methodology to test the</p>	<p>Completed. Guidance and training has been put in place to help deliver this commitment.</p>

sustainable development aspects of our top level strategies;	
publish the summary assessment of our past allocation of resources against strategic goals undertaken by the <b>2004 Spending Review</b> .	Summary information derived from the Assembly Government Spending Review made available to Subject Committees to assist their consideration of the Draft Assembly Budget in November 2004. Also, a leaflet setting out key points of the budget and a full explanation of the Assembly Government's spending plans 'A Budget for the Future of Wales' was issued in April 2005.

**Delivering through our agents**

with <b>immediate</b> effect, build on the work of the King's Fund to determine key steps for the NHS in Wales to take forward the agenda; and support the production of a Wales Healthcare Waste Strategy;	<p>We are working with NHS Wales organisations to scope developments under the SD themes identified by the Kings Fund, and consulting NHS Wales on a draft joint high level policy statement for SD. Also working with the Sustainable Development Commission (SDC) to develop a bespoke toolkit for NHS Wales that reflects the specific Welsh policy context.</p> <p>Good SD practice in NHS Wales was the subject of 2 case studies at the SDC's Celtic conference in January. HSCD is working with SDC to produce specific Welsh focussed editions of their good practice newsletter, Healthy Futures for NHS Wales.</p> <p>Waste Policy Branch has provided £10,000 to support the development of a NHS Wales waste strategy</p>
<b><i>end of 2005, jointly develop practical guidance and training</i></b>	Under development.

	<b><i>d to individual organisations including the use of ation tools and organisational excellence models.</i></b>
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### **Delivering with Local Government**

<p>update the guidance on the use of the wellbeing power by local authorities in Wales, consulting on the revised guidance by <b>the end of 2004</b>.</p>	<p>Although the original intention was to consult on the guidance to the well being power at the end of 2004 we are in the process of finalising it. It is anticipated it will go out to consultation over the summer/early Autumn. Copies of the draft guidance are with the Strategic Policy Unit for comment.</p>
<p>develop jointly with WLGA, a Local Authority Sustainable Development framework that will provide practical guidance for individual service areas about what they can do to deliver sustainable development;</p>	<p>Funding given to WLGA. Three-year work programme to develop framework underway.</p>
<p>ensure the Performance Measurement Review embeds sustainable development in the new performance framework to be introduced <b>in April 2005</b> and that work of Audit in Wales supports this aim.</p>	<p>Delayed. The new framework will not be fully in place until April 2006. SD indicators will be mostly, but not wholly, contained in the shared outcome measures, on which consultation will take place later in 2005.</p>
<p><b>by May 2005</b>, complete a detailed evaluation of the effectiveness of the first round of community strategies and the extent to which they and their Action Plans have mainstreamed sustainable development;</p>	<p>Two approaches were adopted to meet this commitment. The first approach was an in-house evaluation of the community strategies themselves. This was completed at the beginning of the year and was considered by the LGPS Committee in February/March. The second approach was the independent evaluation of the community strategy process which is currently underway. A consultants report is expected in late September.</p>

<p>ensure that the Assembly's proposals for rationalising the plans and strategies that local authorities are required to produce, enables the delivery of sustainable outcomes</p>	<p>An inhouse review suggested that although SD was referred to in community strategies, rarely were SD issues mainstreamed within the strategies. This was also true of the Assembly's other cross cutting priorities equalities and the Welsh language.</p> <p>The Assembly Government's proposals for local government plan rationalisation recognise explicitly the need for sustainability to be mainstreamed into the local government planning framework. Whether that would be - as now - via community strategies, or via a new separate local environment and sustainability strategy will depend on the results of consultation and on the development of the all-Wales environment strategy during 2005.</p>
<p>support the five local authority and community recycling sector 'Exemplar' partnerships that are aiming to engage local communities to collectively reach a 50% recycling level <b>by 2007</b>, and retain the value of the secondary resources derived from waste through the creation of new local social enterprises.</p>	<p>Support for the exemplar projects is ongoing as is a review of their performance.</p>

### Delivering with Partners

<p>with <b>immediate</b> effect work closely with business and social partners to take forward the proposals on 'Sustainable Production and Consumption';</p>	<p>Work with partners is ongoing in a number of measures including the promotion of environmental management systems, support for eco-design pilot project, sustainable procurement, encouragement for social enterprise, sustainable construction, consumer/ homeowner awareness raising, waste reduction and minimisation and investigation into alternative fuels.</p>
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	A Materials Action Programme for Wales has been agreed and is now being integrated with the English BREW programme
<p><i>ber 2005 and in conjunction with our proposals for the integration tool, engage partners more directly in the process of policy testing and development;</i></p>	<p>The Policy Gateway process was formally launched on 1 April 2005. Since that time, some external partners (including ELWa, WTB, and Save the Children) have been involved in further development of the process. Plans are being developed for external partners, including some Local Authorities, to attend the specialised training on the Gateway Process, and to attend Policy Gateway sessions being undertaken by policy divisions.</p>
<p>promote best practice and learning across partners, linked to proposals for a virtual centre for sustainable development being taken forward by Cynnal Cymru.</p>	<p>Included as part of Cynnal Cymru's forward work programme for 2005/06</p>

### Wales: A Global Citizen

<p>promote best practice and principles to the EU's Sustainable Development Strategy and Structural Funds review, through the outputs of the Sustainable European Regions Network in <b>autumn 2004</b>, and, through NRG4SD, to the meetings of the UN's Commission for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Completed.</p> <p>The Welsh Assembly Government attended the UN's Commission for Sustainable Development annual meeting as members of the UK delegation as well as the NRG4SD. The Network had several bilateral meetings while it was in New York, some of which were with representatives of the UN.</p>
<p>press for the adoption of strong policy positions and joint action by regional governments through NRG4SD's next conference in Lake Toba, Indonesia, <b>February 2005</b>.</p>	<p>Adopted two new policy papers on Fair Trade and Sustainable Forest Management at the NRG4SD General Assembly in Lake Toba, Indonesia, in March 2005.</p>
<p>ensure that our international work, aims and commitments</p>	<p>Completed.</p>

<p>relating to sustainable development are collated and publicised by <b>February 2005</b> and carried through into Assembly policies;</p>	
<p>work with partners to develop proposals over the next 2 years to implement the Assembly's commitment to becoming a Fair Trade country.</p>	<p>Submitted a joint paper, with Western Cape, on Fair Trade to the NRG4SD. The paper was adopted at the General Assembly in Lake Toba and includes a commitment to prepare an annual progress report on implementation of fair trade practice in the member regions.</p> <p>Celebrated 1<sup>st</sup> year anniversary of Cardiff as a Fair Trade City and developing proposals with the Fair Trade Forum to implement the Assembly's commitment to becoming a Fair Trade country.</p>
<p>support the development of the UK Sustainable Development Strategy and a positive UK position on International negotiations; and consider opportunities for collaborative working with other regions around the world;</p>	<p>Attended 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of UN Commission on Sustainable Development as member of UK delegation. Ongoing work with other regions around the world through NRG4SD.</p>
<p>work with NGOs in the development sector to identify a positive Welsh contribution to the Millennium Development Goals, potentially focusing on education, gender and language;</p>	<p>Oxfam secondee recruited to work with NGOs to develop a positive Welsh contribution to the Millennium Development Goals</p>
<p>uphold the UK Government's guidelines aimed at protecting developing countries from loss of health sector staff whilst maintaining opportunities for mutually beneficial exchange.</p>	<p>Updated Code of Practice now published. All NHS Wales employers are aware of the document and the need to follow its protocol.</p>

### Promoting Awareness and Leadership

<p>by spring 2005 fund the central development of Cynnal Cymru's Executive Leadership Programme across the public, private and voluntary sectors in Wales, linked to our Public Sector Management Initiative;</p>	<p>Funding agreed. First course to be held in November 2005.</p>
<p><i>take research to inform the most effective method(s) of awareness on sustainable development and work with others to develop a communications strategy and campaign by end of 2005;</i></p>	<p>Research has been undertaken to examine public attitudes and awareness of Sustainable Development. The research will feed into the development of a marketing and communications strategy being taken forward by a dedicated Sustainable Development Communications Group made up of representatives from Strategic Policy Unit and external partners.</p>
<p><i>with the Welsh Youth Forum on Sustainable Development (SD) to develop a programme of action to ensure the views of people are heard in the development of a sustainable for Wales.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

### Education for a Sustainable Future

<p>Include specific reference to the Assembly's commitment to promote sustainable development and global citizenship in the policy context for ACCAC's current review of curriculum and assessment arrangements. The Assembly Government will respond to ACCAC advice in <b>late autumn 04</b>.</p>	<p>ACCAC's review of the curriculum has taken place against a wide range of policy development and the Assembly's cross-cutting themes, including sustainable development. The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning's response, in October 2004, to ACCAC's initial advice highlighted the importance of this background in ACCAC's further work on the curriculum review. The Minister also agreed that a</p>
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	<p>review of the framework for Personal and Social Education (PSE) should go hand in hand with the wider review of the curriculum. Sustainable development and global citizenship issues feature extensively in the context of PSE.</p> <p>In her remit letter to ACCAC in April the Minister again emphasised the importance of sustainable development and global citizenship in the curriculum, including remitting the Authority to support the production of curriculum planning documents in these areas.</p>
<p>ensure that ELWa directs Further Education Institutions (FEIs) to include a section on sustainable development in their 2005 strategic plans (<b>December 2004</b>). Plans will be submitted in June 2005;</p>	<p>In progress. ELWa has issued FEIs with planning guidance that included a requirement for FEIs to consider sustainable development.</p>
<p>Examine ways to provide a measure of training for teachers on sustainable development and global citizenship through developments in Early Professional Development and Continuing Professional Development. (<b>Report January 2005</b> for CPD programme in 2005-06).</p>	<p>The End of Induction Standard is unlikely to be considered until Estyn publish the outcome of their three-year survey on Induction and EPD in March 2007. When the Standard is reviewed we will consider including sustainable development and other Assembly cross cutting themes.</p> <p>The Induction and EPD Handbook will also be reviewed after the publication of Estyn's survey. The Induction Guidance circular is due to be amended by September 2005 and will include something on sustainable development.</p> <p>Training of Induction Tutors is a role which is now carried out by LEAs. All Induction tutors should receive a copy of the Induction and EPD Handbook which amendments will be</p>

	<p>considered in 2007.</p> <p>Teachers can apply to the GTCW for funding to support a professional development training need as identified through the performance management process. The Council's CPD scheme has been reviewed to ensure that there are no barriers to teachers using CPD for sustainable development activities.</p>
<p>Indicate, in our consultation on a draft revised initial teacher training Circular, a proposal to give SD and global citizenship increased prominence in the Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) standards. A response to the consultation covering this proposal will be published by <b>April 2005</b>.</p>	<p>A response to the initial consultation on QTS standards and requirements for the provision of initial teacher training (ITT) was published on 17 September 2004. This included a statement that given the Welsh Assembly Government's commitments to sustainable development, we wished to give it increased prominence and that we would look at ways of doing this in drafting the replacements for the existing ITT circular. A consultation exercise on those replacements is due to start in May 2005.</p>
<p><b><i>make sustainable development and global citizenship a feature of all aspects of school life. This would encompass:</i></b></p> <p><b><i>a consultation re governing bodies to carry out their functions having regard to sustainability issues, with a view to making regulations in early 2005;</i></b></p> <p><b><i>including sustainability requirements in grants for school buildings from 2005-06;</i></b></p>	<p>On target, 1070 schools currently involved.</p>

<p><i>promoting energy efficiency in schools;</i></p> <p><i>extending the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes to 75% of schools by 2007;</i></p> <p><i>promoting links between schools in developed and developing countries;</i></p>	
<p>work with HEFCW and ELWA to encourage FE and HE institutions to mainstream sustainable development and global citizenship as part of their strategic planning. Commission work from HEFCW in the 2005-06 remit letter (<b>January 2005</b>); request HEIs to include a section on sustainable development in their 2005 strategic plans (May 2005); strategic plans to be submitted by HE institutions (July 2005).</p> <p>introduce a commitment for ELWa to ensure that providers make sustainable development a part of their work (to be included in the <b>2005-06 remit letter</b>);</p>	<p>ELWa's FEI Planning Guidance requires institutions to consider sustainable development in their plans. The plans have to include information on curriculum development and also cross refer to their Estates Strategies. FEIs are encouraged to provide information on sustainable procurement and community development.</p>
	<p>Completed. The 2005-06 Remit letter required ELWa to mainstream the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to sustainability into its business</p>

## **Making our Money Talk**

### **Procurement**

<p>Through WPI establish a Ministerial Task Force to provide a strategic and co-ordinated route to match the development needs of a sustainable Welsh economy and SMEs with the commercial needs of the public sector. First meeting and</p>	<p>Completed. Business Procurement Taskforce (BPT) established September 2004 and terms of reference agreed. Action Plan approved by BPT in January 2005. SME Charter 'Opening Doors' being drafted.</p>
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<p>terms of reference to be agreed by <b>autumn 2004</b>; through our internal Procurement Unit review Assembly standard contract specifications to ensure they are based on best practice;</p>	<p>Evaluation of standard contract specification is ongoing to take account of emerging and current best practice and legislation.</p> <p>The entire suite of terms and conditions have undergone a full review to take account of Office of Government commerce (OGC) best practice and will be implemented from 1 June 2005. Further revisions are expected soon following a revision to the Voluntary Code of Practice for Suppliers, and in particular the introduction of 'Sustainability' checklist for inclusion in tender packs</p>
<p>through the Welsh Procurement Initiative support and enable the Welsh public sector to apply best practice to its procurement through its Sustainable Procurement pathfinder project, to be launched in <b>December 2004</b>.</p>	<p>Completed. 'Buying Into Sustainable Development' and 'Buy Now Don't Pay Later' launched December 2004. A Procurement Self Assessment Tool launched March 2005. 43 organisations signed up to programme of training and development. Awareness courses and workshops held. Events planned with Envirowise and WRAP.</p>
<p>support the Wales Procurement Initiative to continue its series of 'Procurement Fitness' checks, already started with ASPBs. The model includes a section assessing sustainability. Results will be fed back to organisations to allow them to focus on development areas. By March 2005 four high level reviews and three medium level reviews will have been completed.</p>	<p>By the end of March 2005 the WPI completed eight high and medium level reviews with ASPBs in Wales, and action plans have been agreed with six organisations.</p> <p>Use of Procurement Fitness Checks is currently being considered by the Higher Education sector.</p>
<p>by March 2005 use data from the Business Eye database to ensure that appropriate support is available to help businesses with queries about sustainability issues.</p>	<p>The Business Eye Directory of Business Support Services is due to begin live operation in July 2005. This web-based database has been designed to include information on services available to businesses from the private, public and</p>

	<p>voluntary sectors and will allow interrogation to assess provision in different areas such as environmental issues.</p> <p>During the financial year 2004-5, Business Eye received just under 20,000 enquiries. Of these, 0.63% were primarily related to environmental issues. This figure does not include enquiries where environmental or sustainable development issues were part of a larger enquiry, such as those relating to finance or premises.</p>
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### Grants

<p>ensure grant giving is better able to support applications for funding that tackle the root causes of, and/or joined up solutions to, unsustainable trends;</p>	<p>Under consideration. Merger implications also need to be considered</p>
<p>ensure terms and conditions of grants maximise sustainable outcomes and enable the Assembly Government to deliver against its vision of a sustainable future for Wales.</p>	<p>Under consideration. Merger implications also need to be considered</p>

### Food

<p><b>immediately</b>, through the Welsh Pathfinder Project, issue guidance to support processes to review the scope for changing food procurement in the major sectors of education and health and establish the wider business case for so doing;</p>	<p>“Food for Thought” guidance launched July 2004 by Minister for Environment Countryside and Planning. A number of pilots supported and set of Case Studies published and promoted at Supply Buy Wales 2005 Food conference April</p>
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<p>in the light of the review to change food procurement in the major sectors of education and health, roll out best practice and set targets to drive the process forward. Case studies will feature in a Welsh Pathfinder Initiative conference in <b>December 2004</b> and be published in <b>March 2005</b>.</p>	<p>2005</p> <p>Completed. "Food for Thought" guidance launched July 2004. Pilots supported and case studies promoted at WPI Conference in December 2004. Full set of Case Studies published and promoted at Supply Buy Wales 2005 Food conference April 2005.</p>
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### Estates Management

<p><i>in autumn 2004 implement in house our Wales Public Sector Sustainable Waste Management Guidance Manual that provides good practice advice on minimising and recycling wastes generated at facilities managed by the public sector;</i></p>	<p><i>This is being implemented through the Greening Operations Action Plan 2005-06 and includes participation in the WPI Pathfinder Project to embed sustainable procurement into NAFW procurement activities, a materials audit across the Estate to reduce, reuse and recycle resources and, where possible, introduce the use of more sustainable materials; and a communications campaign to encourage staff to reduce their use of energy and paper on the Estate</i></p>
<p>by the <b>end of 2004</b> roll out the results of the joint Welsh Health Estates and Carbon Trust Wales pilot project on energy saving in NHS Wales to NHS Trusts in Wales</p>	<p>Completed. The results of the Welsh Health Estates pilot study are being rolled out across Wales. Workshops have been held to promote the findings of the study and to encourage implementation amongst other Trusts</p>
<p>produce by <b>mid 2006</b>, guidance on best practice procurement methods and environmental performance standards for Assembly funded construction;</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>achieve Green Dragon level 5;</b></p>	<p>The NAFW achieved Level 3 of the Green Dragon</p>

	<p>Environmental Standard on 31 March 2005. It is being audited for Level 4 on 23 June 2005. The aim is to achieve Level 5 by 31 March 2006.</p>
<p><b>test future office location and design decisions against public transport accessibility criteria.</b></p>	<p>New office locations that are considered are tested against public transport accessibility. We are working to achieve BREEM excellent on our new offices in Llandudno Junction and Aberystwyth. The design process will commence in early July.</p>

### **Measuring our Progress**

#### **Indicators**

<p>continue work to respond and build on the preliminary recommendations of the Indicators Working Group on our indicators of sustainable development</p>	<p>Work ongoing.</p>
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### Sustainable Development Indicators.

Information on the high-level summary indicators referred to in the review of the year is given in Table 1 below, with more detailed breakdowns of the Ecological Footprint and the Biodiversity index in Tables 1a and 1b.

**Table 1: High-Level Summary Indicators**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Summary Indicator</b>	<b>Most recent value</b>
The global impact of consumption in Wales	Ecological Footprint	5.25 area units per person, as compared to an estimated average 'earth share' of 1.8. (A fuller breakdown is given in Table 1a.)
Biodiversity within Wales	Biodiversity Index	22% of UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species are stable or increasing and 18% declining. 30% of BAP habitats are stable or increasing and 46% declining. (A fuller breakdown appears in Table 1b.)
The level of economic activity	Gross Value Added (GVA)	In 2003, GVA for Wales was £37.1 billion or £12,629 per head of population. This was 79.0% of the average for the total of all UK regions, the lowest level of GVA per head for any UK region. This has changed little over the most recent five years.
<i>The overall level of deprivation in Wales</i>	<i>Index of fairness/ equality based on Index of Multiple Deprivation (to be developed)</i>	<i>None presently available</i>
<i>Genuine economic progress, taking account of environmental factors, resources and well-being</i>	<i>None recommended for adoption, but development of the Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare (ISEW) to be monitored and reported</i>	<i>Midmore et al. (2000) <sup>1</sup> published a pilot ISEW for Wales for the period 1970-1996. No more recent estimates are yet available.</i>

<sup>1</sup> Midmore, P., Matthews, J. and Christie, M. (2000). *Monitoring Sustainable Development in Wales: a Pilot Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare*. Working Paper No. 11, Welsh Institute of Rural Studies, Aberystwyth.

**Table 1a: Breakdown of Wales' Ecological Footprint by consumption category and land type**

	Energy land (f)	Crop	Pasture	Built Land	Sea	Forest	Total Ecological Footprint gha/cap
	gha/cap	gha/cap	gha/cap	gha/cap	gha/cap	gha/cap	
Food and Drink a)	0.271	0.427	0.209	0.011	0.343	0.029	<b>1.29</b>
Energy (direct use)	0.833	0.001	-	0.076	0.001	0.005	<b>0.92</b>
Travel b)	0.713	0.008	0.003	0.036	0.006	0.012	<b>0.78</b>
Housing	0.092	0.016	0.008	0.004	0.009	0.037	<b>0.17</b>
Consumables	0.355	0.123	0.058	0.017	0.033	0.053	<b>0.64</b>
Services	0.155	0.019	0.009	0.012	0.029	0.018	<b>0.24</b>
Holidays abroad	0.036	0.021	0.010	0.002	0.028	0.004	<b>0.10</b>
Capital Investment c)	0.560	0.034	0.016	0.013	0.009	0.112	<b>0.74</b>
Government d)	0.312	0.018	0.009	0.021	0.016	0.032	<b>0.41</b>
Other e)	0.024	-0.016	-0.008	0.008	-0.038	-0.001	<b>-0.03</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.35</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>5.25</b>

Source: 'Reducing Wales' Ecological Footprint' WWF/Stockholm Environment Institute, March 2005

a) includes catering services

b) includes transport services and air travel

c) Capital Investment or Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF). The Footprint calculations assume shared responsibility, i.e. equal values for UK and Wales.

d) Includes central and local government. The Footprint calculations assume shared responsibility, i.e. equal values for UK and Wales.

e) includes non-profit institutions serving households, valuables, and changes in inventories and overseas tourists in the UK; the latter one leading to an overall negative Footprint.

f) the area of forest that would be needed to absorb carbon emissions arising from use of fossil fuels.

**Table 1b – Biodiversity summary**

BIODIVERSITY SUMMARY INDEX	Species (Wales)		Habitats (Wales)	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Stable or Increasing	38	22%	11	30%
Declining	31	18%	17	46%
No clear trend	14	8%	2	5%
Lost (pre- and since BAP publication)	13	7%	0	0%
Insufficient information	78	45%	7	19%
	174	100%	37	100%

Source: Countryside Council for Wales, January 2004

<http://www.ukbap.org.uk/2002OnlineReport/2002Report.htm>

The values of our original set of indicators, adopted in March 2001, are shown in Table 2 below. These are as reported in the Statistical Bulletin 'Sustainable Development Indicators for Wales, 2005'.

**Table 2: Original Assembly SD Indicators**

<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>LATEST RESULT</b>	<b>YEAR</b>
<b>Employment</b>	Percentage of people of working age in work	72.4 per cent	2004
<b>Education</b>	Percentage of people at age 19 with at least an NVQ level 2 qualification or equivalent	76 per cent	2003
<b>Crime</b>	Crime rates per 100,000 population for: (i) Theft of and from a vehicle (ii) Burglary in a dwelling (iii) Violent crime	1,574 476 1,933	2003-04 2003-04 2003-04
<b>Housing</b>	Percentage of unfit dwellings	8.5 per cent	1998
<b>Climate Change</b>	Emissions of greenhouse gases: Basket of greenhouse gases (million tonnes carbon equivalent)	12.8	2002
<b>Air Quality</b>	Days when air pollution is moderate or higher: Urban - Cardiff - Swansea - Port Talbot Rural - Aston Hill - Narberth	59 55 79 53 41	2003 2003 2003 2003 2003
<b>River Water Quality</b>	The percentage of river lengths of good or fair quality: Chemical quality Biological quality	98.3 per cent 99.2 per cent	2003 2003
<b>Wildlife</b>	Population of wild birds: Short-term changes in the abundance of widespread breeding birds (Index, 1994=100) All species represented Birds of farmed habitats Woodland birds Urban and other birds	99 94 96 116	2003 2003 2003 2003
<b>Waste</b>	Household waste and amount recycled or composted (kg per person)		


INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	LATEST RESULT	YEAR
	per year): (i) Total household waste (ii) Household waste recycled or composted	518 85	2003-04 2003-04
<b>Welsh Language</b>	Percentage of people who are Welsh speakers: (i) All aged 3 or over (ii) Children aged 3-15	21 per cent 38 per cent	2001 2001
<b>Electricity from Renewable Sources</b>	Percentage of electricity produced in Wales generated from renewable sources	2.60 per cent	2003
<b>Ecological Footprint</b>	Wales's global ecological footprint in area units per person	5.25	2001

In agreeing the new UK Sustainable Development Framework, we accepted that a new set of Framework Indicators would be used to measure progress towards sustainability across the UK. The indicators in this new set are shown on the following pages, with their most recent values (where available) for Wales.

**Table 3: Welsh values of UK Sustainable Development Framework Indicators**

	Issue	Indicator	Value
<b>1</b>	<b>Greenhouse gas emissions:</b>	Kyoto target and CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	As Table 2 (Greenhouse gas emissions decreased by 8.6% between 1990 and 2002). CO <sub>2</sub> emissions: 39.2 million tonnes (2002)
<b>2</b>	<b>Resource use:</b>	Domestic Material Consumption and GDP	DMC: not available GVA: As Table 1
<b>3</b>	<b>Waste:</b>	arisings by (a) sector (b) method of disposal	Arisings by sector in 1998-99 (million tonnes): Industrial 5.0 Commercial 1.1 Household 1.3 Construction and demolition 3.3  Arisings by method of disposal

			(1998-99) : Re-used and recovered/ recycled 54% Landfilled 42% Other treatment 3% Transfer & unknown 1%
<b>4</b>	<b>Bird populations:</b>	bird population indices (a) farmland birds (b) woodland birds (c) birds of coasts and estuaries	(a) As Table 2 (b) As Table 2 (c) N/A
<b>5</b>	<b>Fish stocks:</b>	fish stocks around the UK within sustainable limits	Not applicable
<b>6</b>	<b>Ecological impacts of air pollution:</b>	area of UK habitat sensitive to acidification and eutrophication with critical load exceedences	Data for Wales: Percentage of sensitive habitat area exceeded for : Acidity 81.6% Nutrient nitrogen 87.4% (2001-03)
<b>7</b>	<b>River quality:</b>	rivers of good (a) biological (b) chemical quality	a) 79.3% (2003) b) 92.5% (2003)
<b>8</b>	<b>Economic output:</b>	Gross Domestic Product	As Table 1 (GVA)
<b>9</b>	<b>Active community participation</b>	civic participation, informal and formal volunteering at least once a month	Percentage of adults participating at least once a month: Civic participation 3% (2003) Informal volunteering 32% (2003) Formal volunteering 25% (2003)
<b>10</b>	<b>Crime:</b>	crime survey and recorded crime for (a) vehicles (b) domestic burglary (c) violence	As Table 2
<b>11</b>	<b>Employment:</b>	people of working age in employment	As Table 2
<b>12</b>	<b>Workless households:</b>	population living in workless households	(a) 15.8% (2004) (b) 13.1% (2004)

		(a) children (b) working age	
13	<b>Childhood poverty:</b>	children in relative low-income households (a) before housing costs (b) after housing costs	(a) 21% (2003-04) (b) 27% (2003-04)
14	<b>Pensioner poverty:</b>	pensioners in relative low-income households (a) before housing costs (b) after housing costs	(a) 26% (2003-04) (b) 22% (2003-04)
15	<b>Education:</b>	19 year olds with level 2 qualifications and above	As Table 2
16	<b>Health inequality:</b>	(a) infant mortality (by socio-economic group) (b) life expectancy (by area) for men and women	(a) 4.5 per 1,000 live births (2002) (b) Males 75.5 Females 80.1 (2001-2003)
17	<b>Mobility:</b>	(a) number of trips per person by mode (b) distance travelled per person per year by broad trip purpose	(a) Average number of trips per person per year: 948 (2002/03) (By mode: car/van 658; walk 203; other 87) (b) Distance travelled per person per year: 6,712 miles (2002/03)(By purpose: commuting/business 1,851; leisure/just walking 1,443; visit friends 1,160; shopping 982; other personal business/escort 944; education /escort education 332)
18	<b>Social justice:</b>	<i>(social measures to be developed)</i>	
19	<b>Environmental equality:</b>	<i>(environmental measures to be developed)</i>	-
20	<b>Well being:</b>	<i>(well being measures to be developed if supported by the</i>	-

		<i>evidence)</i>	
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With only 3 of the 5 high-level summary indicators covered by recent estimates (which themselves pertain to different years), establishing an overall picture of whether Wales is developing sustainably is difficult.

In terms of the global impact of its consumption, Wales is not living in an environmentally sustainable way, as we have consistently recognised. The new estimate of the ecological footprint (using 2001 data) confirms the previous one (from 2000). Food & drink, direct energy use and travel are the 3 largest consumption categories, in Footprint terms.

The picture regarding biodiversity is less clear: habitats appear to be declining, but the percentage of BAP species that are stable or increasing (22 per cent) roughly balances the percentage declining (18 per cent).

But adverse environmental impacts are not the result of excessive living standards, as Wales' comparatively low GVA per head shows. It follows that the way Welsh people's consumption needs are met is a crucial area for investigation, and that moving to more sustainable consumption and production patterns is a key challenge in economic as well as environmental terms.

Turning to our original indicators, the picture is more encouraging, for 6 out of 9 either remain at welcome levels or are moving in the right direction. (There are 12 indicators in our original set, but the Footprint is discussed above, and no new data are available for unfit Housing and Welsh language.) Greenhouse gas emissions, waste recycling and water quality are notable successes, whereas air quality and wildlife were worse than in the previous year.

The proportion of working age people in Wales who are in work was the same in 2004 as in 2003, ie 72.4%. Within this figure, the percentage for men rose from 74.5% to 77.1% between 2003 and 2004, whilst the percentage for women fell from 70.3% to 67.4%. (The equivalent UK figure in Spring 2004 was higher ( 74.5%), but the gap between Wales and the UK as a whole has halved since 2001.)

The percentage of 19 to 21-year-olds with at least a NVQ level 2 qualification or equivalent rose slightly, from 75% in 2003 to 76% in 2004. This was the same as the figure for the UK as a whole. The gap between the sexes closed: for males, the figure rose from 72% to 75%, whilst that for females fell from 77% to 76%.

Last year's report drew attention to the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard in 2002, which coincided with significant rises in recorded crime rates for 2002-03, reversing previously long-standing downward trends. Figures for 2003-04 suggest that the change in recording practice may have 'worked through', for downward trends have resumed. Thefts of and from

vehicles fell from 1,684 to 1,574 per 100,000 population; burglary in a dwelling fell from 515 to 476 per 100,000; and violent crimes fell slightly, from 1,948 to 1,933 per 100,000.

Emissions of greenhouse gases fell significantly between 2001 and 2002, from 14.0 to 12.8 million tonnes of carbon equivalent. Almost all of this was due to a fall in carbon dioxide emissions, from 11.8 to 10.7 million tonnes of carbon equivalent. Between 1990 and 2002, the estimated decrease in the basket of greenhouse gases has been 8.6%. The UK's Kyoto Convention target is to achieve a 12.5% reduction from 1990 levels by 2008-2012.

By contrast, the number of days when air pollution was moderate or higher rose at all 5 Welsh sites between 2002 and 2003. The figures from 2002 to 2003 were as follows: Cardiff 30 to 59; Swansea 17 to 55; Port Talbot 34 to 79; Aston Hill 28 to 53; and Narberth 28 to 41. The hot summer was a major factor in the rise. Ozone is the main cause of air pollution in rural areas, and one of the two main causes (along with fine particles – PM10s) in urban areas, and is affected by the weather.

River water quality was maintained – indeed improved slightly – between 2002 and 2003. The percentage of river length that was chemically 'Good or Fair' rose from 98.2% to 98.3%, and the biologically 'Good or Fair' figure was unchanged at 99.2%. (On both scales, Wales was ahead of the UK as a whole.) The UK Framework Indicator of river quality is the percentage of river length that is 'Good', rather than 'Good or Fair'. On this basis, chemical quality improved slightly, from 92.2% to 92.5%, whilst biological quality rose from 78.5% to 79.3%. To improve from a high base is a significant achievement.

The abundance of widespread breeding birds declined between 2002 and 2003. Farmland birds remained stable between 2002 and 2003 but are below the 1994 level (the base year for measurement). Woodland birds were above 1994 levels until 2002, but declined to below 1994 levels in 2003. The 'all-species' pattern was similar. Birds in urban and other habitats declined slightly, but remain well above 1994 levels.

In 2003-04 the rise in recycling and composting of waste outpaced the rise in total household waste. The total rose from 510 to 518 kg per person per year between 2002-3 and 2003-4, whilst the amount recycled or composted rose from 61 to 85 kg per person per year. Though the percentage recycled or composted in Wales - 16.5% - is still less than that in the leading English regions, Wales is improving fast.

The percentage of electricity produced in Wales generated from renewable sources rose from 2.44% in 2002 to 2.60% in 2003. Though the overall move was in the right direction, the level is still too low. Hydro output was down by a quarter compared to 2002, due to dryer weather, but there was growth in generation from landfill gas and other biofuels. (The equivalent figures for the UK in 2002 and 2003 were 2.86% and 2.67% respectively.)



We do not at present have Welsh data for all the indicators in the UK Framework set, but the data we do have cast further light on Wales' sustainability position.

The data on waste arisings in 1998-99 show household waste (1.3 million tonnes) in perspective against a total of 10.7 million tonnes from all sectors. Of this, 54% is re-used, recovered or recycled.

Concern about biodiversity and wildlife is underpinned by high figures for critical load exceedences (i.e. pollution sufficient to compromise the character of a local habitat) in sensitive habitat areas.

Turning to social aspects of sustainability, levels of pensioner and child poverty remain too high.

In 2002-03, the average person in Wales made 948 trips, and travelled 6,712 miles (10,800 kilometres), an average of 7.08 miles (11.4 kilometres) per trip. Estimates of the Ecological Footprint associated with travel are not directly comparable, but the estimated travel footprint in 2001 was 0.78 gha/cap, just under 15% of the total Footprint.

We will be reporting on as many of the Framework indicators as possible in future, and on other indicators that the Indicators Working Group recommend should form part of a more comprehensive set.