



Sustainable Development Annual Report

2007

The approach for setting priorities for the use of Welsh Assembly Government translation service is set out in the Welsh Language Scheme for the Welsh Assembly Government prepared under the Welsh Language Act 1993. Under this guidance, we are not providing a Welsh version of this Annual Report.

Mae'r dull a ddefnyddir i bennu blaenoriaeth wedi'i amlinellu yng Nghynllun Iaith Gymraeg Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a baratowyd o dan Ddeddf yr Iaith Gymraeg 1993. Wrth dilyn yr arweiniaeth hyn ni fyddwn yn darparu fersiwn Cymraeg o'r Adroddiad Blynyddol hwn.

Contents

Ministerial Foreword	3
Introduction	4
Progress this year	4
Top 10 Actions	5
Key initiatives and activities	13
Annex A: Sustainable Development Action Plan Implementation of Commitments to the end of March 2007	20
Annex B: Sustainable Development Indicators	58

Foreword by the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing



The Welsh Assembly Government has a legal duty to promote Sustainable Development in all it does. The duty as reflected in the Sustainable Development Scheme and Action Plan affects all departments of the Assembly Government. This and previous annual reports show how our duty to promote sustainable development influences diverse policies such as Health, Education, the Economy, Social Justice and the Environment.

I am very pleased with the progress made in promoting sustainable development. The vast majority of the actions reported upon have either been completed or soon will be.

Despite all the work that has been made we must maintain the momentum we have generated. The Welsh Assembly Government has received a great deal of praise for its championing of Sustainable Development, but I realise that more needs to be done. The outcome of the review of the effectiveness of our Sustainable Development Scheme will help shape my thinking on our future approach. I hope to set out the Welsh Assembly Government's aims and ambitions for this work in spring 2008 once the review has concluded.

As a society we are living beyond our means. This is reflected clearly through the changes to our climate, which has brought home the consequences of unsustainable living. Failing to respond to these issues is the great challenge of our age. The consequences of inaction are too frightening to contemplate. Sustainable Development provides the route towards a better Wales through a strong and prosperous economy, a society that offers opportunity to all and environment fit for future generations. We have made good progress to date. I am confident we can make the changes that will bring about a sustainable Wales.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Davidson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jane Davidson AM
Minister for Environment,
Sustainability and Housing

Introduction

Section 121(1) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 required 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”. Section 121(6) required 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”. Under the Government of Wales Act 2006, the duty to prepare the Sustainable Development Scheme and annual report now fall under section 79, and the duty lies with Welsh Ministers rather than the National Assembly for Wales.

This is the Welsh Assembly Government’s sixth statutory report on progress towards Sustainable Development covering financial year 2006/07.

2007 marks a unique stage in the sustainable development reporting cycle. Under section 79(7) of, and paragraph 49(6) of Schedule 11 to, the Government of Wales Act 2006, the Welsh Ministers must in 2008, publish a report containing an assessment of how effective their proposals (as set out in the sustainable development scheme, and implemented) have been in promoting sustainable development. Work will soon commence upon this review with a publication date scheduled for spring 2008. The ‘Effectiveness Review’ will inform the Minister’s decision on whether to remake or revise the Sustainable Development Scheme.

Progress this year

We are delighted to report that all the commitments within the Sustainable Development Action Plan have either been completed or substantial progress has been achieved.

Alongside the commitments in the Action Plan, major initiatives this year included:

- publication of a full suite of Sustainable Development Indicators;
- launch of the Wales for Africa International Sustainable Development Framework;
- announcement of the aspiration that from 2011 all new buildings in Wales would be carbon neutral;
- launch of the Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Action Plan;
- further roll out of the Sustainable Procurement programme;
- continued use of the NHS Sustainable Development toolkit;
- roll out of the Welsh Local Government Association’s sustainable development framework;
- publication of the Wales Spatial Plan interim statements;
- expansion of the Welsh Assembly Government’s greening operation; and
- first phase of Public Service Management Wales’ One Planet Leadership programme.

An update section on these key initiatives can be found from page 12 following the top 10 commitments which are shown below:

Top 10 Commitments - 2007

Action	Update
<p>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>At 01/04/06 92% of electricity consumed in the core administrative Estate came from renewable sources. During 2006-07 this figure fell to 80% (16.7 million kWh). This 12% drop in 06-07 can be explained by the increase in the number of core estate buildings following the ASPB merger in April 2006. As current contracts expire they will be replaced with green tariff suppliers.</p> <p>Under the Location Strategy, the Construction Project has contracted a Carbon and Energy Consultant to advise on how renewable and low carbon technologies can be effectively integrated into the final Llandudno Junction design.</p> <p>A 6kW wind turbine will be used at the Aberystwyth office. Typically, this type of turbine will also save around 0.42kg of CO₂ per kWh of electricity produced. With an average site wind speed of 5.9 m/s the turbine will generate around 12000kWh per annum.</p> <p>Once opened, the use of green electricity within the buildings will form part of the wider strategy being undertaken by Human Resources (Facilities and Emergencies) Division.</p>

Action	Update
	<p>Achievement of this action point is compromised by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ we do not have the final decision for Offices where we are not responsible for arranging supplies; ▪ new acquisitions and time required converting to green tariff; and ▪ availability of Green tariff.
<p>The Assembly Government, its agencies and the NHS in Wales will report annually on the use of energy in its estates</p>	<p>The National Assembly for Wales achieved Green Dragon Level 5 on 30 March 2006 for the Cathays Park Building and the Assembly Office, Cardiff Bay.</p> <p>Part of the Green Dragon Standard is an annual environmental performance report which includes energy efficiency for the core WAG estate. This is published annually.</p> <p>The Permanent Secretary has included in his personal objectives that the Green Dragon Level 5 Programme is extended to the entire core Administrative Estate by July 2009.</p> <p>In 2005, the Countryside Council for Wales achieved Green Dragon Level 5, the first public body in Wales to do so. The three Welsh National Park Authorities are working towards this - the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has achieved level 4 and is working towards achieving Level 5 by March 2008, the Snowdonia National Park Authority has also been awarded</p>

Action	Update
	<p>Green Dragon level 4, and will concentrate for the next 12 months on consolidating level 4, before moving onto level 5, while Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority has achieved 4 and, like Snowdonia, are concentrating on consolidating this before moving onto Level 5.</p> <p>Through the EFPs all NHS Trusts in Wales are required to report annually on their energy consumption and performance.</p>
<p>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>The Assembly Government Environmental policy requires all new builds on the core administrative estate to aspire to BREEAM 'excellent' and substantial refurbishment to 'Very good'.</p> <p>The new building in Merthyr Tydfil which opened in October 2006 was awarded a BREEAM 'excellent' rating in May 2007. The Aberystwyth and Llandudno Junction new build projects will also aspire to an "excellent" BREEAM rating.</p> <p>Since 2005-06 local authorities must have regard to the principles of sustainability in all new build projects and major refurbishments (DfES (now the Department for Children, Schools and Families) BREEAM Schools Standards introduced in 2005). Indications are that a number of authorities are applying the BREEAM</p>

Action	Update
	<p>standards to new build projects from 2007-08 onwards and appointing registered BREEAM assessors to make assessments and provide a rating.</p> <p>From 2007-08 onwards it will be made a condition of grant under the Schools Building Improvement Grant programme that, for new schools, a BREEAM Excellent rating should be achieved.</p> <p>We are also developing mechanisms for collaboration between authorities on sustainable procurement and project management, supported by Value Wales. A pilot study has begun with 5 LEAs to look at inter-authority collaboration and procurement issues. These are RCT, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Monmouth and Merthyr Tydfil.</p> <p>In October 2002 a Welsh Health Circular (Environmental Management Policy for the NHS Estate; WHC 2002 116) was issued that required all NHS Trusts in Wales to use NEAT (The NHS Environmental Assessment Tool).</p> <p>NEAT is the hospital version of BREEAM that has been specifically adapted by NHS Estates and the Better Regulation Executive for use by the NHS. The Environmental Policy requires that Trusts use NEAT for all capital development schemes that require business case approval and that these schemes achieve a NEAT score of “excellent”.</p>

Action	Update
	<p>There have been many benefits in using the NEAT tool and of particular note has been the introduction of biomass boilers for the provision of heating and hot water, into the designs for the new hospitals currently being built at Llwynypia and North Meirionneth.</p> <p>These are large installations of 880Kw capacity for the North Meirionneth site and approximately 1.3Mw for the Llwynypia installation, which is believed to be the largest of its type in Wales and one of the largest in the UK.</p>
<p>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 of renewable and alternative solutions has been carried out in partnership with local authorities through the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme. The pilot schemes will now provide feedback on the installation and running costs of the technologies, along with information on any practical issues they encountered when installing the technology.</p>
<p>The Assembly and its agencies will encourage the development of an indigenous microgeneration "renewables" industry in Wales, with a particular focus on opportunities for SMEs. WDA, Carbon Trust and EST and, where appropriate, other renewables-focused organisations, should work together closely to provide a joined up approach</p>	<p>The Assembly Government published a Microgeneration Action Plan for Wales in March 2007. This identifies actions needed to facilitate the uptake of microgeneration in Wales. Three working groups have been established to progress actions.</p> <p>SMEs involved in microgeneration in Wales have been invited to join a Green Energy Cluster, established by the</p>

Action	Update
	<p>Energy Goods and Services Division of the Department for the Economy and Transport. This provides a means to inform the members of government initiatives, regulations and grant provision. It also provides opportunities for the SMEs to network and to team up on relevant projects.</p> <p>The Carbon Trust as part of their approach to reducing energy requirements and carbon emissions within the business and public sector also look to encourage, where appropriate, renewable energy and low carbon generation technologies as part of the solution.</p>
<p>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>The report on “Alternative Transport fuels in Wales” provides a useful snapshot of the current position.</p> <p>The planned implementation of the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation of 5% of all transport fuel sold in the UK coming from renewable sources in April 2008 will hopefully act as a catalyst for increasing demand and supply of alternate fuels.</p> <p>The Assembly Government has established an Alternate Fuel and Power Train Cluster, this body made of representatives from the automotive Industry and Academia aims to build on technical and scientific developments from around the world to establish innovative research projects in Wales.</p>

Action	Update
	<p>Future plans will involve launching Freight Best Practice in Wales which is a programme that offers Welsh road freight operators specific advice aimed at reducing carbon emissions and improving operational efficiency of their businesses.</p>
<p>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>The consultation period for Appetite for Life, the Food in Schools Working Group's review of food and drink provided in our schools, ended on 31 October 2006. This report identifies a whole range of improvements in the arrangements for local service delivery which includes food procurement issues. A coordinator, appointed jointly with the WLGA in April 2007, will assist in the practical implementation of the proposals in Appetite for Life at local level. An action plan detailing how we will take forward the outcome of the consultation exercise will follow.</p> <p>A number of the case studies included in 'Food for Thought - A new approach to public sector food procurement' identified creative and innovative approaches of how the procurement of school meals can support sustainability. Officials in Education and Value Wales are working together to develop practical ways of embedding sustainable development principles into the procurement of school meals.</p>

Action	Update
<p>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>The top tier agri-environment scheme is being considered as part of the Rural Development Plan 2007-13. A stakeholders group has been established and work is progressing satisfactorily. We intend to issue a consultation paper in the new year of 2008.</p>
<p>With our Advisory Panel we will produce a Wales-wide strategy for Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship by Spring 2005</p>	<p>The ESDGC Action plan is now being implemented. A champion was appointed in January 2007 to coordinate delivery of the action plan. Following consultation within each sector (Schools, Youth work, Further Education and Work Based Learning, higher education and adult and continuing education) projects are being carried out in all sectors to take forward actions specified within the ESDGC action plan.</p>
<p>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>We estimate that since the introduction of the standard in 2005 1000 RSL homes have been developed incorporating higher levels of sustainability which include improvement measures from the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved water efficiency ▪ Materials sustainability ▪ Healthier internal environments ▪ Recycled materials ▪ Sound proofing ▪ Open space provision ▪ Pollution reduction

Key initiatives and activities

Sustainable Development Indicators

At the time of the last SD Annual Report, the recommendations of the Welsh Assembly Government's SD Indicators Working Group were still being considered. The Cabinet confirmed the recommendations of the Working Group at its meeting in July 2006, and this was announced in October 2006. The 2007 SD Indicators Bulletin was subsequently published in March 2007, <http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/sustain-2007/hdw200703292/?lang=en>, and for the first time reported progress against this wider range of indicators. A number of indicators still require development and therefore could not be reported in the 2007 bulletin. The Bulletin presented the latest available data on the full suite of Sustainable Development Indicators for Wales, where data were available. It included indicators covering the UK Framework indicators and the headline indicators for Wales, the latter reflecting the commitments made in the Sustainable Development Scheme. Results for some earlier years and comparisons with the UK were included where available. Annex B provides more information on the indicators included in this statistical bulletin.

Wales for Africa International Sustainable Development Framework

The Framework was launched in October 2006 by First Minister Rhodri Morgan, Secretary of State for International Development Hilary Benn and Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation, UNIDO, Kandeh Yumkella. The First Minister announced a budget of £500,000 per year to support this work.

The Framework was developed in response to the demand from within Wales for there to be an identifiable Welsh response to international development and disasters, reflecting Wales' sense of duty as an international citizen and the Assembly Government's legal duty to promote sustainable development in the exercise of its functions. A consultation exercise was conducted on the contents of the Framework. 274 responses were received.

A series of actions had been launched in support of the Framework by March 2007:

International Learning Opportunities. Approximately 25 senior public service staff per year will go on placement to Sub Saharan Africa for up to 8 weeks in a scheme run in partnership with PSMW and Voluntary Services Overseas over 3 years. The scheme is both an opportunity for participants to develop their leadership skills and to contribute to international development.

Lesotho Teacher Placements. An extension to the existing Welsh Assembly Government scheme had been agreed and extra training has been provided by VSO for the participating teachers. 7 Welsh teachers went to Lesotho in January 2007. The scheme exists to give

the teachers an opportunity to learn many new skills which are of benefit to their future careers whilst improving the educational opportunities of Basotho children. These teachers had the option to extend their stay for up to a year - spending the last 6 months training Basotho teachers.

Hospital twinning. Bids were considered and awards announced from a £50,000 NHS Wales fund administered by NHS Human Resources. The funding is being used to promote and encourage Welsh NHS bodies to make meaningful links with counterparts in Sub Saharan Africa. Guidance has also been issued by the NHS to Trusts advising them to treat participation in such schemes as a valuable contribution to their staff's continuing professional development. Wales already has an exemplary link between Neville Hall Hospital in Abergavenny and Southern Ethiopia which is contributing to the provision of healthcare to over 15 million people.

Disasters and Emergencies Booklet. A joint Welsh Assembly Government/Department for International Development (DfID)/Disasters Emergency Committee booklet has been produced advising the public on how they can help at times of disasters and emergencies overseas. Based on an existing UK wide booklet, it contains contact details of relevant organisations and 'do's and don'ts'. The booklet will be distributed widely in the event of a major disaster and stocks are held ready for urgent distribution to schools, doctors' surgeries and libraries.

Gold Star Communities. The Welsh Assembly Government is funding the Civil Society Millennium Development Goals Task Force administered by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action. They have employed a Development Officer to work with five communities in Wales to develop impactful links with communities in Sub Saharan Africa. A set of criteria will be developed which, once met, will lead to UN recognition of the link. The criteria will include work on fair trade, childrens' rights and social inclusion. Wales will be the only pilot country for this high profile UN scheme. An announcement of the communities chosen by the Task force was made by the First Minister in February 2007:

- Pont - Mbale Uganda
- Crymych - Hlotse Lesotho
- Bryn y Cwm (Abergavenny) - Yirgachefe, Ethiopia
- Hay - Timbuktu
- Brecon - Molo Town, Kenya

Other Welsh communities, including Ynys Mon and St Davids, will have support to develop their embryonic links.

Civil Society Mapping. The Welsh International Development Sector Network WISeN was funded to develop a web based database of all the organisations involved in International development in Wales. The project will identify the training and development needs of

these organisations and ensure better networking - a need identified by the Wales for Africa consultation exercise. DfID agreed to run a session for the groups identified by the mapping exercise, to advise them on applying for funding.

Fair Trade Country. The Welsh Assembly Government is supporting the bid to make Wales the world's first Fair Trade country by the end of 2007. We fund the Wales Fair Trade Forum which is co-ordinating the campaign and there are actions for all parts of Welsh society to take in support of Fair trade.

Sustainable Buildings

The Assembly Government announced in February 2007 an aspiration that all new buildings constructed in Wales from 2011 onwards should achieve zero carbon standards; and, in order to start the journey towards zero carbon and for wider sustainability purposes, the requirement of BREEAM 'Excellent' (or equivalent) for all new buildings that the Assembly Government and its sponsored bodies influenced through direct funding, investment or land disposal. A commitment to pursue the feasibility of devolving the Building Regulations was also made in February, which would allow the creation of a statutory level playing field in terms of sustainability standards for all sectors in Wales.

An action plan to take forward the 2011 aspiration and the BREEAM 'Excellent' (or equivalent) commitment was agreed by the Cabinet in March and Assembly Government departments and sponsored bodies were tasked to produce implementation plans.

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship, A Strategy for Action, was launched in September 2006. It covers all education sectors including schools, youth work, further education, higher education and adult and continuing education. Actions are listed under 5 headings - leadership and commitment, teaching and learning, institutional management, partnerships and research. An ESDGC champion was appointed in January 2007 for a three year period, to ensure that these action points are delivered.

Current work includes the development of a 'common understanding' for schools linked with the new curriculum. Developments are now underway for a similar initiative in other sectors. All further education and higher education institutions have reported on work within ESDGC and this information will be used to develop good practice information to share back with the sectors and develop further. Training and awareness raising are also underway within all sectors.

Sustainable Procurement

Value Wales' Sustainable Procurement Programme is using the leverage of the Welsh public sector spend to produce better long-term decision making and delivering economic, environmental and social benefits.

Much of the work undertaken was overseen by the Business Procurement Task Force (BPTF), chaired by the then Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networking, Andrew Davies, and with a membership drawn from both the public and private sectors.

One of the key areas for the BPTF is opening up opportunities for Welsh SME's and during the last year, much work has been undertaken to embed the principles outlined in "Opening Doors - the Charter for SME Friendly Procurement" into public sector procurement processes. An important part of the charter is a commitment by the public sector to use the National Procurement Web Site and this has continued to grow in influence. The buy4wales portal is the buyer facing side of the National Procurement Web Site and this is linked to the selling side, sell2wales. By registering free of charge on sell2wales, companies can indicate the product and service areas they are interested in supplying and when a public sector organisation advertises an opportunity, automatic e-mail alerts are sent to interested parties. Over £4 billion worth of contracts advertised to date and over 25,000 suppliers registered (64% Welsh based).

These initiatives are in line with the EU directives that govern public sector procurement. The directives are based on the principles of open competition, transparency, equity and proportionality. While it is not permissible to favour 'local' suppliers as the initiatives outlined demonstrate, concerted efforts are being made to use the 'proportionality' principle to make public sector contracts more accessible. In 2006, Value Wales commissioned research into public sector procurement spend across Wales and among its findings was that the percentage of spend by the public sector with companies based in Wales had increased from 35% in 2003 to 49% in 2006. A sub group of the BPTF, called the Welsh Initiative for Procurement Partnerships (WIPP) is also using this data to identify what has been termed "supply voids" i.e. product and service areas, where the public sector in Wales currently purchases outside Wales but where there exists in Wales companies who could potentially compete for the business.

The BPTF also oversees Sector-based groups, which have been set up to stimulate supply chains in Wales. For example, an SME Development Food Group has influenced an increase from 18% to 24% of fresh food (meat and dairy) procured which is made in Wales over 2003-06 and, looking further afield, Wales is committed to ethical procurement objectives and aims to make Wales a Fair Trade exemplar. Value Wales have included advice for the public sector on procuring fair trade goods in their Procurement Routeplanner. Work is ongoing to ensure that new tenders for the Welsh Assembly Government estate take account of best practice in this area.

Value Wales is supporting the movement by helping to set up pilots such as the one on Fair Trade bananas being supplied to Cardiff City Council, which commenced in December 2006.

Another major initiative coming out of the BPTF is the Community Benefits Group, whose aim is to embed the use of social clauses in all major construction and service contracts. The Group has established a methodology for embedding social clauses and agreed sample clauses for use in contracts. This guidance will be built into the on line procurement route planner. Two workshops, focussing on the support available took place and a programme of works has been agreed to apply the methodology.

To support this activity Value Wales has developed a Sustainable Procurement Training Programme in conjunction with the Environment Agency called "Making it Happen". This programme provides guidance and practical tools for those involved in procurement so that they can ensure that sustainability is a key issue in the procurement process. This training was rolled out to the public sector in January and February 2007 and is underpinned by the Sustainable Procurement Assessment Framework (SPAF), developed in conjunction with Forum for the Future, which enables all Welsh Public Sector organisations to self assess their sustainable procurement performance and benchmark their performance against other organisations; most importantly, Value Wales is helping organisations to produce action plans to improve year on year performance.

National Health Service Sustainable Development toolkit

The NHS can and must take a major role on the sustainable development agenda. It is a major landowner, employer, energy-user, and waste-producer, and health needs account for a significant amount of transport use in Wales. Recognising, this reality, the Department for Health and Social Services and the Department for Public Health and Health Professions have worked closely with the Sustainable Development Commission and the NHS Confederation, which represents NHS bodies in Wales, to develop a process for auditing and improving local performance against this agenda. The work has entailed close co-operation between these bodies and derives from an approach undertaken initially by the Commission with partners in England.

The result is a Sustainable Development Toolkit for NHS bodies in Wales, which identified the main ways in which Local Health Boards and NHS Trusts can contribute to sustainable development across the breadth of their activities. The toolkit allows local bodies to assess their current status and indicates how they might improve, identifying sources of advice and examples of good practice.

The Toolkit has been issued to the NHS in Wales to assist local bodies in preparing Sustainable Development Policy Statements and Action Plans. In addition it should be used to help ensure that they address sustainable development in developing their

statutory Health, Social Care and Well-being Strategies, which will cover the period 2008/09 and 2010/11.

Local Government's Sustainable Development framework

This project - initiated in 2004/5 with the WLGA and Forum for the Future - promotes understanding and implementation of SD within Welsh local government. The Framework has developed guidance at both corporate and individual service level to illustrate the action Local Authorities need to take to embed sustainable development into their work, and that sustainable development principles and outcomes lie at the heart of good government. It includes a self-assessment tool for use at the corporate level, with further detailed resources for individual service areas. In the service areas action has so far focussed on high impact areas such as waste, transport, housing and construction.

The Framework is now entering its 'rollout' stage across local government in Wales. Early indications are very promising and local authorities have been working with WLGA and Forum for the Future on the Framework's development.

Wales Spatial Plan

The priority actions for each of the Spatial Plan areas were agreed in 2005, with a number of common themes emerging across Wales, such as the role and function of key settlements, accessibility to jobs and services, provision of affordable housing and labour markets and skills. During 2006-07, progress against the agreed priority actions has proceeded apace and the substance of this work has been consolidated into a single Interim Statement for each Spatial Plan area.

The Interim Statements were published and launched by respective Spatial Plan Ministers in March 2007 and will be used as the basis for updating the Wales Spatial Plan in 2008. Close collaboration with local partners and stakeholders has been the key to our achievements so far and this approach will continue into the next stage of work; focusing on delivery.

Welsh Assembly Government's Greening Operation

The Green Dragon Environmental Standard is intended to provide organisations with the elements of an effective environmental management system, which is appropriate to the nature and scale of their activities and operations. There are five stages within the Standard. Level 5 equates broadly with the requirements of ISO 14001, the international standard for environmental management systems (EMS). The Welsh Assembly Government achieved certification to Level 5 for its Merthyr Tydfil office in April and was re-certificated to Level 5 for its Cathays Park office. At April 2007 15 of the 92 offices on the WAG core estate were at Level 5. The aim is to install the Environmental Management System in the remaining offices by July 2009.

Public Service Management Wales' One Planet Leadership programme

Public Service Management Wales' One Planet Leadership Programme is being delivered in a wide ranging partnership lead by PSMW, the Welsh Assembly Government's Sustainable Development Branch, Forum for the Future and the Sustainable Development Commission. The One Planet Leadership Programme aspires to provide world class learning and development opportunities to support leaders of public service organisations in Wales as they make the important transition towards low carbon, sustainable and integrated ways of working. It consists of five programmes:

- *'Walking not Talking for Sustainability'*: Beginning in October 2007, senior leaders (including Directors and Chief Executives) from across public services will take part in this high-profile programme of action learning led by the Sustainable Development Commission's Jonathon Porritt;
- *'Good Intentions into Action - Mainstreaming Sustainable Development seminars'*: middle to senior managers and key change agents in different parts of the public service have been invited to take part in these sector-specific workshops. Seminars will be aimed at managers in health, education, construction, regeneration and transport;
- Sustainability-themed action learning sets as part of *'Connect 4 Cymru'* management development programme: managers from across the public services have participated in collaborative and inquiry groups;
- *'Enabling SD in Wales'*: for Sustainable Development Co-ordinators from all Welsh local authorities learning through collaboration and inquiry (part of Connect 4 Cymru); and
- *'Sustainability Beyond Boundaries'* action learning set: 12 managers from different organisations will be working together on common issues. This will feature in the PSMW Learning Directory 08-09 and run in early 2008.

Climate Change

We have set out the high level policy priorities for action on climate change in the Environment Strategy for Wales and have subsequently consulted on an Adaptation Action Plan for Wales.

We have also begun a communications campaign on climate change to encourage people to take action to address climate change. This has included communicating to local communities through local press and radio and developing a wider package of action to engage communities and issuing a schools pack based around a copy of the film "An Inconvenient Truth" for all secondary schools and colleges in Wales.

Annex A

Sustainable Development Action Plan Implementation of Commitments to the end of March 2007

Living Differently

Action Point	Position at end March 2007
Climate Change	
Implementing the Energy Saving Wales plan across all sectors by November 2004	Plan launched in October 2004. A key outcome from this work has been the establishment of the Energy Savings Wales Portal. The Portal disseminates information to the public about how their use of energy can contribute towards sustainable development. It is applicable to the domestic, business, public sector and community sectors.
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 December 2004	The Renewable Energy focused Energy Route Map will be going to Cabinet in December 2007 and should be published in the New Year. Following the consultation on the Route Map an overarching Energy strategy will be issued.
Develop community renewables and innovative energy projects through stakeholders and agencies with the benefit of European funding support by January 2005	A number of proposals for generating energy that will benefit communities are at various stages of development - Projects like Cefn Croes, Western Log and Prenergy can bring community support in a limited way (community funds, regenerations funds, scholarships). In many cases, however Structural Funds cannot assist direct costs for community energy projects - it's not eligible in many cases.

Climate Change

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

Existing Stock - the Carbon Trust through the Low Carbon Building Accelerator initiative is assisting 2 pilot projects in Wales. The projects seek to demonstrate that refurbishment projects can be carried out in a way that minimises carbon emissions from the building. Case studies will be produced at the end of the projects.

The Assembly Government has worked with social housing providers to pilot a number of renewable/alternative energy solutions under the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES).

Due to report in 2008, the pilot schemes will provide feedback on the installation and running costs of the technology, along with information on any practical issues encountered when installing the technology.

New Build - the Assembly Government announced in February 2007 its zero carbon aspiration for all new buildings from 2011 and, to kickstart this journey, a requirement of BREEAM 'Excellent' or equivalent for all new buildings that the Assembly Government influences through direct funding, investment or land. This is serving to increase demand for micro-generation, thereby stimulating supply, improvements in technology and affordability

Climate Change

	<p>Carbon Trust in Wales (CTW), working in partnership with the Welsh Assembly Government's Department for the Economy and Transport, has initiated a project to assist in the delivery of zero carbon developments throughout Wales.</p>
<p>With DTI, Carbon Trust and others, strengthening the knowledge/research base in Wales for emerging marine energy and hydrogen economy systems, including participating in a renewables strategic environmental assessment of Welsh waters - by mid 2005</p>	<p>A 3 year marine research project is currently underway. A Steering Group has been set up with main UK and Welsh Assembly Government stakeholders to oversee the research. Stage one is expected to be completed by early 2008.</p>
<p>Ensuring that our developing policies on farming, forestry and the countryside, help to conserve the carbon stored in Welsh soils</p>	<p>A major research report, 'Estimating Carbon in Organic Soils Sequestration and Emission' with recommendations on land use was published in March 2007, and its recommendations are being incorporated into the review of agri-environment schemes within new Rural Development Plan.</p>
<p>Ensuring that lighting for trunk roads employs renewable technologies to deliver at least 20% energy saving</p>	<p>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 Street Lighting Energy Purchase Consortium.</p>
<p>Commissioning a study to explore the feasibility of offsetting the carbon generated by induced traffic arising from Assembly road schemes</p>	<p>Following consideration of the Consultant's Final Study Report received in March 2006, Transport Wales commissioned additional research to assess the carbon emission impacts of the policies and proposed interventions for road, rail and other modes of travel, which fall within the jurisdiction of the Welsh Assembly Government.</p>

Climate Change

The outcomes and recommendations of this additional study are intended to inform the final version of the Wales Transport Strategy.

Liveable Places, Strong Communities

Between now and 2007 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

Design Commission for Wales provided local authority Member training in 2005. Planning Officers' Society Wales (POSW) Residential design guide launched in September 2005. POSW Householder design guide completed end of May 2006. Issued 'Planning for Climate Change' consultation paper, including a proposed new requirement for 'design statements' to accompany planning applications. These should indicate how sustainability considerations are reflected in the design. A separate Consultation on Design Statements is planned for issue in November 2007.

The former WDA previously conducted 6 workshops on "Creating Sustainable Places" in collaboration with the Six Professions Collective.

Issue improved Transport Appraisal Guidance early in 2005

TAN 18 was revised and published in March 2007 providing policy advice on transport and planning - for Local Authorities preparing Local Development Plans as well as developers.

Liveable Places, Strong Communities

	<p>At the same time, 'Manual for Streets' was published, providing design guidance for practitioners involved in the planning, design, provision and approval of new residential streets, and modifications to existing ones. This document replaced Design Bulletin 32.</p> <p>Draft guidance on the Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance has been consulted upon. The guidance helps appraise plans, programmes and projects for their effects on the economy, environment and society. The final version will follow the publication of the Transport Strategy.</p>
<p>Use the sustainable development clause in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act to embed sustainable development in planning policies. Local Development Plans Wales guidance will issue in September 2005, and as Technical Advice Notes are revised they will incorporate sustainable development principles</p>	<p>Local Development Plans Wales (LDP) issued December 2005 (policy) and Local Development Plan Manual (technical advice/guidance) issued June 2006 including outlining the requirement for a full Sustainability Appraisal of Local Development Plans and indicating that sustainability is a main organising principle behind development plan policy.</p> <p>Revised/new Technical Advice Notes prepared with full account of sustainability principles, including draft Coal TAN, TAN 5 on Nature Conservation, TAN 13 on Tourism, TAN 16 on Sport Recreation and Open Space & TAN 18 on Transport.</p>

Liveable Places, Strong Communities

<p>Formally appraise a revised transport framework for Wales against our sustainable development framework</p>	<p>The current Transport framework will be replaced by a new Wales Transport Strategy. A consultation document was issued in July 2006 and a new Strategy is likely to be published in early 2008. The Strategy will fully incorporate the UK's shared framework for Sustainable Development as well as the Welsh Assembly Government's Sustainable Development Scheme.</p>
<p>Encourage National Park Authorities to work with developers to provide small scale, low cost, sustainable housing, within National Parks</p>	<p>Revised guidance on Planning and Affordable Housing published June 2006. Training for Local Planning Authority officers and members provided in Autumn 2007. Research on use and value of planning obligations identified that the 3 National Parks secured no affordable housing in 2005/06.</p> <p>The National Park Authorities' Strategic Grant letter for 2007-2008 requires the Park Authorities to work collaboratively with the unitary authorities, registered social landlords and rural housing enablers to identify two new opportunities in each Park to secure new affordable housing - by 31 March 2008.</p>
<p>Use the introduction of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) integrated with Sustainability Appraisal for development plans to ensure wider area issues and linkages are properly addressed</p>	<p>Local Development Plan Manual (technical help on sustainability appraisal including SEA) published end of May 2006. Training for officials on the LDP Manual provided in April 2006.</p>

Our Natural Environment

<p>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 latter part of 2004</p>	<p>Consultation on response to diffuse pollution completed; pilot projects on catchment sensitive farming established at Llyn Tegid and Deepford Brook; longer-term proposals being worked up as part of the review of land management projects under the Rural Development Plan (to report in 2008).</p>
<p>To have in place by 1 January 2005 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 and 30 June 2006, subject to their meeting cross compliance requirements (for example to meet environmental goals)</p>	<p>The Common Agricultural Policy Single Payment and Support Schemes (Cross Compliance) (Water) Regulations 2004 came into force on 1 January 2005.</p>
<p>Open for applications in spring 2005 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</p>	<p>The Tir Cynnal Scheme has opened and is functioning effectively. At the end of March 2007 3,951 agreements had been established covering 264,896 hectares of land, including 44,293 hectares of habitat and 5,900 traditional buildings.</p>
<p>Consult on an Environment Strategy in spring 2005 and publish it in its final form in autumn 2005. This will take forward work on the draft soil and biodiversity strategies for Wales</p>	<p>The Environment Strategy and Action Plan were published on 17 May 2006. They addressed soil and biodiversity issues among a range of other topics. A Biodiversity Framework has been prepared in response to one of the actions in the Environment Strategy Action Plan and a Soil Action Plan is being developed in response to a separate Environment Strategy Action Plan.</p>

Our Natural Environment

<p>Introduce tougher public health assessments for new land use developments by end of 2005</p>	<p>Consultation document issued in July 2006 on draft Ministerial Interim Planning Policy Statement on Planning, Health and Well-being. Responses are currently under consideration. The final version of DMIPPS will be incorporated into reformatted Planning Policy Wales, for issue in Spring 2008.</p>
<p>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 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 agri-environmental schemes, forestry and woodland practice, grant regimes, planning and regulation. Our Environment Strategy will develop how this will be taken forward</p>	<p>The Environment Strategy addresses landscape issues and contains an action to take forward this action in a practical way.</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>Following the 'AXIS' project, UK Woodchain Wales has developed the 'Bright Green' accreditation scheme to assess the sustainability of timber products taking account of the manufacturing process, extent of local sourcing of timber and the supply chain. It provides total traceability and goes further than the Forestry Stewardship Council scheme which only confirms timber from a sustainable source.</p>

Our Natural Environment

	<p>It will help procurers to select products on the 'most economically advantageous' criteria within EU procurement rules and to demonstrate the wider economic benefits of locally sourced quality assured products. Out of 25 candidate SMEs, 11 Welsh companies have received accreditation under the Bright Green Scheme.</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>A new forestry grant scheme, Better Woodlands for Wales is now in place which provides support based on the development of a long term management plan. These plans use the sustainability principles of the UK Woodland Assurance Scheme (UKWAS) and greatly assist owners who wish to apply for UKWAS certification.</p>
<p>Work with partners to develop a framework for integrated management of our marine environment</p>	<p>We are fully involved with Defra in the development of the Marine Bill which will introduce a system of marine planning that will help to provide a strategic, long-term planning mechanism for the marine environment - draft Bill expected to be ready Spring 2008.</p> <p>Welsh Ministers will be responsible for planning in Welsh territorial waters but the complex mix of devolved and non-devolved responsibilities in the marine area needs to be taken into account in developing a system of marine spatial planning.</p>

Our Natural Environment

The Welsh Assembly Government is working with Wales Coastal and Maritime Partnership (WCMP) on options for marine planning - WCMP provided a first report to the Welsh Assembly Government on this in April 2007.

The Bill will create a reformed and streamlined system of licensing based on a merger between Food and Environment Protection Act (FEPA) licenses and Coast Protection Act (CPA) licences. Welsh Ministers will be responsible for this.

Marine dredging, some renewable energy projects and harbour matters will also be included. Officials are in discussion with UK Government on how the complex mix of devolved and non-devolved powers in these areas will operate under the new system.

The Welsh Assembly Government is setting up an in-house Marine Consents Unit that will deal with the administration of marine licenses in Welsh waters. This work is currently carried out by the Marine and Fisheries Agency on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government. The Welsh Assembly Government will take over administration of licenses in 2008.

Our Natural Environment

	<p>The Welsh Assembly Government is working with CCW to develop the concept of Highly Protected Marine Reserves (HPMRs) and how they can work in Wales to protect existing sites and ecosystem functioning.</p> <p>The Welsh Assembly Government is working with Fisheries colleagues to ensure better integration and cross-linkages between fisheries management, conservation and overall marine management.</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>On target with 34% of the Assembly woodland estate now designated for management by continuous cover systems. All re-stocking is done to approve Forest Design Plans and around 30% of the annual programme now uses natural regeneration where the appropriate species is present in sufficient numbers to ensure effective re-stocking.</p>
---	--

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 Government sponsored 'Construction Waste Minimisation Good Practice Guide'</p>	<p>This is now incorporated into the National Waste Strategy with targets for recycling construction and demolition waste, and references to instruments, actions and guidance considered to bring about waste reduction including the 'Construction Waste Minimisation: Good Practice Guide'.</p> <p>It will also be promoted through the Sustainable Buildings Project Action Plan on standards and delivery.</p>
--	---

Supporting Welsh Business in Sustainable Production

From now until February 2006, 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

We have now funded a network of five Green Dragon Waste Advisors covering the whole of Wales. The current waste advisor programme has provided much needed advice to a wide range of businesses (mostly SMEs) during a period of significant legislation change. The advisors have been overwhelmed by the amount of businesses seeking their advice. The main outputs from the work identified so far are:

- Businesses advised - 2131
- Business advice (visit and report) - 200
- Business advice (written waste audit) - 89
- Business advice (sustainable waste management plan) - 122
- Identified potential diversion in waste plans (tonnes) - 20,000
- Actual diversion achieved so far by supported businesses^[1] (tonnes) - 4,026
- Identified cost savings to businesses - £1,681,212
- Case studies - 21

^[1] This is the figure reported so far by supported businesses. It takes time for businesses to change their systems in order to achieve the potential waste reductions identified by the Waste Advisors.

Supporting Welsh Business in Sustainable Production

<p>Promote sustainable development to businesses through the use of a diagnostic tool being developed by the WDA in liaison with the Welsh Assembly Government. This tool will be embedded into the WDA's newly established Business Eye web-site and General Business Advisory Service by December 2004</p>	<p>The diagnostic tool used by the General Business Advisory Service (GBAS) and accessed through Business Eye incorporates business checks for a range of environmental practices including inter alia cost and waste management, emissions and environmental and social impacts. Businesses are encouraged to set targets for reductions and adopt processes that meet or exceed industry and environmental standards. This was extended to new business starts from April 2006 through the merging of the GBAS and Business Start-up programmes.</p>
<p>Develop guidance in late 2004 for social enterprise to take a stronger role in sustainable production, e.g. in renewable energy production, through a sub-group of a capital investment working group</p>	<p>The Social Enterprise Joint Working Group has received a paper on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy which was produced as a result of the Development Trust Association co-ordinating a workshop in 2007 on Renewable Energy & Efficiency - a Growth sector in Wales: Increasing the Contribution & Opportunities for Social Enterprises. The workshop enabled an analysis of current Social Enterprise activity in this area and resulted in recommendations which are being discussed with Energy Wales.</p>

Supporting Welsh Business in Sustainable Production

<p>By the end of 2004 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>Constructing Excellence in Wales Benchmarking Club at March 2007 had increased to 30 members in the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Government clients (Transport Wales, Welsh Health Estates) 5 Local Authorities 11 Housing Associations 3 Construction engineering consultants 9 Construction Contractors
<p>Launch a second phase Business and Environment Action Plan in 2007, developed with the help of the newly established resource management expert panel</p>	<p>Work is well advanced on the second stage Business Environment Action Plan; currently known as Resource Efficiency Wales. This will represent joint working between the Departments for the Economy & Transport and Environment, Sustainability and Housing, and should be fully operational in the first part of 2008. Its aim will be to ensure that effective support is available to businesses across Wales, delivered in a fully integrated way.</p>
<p>Commission a review of our Waste Strategy in 2007 and identify the further targets and action required to ensure the efficient and sustainable management of waste and resources in Wales</p>	<p>A consultation document is planned for autumn 2007.</p>

Reducing Consumption

<p>By December 2004, 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>The on-going WAW media campaign covers recycling and will cover aspects of waste minimisation from March 2007.</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>The resources pack was completed in early 2005 and is now available online at: http://walespublicsector.envirowise.gov.uk/index.php?page=home</p> <p>Details of the regular training courses can be seen through the EnviroWise website.</p> <p>The Welsh Assembly Government is developing an in-house strategy using the guidance to be rolled out across the administrative estate by July 2009. It is in place in the Cathays Park site.</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>Raising awareness about sustainable development is the key role of the Sustain Wales Communications Group. This group has facilitated a number of campaigns as well as building links between the communications of different organisations. The group is now developing into more of a wider network.</p>

Reducing Consumption

Promote information to householders on energy efficiency and renewables within the scope of the Energy Efficiency Action Plan

The Energy Wales Portal is being used to help promote the support available to households in Wales. Energy Savings Trust deliver a communications campaign on actions individuals can take to improve energy efficiency and EST's Energy Efficiency Advice Centres refer households to grants such as the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme where appropriate.

Leadership and Delivery

Creating Organisational Excellence

By the end of December 2004 set out our future approach to public service delivery, in order to link the Assembly's vision to action on the ground

Making the Connections: Delivering Better Services for Wales published October 2004. Delivering the Connections: From Vision to Action, the Assembly's 5-year action plan for the delivery of better services for Wales published June 2005.

Ensure sustainable development is embedded in core training programmes and, commencing December 2004, include questions about in annual Assembly Staff Attitude surveys

SD is included within the staff reception programme for all new starters and a number of programmes, such as leadership and management development programmes, where delegates are asked to consider environmental and sustainable development issues as part of their SWOT/PEST analysis exercises.

Creating Organisational Excellence

<p>From January 2005, 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>A Sustainability Standard is under development to measure how key Welsh Assembly Government strategies integrate sustainable development. The Standard will be reviewed further following the completion of the Wales Audit Office's study of the integration of Sustainable Development into business decision making within the Welsh Assembly Government.</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>A post-merger review of our performance management system took place in 2006-07 to ensure best practice was adopted from across the merging bodies. This was then implemented for the 2007-08 performance year.</p>
<p>From April 2005, 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 sustainable development aspects of our top level strategies</p>	<p>Since April 2005 all high-level strategic policies going out to public consultation have been tested through the policy gateway and a summary published alongside consultation. A timetable of training has been rolled out raising staff awareness of the tool. The tool has been revised to strengthen links to other testing mechanisms and to better integrate equality issues.</p>
<p>Publish the summary assessment of our past allocation of resources against strategic goals undertaken by the 2004 Spending Review</p>	<p>Full details of the outcome of the budget allocations made by 2004 Spending Review and how they support the Government's commitments were published in the 'Assembly Government Spending Plans' document in February 2005.</p>

Delivering through our agents

With immediate 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

WHC (2006) 029: A Healthy Sustainable Wales - the NHS Contribution was issued on 21 April 2006. This stated that the Welsh Assembly Government, in partnership with the Sustainable Development Commission, would create a *Toolkit for Sustainable Development*, to provide guidance and support so that sustainable development becomes a core theme in all NHS processes.

During summer 2006 the Toolkit was piloted in 4 health organisations in Wales: Carmarthenshire LHB, Caerphilly LHB, North West Wales NHS Trust and North Glamorgan NHS Trust.

The Toolkit contains eleven key achievement areas:

- Corporate Management Policy;
- Health Improvement;
- New Building;
- Patient Engagement;
- Strategic Planning and Commissioning;
- Employment and Skills;
- Procurement (cross-referenced to the Public Sector Sustainable Procurement Assessment Tool);
- Transport and Travel;
- Facilities Management;

Delivering through our agents

	<p>A web-based Toolkit and hard copy versions are now available at http://wales.gov.uk/topics/health/publications/whcs/2007/whc2007034?lang=en.</p> <p>Using the Toolkit, by March 2008 all NHS organisations will be expected to have adopted a clear policy statement on sustainable development and an action plan.</p> <p>The Healthcare Waste Strategy for Wales was published by NHS Wales in June 2006. See: http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/health/publications/whcs/2006/whc2006043?lang=en</p>
<p>End of 2005, jointly develop practical guidance and training tailored to individual organisations including the use of integration tools and organisational excellence models</p>	<p>Guidance remains available to any organisations requiring it. A further review of the integration tools and organisational excellence models is currently underway.</p>

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 the end of 2004</p>	<p>This action has been delayed by the Beecham Review, the current Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill and the 2007 Assembly elections. Community planning guidance is currently out to consultation; the wellbeing guidance will follow with a likely completion date of spring 2008.</p>
---	---

Delivering with Local Government

<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>The WLGA have published guidance documents online that will help Local Authorities mainstream sustainable development in their corporate functions. Further guidance for Waste Management, Housing, Education, Transport, Construction and Regeneration will be available shortly. Seminars and workshops will be developed by the WLGA to further embed sustainable development principles as required.</p>
<p>Ensure the Performance Measurement Review embeds sustainable development in the new performance framework to be introduced in April 2005 and that work of Audit in Wales supports this aim</p>	<p>Completed April 2005. Framework development ongoing. Work to develop shared outcome measures, to reflect joint working with other sectors and organisations to address wider and longer-term issues, will be taken forward by Local Service Boards. Revised statutory guidance on community planning will also encourage local authorities and their partners to identify such priorities as part of the process of developing and implementing community strategies.</p>
<p>By May 2005, 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>The National Evaluation of Community Strategies in Wales was published in July 2006. It is anticipated that the final revised Guidance will be issued in March 2008. The Guidance will be supported by a series of Advice Notes,</p>

Delivering with Local Government

	<p>which will show how community strategies may work in practice and facilitate the sharing of experiences amongst community planning partners - one of these Advice Notes will be on Sustainable Development.</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>Completed. Plan rationalisation is explicitly concerned with allowing local authorities to focus on local strategic priorities, including SD priorities, rather than directing them towards short-term service outputs.</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 by 2007, and retain the value of the secondary resources derived from waste through the creation of new local social enterprises</p>	<p>All five Exemplar partnerships are up and running and have successfully bid for various sources of funding, for example from the NOF Cleanstream fund and from the Strategic Recycling Scheme (supported through European Structural Funds and Welsh Assembly Government funding).</p>

Delivering with Partners

<p>With immediate effect work closely with business and social partners to take forward the proposals on 'Sustainable Production and Consumption'</p>	<p>We have developed the £9.3 million Materials Action Programme to support businesses in sustainable production and consumption.</p>
<p>By October 2005 and in conjunction with our proposals for the policy integration tool, engage partners more directly in the process of policy testing and development</p>	<p>We still encourage divisions to involve external stakeholders in their gateway sessions. The gateway is presently being revised to meet the needs of the Assembly Government principle of external involvement and will be continued and possibly strengthened.</p>

Delivering with Partners

Promote best practice and learning across partners, linked to proposals for a virtual centre for sustainable development being taken forward by Cynnal Cymru

Cynnal Cymru have developed SustainWales.com as a 'one stop shop' for sustainable living in Wales. Its promotion has been a focus for the Sustain Wales communications group and we are continuing to discuss how it can complement our work on sustainable development and climate change engagement.

Wales: A Global Citizen

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 autumn 2004, and, through NRG4SD, to the meetings of the UN's Commission for Sustainable Development

Completed but continue to contribute to the reporting of action against the new EU SD Strategy through the UK Interdepartmental Group.

We have promoted the cross cutting themes of environmental sustainability and equal opportunities in the development with the European Commission of the new Structural Fund programmes. These programmes will deliver some £3bn of investment into the West Wales and the Valleys region during the period 2007-2013. The approach we adopted involved the integration of objectives for environmental sustainability and equal opportunities along with Strategic Environmental Assessment of the ERDF programmes and was well received. The ESF programmes have been distributed by the Commission as examples of good practice.

Wales: A Global Citizen

	<p>This proactive approach will be followed through into implementation supported by guidance. It is important for Wales that the Lisbon agenda for jobs and growth is underpinned by the sustainable development principles of the Gothenburg agenda.</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, February 2005</p>	<p>Completed, but continue to engage with other regions through nrg4SD which has started discussions with the UNDP about the role of regions in SD at the international level.</p>
<p>Ensure that our international work, aims and commitments relating to sustainable development are collated and publicised by February 2005 and carried through into Assembly policies</p>	<p>Completed but material is regularly updated and widely circulated.</p> <p>The GloballySusDCymru newsletter which was created by the Assembly Government and is now produced by Cynnal Cymru and regularly features stories on our international work.</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>Support for the campaign run by the Wales Fair Trade Forum and funded by the Assembly Government continues to grow. Wales is on course to meet the agreed criteria by the end of Financial Year 2007/08.</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>We continue to support the development of the UK Sustainable Development Strategy, including the development and reporting of Sustainable Development indicators in the context of the UK SD Framework indicators.</p>

Wales: A Global Citizen

<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>The Wales for Africa Framework, launched in October 2006 now supports 13 Welsh initiatives and projects.</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>The Code of Practice for NHS employers involved in the international recruitment of healthcare professionals was revised in December 2004. This was, and continues to be circulated to all NHS Wales employers as guidance to adhere to when considering international recruitment. Also, when working with commercial recruitment agencies, employers are advised to work only with those who have signed up to the Code (organisations are listed on the Department of Health website.)</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>On 8-11 November 2005, the first event, 'Sustainable Development Seminar for Senior Influencers: Learning to Think Differently' was held. The seminar was attended by 41 Directors and Chief Executives from across the public, private and voluntary sectors. The Project Board has evaluated the event and is planning the next steps of the programme. In March 2006, nine Assembly participants met with the Permanent Secretary to discuss their next steps for embedding sustainability, and what he could do to support it. A series of learning interventions are planned.</p>
--	---

Promoting Awareness and Leadership

<p>Undertake research to inform the most effective method(s) of raising awareness on sustainable development and work with partners to develop a communications strategy and campaign by the end of 2005</p>	<p>Research was undertaken in March-April 2005 and is informing the work of the Sustain Wales Communications Group.</p>
<p>Work with the Welsh Youth Forum on Sustainable Development (WYFSD) to develop a programme of action to ensure the views of young people are heard in the development of a sustainable future for Wales</p>	<p>The three year grant between the period 2006-09 will enable the Forum to focus on three key areas:</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Increase the number of young people reached by the Forum's messages</p> <p><i>Empowerment:</i> Increase the Forum's active engagement with decision-makers and other sustainable development related organisations</p> <p><i>Action:</i> Increase the number of new members of the Forum</p> <p>The aim is to increase the number of young people who commit to actively changing their lifestyle.</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 the Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales' [ACCAC] current review of curriculum and assessment arrangements. The Assembly Government will respond to ACCAC advice in late autumn 04</p>	<p>The consultation on proposals for a revised school curriculum was completed in March 2007. Revised National curriculum Subject orders, and frameworks for Personal and Social Education, Careers and the World of Work and Religious Education contain references to ESGC. The revised curriculum will be implemented by schools from September 2008.</p>
<p>Ensure that ELWa directs Further Education Institutions (FEIs) to include a section on sustainable development in their 2005 strategic plans (December 2004). Plans will be submitted in June 2005</p>	<p>FEIs were asked to include an update on their sustainable development activities within their strategic plans for 2005-06. All FEIs submitted updates in July 2005.</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. (Report January 2005 for CPD programme in 2005-06)</p>	<p>Following the publication of the Estyn survey on Induction and Early Professional Development (EPD) in September 2007, we will be working with the General Teaching Council for Wales to look at ways to address the recommendations put forward and continue to look at ways to provide a measure of training for new teachers on sustainable development through developments in EPD.</p>

Education for a Sustainable Future

	<p>Teachers can apply to the General Teaching Council for Wales 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>The programme is a three year rolling one (current scheme from 1 April 2005-31 March 2008). The next three-year programme will run from 1 April 2008.</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 April 2005</p>	<p>Following consultation, new Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) Standards have been published. The QTS Standards are outcome statements that set out what trainees must know, understand and be able to do at the end of an initial teacher training (ITT) course to gain QTS. Amongst the new QTS Standards which trainees on ITT courses starting from September 2007 have to meet are that they must demonstrate that they take appropriate opportunities to promote and teach education for sustainable development and global citizenship in all relevant aspects of their teaching. The QTS Standards have statutory status and are set out in the Qualified Teacher Status Standards 2006 (2006 No. 49).</p>

Education for a Sustainable Future

Make sustainable development and global citizenship a feature of all aspects of school life. This would encompass:

a consultation re governing bodies to carry out their functions having regard to sustainability issues, with a view to making regulations in early 2005;

including sustainability requirements in grants for school buildings from 2005-06;

ESDGC Action Plan was launched on 19 September 2006. The ESDGC Champion took up her post on 2 January 2007.

Since 2005-06 authorities must have regard to the principles of sustainability in all new build projects and major refurbishments (DfES BREEAM Schools Standards introduced in 2005). Indications are that a number of authorities are applying the BREEAM standards to new build projects from 2007-08 onwards and appointing registered BREEAM assessors to make assessment and provide a rating.

From 2007-08 onwards it has been made a condition of grant under the Schools Building Improvement Grant programme that for new schools, a BREEAM Excellent rating should be achieved.

Mechanisms are being developed for collaboration between authorities on sustainable procurement and project management, supported by Value Wales. A pilot study has begun with 5 LEAs to look at inter-authority collaboration and procurement issues. These are RCT, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Monmouth and Merthyr Tydfil.

Education for a Sustainable Future

<p>promoting energy efficiency in schools;</p>	<p>“Route Map” prepared for Summer 2007 in conjunction with the Department for the Economy and Transport colleagues will provide local authorities and schools with details of support and advice on energy efficiency and carbon management and sources of grant. This has been disseminated to LEA colleagues who deal with school capital issues.</p>
<p>extending the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes to 75% of schools by 2007;</p>	<p>We are on target to achieve 75% of schools involved in the network in 2007. Currently 1306 (71.4%) out of the 1829 maintained schools in Wales are involved in the WNHSS.</p>
<p>promoting links between schools in developed and developing countries;</p>	<p>The British Council manage links between schools in Wales and in Sub Saharan Africa through their Connecting Classrooms programme. The programme provides cluster groups of three schools the opportunity to partner with schools from two different countries in sub-Saharan Africa and the UK. The purpose of the programme is to enable intercultural dialogue and to increase knowledge and understanding of each other's societies. Currently there are three cluster groups (nine schools) in Wales with links with countries in Sub Saharan Africa. The Welsh Assembly Government provides support to the British Council in its promotion of these opportunities.</p>

Education for a Sustainable Future

<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 (January 2005); 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>HEFCW commissioned all HEIs in Wales to provide information on sustainable development within their strategic plans for 2006-07 and all HEIs complied.</p> <p>With the approval of the new Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Action Plan, HEFCW intend working with the sector as appropriate to take this forward. For FEIs this action is completed. FEIs were asked to include an update on their sustainable development activities within their strategic plans for 2005-06. All FEIs submitted updates in July 2005.</p>
<p>Introduce a commitment for ELW to ensure that providers make sustainable development a part of their work (to be included in the 2005-06 remit letter)</p>	<p>Completed through the publication of the ESDGC Strategy.</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 terms of reference to be agreed by autumn 2004</p>	<p>The continuing work of the Business Procurement Taskforce (BPTF) covers a wide spectrum of activities including</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Ensuring the principles of the Charter for SME Friendly Procurement, "Opening Doors" is embedded into day to day procurement practices. The analysis Value Wales undertook in 2006 indicates that the share of Welsh Public Sector business in Wales has grown from 35% in 2004 to 49% in 2006.
---	--

Procurement

- 2 Agreeing a programme of works, to which the step by step methodology to using community benefits clauses in contracts can be applied. A first phase of this programme has been agreed and it is estimated that if the methodology is applied to all large Public Sector Construction and Service contracts, up to 2,000 economically inactive people could be trained and employed within Wales.
- 3 Working on collaborative food procurements, which allow Welsh suppliers greater access to the supply chain.
- 4 Helping Third Sector organisations get greater access to Public Sector contract opportunities by encouraging use of sell2wales, attending meet the buyer events, facilitating workshops and producing guidance.
- 5 Helping Supported Factories get greater access to Public Sector contract opportunities by encouraging use of sell2wales, attending meet the buyer events, facilitating workshops, organising reserved contracts and producing guidance.

Procurement

<p>Through our internal Procurement Unit review Assembly standard contract specifications to ensure they are based on best practice</p>	<p>Corporate Procurement Services, working closely with colleagues in Value Wales Procurement, are piloting a sustainability template arising from the recently launched VW(P) Sustainability in Procurement course. This will build upon the good practice established by the CPS voluntary code.</p> <p>Corporate Procurement Services, a part of Value Wales Procurement, complete the Sustainable Procurement Assessment Framework for all new contracts requirements over £25,000, ensuring that sustainability is fully considered during the initial stage of the procurement exercise.</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 December 2004</p>	<p>Value Wales continues to promote sustainable procurement practice across the Welsh Public Sector. Building on previous guidance issued, a Training Programme called “Making it Happen” has been developed, which contains practical tools for building sustainability into the procurement process.</p> <p>10 well attended sessions were run in early 2007 with a further 4 planned for late 2007.</p>

Procurement

<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>To the end of 2006/07 Procurement Fitness Health checks have been carried out in 11 Local Authorities along with a programme across all Higher and Further Education bodies. The ASPB programme was completed in May 2007 with a series of workshops for the smaller bodies that would not have benefited from a full PFC.</p> <p>Value Wales is now working with all organisations who have had a PFC to develop and implement an action plan.</p> <p>Case studies and good practice guidance is also being developed which will be available via www.buy4wales.co.uk</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 GBAS service is accessible through Business Eye. In addition, a comprehensive Directory of Business Support Services has been developed to provide clients with information on services available from the public, private and voluntary sectors. Alongside the development of this infrastructure, Business Eye has trained its staff to deal with questions in areas of environmental issues for business and has identified a wide range of web-site links which relate to this area.</p>

Grants

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

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

WDA's "Creating Sustainable Places" was launched in April 2006, followed by workshops in the autumn. It contains objectives for sustainability and design quality that grant recipients and purchasers of land are expected to follow.

For new buildings - the Assembly Government introduced from April 2007 a general policy of applying BREEAM 'excellent' as a standard of all new buildings that it supports through grant funding, investment or land disposal. Planning for zero carbon from 2011 is also expected for key WAG supported new build projects.

The Business Development Department has commenced an initial scoping study to establish whether there is a business case for rationalisation of the Welsh Assembly Government specific grant schemes. The scoping project will map current grant schemes and draw lessons from existing grant rationalisation activity across the organisation. The scoping project commenced in late July for a period of four months. Officials are currently in discussion over the potential of ensuring that this action is taken into consideration in the development of the grants rationalisation project.

Food

<p>Immediately, 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 - a new approach to public sector food procurement' launched July 2004.</p>
<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 December 2004 and be published in March 2005</p>	<p>'Food for Thought - a new approach to public sector food procurement' as part of the guidance series produced a 'Case Studies' document in April 2005.</p> <p>Case studies demonstrated previous 'Food for Thought' guidance application in public sector food procurement practice. The Food Group is now examining food distribution in Wales.</p>

Estates Management

<p>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</p>	<p>The Welsh Assembly Government ensures waste management conforms to legal requirements. There is substantial recycling of the following wastes: paper, cardboard, plastic, aluminium cans, fluorescent light tubes and ink cartridges.</p> <p>Statistics are published in an annual Environmental Report. The Welsh Assembly Government is compliant with the WEEE Directive for disposal of IT equipment. A contract has been established by MERLIN-CCU for recycling of redundant IT assets.</p>
--	--

Estates Management

By the end of 2004 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

The development of an energy campaign toolkit, following a pilot campaign at North West Wales NHS Trust, is a good example of public sector organisations working together to develop and share good practice, consistent with the objectives of the Welsh Assembly Government's Making the Connections strategy.

The original joint Welsh Health Estates/Carbon Trust pilot project has now been completed and the energy campaign toolkit has been finalised and issued to NHS Trusts in Wales. The new toolkit was issued at a series of workshops to explain how to use it to its greatest effect. Dates and locations of these were:

13 March 2006 in Bangor

22 March 2006 in Cardiff

23 March 2006 in Builth Wells

8 November 2006 in Swansea.

The Carbon Trust, Welsh Health Estates and the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales are holding a joint conference in October 2007 to raise awareness on energy saving issues across the Health and Education sectors.

Estates Management

<p>Produce by mid 2006, guidance on best practice procurement methods and environmental performance standards for Assembly funded construction</p>	<p>The linkages into capital funding are being considered in conjunction with the Value Wales development of supporting structures for the Strategic Capital Investment Board in liaison with the Welsh Assembly Government's Finance Department. The board is due to consider departments' business case based funding proposals from April 2008.</p>
<p>Achieve Green Dragon level 5</p>	<p>Green Dragon Level 5 was achieved for Cathays Park and the National Assembly Building on 30 March 2006. A project is in process to take forward roll out of Green Dragon Level 5 to the entire core estate by July 2009.</p>
<p>Test future office location and design decisions against public transport accessibility criteria</p>	<p>All sites under Location Strategy Programme have been assessed for suitability under various criteria including public transport. In addition, all buildings will be scored against transport criteria under the BREEAM scoring regime and all staff will be given individual transport plans. Car parking space allocation will consider these principles and all new offices will provide sufficient cycle and motor cycle parking as well as showering facilities.</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>Annex B highlights the key indicators which have been developed by the Sustainable Development Indicators Working group. More detailed information is available through the Annual Sustainable Development Indicators Statistical Bulletin 2007:</p> <p>http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/sustain-2007/?lang=en</p>

Annex B

Headline Sustainable Development indicators

The Sustainable Development Scheme commits the Welsh Assembly Government 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”.*

Information on our headline indicators is detailed below. The headline indicators, when considered collectively, are intended to give a high level view of progress towards sustainable development.

Progress on the more specific suite of sustainable development indicators is reported in the Annual Sustainable Development Indicators Statistical Bulletin 2007, available at:

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/sustain-2007/?lang=en>

High-Level Summary Indicators Issue Summary

The global impact of consumption: Wales Ecological Footprint

The ‘ecological footprint’ provides a measure of the impact we impose on the natural environment. In our daily lives we consume resources and produce waste. Land is required to produce those resources and to dispose of the waste. The amount of ‘productive’ land and sea that is required to provide for this current resource consumption and waste production represents the ‘ecological footprint’. Estimates suggest that the average ‘earth share’ is 1.8 global hectares¹ per person. This estimate includes a 12 per cent provision for biodiversity protection.

Calculations estimate that the total ecological footprint of Wales for 2001 was 5.25 global hectares per person. This is nearly three times greater than the average earthshare. It is currently the lowest footprint of all the UK regions, although it is still at an unsustainable level. It suggests that if everyone on the earth consumed resources at this rate, we would need another 2 planets to accommodate this.

¹ The footprint is expressed in ‘global hectares’ where one global hectare is equal to one hectare of biologically productive space with world average productivity.

5 key issues make up 85% of the footprint, as follows:

- Food and drink 25%
- Direct energy consumption 18%
- Travel 15%
- Capital investment 15%
- Consumables 12%

Embodied energy is treated separately to the main footprint calculation. When the embodied energy within all the activities involving resource consumption is considered, direct energy consumption plus embodied energy makes up 64% of the Welsh footprint.

Biodiversity within Wales

In 2005, 34 per cent of priority species in Wales were stable or increasing compared to 22 per cent in 2002. The proportion of priority species that were declining was 18 per cent in both 2005 and 2002.

In 2005, 36 per cent of priority habitats in Wales were stable or increasing compared to 30 per cent in 2002. The proportion of priority habitats that were declining in 2005 increased from 46 per cent in 2002 to 59 per cent. The reason for the apparent increase in the number and proportion of declining habitats is due to increased information. There were 5 habitats that were not reported on in 2002 because of insufficient information that were then reported as declining in 2005. In addition, the number of BAP habitats has increased by 2 between 2002 and 2005, and both of these were recorded as declining.

The level of economic activity: Gross Value Added

Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer, industry or sector in the United Kingdom. GVA is used in the estimation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). GDP is a key indicator of the state of the whole economy. The regional GVA estimates are consistent with the national accounts published in the United Kingdom National Accounts (The Blue Book).

In 2005, GVA for Wales was £40.9 billion, 3.9 per cent higher than in 2004. UK GVA increased by 3.9 per cent between 2004 and 2005 to £1,064.3 billion.

GVA per head in Wales in 2005 was £13,813, an increase of 3.7 per cent compared to 2004. GVA per head in the UK increased by 3.3 per cent between 2004 and 2005 to £17,677. GVA per head in Wales was 78.1 per cent of that in the UK in 2005, compared to 77.8 per cent in 2004.

The overall level of deprivation in Wales

A formal indicator for this issue has yet to be confirmed, but a proxy measure is reported: percentage of the population in low-income households (defined as households receiving less than 60% of median household income). In the period 2002-03 to 2004-05, the percentage of the population living in relative low-income households before housing costs was 19 per cent, a slight decline from the figure of 20% recorded in the period 1999/00-2001/02. After housing costs are taken into consideration, the percentage of the population living in relative low-income households was 21 per cent in the period 2002-03 to 2004-05, a fall from 25% in the period 1999/00-2001/02.

Genuine economic progress, taking account of environmental factors, resources and well-being.

No indicator for this issue has yet been adopted. The SD Indicators Working Group considered whether an Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare (ISEW) would be a suitable indicator for this issue. The Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare (ISEW) is a measure which takes into account, amongst other things, the negative impacts of pollution and habitat losses, as well as the positive effects of public spending on health and education, on peoples' welfare. The group noted that ISEW remains a useful reminder that we cannot gauge progress through economic measures alone. However, there remain concerns about the method for calculating ISEW. It was concluded that at this stage we will monitor development of the Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare as an indicator of genuine economic progress, but not adopt it as an indicator at present.

