

Appendix A

Quality Assurance Checklist

Appendix A Quality Assurance

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Objectives and Context	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan's purpose and objectives are made clear. 	Section 1.2.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability issues, including international and EC objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets. 	Sustainability issues are identified in Section 3 and Table 3.3.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate. 	Objectives are identified in Table 4.1. Possible indicators for monitoring are identified again Appendix K.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links with other related plans, programmes and policies are identified and explained. 	Plans and programmes are identified and included in Appendix C.
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environmental consultation bodies are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report. 	<p>The environmental bodies were consulted on the Revised Scoping Report for York in February 2013.</p> <p>This baseline has been updated, plans and programmes revised and key sustainability issues reviewed to ensure all contextual information continues to be appropriate, and the resulting appraisal framework consistent with York's needs. This has taken into account any comments received during consultation on the SA Report concerning the Preferred Option Draft Local Plan.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The assessment focuses on significant issues. Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit. Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration. 	<p>Key sustainability issues have been identified in Table 3.3 which has assisted in focussing on the significant issues in the assessment.</p> <p>These are made clear throughout the Report where appropriate. Section 4.9 highlights specific difficulties encountered in completing the assessment.</p> <p>All SEA topics are covered in the SA.</p>
Baseline Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and their likely evolution without the plan are described. 	Table 3.1 and Appendix D.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the plan area where it is likely to be affected by the plan where practicable. 	Table. 3.1 and Appendix D.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained. 	See Section 4.9 and comments made clear throughout the Report where appropriate.
Prediction and evaluation of likely significant effects	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely significant social, environmental and economic effects are identified, including those listed in the SEA Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape), as relevant. 	Section 5 presents the assessment of the sustainability performance of the preferred development option and proposed policies of the draft Local Plan. This is set out in matrices at Appendix E , F, H, I and J that have been developed to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both positive and negative effects are considered, and where practicable, the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed. Likely secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects are identified where practicable. 	<p>Positive and negative effects are considered within the assessments at Appendix E , F, H, I and J . Potential effects are identified in the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p>Likely secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects are identified in the assessment commentary, where appropriate. This is summarised in Section 5.6 and within the cumulative effects matrix (Table 5.4).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-relationships between effects are considered where practicable. 	Inter-relationships between effects are identified in the assessment commentary, where appropriate (including in the cumulative effects Table 5.4)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where relevant, the prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds. 	These are identified in the commentary, where appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methods used to evaluate the effects are described. 	These are described in Section 4.
Mitigation measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the plan are indicated. 	These are identified in the commentary, and within the key conclusions and recommendations (Section 6).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues to be taken into account in development consents are identified. 	These are identified in the commentary, and within the key conclusions and recommendations (Section 6).
The SA Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation. 	The SA Report is clear and concise.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms. Uses maps and other illustrations where appropriate. 	A series of maps which illustrate environmental constraints are included in Section 3.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains the methodology used. Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used. Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion. 	<p>Section 4 presents the methodology used for the assessment.</p> <p>Information is referenced throughout the report.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains a non-technical summary 	The NTS is not included within this draft report (12/09/2014). A NTS will be included alongside the Final Report which is issued for consultation.
Consultation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process. 	The SA of the Preferred Option Draft Local Plan was subject to consultation between 5 th June and 31 st July 2013. This SA Report will be subject to consultation alongside the Submission Draft Local Plan prior to Examination in Public.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consultation bodies, other consultees and the public are consulted in ways which give them an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions on the draft plan and SA Report. 	The SA of the Preferred Option Draft Local Plan was subject to consultation between 5 th June and 31 st July 2013. This SA Report will be subject to consultation alongside the Submission Draft Local Plan prior to Examination in Public.

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Decision-making and information on the decision

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SA Report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the plan. 	<p>Appendix B summarises consultation response received on the SA Report concerning the Preferred Option Draft Local Plan and, where appropriate, how they have been taken into account in this SA Report. This Appendix is not included within the draft SA Report (12/09/2014).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An explanation is given of how they have been taken into account. 	<p>Appendix B summarises consultation response received on the SA Report concerning the Preferred Option Draft Local Plan and, where appropriate, how they have been taken into account in this SA Report. This Appendix is not included within the draft SA Report (12/09/2014).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons are given for choices in the adopted plan, in the light of other reasonable options considered. 	<p>Section 1 of this report details the evolution of the draft Local Plan and Section 2 outlines the key options considered in developing the preferred development option.</p>