Sustainability Appraisal of the Wigston Town Centre Area Action Plan Appendix B - Scoping Stage Consultation Responses

Organisation / Name	Date Received	Comments	Response
East Midlands Regional Assembly	15 th February 2007	The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) 8 seeks a holistic approach to the development process and therefore the Regional Core Objectives set out in Policy 1 reflect the social, economic, environmental and resource efficiency facets of sustainable development.	Comment noted. The objectives of the RSS have been considered within the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Area Action Plan (AAP) options and this will be taken forward in the next steps of the SA.
		It would also be advantageous to include SA objectives on renewable energy and reducing the possible impact of future climate change, especially the risk of damage to life and property from flooding.	Comment noted. Renewable energy and the need to reduce the impact of climate change are considered under SA objectives 13 and 14. SA objectives 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 20 and 22 also ensure consideration of a range of other aspects which may have effect upon climate change such as sustainable design and construction, resource use and sustainable transport.
		It is worth noting that the Draft Regional Plan, launched for consultation on 28 th September 2006, has clearer aims in regards to the Core Regional Objectives. This may be more pertinent in regards to conformity as it is due to be adopted in 2008.	Comment noted. The aims of the Draft Regional Plan have been considered within the SA of the AAP options and this will be taken forward in the next steps of the SA.
Leicestershire Constabulary	8 th March 2007	Reinforce SA Objective 4 in that any action plan should consider the need 'to improve community safety, reduce anti-social behaviour, and reduce crime and the fear of crime'. Designing out crime and designing in community safety should be central to the planning and delivery of new development and should be a key requisite in the formation of AAPs.	Comment noted. SA objective 4 has been amended to read: 4. To improve community safety, and reduce crime, antisocial behaviour and the fear of crime. The need to design out crime has been considered within the SA of the AAP options, under SA objective 4. This will be taken forward in the next steps of the SA.
Leicestershire County Council	9 th March 2007	 The SA Scoping Report was produced in June 2005 and subsequently a number of developments have taken place that Local Development Framework (LDF) needs to take account of. Nationally, the following document should be considered. PPS 1 Supplement, Planning and Climate Change PPS 3 Housing PPS 22 Renewable Energy PPS 25 Development and Flood Risk At a regional level, the draft RSS should be included and at the county level, the Leicestershire Local Area Agreement (March 2006) in particular the Economic Block and Cleaner and Greener Block outcomes.	Comment noted. The objectives of these documents have been considered within the SA of the AAP options. A review of these documents was undertaken during Stage A of the SA process. A summary of the review will be provided in the Sustainability Report (Stage C of the SA process).

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Leicestershire County Council	9 th March 2007	Due to the localised nature of the AAPs it will be particularly important to analyse plans and programmes at the local level. The Oadby & Wigston Housing Strategy should be added to the documents listed.	Comment noted. A review of the Oadby and Wigston Housing Strategy was undertaken during Stage A of the SA process. A summary of the review will be provided in the Sustainability Report (Stage C of the SA process).
		With particular reference to Appraisal Objectives 4 and 6, consideration should be given, wherever possible, in either the context of Oadby Town Centre AAP or Wigston Town Centre AAP, to the provision of a Multi Faith Centre. This could function not only as a centre for worship but as a single access point for a variety of cross-agency services (e.g. pre and post natal care, adult literacy, English for speakers of other Languages, Mother Tongue teaching). It could function as part of a community centre incorporating other elements.	Comment noted. This has been considered during the SA of the AAP options and will be taken forward in the next steps of the SA.
		 Sustainability issues which are considered to take on greater significance when considered in the context of Oadby and Wigston town centres are: Traffic and transport, linked to air and climate. Population and quality of life. Cultural heritage and archaeology. 	Comment noted. Traffic and transport, linked to air and climate change has been considered within the SA of the AAP options, under SA objectives 11, 14 and 22. Quality of life has been considered within the SA of the AAP options, under a number of SA objectives, including SA objectives 1 (housing provision), 3 (health), 5 (community needs), 6 (cohesive communities) and 21 (access). Cultural heritage / archaeology have been considered under SA objectives 3 and 8.
		The inclusion of objectives 12 and 20 is welcomed.	Comment noted.
		 Format of Sustainability Report considered suitable, however it is assumed that the quality of the detailed mapping will be improved. 	Comment noted.
Environment Agency	12 th March 2007	Need to make reference to PPS23- Planning and Pollution Control and PPS25- Development and Flood Risk.	Comment noted. This has been considered during the SA of the AAP options and will be taken forward in the next steps of the SA.
		Dr Sue Hornby can supply a CD of baseline data sets.	Comment noted.

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Organisation / Name	Date Received	Comments	Response
Environment Agency	12 th March 2007	The key sustainability issue listed at paragraph 5.7.5 should be expanded to include 'and the increased surface water run off from an increase in hard surfaced areas'.	Comment noted. 'The need to prevent increases in surface water runoff and flood risk' has been included as a key sustainability issue for the Wigston Town Centre AAP, as highlighted in Section 4.3.11 of the explanatory notes.
		 Remediation and re-use of contaminated land does not appear to have been recognised as a key sustainability issue. This should be included in paragraph 5.6.6. 	Comment noted. 'The need to ensure the remediation and re-use of contaminated land' has been included as a key sustainability issue for the Wigston Town Centre AAP, as highlighted in Section 4.3.11 of the explanatory notes.
English Heritage	12 th March 2007	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)/SA should be focused and relevant to the area under consideration, e.g. baseline data that relates to the AAP areas. You need to ask the local authority heritage officers about any relevant issues with regard to the historic environment of the areas to be addressed. As far as English Heritage are aware, they are not areas of great historic interest.	Comment noted. WYGE has collated additional baseline information that is more specific to the Wigston Town Centre AAP, a summary of which is provided in Section 4.0 of the explanatory notes. Section 4.3.7 of the explanatory notes provides summary of cultural heritage, archaeology and material assets associated with the area, which has informed the appraisal of the AAP options.
		Under SA objectives, you may wish to add one that addresses townscape.	Comment noted. The protection and enhancement of townscape character has been considered under SA objective 9.
Leicestershire County Council	14 th March 2007	 Leicestershire County Council now has a new Local Transport Plan (LTP) with new priority objectives, although some are the same. One of the key findings of the LTP is that sustainable transport alone will not solve congestion, but that it needs to be complemented by targeted highway improvements. Thus the LTP 2006-2011 has 6 priorities (paragraph 2.128 et seq), which WYGE will need to bear in mind: Tackling congestion Improving access to facilities Reducing road casualties Improving air quality Reducing the impact of traffic Managing transport assets. 	Comment noted. The objectives of the Leicestershire LTP 2 have been considered within the SA of the AAP options, in particular under SA objectives 11, 14 and 22. A review of the Oadby and Wigston Housing Strategy was undertaken during Stage A of the SA process. A summary of the review will be provided in the Sustainability Report (Stage C of the SA process).