

# ***Embedding sustainable development principles into future regional arrangements***

*Funded by Defra & SWRDA under the Sustainable  
Development Transition and Transformation Fund  
- supported by SW Regional Assembly and Government  
Office for the SW*

[www.sustainabilitysouthwest.org.uk](http://www.sustainabilitysouthwest.org.uk)



# Sustainability South West

## Who we are

- The independent champion body for Sustainable Development in the South West of England

## What we do

- Raise awareness and promote leadership
- Provide independent advice/appraisals
- Coordinate the Region's Sustainable Development Framework ([www.shapersw.net](http://www.shapersw.net))
- Develop projects and campaigns



## What we do

**Support a Members  
Forum - Interests  
include:**

**Equalities; resource  
efficiency; climate  
change; health;  
food; learning and  
skills; business;  
local government;  
workers; heritage ;  
biodiversity; media  
and tourism**



## Context

### **Sustainability:**

Sustainability means healthy humans living on a healthy planet for generations to come. It does not privilege the environment over humans but takes account of our utter dependence on natural resources/ biodiversity for our own survival and for the quality of our lives.



### **Sustainable communities are:**

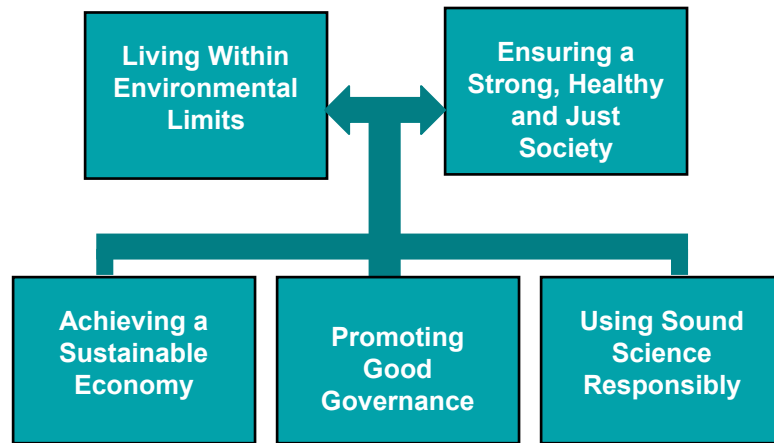
*Healthy, resilient, productive, socially just and live within environmental limits.*

**Sustainable growth:** *Promotes resilience by accounting for global environmental limits and enhancing social welfare and natural assets - thereby avoiding greater extremes in future economic cycles.*

## National Context

### The five national sustainable development principles & priorities

*Securing the Future: The UK Government's Sustainable Development Strategy (March 2005)*



- Sustainable consumption & production
- Climate Change and Energy
- Natural Resources Protection & Environmental Enhancement
- Sustainable Communities

context

## South West key sustainability challenges

- Manage a growing and ageing population in the most sustainable way
- Provide more affordable, sustainably sited and constructed housing
- Reduce the need to travel/distances travelled (and associated CO2 emissions) to access goods and services by residents and visitors
- Sustainably manage our natural and cultural resources whilst adapting to climate change

**Investment in sustainability  
leadership, learning, skills  
and innovation**

=

**Paramount for delivery**

context

# Environmental limits

The South West's eco-footprint shows that if the region's consumption patterns were replicated worldwide we would need two extra planets to sustain us.

A shift is needed towards 'one planet', lower consumption lifestyles which are more resource efficient.


## SD Transition and Transformation fund work

**Objective - to prepare a set of recommendations to embed SD principles into:**

- The Single Regional Strategy process
- Regional Challenge and Scrutiny – Independent SD expertise
- Local authority capacity/expertise on SD
- The Regional Funding Allocation criteria
- The RDA tasking Framework and monitoring



## **Activities:**

- **Stakeholder consultation sessions**
  - **Electronic feedback option**
  - **Consensus building multi stakeholder conference**
  - **Desk top research informed by GOSW/RDA/DEFRA/BERR/SDC & stakeholders**
  - **Preparation of draft report for conference & final report to funding bodies and stakeholders.**
- 

# Updated Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF): *the Sustainability Shaper*

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

***People in the South West of England choose to live, work and prosper within environmental limits, pursuing justice and well-being and valuing diversity & distinctiveness***



A reminder of the South West's sustainability principles...



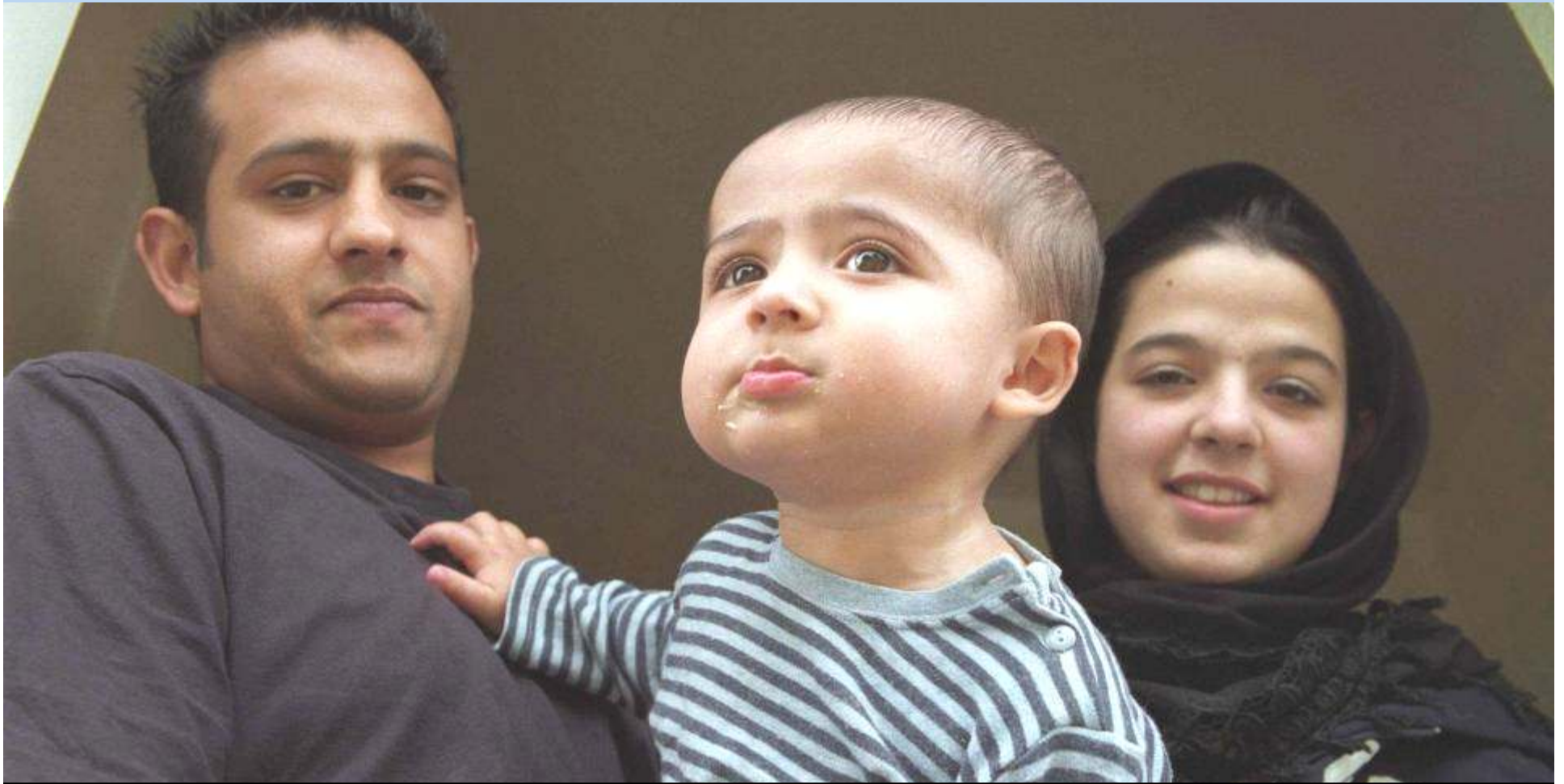
## **DEVELOP SUSTAINABILITY LEARNING AND SKILLS**

Explain and promote the 'what', 'why' and 'how' of sustainability and develop 'systemic thinking', professional skills and leadership to support sustainable solutions



## **IMPROVE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELL-BEING**

Reduce health inequalities by supporting: healthy, balanced lifestyles; healthy homes and workplaces; clean, safe and green environments; and supportive and inclusive communities



## **IMPROVE EQUALITY IN MEETING BASIC NEEDS**

Reduce inequalities (prioritising those who are most in need) in access to: decent and affordable housing; essential goods & services; an adequate income; and safe and satisfying employment, learning and leisure opportunities

## WOKING COUNCIL

Impressive results! Savings over 11 years:

<b>Energy consumption</b>	<b>43.8%</b>
<b>CO2 emissions</b>	<b>71.5%</b>
<b>Water consumption</b>	<b>43.8%</b>
<b><i>Total energy &amp; water savings</i></b>	<b><i>£4,889,501</i></b>



### BE RESOURCE WISE

Cut consumption of resources and adopt high energy, water and resource efficiency at home and at work; maximise the use of local, renewable energy; minimise waste and prevent pollution



## **SUPPORT THRIVING LOW CARBON ECONOMIES**

Boost competitiveness, business markets and employment opportunities by supporting a low carbon approach to innovation, enterprise and economic development in ways which meet local workforce needs



## REDUCE HIGH CARBON TRAVEL

Use, promote and plan for low carbon access/travel eg *walking & cycling, home-working, mobile services, ICT/video-conferencing, online facilities, local multi-service centres, demand-responsive public transport and alternative fuels*



## **USE LOCAL AND ETHICAL GOODS & SERVICES**

Use locally and ethically sourced goods and services - and strengthen local/regional supply chains - to boost our local economies and support people in other parts of the world



## **ENHANCE LOCAL DISTINCTIVENESS & DIVERSITY INCLUDING BIODIVERSITY**

Protect and enhance our natural environment & biodiversity  
and culture & heritage and celebrate diversity and distinctiveness



## **HELP EVERYONE TO JOIN IN PUBLIC DECISION-MAKING**

Support wider, more informed participation in public and community decision-making to foster citizenship and involve people in the solutions to local and global challenges



### **TAKE A LONG TERM APPROACH**

Take into account the needs of future generations including mitigating and adapting to climate change. Ensure the genuine sustainability and success of what you do by pursuing integrated, lasting 'win-win-win' outcomes for society, the economy and the environment.



# Stakeholders invited to input

## Statutory organisations including:

English Heritage, Environment Agency, Local Authorities/LSPs, GOSW, Learning & Skills Council, NHS Trusts, NFU, Natural England, SW Regional Assembly (including SEEPs), SW Regional Development Agency, SW Tourism, TUC

## Networks/Forums including:

CBI, CPRE, Culture SW, Equality SW; Historic Environment Forum, Learning SW, RTPI/TCPA, SBF, SWCCIP, REN, SSW Membership, SW ESD Coalition, Housing Forum, SW Forum

## Other stakeholders including:

Age Concern, National Trust, Wildlife Trusts, RegenSW, Youth Parliament, Creating Excellence, MP's/MEP's, Leadership SW.

## Key questions for stakeholder input

1. **New Single Regional Strategy** – How can the region build on any existing regional frameworks concerned with embedding SD principles to inform the SRS?
2. **Effective SD Challenge**- How can the region ensure there is capability and expertise for independent and effective challenge – which integrates social, economic & environmental priorities by embedding SD principles – rather than focussing on individual stakeholder themes?
3. **Sustainability Appraisal** - How can independent sustainability appraisal be strengthened?
4. **Regional Champion Body/SSW** – Government believes that RCBs “have an important role in delivering SD in the regions”- how should SSWs role be maximised to support the region under the new arrangements to ensure it is fit for purpose?

5. How can **local authorities/LSPs/any new LA Leaders Forum** be supported to build their own capacity on SD given their new role in the proposed new regional arrangements?
6. How best can SD principles be integrated into criteria for the **Regional Funding Allocation** process? (Economic Development, Housing & Transport)
7. How can SD principles be better embedded into the **RDA's Tasking Framework/monitoring**?
8. Do the SW SD principles capture **your stakeholder group priorities** and how can the approach taken to delivering your priorities also support the wider set of principles to contribute to an integrated approach for a sustainable future?

