

# Chapter 7

## Ensuring It Happens

### 1. Delivery Matters

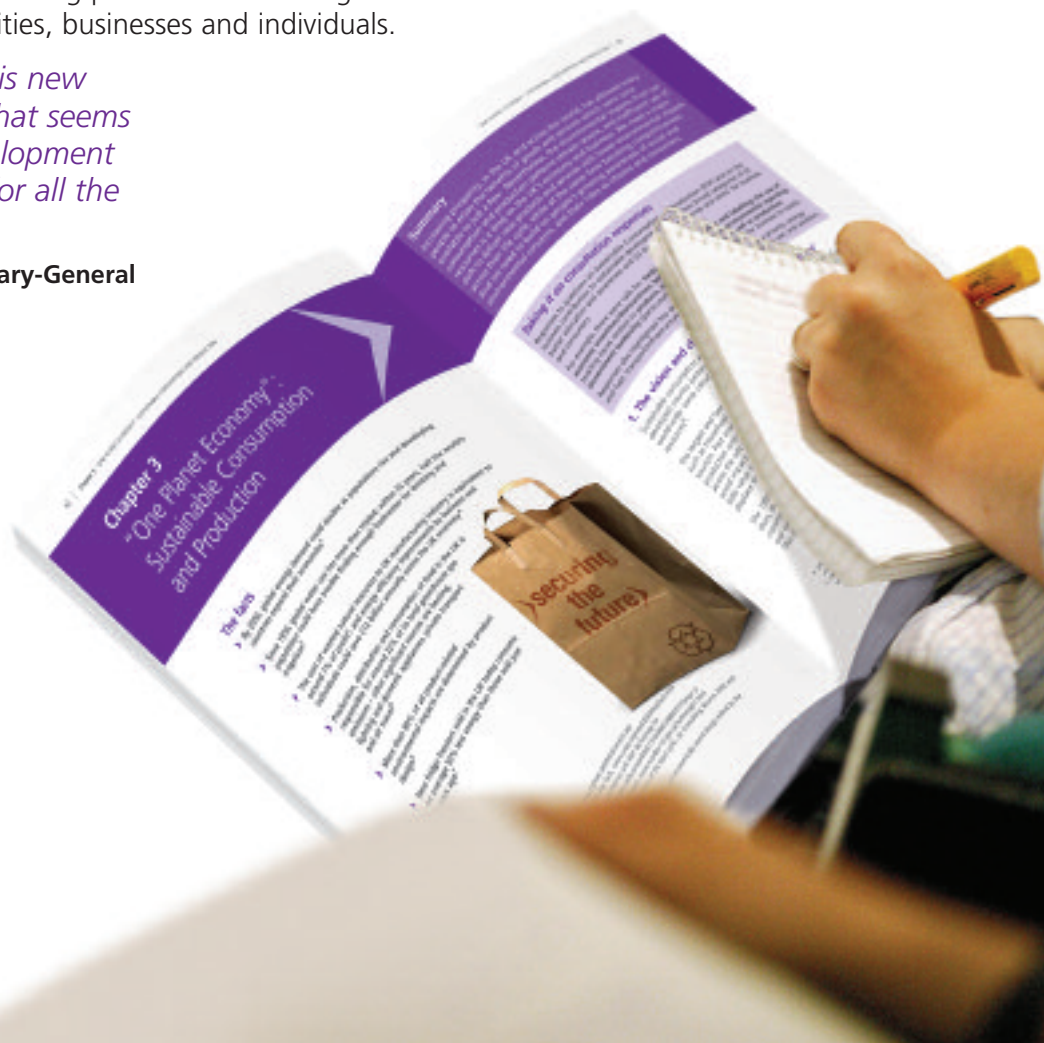
Strategies are worthless if they are not turned into action. Earlier chapters have set out what the Government needs to do. This chapter sets out how we plan to ensure we make the progress needed. The call for better delivery featured strongly in the responses to the consultation and we have taken up many of the ideas suggested.

#### Accountability and Responsibility

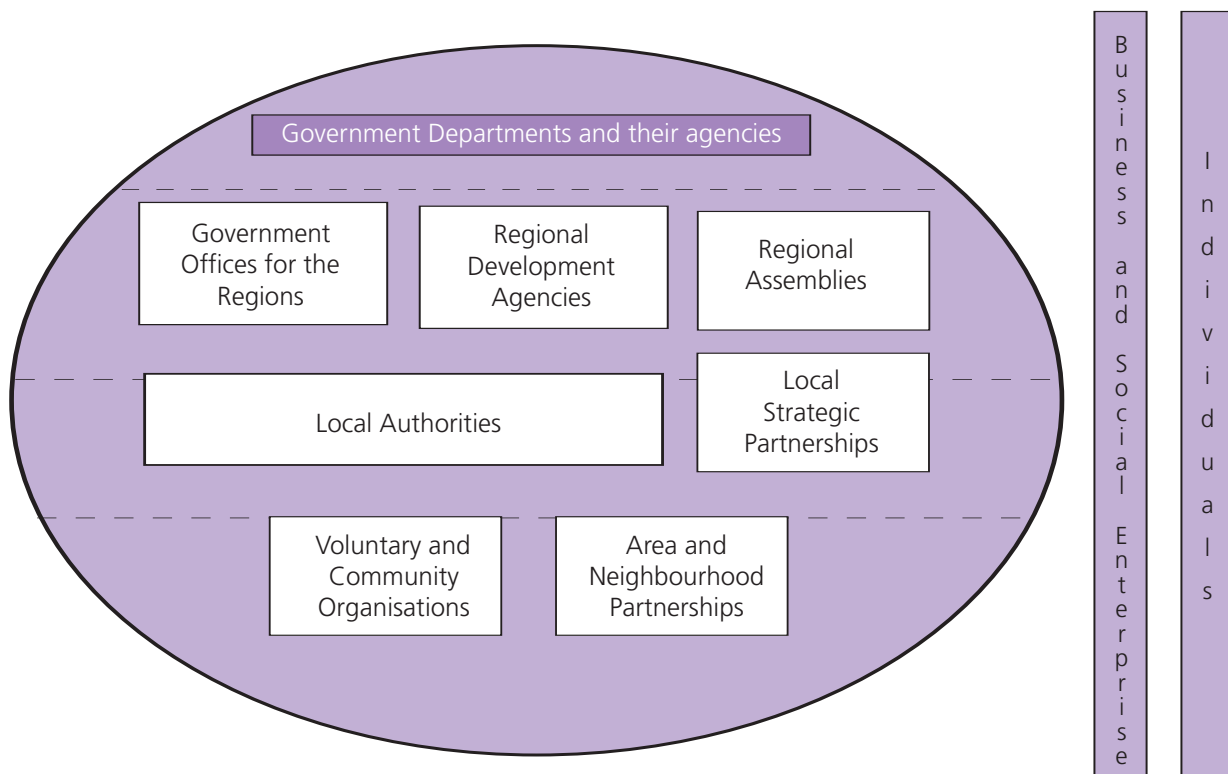
This is a UK Government-wide strategy covering all issues in England and those UK issues which are not the responsibility of devolved administrations. **Accountability** for its delivery ultimately rests with the Cabinet, and the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has a lead role. **Responsibility**, however, rests with everyone. The success of this strategy depends on the commitment and capacity of all Government departments, their agencies and other public bodies, including local authorities and those providing public services at regional and local level, communities, businesses and individuals.

*“ Our biggest challenge in this new century is to take an idea that seems abstract – Sustainable Development – and turn it into a reality for all the world’s people. ”*

**Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General**



The UK Government will also need to work closely and effectively with the devolved administrations to ensure delivery in areas where concerted action is necessary – for example in relation to climate change and renewable energy or where the actions of the UK Government have significant implications for the administrations of Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland or vice versa.



## 2. Strengthening national delivery

Sustainable development is a priority shared by all Government departments, although Defra holds the Public Service Agreement (PSA) target for its delivery. If Government is to achieve its objectives we need to increase the ability of and the incentives for all departments and the wider public sector to put sustainable development into practice. The following commitments will make a real difference:

- ▶ **All central Government departments and their executive agencies will produce focused sustainable development action plans based on this strategy by December 2005 and will report on their actions by December 2006, for example, in their departmental annual reports and regularly thereafter**

- ▶ **The Government will strengthen leadership capacity within departments and their agencies, for example by providing civil servants with better training in sustainable development**
- ▶ **The Government will set stretching targets for meeting its objectives on sustainable public procurement through a National Action Plan for Sustainable Procurement (see Chapter 3)**
- ▶ **The Government will ensure that an understanding of how to apply sustainable development principles is a key part of policy skills for the future and that all policies are properly appraised against the new principles of sustainable development**
- ▶ **The Government will strengthen the Sustainable Development Commission (SDC) and expand its role to act as an independent “watchdog” looking at Government’s progress on this strategy**
- ▶ **The Government will use this strategy as the basis for integrating sustainable development into the 2006 spending review and later spending reviews which set Public Service Agreement targets and allocate resources**

Sustainable development is promoted and co-ordinated through a number of Ministerial and official level groups working across central Government.

In 2003 the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs established a **Sustainable Development Task Force**, comprising Ministers and key stakeholders, whose remit was to advise on delivery of World Summit on Sustainable Development commitments and the development of this new strategy. Looking ahead, this Task Force will now help to advise on interdepartmental implementation of this strategy, including action on international work needed to deliver it.

The **Sustainable Development Commission** (SDC) was established in 2000 as a UK-wide advisory Non-Departmental Public Body with 21 Commissioners and a Chair. Its role is to act as the Government’s independent advisor and “critical friend” on sustainable development. The Commission has developed its role and increased its influence across Government since 2000, so we need to ensure that it is resourced to respond to future challenges. Following a review of the SDC, we want to strengthen its capacity to ensure Government departments’ policies optimise economic, social and environmental benefits.

- ▶ **The Government will give the SDC a new stronger role, with its own director and increased resources**

We will consider whether putting the SDC on a statutory footing as an executive rather than an advisory body would enhance this role further. We will also consider how the SDC’s new watchdog role can best be carried out alongside its advisory role.

### **Policy Appraisal and Spending Reviews**

The Government wants to put in place the right institutions and incentives, but we also need to make sure that sustainable development considerations are built into key stages of policy-making.

Sustainable development was a cross-cutting theme in the 2004 Spending Review which set Government resources and key national targets (PSA targets) for the years 2005-08.

▶ **This strategy will be used as a basis for integrating sustainable development into the 2006 Spending Review and future spending rounds which set PSA targets and allocate resources**

Since April 2004 all departments and their agencies have been required to include environmental and social costs and benefits, as well as economic costs and benefits, in the Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIAs) which they must produce and publish for all new proposals with significant public or private sector impacts. Environmental impacts include the impact on climate change, on which Defra has provided guidance<sup>1</sup>. The National Audit Office (NAO) reports to Parliament annually on RIAs and will from 2006 also look at sustainable development aspects.

In its earlier reports, the NAO found three main factors which characterised effective RIAs:

- ▶ starting the process early
- ▶ consulting effectively with those affected by the proposal, and
- ▶ analysing appropriately the likely costs and benefits of the proposal

This is even more true for sustainable development where the early identification of wider effects is crucial in seeking to devise more sustainable options, to maximise potential benefits and to reduce adverse impacts where these are unavoidable.

▶ **The Government will ensure that this message is reinforced at all levels across departments. The Government will also ensure that new case study guidance incorporates the latest thinking and techniques particularly on how to evaluate less tangible costs and benefits, such as the impact in different parts of the country and for different social groups on health, the environment, access to services, land use and natural resources so that issues of environmental inequality are addressed.**

## Skills

No amount of guidance can be a substitute for giving people the skills they need to put sustainable development into practice. The Government has embarked on a major programme to equip the civil service with the skills it needs to address the challenges of the 21st century. A thorough understanding of how to apply sustainable development principles will need to be a key part of policy skills for the future as will the ability to engage the wider public in the development and implementation of new ideas.

Sustainable development is already being integrated more effectively into the Government's 'Centre for Management and Policy Studies' (CMPS). CMPS has recently piloted a new workshop for senior civil servants on how sustainable development can help to deliver better policy-making. The CMPS's work will be incorporated into the new National School of Government, created to help Government organisations in the UK and internationally to be more professional and to offer better value services to Ministers and to the public they serve.

<sup>1</sup> See [www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/regulat/ria/envguide/ccrisk/index.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/regulat/ria/envguide/ccrisk/index.htm)

- ▶ **The Government will embed sustainable development into the curriculum of the National School of Government<sup>2</sup>, to be launched in the first half of 2005 in areas such as policy-making, strategic leadership, programme and project management and the behavioural aspects of management development**

Defra is developing toolkits and awareness raising materials in partnership with Futerra and Forum for the Future to help its staff deliver sustainable development better through all of its policies and services. Once trialled within Defra, these will be made available to all Government departments and other groups as part of a resource centre available through the sustainable development website.

### **Government Operations**

We want the public sector to be a leading exponent of sustainable development. This was a key reason for our decision to introduce the 'Framework for Sustainable Development on the Government Estate'. This framework sets targets to be met by Government Departments and their executive agencies in a number of areas including water and energy use, and procurement.

Reports of progress against these targets are published each year (at [www.sustainable-development.gov.uk](http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk)) and they demonstrate that performance, although improving, is still patchy. We want departments to do better and to set an example for the rest of the public sector and businesses.

- ▶ **The Government is reviewing the framework, to be sure that we adopt the right approach for the future, and will make proposals during 2005 for achieving a significant change in its own performance**

In 2004, for the first time, the annual report on Sustainable Development in Government, which sets out departments' performance against targets in the Framework for Sustainable Development in the Government Estate<sup>3</sup>, was based on an analysis by independent consultants. In future, such reports will be wholly independent of Government.

### **Statutory duties**

Some public bodies already have statutory duties in relation to sustainable development, such as the National Assembly for Wales and the Greater London Assembly. These take different forms. Our priority is to ensure that they have clear guidance on the implications of those duties based on the revised principles set out in Chapter 1.

- ▶ **By 2006 the Government will issue clear guidance on how existing bodies with a statutory duty linked to sustainable development should take account of this strategy**

We have also considered whether a general statutory duty on all, or the most important, public bodies to promote sustainable development would lead to clearer responsibilities and improved delivery of our sustainable development goals. It is difficult to attribute changes to the existence of a statutory duty alone and we must consider the cumulative impact of many statutory duties upon public bodies. However, we would like to continue to apply sustainable development duties on new bodies as they are created as

<sup>2</sup> Information about the National School of Government can be found at [www.nationalschool.gov.uk](http://www.nationalschool.gov.uk)

<sup>3</sup> see the sustainable development website at [www.sustainable-development.gov.uk](http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk)

appropriate to their role and remit, and to assess whether a specific sustainable development duty should be applied to existing key bodies in priority areas. The important issue is whether a new duty would promote better delivery of sustainable development.

### 3. Strengthening regional delivery

#### *Taking it on consultation responses*

Respondents endorsed the 'Taking it on' priorities, but pointed out that those national policies were not responsive enough to regional differences – such as the need for solutions for a growing and ageing population in the South West, overheating in the South East, housing growth in the East of England and tackling the differing needs for urban and rural communities in the West Midlands.

Respondents felt that regional sustainable development frameworks (rsdfs) currently lacked authority. This made delivery difficult – for example, in some places, other regional strategies are not consistent with rsdfs.

The general consensus was that indicators are currently not sufficiently outcome-focused, consistent and flexible to enable regions to assess their performance against the national situation.

One of the big changes since 1999 has been the increased devolution of responsibility for strategic direction to regional levels. A key task will be to strengthen regional leadership.

**Regional Development Agencies (RDAs)** have been set up by Government to transform England's regions through sustainable economic development and to have an influential role in the business community. The RDAs, which have a statutory duty to contribute to sustainable development in the UK, prepare and implement Regional Economic Strategies (RES). The new Tasking Framework for RDA corporate plans for 2005-2008 supports RDAs in mainstreaming sustainable development in all of their programmes.

► **The Government will update guidance on preparing Regional Economic Strategies in 2005 to help RDAs in delivering economic growth and sustainable development**

**Regional Assemblies** scrutinise the work of their RDA and have been appointed as the regional planning body with a duty to prepare the statutory Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS). They also play a leading role in work on integrating regional strategies and drawing up rsdfs with key players and a wide range of regional expert groups and stakeholders. These high level frameworks set out objectives and priorities for sustainable development in the region and inform regional strategies, including those developed by the RDAs, and the RSS, as well as sub-regional strategies, including Sustainable Community Strategies. In several regions rsdfs take the form of an Integrated Regional Strategy.



### Research on regional sustainable development frameworks

The English Regions Network<sup>4</sup> found that the rsdf process requires organisations to work together and get to grips with each other's viewpoint. This raises issues about expertise and understanding of regional sustainable development among the participants. Stakeholders cited examples of how their work on rsdfs had influenced their work on other strategies. While the study could not firmly attribute particular changes in particular plans and strategies to rsdfs, it did see a greater recognition of sustainable development in other strategies.

The study recommended that future rsdfs should have:

- ▶ more structured and representative stakeholder involvement
- ▶ better defined and prioritised objectives and associated targets
- ▶ action plans that
  - address unsustainable activity at the regional level
  - set out responsibilities and tasks against defined time-scales, and
- ▶ more effective monitoring processes.

<sup>4</sup> Research into regional sustainable development frameworks. Final report to the English Regions Network by CAG consultants and Oxford Brookes University School of Planning.

Responses to the consultation confirmed the findings of the English Regions Network research. They identified the need for a framework for sustainable development in each region with certain core elements developed in consultation with regional stakeholders. This framework should set out:

- ▶ a shared vision for the region
- ▶ objectives, priorities and targets for advancing sustainable development
- ▶ action plans showing which organisations will be responsible for delivering on each of the agreed priorities
- ▶ a range of indicators relevant to the region and regional issues. Measuring and reporting, where data is available, on performance at regional level on indicators linked to the UK Framework Indicators will be particularly useful in showing how regional activity can contribute to sustainable development at the national level, and
- ▶ arrangements for monitoring and review.
- ▶ **The Government will produce up-dated guidance on rsdfs, reflecting this new UK Strategy and including a clarification of the role of the Regional Assemblies, pending the outcome of a review (see below)**

Inter-regional growth strategies, such as the 'Northern Way'<sup>5</sup>, 'Smart Growth: The Midlands Way', and 'The Way Ahead: The South West Way' are seeking to promote greater inter-regional collaboration, with a particular emphasis on the Regional Economic Strategy (RES), economic development priorities, land use and natural resources, in ways that allow this to be translated to the respective Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs) across adjoining regions. The Government is exploring how to provide a stronger and more consistent economic evidence base and methodology to underpin both the RES and the RSS. The Government is:

- ▶ **considering the responses to consultation on proposals to merge the regional planning body role of Regional Assemblies with the role of Regional Housing Boards**
- ▶ **examining ways to achieve more integration of regional transport, economic development and housing programmes within a framework of long-term regional funding allocations**
- ▶ **developing a methodology which will allow a national view to be taken on the relationship between regions on key issues including the consequences of alternative economic scenarios as a result of migration, household numbers, the impact of housing supply and house prices, and**
- ▶ **undertaking research to provide a clearer economic and demographic context for regional planning over the next 25 years. This will explore regional disparities and inter-regional relationships and how these relate to each other and the wider economy**

<sup>5</sup> For more details go to [www.odpm.gov.uk](http://www.odpm.gov.uk)

**Government Offices (GOs)** represent central Government departments in the regions. They work with regional partners to ensure the joined-up delivery of the policies of ODPM, DTI, Defra, DfES, HO, DfT, CO, DCMS and DWP. All of these contribute to sustainable development as set out in this strategy. This is reflected in GO Business Plans and evidence from GOs on regional performance will demonstrate their contribution to sustainable development. Regional Directors of Public Health and their teams work with the Government Office to ensure that the public health dimensions of sustainable development are promoted and considered across a range of different policy areas. They will also work with Strategic Health Authorities to encourage the links between rsdfs and the NHS, so the Health Service is working within the context of sustainable development.

Bodies such as the new Integrated Agency and the Environment Agency (see Chapter 5) also have a strong regional presence and contribute to delivering sustainable development at regional level.

The Government will continue to engage regional stakeholders in policy development in line with the joint Cabinet Office/ODPM guidance 'Incorporating regional perspectives into the policy making process'.

- ▶ **The Government will continue to explore ways to increase cross departmental 'joined-up working' with key regional stakeholders on national policy development and will hold workshops with key stakeholders**
- ▶ **The Government will also look for new ways to help regions contribute fully to sustainable development, as measured by the UK Government Strategy Indicators and any regionally selected indicators**
- ▶ **The Sustainable Development Commission will review the overall arrangements for delivering sustainable development in the regions – including rsdfs, regional sustainable development networks, liaison between central Government and the regions, and the role of major regional bodies and strategies – and make recommendations for improving effectiveness**

## 4. Strengthening local delivery

Local authorities and their partners, through Local Strategic Partnerships, are pivotal to delivering sustainable communities.

### *Taking it on consultation responses*

The 'Taking it on' consultation indicated that the new joined-up processes being developed for local Government and local service providers, were well placed to contribute to development of sustainable development, through strong local leadership and better partnership working, if central Government could link these to work on sustainable communities, planning and regeneration.

Making the vision of sustainable communities a reality at the local level means sending the right signals to local Government about the importance of sustainable development, supporting strong local leadership and developing the right skills and knowledge.

Working with the Local Government Association, the Improvement and Development Agency, the Audit Commission and other stakeholders through the Central Local Partnership, the Government has developed an action plan which will ensure delivery of sustainable development at the local level. This action plan will also help support implementation of our proposals for empowering community action on sustainable development through Community Action 2020 – Together We Can in Chapter 2 and the creation of sustainable communities in Chapter 6 and is in line with the developing ten-year strategy for local Government.

From 2005, the Central Local Partnership will receive an annual progress report on the delivery of the action plan set out below.

### **Sending the right signals**

- ▶ **In 2005 the Government will hold a cross-departmental workshop to explore ways of improving the Government's communication of consistent messages on sustainable development and sustainable communities to local Government.**
- ▶ **The Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) process from 2005 onwards, including the Key Lines of Enquiry and Guidance to Inspectors, will seek to recognise and reward good performance on sustainable development and community engagement. We will work with the Audit Commission to train CPA Inspectors and equip them with a good understanding of sustainable development as a whole and how it applies to the CPA process.**
- ▶ **The next rounds of Beacon Council Themes (rounds 7 and 8) will include themes around aspects of sustainable development at the local level.**

### **Making best use of existing tools to support local leadership**

- ▶ **During 2005 the Government will work with its partners to develop toolkits and other materials to support Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) in developing and delivering Sustainable Community Strategies which help deliver sustainable development in the UK.**
- ▶ **During 2005 the Government, Local Government Association and IDeA will develop a joint central-local government commitment to the delivery of sustainable development in the context of the new vision on sustainable communities. This commitment will harness the energies of local authorities and their partners and will allow freedom and flexibility in the approach taken at the local level.**

### **Skills and knowledge for local public sector bodies**

- ▶ **Following the recommendation contained in Sir John Egan's Review 'Skills for Sustainable Communities' (2004), the Government has announced the establishment of a new Academy for Sustainable Communities. The Academy will work with partners to promote a new agenda for sustainable communities, increase the availability of generic skills and widen and improve access to sustainable communities skills. The Academy's programme will include the development of learning opportunities for the core occupations identified in the Egan Review, including those for Local Strategic Partnerships.**

- ▶ **On the theme of ‘cleaner, safer, greener communities’ the Government will launch a ‘How To’ programme to promote the take up and use of new and existing powers and guidance to transform the local environment. The Government will also provide a joined up programme of support for our delivery partners to promote the improvement of the local environment.**
- ▶ **The Improvement and Development Agency will roll out a Leadership Academy module on Sustainable Communities which develops local leadership on sustainable development issues. It will also offer a peer review tool on ‘Sustainable Communities’.**
- ▶ **In addition, the Government will improve local Government skills and knowledge on sustainable communities through wider training schemes such as the Local Government Capacity Building Programme.**

The Government has established nine Regional Centres of Excellence (RCEs) across England – one in each region. ODPM is responsible for implementing the system for measuring efficiency gains made by local authorities and it also sponsors the RCEs. The RCEs are the lead change agents for local Government, assisting councils in finding and making efficiency gains. The RCEs are also responsible for taking forward the actions of the National Procurement Strategy for Local Government adopted in 2004 by ODPM and the Local Government Association.

During 2005, we will work through the RCEs to encourage sustainable procurement throughout local Government and improved skills training.

#### **The Government will:**

- ▶ **ask the RCEs to champion a number of sustainable procurement themes including sustainable energy, sustainable waste, sustainable food, sustainable timber and minimum product standards, and**
- ▶ **disseminate good practice to local authorities and other Regional Centres in order to build skills, knowledge and understanding on sustainable procurement: in particular, that produced by the European Procura Plus sustainable procurement campaign<sup>6</sup>.**

## **5. International delivery**

The world needs more effective ways to deliver international sustainable development. The Foreign Office (FCO), Defra, DFID, DTI and HMT share responsibility for helping deliver international development that is more sustainable. This is co-ordinated by the Interdepartmental Working Group on International Sustainable Development that will ensure that we are delivering on our commitments and co-ordinate progress reporting to Ministers, Parliament, and the public.

The FCO has developed its own sustainable development strategy to be published in March 2005. This will set out how the FCO will help deliver the UK’s international priorities on sustainable development, focusing on those areas where the FCO adds value to the implementation of this strategy. Where appropriate in international delivery

<sup>6</sup> See [www.iclei-europe.org/index.php?procuraplus](http://www.iclei-europe.org/index.php?procuraplus)

work, Government departments will draw on the expertise of other public bodies. For example, the Environment Agency is providing technical advice and practical support on matters such as water management, environmental governance, regulation and enforcement.

As Chapter 6 states, the Department for International Development (DFID) manages the UK's Overseas Development Assistance. The Department's work is defined by the International Development Act (2002), which requires development funds to be used for poverty reduction, either through furthering sustainable development or improving the welfare of a population<sup>7</sup>. Poverty reduction and sustainable development go hand in hand. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), agreed by the international community in 2000, define the key objectives for reducing poverty and encouraging development in poor countries. DFID has made the MDGs the main focus of its work.

The UK's international network of diplomatic representatives and development officers, including the FCO's environment attachés and science attachés network and DFID country staff, will play a significant role in delivering and explaining the UK's international priorities. The environment attachés are supported by **epnet**, a website for Government officials working on environment issues which provides an international network. It aims to keep staff in overseas posts, particularly the environment attachés, up to date with policy and to give them the information they need to deliver UK priorities.

Epnet is being redeveloped and will be re-launched in 2005 as a sustainable development network in order to better support environment attachés in leading on delivering sustainable development through this strategy and to reflect the wide range of issues that they work on.

► **From April 2005 there will be a new programme, as part of the FCO's Global Opportunities Fund, called the Sustainable Development Programme.**

The programme will fund projects in priority countries, focusing on the following themes:

- transparency, information, participation and access to justice (including freedom of expression, environmental democracy and rule of law)
- core human rights priorities (including combating torture, abolishing the death penalty and promoting children's rights), and
- natural resource management (including sustainable forest management and reduction of illegal logging, biodiversity and sustainable tourism).

This will be complemented by additional Defra funding to help deliver commitments from the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

Departments will work with a number of rapidly developing countries on integrating principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes, and implementing action plans in support of these in line with MDG 7 and WSSD's 2005 target for national strategies.

<sup>7</sup> Funds may also be used to support British Overseas Territories and for humanitarian assistance.

- ▶ **Bilateral Sustainable Development Dialogues will be established with China and India. Agreed at Prime Ministerial level these dialogues will build on, and provide a framework for, existing country-level activities as well as identify new areas of collaboration. It is envisaged that this will involve mutual learning on how both countries approach sustainable development planning and delivery, looking at institutional capacity and co-ordination, underpinned by specific joint projects in a range of policy areas.**

We shall continue to use our Environment for Europe Fund (EfE) to support small environmental projects in the candidate countries for the European Union and Eastern Europe, Caucasus & Central Asia (EECCA) countries. At a higher level, we shall press for EU funding to be used judiciously to support the delivery of WSSD and EfE commitments, and the MDGs.

The Overseas Territories Environment Programme, jointly funded by the FCO and DFID, will continue to support implementation of Environment Charters in the Territories.

In addition, partnerships between Government and civil society groups including NGOs and business are an important means of delivering action on the ground, developing new ideas and innovative solutions. The UK's priority is to make partnership working a significant means of implementation through:

- ▶ embedding partnership working in the UN CSD work programme
- ▶ maintaining the voluntary, self-organising nature of partnerships, while fostering transparency and accountability
- ▶ encouraging the exchange of good practice and experience
- ▶ providing start-up funding for new partnerships, and
- ▶ working to break down policy barriers to partnership activity.

The Government has compiled a table of the UK's international priorities for sustainable development primarily arising from WSSD, Doha, Monterrey and the MDGs. This includes aims, lead departments, and sources of information. The table can be found at the end of this chapter and will also be published on the Government's sustainable development website as a live document. It will be developed and updated as the Strategy is implemented and used as a monitoring and reporting tool.

The UK Government works within the United Nations system and with international financial institutions to promote a co-ordinated approach to environmental, social and economic issues.

At the 2005 UN Millennium Review Summit the UK Government will aim to promote increased international effort to achieve the MDGs and related commitments including those from WSSD focussing particularly on climate change, water and sanitation and environmental sustainability.

Under its new work programme the UN Commission on Sustainable Development addresses sustainable development commitments over seven two-year cycles with each cycle focusing on a thematic cluster of issues. The cycle is divided into a "review year" and a "policy year". We aim to ensure that each two-year cycle agrees policy responses and concrete actions to tackle the problems identified in the review year.

We continue to work with other states on strengthening the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which is mandated to promote the environmental dimension across the UN system.

In particular we want to see:

- ▶ greater and more predictable financing for the Programme
- ▶ effective implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity Building in environmental matters, and
- ▶ enhanced co-ordination across the UN system, especially between UNEP and the UN Development Programme.

The UK is playing an active role in discussions on strengthening international environmental governance, such as the proposals for UNEP to be transferred into a UN specialised agency.

## 6. How to know if this strategy has been successful

Government departments and their executive agencies will produce Action Plans setting out how they intend to implement the commitments in this strategy and will report progress against these, for example in their annual departmental reports.

The Government will monitor the policy commitments and the indicators set out in each of the chapters in the Strategy (summarised at the end of this chapter), and the relevant Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets. We will take action if evidence from monitoring and evaluation, including latest information on these indicators, shows that we are not likely to meet targets, or deliver the policy commitments.

The Sustainable Development Programme Board will use this information to ensure that the Strategy is delivered and commitments met, supported by Defra's Sustainable Development Unit as its secretariat.

As part of this commitment to monitor progress, quarterly reports will be made to HM Treasury on performance on PSA targets, including Defra's overarching target on sustainable development.

Government Offices will report progress at regional and sub-regional levels through new performance monitoring arrangements and Regional Development Agencies will be accountable for progress through the new Tasking Framework. Local Authorities will be monitored through Comprehensive Performance Assessment.

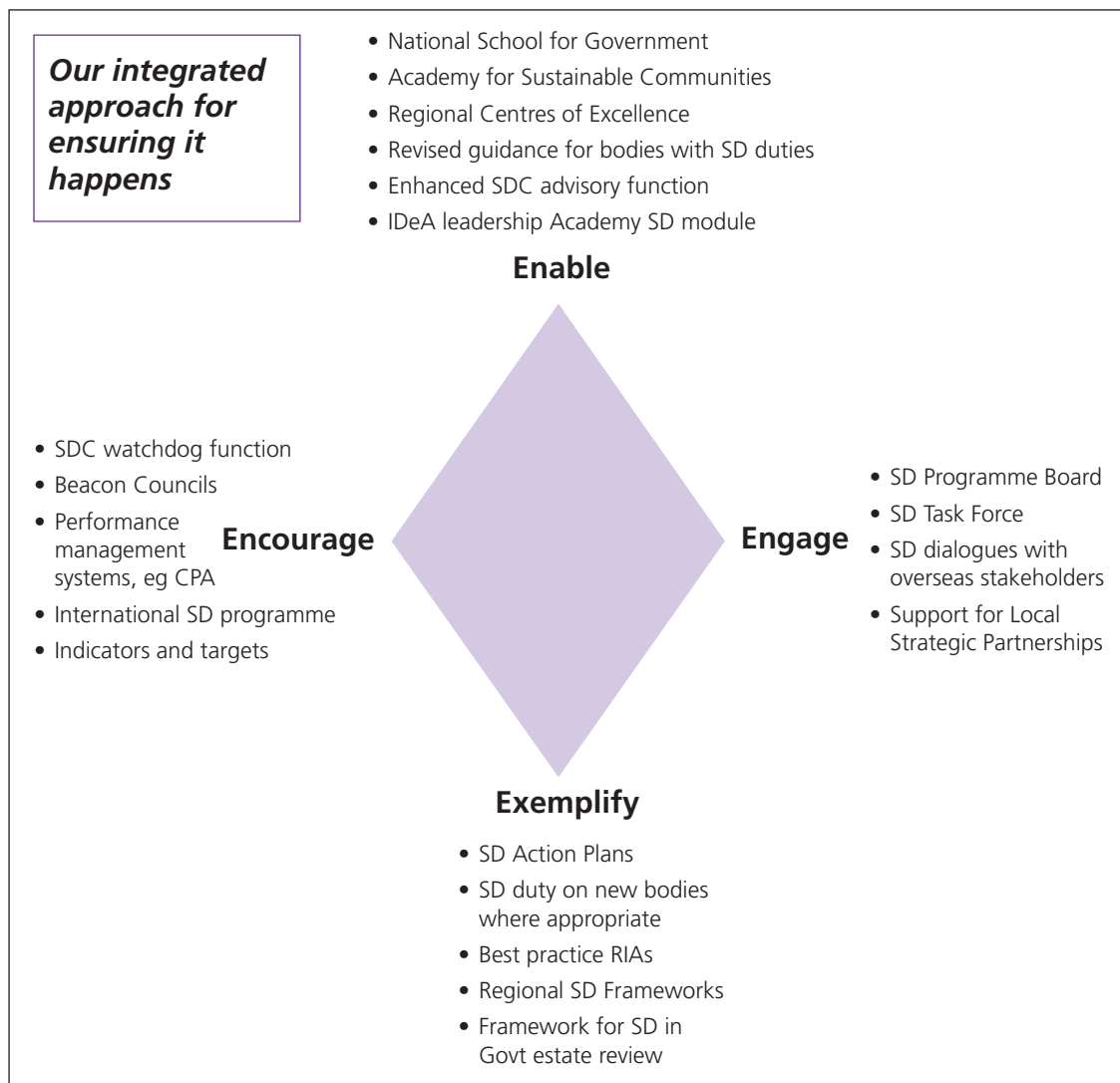
The Government will monitor and report annually on the UK Framework Indicators to place the Government's performance in context. This report will form the basis of the UK's reporting to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development which monitors progress internationally.

The Office of National Statistics<sup>8</sup> will continue to produce a set of national satellite accounts annually, which take into account a range of uncoded factors, for example environmental impacts.

<sup>8</sup> Available at [www.sustainable.gov.uk](http://www.sustainable.gov.uk)

Up to now, progress against our national strategy has only been provided in reports drawn up by Government itself. We believe that we should now move to independent scrutiny of action on sustainable development across Government to determine whether real progress is being made. That will not be achieved by Government reporting on itself. **So we propose that the strengthened Sustainable Development Commission (SDC) should act as a “watchdog” for sustainable development.** It will provide assurance and will report on progress towards implementing the UK Framework and the commitments in the UK Government Strategy, including on the institutional and accountability arrangements, as well as focusing in more depth on particular issues.

To have maximum impact the SDC will need to work with the House of Common’s Environmental Audit Committee and the National Audit Office. The Environmental Audit Committee, which reports to Parliament, has an important role in scrutinising and reporting on Government’s performance on sustainable development. It has the ability to call Departments to give evidence on sustainable development. The Committee has recently been supported by the expertise of the National Audit Office which has been expanding the time and effort it spends on these issues.



## 7. Measuring our progress overall

The full list of indicators to be used to monitor progress in the UK Government Strategy is set out below, along with Public Service Agreements and other policy objectives which will most directly contribute to progress. All the UK Framework Indicators are included and are indicated by an asterisk.

A very large number of indicators are used across Government to monitor the outcomes of policies. There is an even larger number if those used by other organisations and internationally are considered. The vast majority of these indicators are or have the potential to be covering issues pertinent to sustainable development. Experience from the 1999 Strategy suggested that although there was some merit in having a large set of indicators – in the 1999 Strategy there were 147 – in practice it was difficult to determine overall progress and the majority of indicators were also monitored elsewhere. On the other hand the 15 headline indicators in the 1999 Strategy were used extensively in reporting progress, but could only provide a broad overview.

For the UK Government Strategy, we have established a set of 68 indicators, consisting of the 20 UK Framework Indicators and a further 48 indicators with which to monitor progress.

In trying to establish a set of indicators to support the UK Government Strategy, we have attempted to focus on the key priorities for sustainable development. Nevertheless, there may be issues that some people think are not adequately covered by the indicators. If in due course there is a strong case for some additional indicators then, where practicable, we will of course introduce new indicators. By the same token, if it becomes apparent that certain indicators need to be improved to ensure our monitoring is effective then if it is practicable to establish a revised indicator, we will do so. However it should be noted that there are considerable economic, statistical, scientific, and practical constraints to embarking on new data collection.

The indicators selected here to support the UK Government Strategy have been chosen as key measures of impacts or drivers for priorities within the Strategy. As far as practicable we have taken into account comments and suggestions on indicators received in response to the 'Taking it on' consultation. Some of the indicators were previously established to underpin and monitor the 1999 Strategy and are considered appropriate to continue with, others have been newly developed, such as 'decoupling' indicators for sustainable consumption and production. We have also considered indicators used for other purposes across Government, by the Devolved Administrations, and where practicable internationally. We are constrained by the availability of existing data sources or established indicators, but some issues we consider to be sufficiently important that we have highlighted the need for a new indicator to be developed.

► **A separate statistical report providing the baseline figures for our indicators will be published in June 2005**

At the same time, where possible, the Government will outline the work to be undertaken to establish the indicators for which we currently do not have data. Additionally, on the UK Government sustainable development website, we intend to provide links to a wide range of international indicators, so that people can assess the UK's progress internationally and have access to information on global trends.

### Conclusion

This strategy is the result of wide-spread, inclusive consultation and a very high degree of co-operation between a range of Government and other public sector bodies.

The challenge is now to implement this to ensure that sustainable development is delivered on the ground – securing the future for all of us.

UK GOVERNMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS	Related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements
1. <b>Greenhouse gas emissions*</b> : Kyoto target and CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	<b>Defra PSA 2, DTI PSA 4, DfT PSA 8</b> To reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels in line with our Kyoto commitment and move towards a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2010, through measures including energy efficiency and renewables
2. <b>CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by end user</b> : industry, domestic, transport (excluding international aviation), other	
3. <b>Aviation and shipping emissions</b> : greenhouse gases from UK-based international aviation and shipping fuel bunkers	<b>DfT White Papers</b> : 'The Future of Air Transport' and 'British shipping: Charting a new course'
4. <b>Renewable electricity</b> : renewable electricity generated as a percentage of total electricity	<b>Defra PSA 2, DTI PSA 4</b> To reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels in line with our Kyoto commitment and move towards a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2010, through measures including energy efficiency and renewables
5. <b>Electricity generation</b> : electricity generated, CO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> and SO <sub>2</sub> emissions by electricity generators and GDP	
6. <b>Household energy use</b> : domestic CO <sub>2</sub> emissions and household final consumption expenditure	<b>DTI White Paper</b> : "Our energy future – creating a low carbon economy"
7. <b>Road transport</b> : CO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> , PM <sub>10</sub> emissions and GDP	<b>DfT PSA 6, Defra PSA 8</b> Improve air quality by meeting the Air Quality Strategy targets for carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particles, sulphur dioxide, benzene and 1,3 butadiene  <b>DfT PSA 7, Defra PSA 2, DTI PSA 4</b> To reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels in line with our Kyoto commitment and move towards a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2010, through measures including energy efficiency and renewables
8. <b>Private vehicles</b> : CO <sub>2</sub> emissions and car-km and household final consumption expenditure	
9. <b>Road freight</b> : CO <sub>2</sub> emissions and tonne-km, tonnes and GDP	
10. <b>Manufacturing sector</b> : CO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> , SO <sub>2</sub> , PM <sub>10</sub> emissions and GVA	<b>DTI</b> : 'The Government's Manufacturing Strategy' and 'Competing In the Global Economy: The Government's Manufacturing Strategy Two Years On'
11. <b>Service sector</b> : CO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> emissions and GVA	
12. <b>Public sector</b> : CO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> emissions and GVA	Sustainable Development in Government Framework
13. <b>Resource use*</b> : Domestic Material Consumption and GDP	<b>Defra, DTI</b> : Changing Patterns: UK Government Framework for Sustainable Consumption and Production
14. <b>Energy supply</b> : UK primary energy supply and gross inland energy consumption	<b>DTI PSA 4</b> Lead work to deliver the goals of energy policy: maintain the reliability of energy supplies

UK GOVERNMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS	Related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements
15. <b>Water resource use:</b> total abstractions from non-tidal surface and ground water sources and GDP	<b>Defra and Environment Agency</b> Water Framework Directive <b>Defra</b> Water Strategy: 'Directing the Flow – priorities for future water policy'
16. <b>Domestic water consumption:</b> domestic water consumption per head	
17. <b>Water stress:</b> <i>(to be developed to monitor the impacts of water shortages)</i>	
18. <b>Waste*:</b> arisings by (a) sector (b) method of disposal	<b>Defra PSA 6</b> Enable at least 25% of household waste to be recycled or composted by 2005-06, with further improvements by 2008
19. <b>Household waste:</b> (a) arisings (b) recycled or composted	<b>Defra PSA 3</b> Care for our natural heritage, make the countryside attractive and enjoyable for all and preserve biological diversity by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ reversing the long-term decline in the number of farmland birds by 2020, as measured annually against underlying trends</li> </ul>
20. <b>Bird populations*:</b> bird population indices (a) farmland birds* (b) woodland birds* (c) birds of coasts and estuaries* (d) wintering wetland birds	
21. <b>Biodiversity conservation:</b> (a) priority species status (b) priority habitat status	<b>Defra PSA 3</b> Care for our natural heritage, make the countryside attractive and enjoyable for all and preserve biological diversity by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ reversing the long-term decline in the number of farmland birds by 2020, as measured annually against underlying trends; and</li> <li>▶ bringing into favourable condition, by 2010, 95% of all nationally important wildlife sites</li> </ul>
22. <b>Agriculture sector:</b> fertiliser input, farmland bird population, and ammonia and methane emissions and output	<b>Defra PSA 5</b> Deliver more customer-focused, competitive and sustainable farming and food industries and secure further progress, via Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations, in reducing CAP trade-distorting support <b>Defra:</b> "Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food: Facing the Future"
23. <b>Farming and environmental stewardship:</b> <i>(to be developed to monitor progress in new stewardship schemes)</i>	
24. <b>Land use:</b> area used for agriculture, woodland, water or river, urban (contextual indicator)	
25. <b>Land recycling:</b> (a) new dwellings built on previously developed land or through conversions (b) all new development on previously developed land	<b>ODPM PSA 6</b> The planning system to deliver sustainable development outcomes at national, regional and local levels through efficient and high quality planning and development management processes, including through achievement of best value standards for planning by 2008
26. <b>Dwelling density:</b> average density of new housing	
27. <b>Fish stocks*:</b> fish stocks around the UK within sustainable limits	<b>Defra</b> Sustainable Fisheries Programme

UK GOVERNMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS	Related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements
<p><b>28. Ecological impacts of air pollution*:</b> area of UK habitat sensitive to acidification and eutrophication with critical load exceedences</p>	<p><b>DfT PSA 6, Defra PSA 8</b> Improve air quality by meeting the Air Quality Strategy targets for carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particles, sulphur dioxide, benzene and 1,3 butadiene</p>
<p><b>29. Emissions of air pollutants:</b> SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions and GDP</p>	<p><b>Defra and Environment Agency</b> Improved river water quality, as measured by compliance with River Quality Objectives</p>
<p><b>30. River quality*:</b> rivers of good (a) biological (b) chemical quality</p>	<p><b>Defra and Environment Agency</b> Sustainable policies for river and coastal flood management evidenced by implementation of 'Making Space for Water' strategy and completion of strategic Catchment Flood Management and Shoreline Management Plans</p>
<p><b>31. Flooding:</b> <i>(to be developed to monitor sustainable approaches to ongoing flood management)</i></p>	<p><b>HMT PSA 1</b> Demonstrate by 2008 progress on the Government's long-term objective of raising the trend rate of growth over the economic cycle by at least meeting the Budget 2004 projection</p>
<p><b>32. Economic output*:</b> Gross Domestic Product</p>	<p><b>HMT PSA 1</b> Demonstrate by 2008 progress on the Government's long-term objective of raising the trend rate of growth over the economic cycle by at least meeting the Budget 2004 projection</p> <p><b>DTI PSA 1, HMT PSA 4</b> Demonstrate further progress by 2008 on the Government's long-term objective of raising the rate of UK productivity growth over the economic cycle, improving competitiveness and narrowing the gap with our major industrial competitors</p> <p><b>DTI PSA 6</b> Build an enterprise society in which small firms of all kinds thrive and achieve their potential, with an improvement in the overall productivity of small firms</p> <p><b>Defra PSA 4</b> Reduce the gap in productivity between the least well performing quartile of rural areas and the English median by 2008, demonstrating progress by 2006, and improve the accessibility of services for people in rural areas</p> <p><b>DCMS PSA 4</b> By 2008, improve the productivity of the tourism, creative and leisure industries</p>

UK GOVERNMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS	Related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements
<b>34. Investment:</b> (a) total investment (b) social investment relative to GDP	<b>HM Treasury:</b> Budget 2004
<b>35. Demography:</b> population and population of working age (contextual indicator)	
<b>36. Households and dwellings:</b> households, single person households and dwelling stock (contextual indicator)	<p><b>ODPM:</b> 'Housing Policy Statement, The Way Forward for Housing'</p> <p><b>ODPM PSA 5</b> Achieve a better balance between housing availability and the demand for housing, including improving affordability, in all English regions while protecting valuable countryside around our towns, cities and in the green belt and the sustainability of towns and cities.</p>
<b>37. Active community participation*:</b> informal and formal volunteering at least once a month	<p><b>Home Office PSA 6</b> Increase voluntary and community engagement, especially amongst those at risk of social exclusion.</p> <p><b>Home Office PSA 7</b> Reduce race inequalities and build community cohesion.</p>
<b>38. Crime*:</b> crime survey and recorded crime for (a) vehicles (b) domestic burglary (c) violence	<p><b>Home Office PSA 1</b> Reduce crime by 15%, and further in high crime areas, by 2007-08. Target contributing to the Criminal Justice System PSA (PSA 1).</p>
<b>39. Fear of crime:</b> (a) car theft (b) burglary (c) physical attack	<p><b>Home Office PSA 2, DCA PSA 2, CPS PSA 2</b> Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the Criminal Justice System without compromising fairness. Target contributing to the Criminal Justice System PSA (PSA 3).</p>
<b>40. Employment*:</b> people of working age in employment	<p><b>DWP PSA 4, HMT PSA 5</b> As part of the wider objective of full employment in every region, over the three years to Spring 2008, and taking account of the economic cycle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ demonstrate progress on increasing the employment rate</li> <li>▶ increase the employment rates of disadvantaged groups (lone parents, ethnic minorities, people aged 50 and over, those with the lowest qualifications and those living in the local authority wards with the poorest initial labour market position); and</li> <li>▶ significantly reduce the difference between the employment rates of the disadvantaged groups and the overall rate.</li> </ul>
<b>41. Workless households*:</b> population living in workless households (a) children (b) working age	

UK GOVERNMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS	Related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements
<p><b>42. Economically inactive:</b> people of working age who are economically inactive</p>	<p><b>DWP PSA 1, HMT PSA 7</b> Halve the number of children in relative low-income households between 1998-99 and 2010-11, on the way to eradicating child poverty by 2020 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ reducing the proportion of children living in workless households by 5% between spring 2005 and spring 2008; and</li> <li>▶ increasing the proportion of Parents with Care on Income Support and income-based Jobseeker's Allowance who receive maintenance for their children to 65% by March 2008. (The Government will also set a target as part of the next Spending Review to halve by 2010-11 the numbers of children suffering a combination of material deprivation and relative low income. The target will be met if there is an equivalent proportional reduction to that required on relative low income between 2004-05 and 2010-11)</li> </ul> <p><b>DWP PSA 3, DfES PSA 2</b> As a contribution to reducing the proportion of children living in households where no-one is working, by 2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ increase the stock of Ofsted-registered childcare by 10%;</li> <li>▶ increase the take-up of formal childcare by lower income families by 50%; and</li> <li>▶ introduce by April 2005, a successful light-touch childcare approval scheme.</li> </ul> <p>Sure Start Unit target</p>
<p><b>43. Childhood poverty*:</b> children in relative low-income households a) before housing costs b) after housing costs</p>	
<p><b>44. Young adults:</b> 16-19 year-olds not in employment, education or training</p>	<p><b>DfES PSA 12</b> Reduce the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training by 2 percentage points by 2010</p>
<p><b>45. Pensioner poverty*:</b> pensioners in relative low-income households a) before housing costs b) after housing costs</p>	<p><b>DWP PSA 6</b> By 2008, be paying Pension Credit to at least 3.2 million pensioner households, while maintaining a focus on the most disadvantaged by ensuring that at least 2.2 million of these households are in receipt of the Guarantee Credit</p> <p><b>DH PSA 8</b> Improve the quality of life and independence of vulnerable older people by supporting them to live in their own homes where possible by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ increasing the proportion of older people being supported to live in their own home by 1% annually in 2007 and 2008; and</li> <li>▶ increasing by 2008, the proportion of those supported intensively to live at home to 34% of the total of those being supported at home or in residential care</li> </ul> <p><b>Defra PSA 7, DTI PSA 4</b> Eliminate fuel poverty in vulnerable households in England by 2010 in line with the Government's Fuel Poverty Strategy objective</p>
<p><b>46. Pension provision:</b> working age people contributing to a non-state pension in at least three years out of the last four</p>	

UK GOVERNMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS	Related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements
<b>47. Education*:</b> 19 year-olds with level 2 qualifications and above	<b>DfES PSA 11</b> Increase the proportion of 19 year olds who achieve at least level 2 by 3 percentage points between 2004 and 2006, and a further 2 percentage points between 2006 and 2008, and increase the proportion of young people who achieve level 3
<b>48. Sustainable development education:</b> <i>(to be developed to monitor the impact of formal learning on knowledge and awareness of sustainable development)</i>	
<b>49. Health inequality*:</b> (a) infant mortality (by socio-economic group) (b) life expectancy (by area) for men and women	<b>DH PSA 2</b> Reduce health inequalities by 10% by 2010 as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth
<b>50. Healthy life expectancy:</b> healthy life expectancy (a) men (b) women	
<b>51. Mortality rates:</b> death rates from (a) circulatory disease and (b) cancer, below 75 years and for areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators, and (c) suicides	<b>DH PSA 1</b> Substantially reduce mortality rates by 2010: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ from heart disease and stroke and related diseases by at least 40% in people under 75, with at least a 40% reduction in the inequalities gap between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole;</li> <li>▶ from cancer by at least 20% in people under 75, with a reduction in the inequalities gap of at least 6% between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole; and</li> <li>▶ from suicide and undetermined injury by at least 20%</li> </ul>
<b>52. Smoking:</b> prevalence of smoking (a) all adults (b) 'routine and manual' socio-economic groups	<b>DH PSA 3</b> Tackle the underlying determinants of ill health and health inequalities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ reducing adult smoking rates to 21% or less by 2010, with a reduction in prevalence among routine and manual groups to 26% or less</li> </ul>
<b>53. Childhood obesity:</b> prevalence of obesity in 2-10 year-olds	<b>DH PSA 3, DfES PSA 4, DCMS PSA 2</b> Tackle the underlying determinants of ill health and health inequalities by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ halting the year-on-year rise in obesity among children under 11 by 2010 in the context of a broader strategy to tackle obesity in the population as a whole</li> </ul>
<b>54. Diet:</b> people consuming five or more portions of fruit and vegetables per day and in low income households	<b>DH:</b> 'Food and Health Action Plan'

UK GOVERNMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS	Related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements
<b>55. Mobility*:</b> (a) number of trips per person by mode (b) distance travelled per person per year by broad trip purpose	<b>DfT PSA 3</b> By 2010, increase the use of public transport (bus and light rail) by more than 12% in England compared with 2000 levels, with growth in every region
<b>56. Getting to school:</b> how children get to school	<b>DfT:</b> 'Walking and cycling: an action plan'
<b>57. Accessibility:</b> access to key services	<b>ODPM PSA 4</b> By 2008, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local government in leading and delivering services to all communities <b>Defra PSA 4</b> Improve the accessibility of services for people in rural areas
<b>58. Road accidents:</b> number of people and children killed or seriously injured	<b>DfT PSA 5</b> Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in Great Britain in road accidents by 40% and the number of children killed or seriously injured by 50%, by 2010 compared with the average for 1994-98, tackling the significantly higher incidence in disadvantaged communities
<b>59. Social justice*:</b> ( <i>social measures to be developed</i> )	<b>ODPM PSA 1</b> Tackle social exclusion and deliver neighbourhood renewal, working with departments to help them meet their PSA floor targets, in particular narrowing the gap in health, education, crime, worklessness, housing and liveability outcomes between the most deprived areas and the rest of England, with measurable improvement by 2010
<b>60. Environmental equality*:</b> ( <i>environmental measures to be developed</i> )	<b>ODPM PSA 8</b> Lead the delivery of cleaner, safer and greener public spaces and improvement of the quality of the built environment in deprived areas and across the country, with measurable improvement by 2008
<b>61. Air quality and health:</b> (a) annual levels of particles and ozone (b) days when air pollution is moderate or higher	<b>DfT PSA 6, Defra PSA 8</b> Improve air quality by meeting the Air Quality Strategy targets for carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particles, sulphur dioxide, benzene and 1,3 butadiene
<b>62. Housing conditions:</b> (a) social sector homes below the decent homes standard (b) vulnerable households in the private sector in homes below the decent homes standard	<b>ODPM PSA 7</b> By 2010, bring all social housing into a decent condition with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas, and for vulnerable households in the private sector, including families with children, increase the proportion who live in homes that are in decent condition
<b>63. Households living in fuel poverty:</b> (a) pensioners (b) households with children (c) disabled/long-term sick	<b>Defra PSA 7, DTI PSA 3</b> Eliminate fuel poverty in vulnerable households in England by 2010 in line with the Government's Fuel Poverty Strategy objective

UK GOVERNMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS	Related Public Service Agreements (PSA) and other relevant policy statements
<p><b>64. Homelessness:</b> (a) rough sleepers (b) households in temporary accommodation (i) total (ii) households with children</p>	<p><b>ODPM:</b> "Sustainable Communities: Homes for all"</p> <p><b>ODPM PSA 1</b> Tackle social exclusion and deliver neighbourhood renewal, working with Departments to help them meet their PSA floor targets, in particular narrowing the gap in health, education, crime, worklessness, housing and liveability outcomes between the most deprived areas and the rest of England, with measurable improvements by 2010</p> <p><b>ODPM PSA 4</b> By 2008, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local government in leading and delivery services to all communities</p> <p><b>ODPM PSA 5</b> Achieve a better balance between housing availability and the demand for housing, including improving affordability, in all English regions while protecting valuable countryside around our towns, cities and in the green belt and the sustainability of towns and cities</p>
<p><b>65. Local environment quality:</b> <i>(to be developed using information from the Local Environmental Quality Survey of England)</i></p>	<p><b>ODPM PSA 8</b> Lead the delivery of cleaner, safer and greener public spaces and improvement of the quality of the built environment in deprived areas and across the country, with measurable improvement by 2008</p>
<p><b>66. Satisfaction in local area:</b> households satisfied with the quality of the places in which they live (a) overall (b) in deprived areas (c) non-decent homes</p>	<p><b>ODPM PSA 8</b> Lead the delivery of cleaner, safer and greener public spaces and improvement of the quality of the built environment in deprived areas and across the country, with measurable improvement by 2008</p>
<p><b>67. UK International assistance:</b> Net Official Development Assistance (a) per cent of Gross National Income (comparison with selected countries) (b) per capita (comparison with selected countries)</p>	<p><b>DfID PSA 3</b> Improved effectiveness of the multilateral system, as demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ a greater impact of EC external programmes on poverty reduction and working for agreement to increase the proportion of EC official development assistance (ODA) to low income countries from its 2000 baseline figure of 38% to 70% by 2008;</li> <li>▶ ensuring that 90% of all eligible Heavily Indebted Poor Countries committed to poverty reduction that have reached Decision Point by end 2005, receive irrevocable debt relief by end 2008. Joint with HMT PSA 8</li> <li>▶ international partners working effectively with poor countries to make progress towards the United Nations 2015 Millennium Development Goals, joint with HM Treasury; and</li> <li>▶ improved effectiveness of United Nations agencies and the humanitarian aid system</li> </ul>
<p><b>68. Wellbeing*:</b> <i>(wellbeing measures to be developed)</i></p>	

\* An indicator within the UK's shared framework for sustainable development 'One future – different paths'

Public Service Agreements are for 2005-2008 within the 2004 Spending Review

GDP, Gross Domestic Product, a measure of national economic output

GVA, Gross Value Added, a measure of sectoral economic output

CO<sub>2</sub>, Carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas and the main contributor to global warming

NO<sub>x</sub>, Nitrogen oxides, contribute to acidification and local air pollution

SO<sub>2</sub>, Sulphur dioxide, contribute to acidification and local air pollution

PM<sub>10</sub>, Particulates, are airborne particulate matter that can be carried into the lungs

### UK's International Priorities for Sustainable Development

UK's International Priorities for Sustainable Development	Lead Department(s) (other Departments involved)	High level target/Aim	Information source on delivery
<p>Eliminate poverty in poor countries, in particular through achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (Millennium Assembly of the UN, 2000)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>MDG1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</b></li> <li>▶ <b>MDG2: Achieve universal primary education</b></li> <li>▶ <b>MDG3: Promote gender equality and empower women</b></li> <li>▶ <b>MDG4: Reduce child mortality</b></li> <li>▶ <b>MDG5: Improve maternal health</b></li> <li>▶ <b>MDG6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases</b></li> <li>▶ <b>MDG7: ensure environmental sustainability</b></li> <li>▶ <b>MDG8: develop a global partnership for development</b></li> </ul>	DFID	DFID 2005-2008 PSA focussed on meeting Millennium Development Goals	www.dfid.gov.uk
<p>Trade (WSSD &amp; Doha)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Extend an open and rules based multilateral trading system.</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Improve market access for developing countries.</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Promote mutual supportiveness of trade liberalisation, environmental protection and sustainable development.</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Minimise any negative impacts of trade liberalisation for developing countries.</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Reduce level of trade distorting subsidies, particularly in agriculture and fisheries.</b></li> </ul>	DTI (Defra, FCO, DFID)	DTI, DFID shared PSA target: "Ensure that the EU secures significant reductions in EU and world trade barriers by 2008, leading to opportunities for developing countries and a more competitive Europe."	White Paper on Trade and Investment (July 2004). www.dti.gov.uk/ewf/whitepaper.htm

UK's International Priorities for Sustainable Development	Lead Department(s) (other Departments involved)	High level target/Aim	Information source on delivery
Finance (WSSD & Monterrey) > <b>Recommitment to the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, Mexico March 2002)</b>	DFID, HMT (FCO, Defra, ODPM)	DFID PSA 2005-2008 Objective IV Target 3 Improved effectiveness of the multilateral system.	www.dfid.gov.uk including White Paper: Making Globalisation Work for the Poor 2002.
Water and Sanitation (WSSD & MDGs) > <b>Recommitment to achieve the MDG of halving, by 2015 the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water</b> > <b>To halve, by 2015 the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation</b> > <b>Develop integrated water resource management plans</b>	DFID (Defra, DTI, FCO)	DFID 2005-2008 PSA targets focused on meeting Millennium Development Goals, including MDG7 on environmental sustainability.	Water Action Plan www.dfid.gov.uk International Trade Strategy for the Water Sector defra/web/environment/water/internat/sustainable-water/pdf/trade-strategy.pdf
Continued integration of environmental issues into country-led poverty reduction processes (WSSD) > <b>MDG7 target to integrate principles of sustainable development into countries policies and programmes</b>	DFID (Defra, FCO, HMT)	DFID 2005-2008 PSA targets focussed on meeting Millennium Development Goals, including MDG7 on environmental sustainability.	www.dfid.gov.uk

UK's International Priorities for Sustainable Development	Lead Department(s) (other Departments involved)	High level target/Aim	Information source on delivery
Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns (WSSD) > <b>More sustainable patterns of consumption and production</b> > <b>Develop a 10 year framework of SCP programmes</b> > <b>Reverse trend in loss of natural resources</b>	Defra, DTI (HMT, FCO, PM Strategy Unit, OGC(Procurement), ODPM)	Defra PSA 1 and key strategic outcomes <sup>9</sup> : "progress towards delivering the WSSD commitments notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture"	Changing patterns – UK Government Framework for SCP <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/business/scp/index.htm">http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/business/scp/index.htm</a> WSSD Delivery Plan <a href="http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm">http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm</a>
Renewable Energy: Energy efficiency (WSSD) > <b>Urgently and substantially increase global use of renewable energy; increase energy efficiency</b>	DTI, Defra, FCO (PM Strategy Unit, ODPM, DFID)	Defra PSA 1 and key strategic outcomes <sup>9</sup> : "to promote sustainable development across government and in the UK and internationally as measured by ... > progress towards delivering the WSSD commitments notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture > progress towards internationally agreed commitments to tackle climate change"	Energy White Paper <a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/whitepaper/ourenergyfuture.pdf">www.dti.gov.uk/energy/whitepaper/ourenergyfuture.pdf</a> UK International Priorities: The Energy Strategy <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/Files/kfile/Energy_Report_281004.pdf">www.fco.gov.uk/Files/kfile/Energy_Report_281004.pdf</a> Energy Efficiency Action Plan <a href="http://www.official-documents.co.uk/document/cm61/6168/6168.pdf">www.official-documents.co.uk/document/cm61/6168/6168.pdf</a> Sustainable Energy Policy Network <a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/sepn/index.shtml">www.dti.gov.uk/energy/sepn/index.shtml</a> Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Partnership <a href="http://www.reeep.org">www.reeep.org</a>

<sup>9</sup> Defra 5 year strategy <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/5year-strategy/index.htm>

UK's International Priorities for Sustainable Development	Lead Department(s) (other Departments involved)	High level target/Aim	Information source on delivery
Biodiversity and forestry (WSSD) > <b>Significantly reduce rate of biodiversity loss by 2010</b> > <b>Sharing benefits from and access to genetic resources</b> > <b>Strengthen forest law enforcement and governance</b>	Defra, Forestry Commission (DFID, FCO, ODPM)	Defra PSA 1 and key strategic outcome "progress towards delivering the WSSD commitments notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture"	WSSD Delivery Plan <a href="http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm">www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm</a>
Fisheries (WSSD) > <b>Restore depleted fish stocks by 2015</b>	Defra (FCO, DFID, DTI, DfT (IMO))	Defra PSA 1 and key strategic outcome "progress towards delivering the WSSD commitments notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture"	WSSD Delivery Plan <a href="http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm">www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm</a>
Chemicals (WSSD) > <b>Minimise adverse effects of chemicals on human health and environment by 2020</b>	Defra (DH, DTI, HPA, HSE)	Defra PSA 1 and key strategic outcome "progress towards delivering the WSSD commitments notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture"	WSSD Delivery Plan <a href="http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm">www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm</a>
Marine issues (WSSD) > <b>Networks of marine protected areas by 2012</b>	Defra (FCO, DFID, DfT, DTI)	Defra PSA 1 and key strategic outcome "progress towards delivering the WSSD commitments notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture"	WSSD Delivery Plan <a href="http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm">www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm</a>
Corporate Social Responsibility (WSSD) > <b>Actively promote corporate social responsibility</b>	DTI <sup>10</sup>	The UK government will foster an enabling environment for responsible business practice to maximise the positive contribution that business can make to the UK's objectives on international sustainable development – including human rights, trade and investment, poverty eradication, environmental protection and corruption – whilst at the same time effectively tackling adverse impact	International strategic Framework for Corporate Social Responsibility to be published in 2005 <a href="http://www.csr.gov.uk">www.csr.gov.uk</a> sets out the work of a number of different Government Departments

<sup>10</sup> Most other Government Departments are also involved in CSR.

UK's International Priorities for Sustainable Development	Lead Department(s) (other Departments involved)	High level target/Aim	Information source on delivery
<p>Agriculture (WSSD &amp; Doha)</p> <p>► <b>Delivery of Doha Development Agenda commitments to reduce level of trade-distorting subsidies</b></p>	Defra (DTI)	Defra PSA 1 and key strategic outcome as above "progress towards delivering the WSSD commitments notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture"	WSSD Delivery Plan www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2/08.htm
<p>International Sustainable Development Governance (WSSD)</p> <p>► <b>Strengthen international environmental governance.</b></p> <p>► <b>Mainstream SD in UN and International Financial Institutions</b></p>	FCO, Defra (DFID)	FCO PSA 8 "To promote sustainable development, underpinned by democracy, good governance and human rights, particularly through effective delivery of programmes in these and related fields"	FCO Sustainable Development Strategy www.fco.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopment WSSD Delivery Plan www.fco.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopment
<p>Fight against corruption and improve transparency</p> <p>► <b>Strengthen the commitment of governments to implement international anti-corruption standards, including by ratifying UNCAC</b></p> <p>► <b>Improve transparency of extractives sector management in developing countries</b></p>	FCO/DFID	Strengthen implementation of international anti-corruption standards through strengthening anti-corruption capacity in developing countries	EITI (Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative) www.eitransparency.org FCO Sustainable Development Strategy www.fco.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopment
<p>Environmental Governance and Human rights (WSSD)</p> <p>► <b>Promote freedom of information, public participation in decision making and rule of law</b></p>	FCO (Defra, DFID)	FCO PSA 8 "To promote sustainable development, underpinned by democracy, good governance and human rights, particularly through effective delivery of programmes in these and related fields"	FCO Sustainable Development Strategy www.fco.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopment WSSD Delivery Plan www.fco.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopment

UK's International Priorities for Sustainable Development	Lead Department(s) (other Departments involved)	High level target/Aim	Information source on delivery
<p>Access to energy (WSSD)</p> <p>► <b>Provide reliable and affordable energy services.</b></p>	<p>DFID (Defra, DTI, FCO)</p>	<p>DFID 2005-2008 PSA focussed on meeting Millennium Development Goals</p>	<p>'Energy for the Poor' <a href="http://www.dfid.gov.uk">www.dfid.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Renewable Energy &amp; Energy Efficiency Partnership <a href="http://www.reeep.org">www.reeep.org</a></p>
<p>Partnerships (WSSD)</p> <p>► <b>Enhance partnerships between governmental and non-governmental actors for the achievement of sustainable development.</b></p>	<p>Defra (DFID, FCO, DTI, HMT, ODPM)</p>	<p>– <i>International</i> – ensure follow-up in UN system, particularly UN CSD, and further facilitation of partnerships</p> <p>– <i>UK</i> – continued monitoring and implementation of UK's partnership commitments; expansion as appropriate of existing initiatives</p>	<p>WSSD partnerships: <a href="http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2">www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/wssd2</a></p>
<p>Climate Change</p> <p>► <b>Urge countries to ratify the Kyoto protocol.</b></p>	<p>Defra (DTI, DfT, FCO, DFID)</p>	<p>Defra PSA 1 and key strategic outcome: "progress towards internationally agreed commitments to tackle climate change"</p> <p>The Energy White Paper: "work with other countries to establish both a consensus around the need for change and firm commitments to take action to reduce carbon emissions world-wide within the framework of the UNFCCC"</p> <p>Key delivery mechanism will be international negotiations through the UNFCCC framework and the EU.</p>	<p>The Defra 5 year strategy <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/5year-strategy/index.htm">www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/5year-strategy/index.htm</a></p> <p>Energy white paper: <a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/whitepaper/ourenergyfuture.pdf">http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/whitepaper/ourenergyfuture.pdf</a>.</p> <p>UK International Priorities: The Energy Strategy <a href="http://www.co.gov.uk/files/kfile/Energy_Report_281004.pdf">www.co.gov.uk/files/kfile/Energy_Report_281004.pdf</a></p>

UK's International Priorities for Sustainable Development	Lead Department(s) (other Departments involved)	High level target/Aim	Information source on delivery
<p>Education (voluntary national commitment)</p> <p><b>Progress towards all of the goals and priorities set out in the DfES international strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Goal 1: 'Equipping our children, young people and adults for life in a global society and work in a global economy'</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Goal 2: 'Engaging with our international partners to achieve their goals and ours'</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Goal 3: 'Maximising the contribution of our education and training sector, and university research to overseas trade and inward investment'</b></li> </ul>	DfES	<p>Enabling every English school to establish a sustainable international school partnership by 2010</p> <p>Work with UN agencies, the World Bank and our G8, Commonwealth and EU partners to develop and offer educational support programmes, including policy and practitioner experts and information exchange, especially in Africa</p> <p>To raise the level of international awareness in schools through various means including an annual promotional exercise targeted at the education sector called International Education Week; and a new website called the Global Gateway which provides a school partner finding facility and comprehensive information on international dimensions to education</p>	<p>'Putting the World into World-Class Education – An international strategy for education, skills and children's services' <a href="http://www.globalgateway.org">www.globalgateway.org</a></p> <p>'Sustainable development action plan for Education and Skills' <a href="http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/sd/actionplan">www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/sd/actionplan</a></p> <p>An implementation plan for the strategy will be published in Spring 2005.</p>

