

Chapter 5 Tools and guidance



To help deliver the target objectives, specific guidance exists for certain specialist functions: to address the needs of the policy and decision makers, Stretching the Web is a useful tool to identify sustainability weaknesses in proposals. Estates management is guided by the Estates Strategy which has unequivocal references to sustainability.

For those in the procurement field, a new Sustainable Procurement Strategy had been published incorporating guidance on specifying sustainable goods and services. This is supported by the revised Sustainable Procurement Risk Assessment Methodology (SPRAM) which is now mandatory for all contracts.

For those who want to play their part there is a host of information, help, guidance, hints and tips on the SD intranet site and many business areas are supplementing those pages with business specific ones.



UK Strategy for Sustainable Development – ‘Securing the Future’

The 3rd UK Strategy for Sustainable Development sets out how the UK will deliver the sustainable development agenda, up to the year 2020.

There are four main priority areas:

- Sustainable consumption and production – achieving more economic and social growth with less environmental degradation.
- Climate change and energy – secure a profound change in how we generate and use energy and prepare for unavoidable climatic changes.
- Protecting natural resources and enhancing the environment – understanding environmental limits and ensuring a decent environment for all.
- Creating sustainable communities – that embody sustainable principles and have more power to influence decisions that affect them.

To aid in the delivery of these priorities, there are five guiding principles:

- Living within environmental limits
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society
- Achieving a sustainable economy
- Promoting good governance
- Using sound science responsibly

Of 20 high level indicators, this Department leads on four, as they reflect our core business. They are:

- Employment
- Workless households
- Childhood poverty
- Pensioner poverty

The strategy document makes commitments and we have bound the

following together with other targets and mandates:

- Government departments will have action plans in place and all will report on progress
- Stretching targets will be set for initiating a sustainable procurement strategy
- Ensure that sustainable development principles are incorporated in to all policy and decision making across departments.
- At least 10% of government vehicles will be ‘low carbon’ by 2012.

The full strategy can be accessed at:

www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/publications/uk-strategy-2005.htm

