

Appendix D - SEA of Revocation of North East Regional Strategy

Score Key:	++ Significant Positive effect	+ Minor positive effect	0 No overall effect	- Minor negative effect	-- Significant negative effect	? Score uncertain
<p><i>NB: where more than one symbol is presented in a box it indicates that the SEA has found more than one score for the category. Where the scores are both positive and negative, the boxes are deliberately not coloured.</i></p> <p><i>S – short term (less than 0.75 year), M – medium term (between 0.75 and 5 years) and L – long term (>5 years)</i></p>						

RS Policy: 1 North East Renaissance

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 1 – Urban Renaissance identifies four key themes which support the central theme through the RSS of achieving and maintaining a high quality of life for all, both now and in the future. It forms one of the key policies which set the overarching framework for the remainder of the plan.</p> <p>The theme of urban renaissance is a core element of the RES, which identifies the need for business to as the key driver for growth, increasing prosperity through supporting enterprise and up-skilling of the workforce and conserving, enhancing and capitalising on the Region’s diverse natural and built environment.</p> <p>This policy, if properly implemented, should have positive impacts across the SEA</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>themes. The focus on economic growth and sustainable communities should deliver considerable population and human health benefits by the provision of delivering housing and employment opportunities to all, including the most deprived communities, and encouraging the creation of a well-designed and pleasant living and working environment. It will also deliver sound environmental benefits through strong protection for the region's biodiversity and cultural heritage, as well as the sustainable use of land. The commitment to improve connectivity and accessibility should promote more sustainable transport patterns and reduce congestion in the region. The policy has been appraised significantly positive for both health and population.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None proposed.</p> <p>Assumptions This assessment assumes that these policies are implemented in full to mitigate the environmental impacts assorted with development.</p> <p>Uncertainty The scale of the effects will depend on the volume, nature and location of the development across the plan period and beyond.</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>The National Planning Policy Framework sets out a range of closely related principles, governing sustainable development, which will, when the regional strategy is abolished, stand in their stead. A core principle of the NPPF is for planning to drive and support sustainable economic development. The NPPF framework core principles (paragraph 17) expects that planning should proactively drive and support sustainable economic development and address environmental issues. All of the themes set out in the policy run throughout the NPPF so it should be read as a whole. These considerations will continue to inform the preparation of local plans and development management.</p> <p>The Government's Economic White Paper (published October 2010) sets out its vision for local growth, shifting power away from central government to local communities, citizens and independent providers. This means recognising that where drivers of growth are local, decisions should be made locally. The Plan for Growth document (included in the Budget 2011) confirms the Government's commitment to ensuring that the planning system supports growth. Moreover since this policy was developed Local Economic Partnerships (LEPs) have developed their own area of focus, based on Function Economic Market Areas (FEMAs).</p> <p>Local plans will continue to be subject to sustainability appraisal, including consideration of the natural and built environment, which will assess how sustainable development has been integrated into plans, and the impact of policy options.</p> <p>It is considered that the positive effects of revocation will remain the same as they were for retention.</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Mitigation Measures No mitigation measures have been identified.</p> <p>Assumptions It is assumed that local planning authorities will operate in accordance with their statutory duties on environmental protection in terms of meeting air and water quality standards and affording the appropriate level of protection to designated habitats, protected species, heritage assets and landscapes, sustainable development and climate change including managing flood risk in plan-making and that they have due regard to the policies in the NPPF in plan making and development management decisions.</p> <p>Uncertainty The scale of the effects will depend on the volume, nature and location of the development across the plan period and beyond.</p>

RS Policy: 2 Sustainable Development

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 2 – Sustainable Development sets out a number of general principles around Sustainable Development, encompassing environmental, social and economic objectives. This policy seeks to embed sustainable development – applying the guiding principles behind the UK Sustainable Development Strategy 2005 and the Integrated Regional Framework - at the heart of plan policies and decision-making in the region, although it does not contain any spatially specific policy.</p> <p>This policy seeks to identify areas and networks of Green Infrastructure to enable improved accessibility to a healthy environment whilst protecting sites of international biodiversity value. Indirectly this will have significant positive benefits on soils.</p> <p>Like Policy 1, there should be significant benefits across SEA themes. This policy recognises key principles that will deliver economic growth in a manner which help ensure protection of the environment and take into account wider social issues.</p> <p>The policy is reflected within the RES which identifies the need to raise education attainment and improve the skills of the existing workforce to increase and</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															diversify the regions business stock. <u>Mitigation Measures</u> None proposed <u>Assumptions</u> This assessment assumes that these policies are implemented in full to mitigate the environmental impacts assorted with development. <u>Uncertainty</u> The scale of the effects will depend on the volume, nature and location of development across the region over the Plan period beyond.
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<u>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</u> Local planning authorities have a statutory duty under Section 39(3) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to work towards the aim of achieving sustainable development and high quality design. Paragraph 6 of the NPPF identifies that it is the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It makes specific reference to the five “guiding principles” of sustainable development set out in the UK Sustainable Development Strategy <i>Securing the future</i> . These are: living within the planet’s environmental limits; ensuring a strong, healthy and just society; achieving a sustainable economy; promoting good governance; and using sound science responsibly. The policies in paragraphs 18 to 219, taken as a whole, constitute the Government’s view of what sustainable development in England means in practice for the planning system. Paragraph 7 states that there are three

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>dimensions to sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. The NPPF contains a presumption in favour of sustainable development (paragraphs 11 to 16) which is stated as being the golden thread running through both plan-making and decision making</p> <p>Policy 2 contains three objectives (Environmental, Social and Economic) which include a series of criteria which need to be delivered through planning proposals and development plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Objectives. Part 2.1 of the policy identifies a series of objectives which include ensuring good air quality, protecting and enhancing biodiversity, preventing development in the floodplain and to protect and enhance cultural heritage. It is considered that the NPPF addresses these objectives; • Social Objectives. Part 2.2 identifies nine objectives which aim to tackle social and economic impacts of deprivation. It is considered that these objectives are adequately addressed through the NPPF and Localism Act 2012; • Economic Objectives. Part 2.3 lists three objectives. It is considered that the Governments approach to building a strong, competitive economy addresses these objectives. <p>Each of the elements contributing to the creation of sustainable development are reflected in the NPPF, particularly in the core planning principles set out in paragraph 17, but also in more detail in specific policies.</p> <p>These policies along with the duty to co-operate, NPPF policies relating to planning strategically across local boundaries (paragraphs 178-181) and Local Economic Partnerships will mean that local authorities should continue to support</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>businesses with mutually consistent approaches, and deliver the most sustainable and effective development for their area.</p> <p>Once established Local Nature Partnerships can be expected to play a key role in supporting their implementation.</p> <p>In the long term it is anticipated that the same significant positive effects will result.</p> <p>Revocation of this policy would not remove the requirement for local authorities to be consistent with legal and national policy requirements, such as paragraph 17 of the NPPF and the expectation that planning should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> proactively drive and support economic development to deliver the homes, businesses and industrial units, infrastructure and thriving local places that the country needs; always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings; take account of different roles and character of different areas, promoting the vitality of our main urban areas, protecting the Green Belts around them, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it; support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources inclusion conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources; contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>reducing pollution. Allocations of land for development should prefer land of lesser environmental value, where consistent with other policies in the NPPF;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encourage the effective use of land by reusing land that has been previously developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value; promote mixed use developments, and encourage multiple benefits from the use of land in urban and rural areas, recognising that some open land can perform many functions (such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, carbon storage or food production); conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations; actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport, walking and cycling and focus significant development in locations which are or can be made sustainable; and take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs. <p>The Government's June 2011 White Paper, <i>The Natural Choice</i>, sets out broad proposals to support the development of green infrastructure, including the establishment of a national Green Infrastructure Partnership and Local Nature Partnerships. In addition paragraph 114 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach in their local plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. Overall, therefore, it has been assessed</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>that the deletion of this policy still achieves the long term significant effects.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures No mitigation measures have been identified.</p> <p>Assumptions No assumptions have been made.</p> <p>Uncertainty The scale of the effects will depend on the volume, nature and location of the development across the plan period and beyond.</p>

RS Policy: 3 Climate Change

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p><u>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</u></p> <p>Policy 3 – Climate Change identifies the need for all strategies, plans and programmes in the Region to contribute to mitigating climate change and assisting adaptation to the impacts of a changing climate.</p> <p>On climate change mitigation, this policy seeks to drive development to sustainable locations, so reducing the need to travel, promote alternatives to road, and improving local air quality as a result. Furthermore the policy promotes renewable energy and encourages sustainable land use practices which help capture and store carbon, potentially yielding climate change and soil benefit.</p> <p>On climate change adaptation, this policy provides measures to ensure that local planning authorities take account the need to adapt to unavoidable impacts. This will have potential benefits regarding water, soil biodiversity and landscape issues.</p> <p>A greenhouse gas inventory was developed by Climate North East. The removal of the Regional Planning Body means that Policy 3.3. cannot be implemented unless there is a level of co-operational amongst local planning authorities within the region to keep the inventory up to date</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u></p> <p>None Proposed.</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
																											<p>Assumptions</p> <p>Planning system will take actions within its remit to deliver the required policy targets, even though the requirement to achieve this target will require a range of actions that are outside the scope of the planning system. This policy also assumes full implementation by and close co-operation of local authorities, at local and sub-regional level.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>The policy makes it clear that the plan will help the region's contribution towards meeting the statutory climate change reduction level. However, there are a number of factors outside the scope of the planning system, and questions about how local authorities implement this policy through their local plans, which will ultimately determine whether these policies are met.</p> <p>A greenhouse gas inventory was developed by Climate North East. The removal of the Regional Planning Body means that Policy 3.3 cannot be implemented unless there is a level of co-operation amongst local planning authorities within the region to keep the inventory up to date.</p>	
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>One of the 12 core principles of planning set out in paragraph 17 of the NPPF is the need for planning to support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy).</p> <p>Paragraph 94 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should adopt</p>	

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change which are in line with the provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008.</p> <p>Paragraph 95 of the NPPF states the need to support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings and; when setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards.</p> <p>Specifically, local planning authorities are expected to identify opportunities where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customer and suppliers (paragraph 97).</p> <p>In addition to the statutory requirement to take the NPPF into account in the preparation of local plans, Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 puts a specific duty on local planning authorities to ensure their local plan (taken as a whole) includes policies designed to tackle climate change and its impacts.</p> <p>Local authorities also already have a duty to co-operate under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to develop local strategies for managing local flood risk; whilst the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 impose a duty on the Environment Agency and lead local flood authorities to determine whether a significant flood risk exists in an area and, if so, to prepare flood hazard maps, flood risk maps and flood risk management plans. The Government's June 2011 Natural Environment White Paper, <i>The Natural Choice</i>, sets out proposals to support the development of green infrastructure, including the establishment of a Green Infrastructure</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															Partnership.
																															<p>Paragraph 111 of the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value. Local planning authorities may continue to consider the case for setting a locally appropriate target for the use of brownfield land. The removal of a target for developing brownfield land means that it is not possible to assume that the positive significance for soils will remain the same as it is for retention.</p> <p>Overall, planning, including through working at differing spatial scales, gives local communities clear opportunities to take action on climate change. With the legislative, policy and financial framework now in place to drive cuts in carbon emissions and deliver places well-adapted to its impacts, it is reasonable to conclude that the contribution made by planning decisions to real world outcomes will not differ significantly from what could have been expected with the RS's policies in place. Therefore the revocation of this policy is unlikely to have a significant impact overall on the region's contribution to the challenge of climate change, either in terms of cutting greenhouse gas emissions or adapting to its impacts.</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Mitigation None proposed.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty The policy makes it clear that the plan will help the region's contribution towards meeting the statutory climate change reduction level. However, there are a number of factors outside the scope of the planning system, and questions about how local authorities implement this policy through their local plans, which will ultimately determine whether these policies are met.</p>

RS Policy: 4 The Sequential Approach to Development

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 4 – Sequential Approach to Development requires LDF to adopt a sequential approach to the identification of land for development and to give priority to previously developed land and buildings in the most sustainable locations. The policy, as written, excludes renewable energy and mineral workings.</p> <p>The sequential approach provides the greatest scope to: re-use land and buildings; reduce pressure on greenfield land; best utilise existing infrastructure and investment; reduce the need to travel whilst maximising accessibility and use of public transport; reducing social exclusion; and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The reuse of existing buildings is considered have the potential for significant benefits for cultural heritage, particularly where there is a focus on conservation-led regeneration e.g. Grainger Town / Sunnyside. Furthermore the emphasis on avoid areas which are prone to flooding enhances delivery of climatic factors. Consequently retention of this policy could have positive environmental effects across most SEA topics.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None proposed.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Implementation will be delivered through close and continued co-operation</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>between local authorities.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>There is the potential for negative impacts on air quality if development is focused in locations which are already failing to meet their air quality objectives. This is considered further in Policies 9 and 10.</p>
Revocation	?	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>The objectives of this policy are to direct development to previously developed sites in proximity to transport hubs in preference to sites on the edge of settlements. The policy does not identify any specific targets or developing on previously developed land. The targets of the RSS of developing housing on previously developed land are provided in Policy 29. The National Planning Policy Framework provides clear guidance on the need to encourage the use of previously developed land provided that it is not of high environmental quality. The NPPF also provides clear policy guidance on the promotion of sustainable transport, requiring local plans to protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of people (or goods). Save for the exception of retail developments, the NPPF contains no guidance pertaining to adopting a sequential test for development.</p> <p>The revocation of this policy has been assessed as has having uncertain effects on biodiversity, soil, air, climatic factors and landscape. The same positive effects as retention have been assessed for cultural heritage. Within the North East, only four core strategies have been adopted on or around the publication of the RSS. This introduces an element of uncertainty as to whether individual local planning authorities will seek to follow the RSS Policy or adopt their own approach to</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															sequential development (albeit one which will need to accord with the NPPF). <u>Mitigation Measures</u> No mitigation measures are required. <u>Assumptions</u> Local Authorities will adopt the policy at Paragraph 111 of the NPPF which states the need for planning policies and decisions to encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has previously been developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value. Success will depend on public transport and demand management: without these, concentrating development in existing centres is likely to add to congestion, delays and pollution and obstruct economic activity, instead of achieving the opposite as intended. <u>Uncertainty</u> The actual effects will depend on the location, nature and scale of development in different areas.

RS Policy: 5 Phasing & Plan, Monitor and Manage

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 5 sets out an approach to ensure the consistent framework for managing the release of land for development to deliver the Plan's objectives whilst being flexible about changing circumstances (particularly to the economy). Policy 5.1 calls for the Regional Body to produce an annual monitoring report and guide on phasing and planning. Following the loss of the regional planning body, this policy is no longer deliverable, although the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) still requires annual monitoring by local authorities, who may still work together to co-ordinate development. Retention of this policy would therefore have no effect.</p> <p>Policy 5.2 sets the basis on which individual local authorities should base their phasing of land in their local plans. It contains one specific spatial priority, seeking to prioritise previously developed land in line with the sequential approach in policy 4. Retention of this policy should actively manage the release of land, setting clear priorities on what sites should be released first. Therefore retention should enjoy the same benefits as Policy 4.</p> <p>Policy 5.3 provides how local planning authorities should take account of phasing when determining planning applications. This approach seeks to build in sufficient flexibility as major housing and other development takes place, to ensure that such development does not undermine the main Plan objectives (including those</p>

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	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>set out in Policy 1). This policy should deliver a number of SEA benefits, although much will depend on the nature of development and the phasing approach.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None proposed.</p> <p>Assumptions Implementation will be delivered through close and continued co-operation between local authorities. Furthermore it assumes that Local Authorities will adopt the policy at Paragraph 111 of the NPPF which encourages the effective use of land by re-using land that has previously been developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p> <p>It has been assumed that the LPA will continue to monitor the same information.</p> <p>Uncertainty The scale of the effects will depend on the volume, nature and location of the development across the plan period and beyond, which in turn will depend on factors outside the scope of the planning system (for example, the state of the local economy).</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary						
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L							
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 5.1 cannot be implemented since the Regional Planning Body no longer exists.</p> <p>Revocation of the remaining elements of this policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental effects. In accordance with Paragraph 14 of the NPPF, there is a requirement for Local Authorities to develop local plans based upon an objectively assessed need with sufficient flexibility to adapt to change. The greatest uncertainty relates to the prioritisation of previously developed land and the potential impacts on soil (in particular).</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None Identified.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Local Authorities will adopt the policy at Paragraph 111 of the NPPF which states that planning polices and decisions should encourages the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Effects will depend heavily upon actions of Local Authorities, their assessments of need and identification of locations for future development.</p>

RS Policy: 6 Locational Strategy

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 6 – Locational Strategy is a high level policy which identifies the approach to focusing development within the main city regions and conurbations, allowing development appropriate in scale within the Regeneration Towns and Rural Service Centres, maintaining vibrant rural areas, conserving areas of value and improving accessibility and linkages.</p> <p>This approach could have significant longer term benefits to the population (for which it has been appraised significantly positive), particularly when related to policies on employment and housing. The focus on development on the two main conurbations and main settlements should provide greater employment opportunities and allow the longer-term balancing of employment and housing, so reducing the need to travel. However, the short term effects are likely to have negative air quality and climate change benefits as there will be little change in travel patterns. Whilst adverse impacts associated with air quality have been noted, it is considered that the generation of employment opportunities will be positive in terms of population and health effects, particularly the positive mental health benefits of being employed. Any adverse impacts from air quality may decrease subject to improvements in local infrastructure.</p> <p>The proposal to allow regeneration of towns and rural service centres, and maintain vibrant rural areas should support the local economies and provide</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>access to local employment, services, shops and facilities, so reducing the need to travel and reducing social inequality and providing population, air and climate change benefits.</p> <p>The policy on protection of particular areas and to conserve and enhance biodiversity will help mitigate any environmental impacts of development, but might result in increased traffic given their popularity as a retreat or as a tourist resort. This might have negative impacts on air quality.</p> <p>The policy on connectivity, as considered in more detail under Policy 7, will increase access to local employment facilities, but in the short term there will be continued reliance on commuting to the major employment areas until more employment opportunities arise outside the major conurbations.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u> None.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u> This policy will be fully implemented to regenerate deprived areas, and that jobs will be created and retained in the main areas. It also assumes that transport-related measures, including those identified in policies 48-57, are delivered in full.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u> None.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary	
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L		
	Revocation	0	+	+	?	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	-	-	?	-	?	?	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+		?

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>environment and protecting and enhancing biodiversity will deliver similar environmental benefits as with retention of the policy.</p> <p>It is expected that existing strategies introduced since adoption of the regional strategy will continue (possibly with some modifications) so the identified benefits would be apparent in the short, medium and long terms.</p> <p>However, only 4 out of 13 local planning authorities in the region have adopted core strategies which are in general conformity with the requirements of both the PCPA 2004 and North East Plan. As such there are likely to be some short to medium term effects on improving accessibility and reducing inequalities for currently excluded communities and areas requiring regeneration for those 9 LPAs with older local plans as the older policies may not reflect the need to sustainability transform socio-economic conditions in parts of the region. In the long term, impacts are also less certain as 9 out of 13 authorities are yet to adopt a core strategy and so effects will be dependent on the manner in which they apply the requirements of the NPPF to their local context. However, given the need to have regard in the NPPF it is anticipated that the same significant positive effects will result.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>The Localism Act places a duty to co-operate on local authorities and the NPPF sets out a clear policy on the Duty in paragraphs 178-181. In addition the NPPF sets out that local plans will be examined by an independent inspector who will be responsible for ensuring that the plan has been prepared in accordance with the duty to co-operate.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>The NPPF requires LA to co-operate on cross-boundary strategic priorities,</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>ensuing that the removal of the strategic approach provided by the regional strategy will not lead to an absence of strategic planning across boundaries.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Revocation of the RSS leaves Local Authorities to determine the spatial strategy and proprieties for local areas. Any significant environmental effects of the proposed distribution of new development should be identified and addressed through sustainability appraisal and SEA of local authority plans.</p>

RS Policy: 7 Connectivity and Accessibility

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 7 – Connectivity and Accessibility. The aim of this policy is to seek to improve and enhance sustainable internal and external connectivity and accessibility of the North East. The policy is also reflected in the RES which under Economic Inclusion identifies the need to improve the ability to access employment through remote working or sustainable travel to work.</p> <p>This proposal could have positive benefits for reducing the need to travel and promoting more sustainable transport options. Encouraging walking and cycling may also deliver health benefits and reduce income disparities whilst supporting and sustaining local services. The policy has been appraised positive for health effects in particular.</p> <p>The policy to better manage the existing infrastructure and a safe transport network is also likely to have significant health benefits through fewer accidents, less congestion and fewer emissions of pollutants. Seeking to reduce travel demand in the key transport corridors will also mitigate risks of congestion, and resulting economic and environmental costs. However it should also be recognised that in maximising the capacity at airports (Policy 21) and Ports (Policy 22) there is the potential for negative effects on climate change and air quality.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>The overall impacts of this policy on air, climate change and other SEA themes are therefore uncertain.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty A number of measures to deliver this policy are outside the scope of the planning system. For example it is through Local Transport Plans that local authorities should seek to promote alternative forms of transport to that of the private car. Furthermore many of the effects will depend on the ability to change travel behaviour and the demand for transport.</p>
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 7 – Connectivity and Accessibility. The aim of this policy is to seek to improve and enhance sustainable internal and external connectivity and accessibility of the North East. This policy sets aspirations out that fit well with the broad thrust of the NPPF.</p> <p>The Local Transport White Paper (2011) sets out the Government’s vision for a sustainable transport system that supports the economy and reduces carbon emissions. It explains how the Government is placing localism at the heart of the transport agenda, taking measures to empower local authorities when it comes to tackling these issues in their areas. The White Paper also underlines Central Government’s direct support to local authorities, including through Local Sustainable Transport Fund.</p> <p>However, it is through Local Transport Plans that local authorities should seek to</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>promote alternative forms of transport to that of the private car. The policy sets no local planning requirements or targets and identifies no specific schemes. Consequently it is uncertain what environmental effects would arise from revocation, but any differences in effects seem unlikely to be significant. Therefore revoking this policy will simplify the planning policy context for local authorities.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Darlington, Durham, Redcar and Cleveland and Tyne & Wear ITA have all been approved for funding under the Government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Many of the positive effects will depend upon the ability to implement the measures identified within Policy 49.</p>

RS Policy: 8 – Protecting and Enhancing the Environment

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary						
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L							
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy sets high level objectives for protecting and enhancing the environment, which are developed further in other policies (including policies 31-34 and 37). This will have significant positive benefits on nearly all SEA topics. The minor positive for soil reflects more indirect benefits from biodiversity and habitat protection and the neutral score on material assets reflects that the policy has no effect on waste and minerals.</p> <p>The RES acknowledges the need to protect, enhance and capitalise upon the regions unique and special natural and historic environment, recognising that the quality of the environment can do much to attract inward economic investment.</p> <p>Protection and enhancement of the local landscape, particularly designated areas, will have significant benefits for biodiversity and landscape, and through better recreational opportunities should have benefits to human health. Provision of green infrastructure should have biodiversity benefits through the creation and enhancement of new habitats, as well as providing flood attenuation and recreational space.</p> <p>Conservation and enhancement of historic buildings and areas, as well as seeking to ensure high quality development that is sympathetic to its surroundings should also have significant cultural benefits.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Protecting woodlands, including ancient woodlands, will have a very significant positive impact on protecting biodiversity and contribute to maintaining cultural heritage.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures No mitigation required.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty The significance of the effects will depend on the extent to which local authorities apply the principles set out in this policy to their local area, including to specific developments, as well as how these principles are balanced against other economic and social objectives (including relevant policies set out in this plan). The impact of this policy is therefore influenced by the scale, nature and location of development.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary						
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L							
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>The legal requirement for local planning authorities to ensure that internationally and nationally designated sites are given the strongest level of protection and that development does not have adverse effects on the integrity of sites of European or International Importance for nature conservation would not be unchanged by the revocation of Policy 8.</p> <p>The NPPF makes clear that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural environment, including by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible. The NPPF underlines that pursuing sustainable development means moving from a net loss of biodiversity to achieving net gains for nature.</p> <p>This means that local planning policies should promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations linked to national and local targets, and identify suitable indicators for monitoring biodiversity in the plan.</p> <p>The NPPF also makes clear that planning permission should be refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should apply Integrated Coastal Zone Management across local authority and land/sea boundaries. They should reduce risk from</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>coastal change by avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas or adding to the impacts of physical changes to the coast. They should identify Coastal Change Management Areas where any area is likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast and be clear as to what development will be appropriate in such areas and in what circumstances. In addition, paragraph 114 states the need for local planning authorities to set out a strategic approach in their local plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure; and to maintain the character of the undeveloped coast, protecting and enhancing its distinctive landscapes, particularly in areas defined as Heritage Coast, and seeks improvement to public access to and enjoyment of the coast. Paragraph 156 requires local planning authorities to set out the strategic priorities for the area in the local plan, including strategic policies to deliver the provision of infrastructure for flood risk and coastal change management.</p> <p>Shoreline Management Plans should continue to inform the evidence base for planning in coastal areas (paragraph 168). The prediction of future impacts should include the longer term nature and inherent uncertainty of coastal processes (including coastal landslip), and take account of climate change.</p> <p>Coastal groups, comprising members from local coastal authorities, the Environment Agency and other relevant organisations, can form partnerships to look at the strategic management of the coast. These groups produce Shoreline Management Plans to assess risks from coastal flooding and erosion and set out how to manage these risks. Shoreline Management Plans can continue to provide evidence for local plan-making.</p> <p>Paragraph 109 of the NPPF expects the planning system to contribute to and</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils; recognising the wider benefits of ecosystems services; minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land where appropriate. <p>Paragraph 110 of the NPPF states that in preparing plans to meet development needs, the aim should be to minimise pollution and other adverse effects on the local and natural environment. The support within the NPPF for Green Infrastructure is also considered to have positive impacts particularly for biodiversity, climate change and air quality.</p> <p>Paragraph 126 states that local planning authorities should set out in their local plan, a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Statutory duties on environmental protection and policies in the NPPF should provide environmental protection in relation to development.</p> <p>Strategic development proposals would need to be subject to SEA and EIA.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It has been assumed that local authorities will continue to support and work with those agencies responsible for the Regional Forest Strategy, Great North Forest and Tees Community Forest Strategy.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>None.</p>

RS Policy: 9 – Tyne and Wear City-Region

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	-	-	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The policy aims to support the polycentric development and redevelopment of the Tyne and Wear City-Region. The issue of the City-Region is key for the RES which acknowledges the role the City-Region plays as key driver of economic growth and development.</p> <p>Focusing employment land in the City-Region will in broad terms ensure that this land is accessible to communities in the most deprived wards and to communities in rural areas. The policy assists in reinforcing the spatial strategy and will therefore improve the accessibility of employment through sustainable transport means. The policy will also assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land with positive effects for soil.</p> <p>As with any pro-development policy in the region, there is the potential for adverse effects on material assets associated with the need to extract or import minerals where new build is proposed and to deal with additional waste arisings. There is also the likelihood of an increase in water consumption associated with new development.</p> <p>The policy may give rise to adverse air quality impacts as a result of focusing development within areas which were already failing to meet air quality objectives. Long term mitigation measures may be achieved in part through improvements to</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>the Metro and Leamside rail line.</p> <p>The reference within the policy to support airport growth is likely to have implications for air quality and climate change. The support for renewable energy is likely to have positive impacts on climate change and therefore landscape, biodiversity and population & human health.</p> <p>There are likely to be positive environmental impacts on biodiversity as a result of the establishment of strategic green networks.</p> <p>The policy contains specific reference to Durham City, Hexham, Corbridge and Morpeth and preserving their special character and setting with cultural heritage and landscape benefits.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures No mitigation measures are required.</p> <p>Assumptions That detailed impact assessments accompany individual proposals.</p> <p>Uncertainty Water consumption has reduced as a result of the decline of heavy industry in the North East. However there is no policy context to drive water efficiency within the RSS.</p>
Revocation	+	+	+	?	?	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	?	+	+	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 9 – Tyne and Wear City-Region</p> <p>The policy aims to support the polycentric development and redevelopment of the Tyne and Wear City-Region. The City-Region includes Sunderland, South</p>	

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Tyneside, Gateshead, North Tyneside, Newcastle and the former authorities of Blyth Valley, Castle Morpeth and Wansbeck, Durham City, Chester-le-Street and Derwentside and Easington. The city-region can also be considered to include parts of Tynedale and Alnwick.</p> <p>The revocation of this policy will mean that the relevant local plans do not have to conform to this RSS policy. In doing so LPA's will be able to consider the evidence associated with the RSS in reaching policy conclusions. However there is the possibility that LPA's will take an alternative approach to that which was identified within the RSS.</p> <p>Northumberland and Durham became unitary authorities in 2009. As such of the seven authorities which make up the Tyne and Wear City Region (post 2009), none have a adopted core strategy which covers an entire administrative area following the publication date of the RSS. It is noted that South Tyneside has adopted their Development Management Policies and Site Specific Allocations DPD in 2011 and 2012 respectively.</p> <p>Policy 9 identifies six key themes which are considered individually below.</p> <p>Regeneration – The RSS sets out a number of priority areas for regeneration but leaves it to local authorities to set our policies to tackle problems of economic, social and environmental deprivation (where these apply). Paragraph 21 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should identify priority areas for economic regeneration, infrastructure provision and environmental enhancement, while paragraph 23 states that planning policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period. Local planning authorities should, for example, recognise town centres as the heart of their communities and pursue policies to support their viability and vitality; define a network and hierarchy of</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>centres that is resilient to anticipated future economic changes; define the extent of town centres and primary shopping areas, based on a clear definition of primary and secondary frontages in designated centres, and set policies that make clear which uses will be permitted in such locations.</p> <p>Direct benefits will be achieved for the Enterprise Zone on the north bank of the Tyne which includes Swan Hunter Yard, Neptune Yard and the Port of Tyne North East. A further Enterprise Zone has been identified in Sunderland adjacent to the A19. Both sites cover an area of 117 hectares with a sector focus on Local Carbon and with an aim to create 1000 jobs by 2015. In addition within Northumberland there is the Coast and Lowland LEADER programme and other programmes which will assist regeneration within Amble, Blyth and other communities (it is noted that the Coast and Lowland LEADER programme budget is almost at full commitment).</p> <p>Newcastle and Gateshead have recently been awarded £92 million in funding through the Government's City Deal. This has identified, amongst other initiative, four accelerated development zones around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Central – Gallowgate; • Central Station and Stephenson's Quarter; • East Pilgrim Street; • Gateshead Quays and Baltic Business Quarter. <p>Of the other initiatives identified within Policy 9, the following identifies their current status within respective development plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Parts of the Tyne River Corridor – this is identified within the emerging Core Strategy for Newcastle Gateshead (Policy CS1). This Core

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Strategy has not been tested at examination;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridging Newcastle Gateshead – this initiative was terminated following the spending review in 2010; Newcastle City Centre, Teams, Gateshead Quays and Town Centre –these are identified within the emerging Core Strategy for Newcastle Gateshead; North Felling – the regeneration of North Felling is identified in the emerging Core Strategy for Newcastle Gateshead (Policy CS3 – Sustainable Growth and Change). North Felling is also identified as a Neighbourhood Regeneration Area; Both Banks of the River Tyne – Hebburn (Hebburn Town Centre AAP, adopted in 2008) and a Jarrow Area Action Plan also adopted in 2008. Wallsend is identified in the Wallsend and Willington Quay Area Action Plan (issues and options stage). The AAP for North Shields is also at Issues and Options Stage; South Shields Town Centre is covered in the Adopted Core Strategy for South Tyneside and in the South Shields Town Centre Waterfront AAP (2008); The River Wear Corridor in Central Sunderland appears to be covered in part through the Groves Cranes central framework within the UDP. However it is recognised that the RSS policy direction extends beyond this area and will also include the major regeneration opportunity which exists at the former Vaux Brewery Site. <p>The protection of Durham City unique character is afforded policy protection</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>through Policies E1, E3, E5 and E6 of the Local Plan Adopted in 2004.</p> <p>The policy identifies a further 12 areas where support should be given to their regeneration and development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amble – identified in the Alnwick Core Strategy Policy S9 which identifies allocation of 8 hectares of land for employment purposes; • Ashington – Ashington Town Centre SPD (2010); • Blyth and Cramlington both identified within the Blyth Core Strategy Policy SS1 – (Regeneration and Renaissance of Blyth Valley 2021) which seeks to direct housing, employment land, retail and other significant development to these two main centres; • Chester-le-Street – none of the Chester-le-Street Local Plan saved policies appear to support its development or regeneration; • Consett and Stanley are both subject to emerging masterplans; • The policy context for Crook is provided through the Wear Valley District Local Plan (1997) which allocated 10.1 ha of residential land and 10.4 ha of industrial land; • A package of regeneration initiatives are identified for Seaham in the Seaham and Murton Masterplan and Delivery Plan (2012); • Peterlee is subject to an emerging proposal for the allocation of 20 hectares of land within the Durham Core Strategy Policy Direction; • Hetton-le-Hole and Houghton-le-Spring are identified for enhancement and potential for growth, respectively, within City of Sunderland LDF Sub Topic

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Papers (Coalfield 2009).</p> <p>Whilst the emerging policy context for these areas appears broadly in accordance with the RSS, the lack of adopted up to date Core Strategies means that the long terms effects on some topics (soil, air, cultural heritage and landscape) are uncertain as the location of development, its environmental context and the extent to which there is a need to travel are not yet known.</p> <p>Economic Prosperity – The policy identifies locations where economic development should be focused. The focus is upon the City Centres of Newcastle and Sunderland as well as identified key employment locations. Newcastle seeks to reaffirm its position as the Regional Capital within the emerging Newcastle Gateshead Joint Core Strategy, however it is recognised that without the RSS and an effective working arrangements, this position could be subject to challenge or change with uncertain implications.</p> <p>The Localism Act places a duty to co-operate on local authorities and the NPPF sets out clear policy on the Duty at paragraphs 178-181.</p> <p>The policy identifies a number of site specific areas, the current and emerging policy context for these sites are outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Hartford – Policy REG4 of the adopted Blyth Valley Core Strategy (2007) identifies West Hartford as a Prestige Employment Site; • Blyth Valley – this appears to be addressed within Policy SS1 which identifies Blyth Valley as a centre for excellence for renewable technologies (NaREC is a testing and development centre for wind farms and renewable energy based in Blyth); • Newcastle Great Park – 80 hectares of land was allocated for the Northern

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Development Area (Policy ED1.1) in the adopted UDP (1997) comprising offices, high technology and R&D. Policy ED1.2 which identified the nature of development on the site was not subsequently saved. It is noted that SAGE has developed its headquarters at this site. Within the emerging Core Strategy, the site (Great Park) is identified as an employment location but is not one of the identified Key Employment Sites;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newburn Riverside – This site (Newburn Haugh) is allocated for business and general industry uses in the adopted Newcastle UDP (1998). The site is identified as a Key Employment Site in the emerging NewcastleGateshead Core Strategy; • Newcastle Urban Core and Baltic Business Quarter are likely to come forward as Accelerated Development Zones under the City Deal award; • Gateshead has been subject to approximately £150 million of investment as part of a restructuring of the town centre. <p>The above sites are afforded consideration under Policy 20.</p> <p>The policy also identifies the need to support the Science City Newcastle initiative (which has been established) identifying locations for SME's and enhancing the areas tourism potential. The policy identifies the need to develop complementary nodes at Baltic Business Park, Centre for Renewables and Gateshead. The planning policy context for these sites has been identified above. The remaining sites include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northumbria University (Manors Development). No relevant local planning policy context has been identified however it is recognised that Northumbria University developed their City Campus East comprising the Business

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>School, School of Law and School of Design in 2007 in Shieldfield;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Durham University – Policy C3 of the Durham City Local Plan seeks to strengthen the role and presence of the University within the city centre; NetPark – The site is allocated within the former district of Sedgefield Core Strategy which identifies the future potential for expansion and allocates 67 hectares. <p>The NPPF sets out key Government objectives covering a range of topics including the delivery of strategic employment, transport, and provision of local services. Furthermore local authorities are required to work together, under the duty to co-operate, to ensure that strategic policies are properly co-ordinated and reflected in local plans. Therefore revocation of Policy 9.2 of this policy does not remove the need for local authorities to co-operate in the preparation of their local plans, although it does give them the freedom to decide the most appropriate priorities for their local area.</p> <p>It is possible that removing the requirement to direct most strategically important growth to the region's main urban areas and key employment sites could lead to less development within the major urban areas and result in less development on brownfield land. This could lead to more development of green space/countryside in potentially less sustainable locations with resultant adverse impacts on air quality, soil and landscape. Impacts upon biodiversity would depend upon the quality of land. This assessment is equally as valid for Regeneration.</p> <p>Sustainable Communities – Part 1 identifies a number of regeneration initiatives to be supported. It is understood that both Bridging NewcastleGateshead and Sunderland Arc terminated in 2011 The environmental impacts associated with the revocation of this element of the policy is uncertain since it will be for Local</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Authorities to identify the need for regeneration through their own evidence base.</p> <p>The policy also identifies the need for the majority of new retail and leisure development to be in Newcastle and Sunderland. Furthermore there is an emphasis on developing housing on previously developed land. The focus of the NPPF reiterates the need to promote the vitality of main urban areas and to encourage the reuse of brownfield land, provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p> <p>It is possible that removing the requirement to direct most strategically significant growth to the region's major urban areas and removing the target for the use of previously developed land (as identified in Policy 29) could lead to less development within the major urban areas, and result in less development of brownfield land. This could lead to more development of unconstrained countryside or incremental development.</p> <p>There are potential benefits for biodiversity if it resulted in less development on those areas of brownfield land with high biodiversity value and to human health where there were lower housing densities and more opportunities for green space within urban areas.</p> <p>However, if it increased the amount of development on greenfield land away from existing settlements, this could have negative impacts on the countryside (i.e. soil and landscape); and on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions (if there is a greater need to travel) although this is to some extent mitigated by the NPPF requirement for sustainable transport modes. Depending on the biodiversity value of any countryside lost, including any role it played, or might play, in contributing to a network or corridor for wildlife there could be either positive or negative effects. For example, agricultural land can host lower biodiversity interest than</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>suburban gardens given the wider range of different habitats provided.</p> <p>Paragraphs 18-22 of the National Planning Policy Framework states the need to plan proactively to meet the needs of business in order to build a strong competitive economy. Paragraph 22 in particular expects planning policies to avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for that purpose. Where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for the allocated employment use, applications for alternative uses of land or buildings should be treated on their merits having regard to market signals and the relative need for different land uses to support sustainable local communities. Furthermore paragraphs 23 to 27 of the NPPF expect local planning authorities to ensure the continuing vitality of town centres, by underlining the important role of office, retail and leisure uses to achieve this aim. In addition paragraph 23 states that local planning authorities should allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in town centres.</p> <p>Connectivity - Future development at and related to Newcastle International Airport will continue to be driven by evolving national aviation policy/strategy which is still as set out in the 2003 Aviation White Paper (until it is replaced). With the adopted Newcastle UDP Policy ED1.4 allocates land for airport related development, the emerging NewcastleGateshead Core Strategy identifies the airport as a employment centre and seeks to encourage uses which would benefit from clustering around the airport. Paragraph 33 of the NPPF states that when planning for ports, airports and airfields that are not subject to a separate national policy statement, plans should take account of their growth and role in serving business, leisure, training and emergency service needs. Plans should take</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>account of the NPPF as well as the principles set out in the relevant national policy statements and the Government Framework for UK Aviation.</p> <p>The NPPF approach to promoting sustainable transport highlights that Local Transport Plans along with the duty to co-operate will facilitate work by local authorities to promote public transport movements between Regional Transport Nodes.</p> <p>Therefore local authorities will be able to continue to ensure spatial planning and local transport is mutually consistent and delivers the most sustainable patterns of development for their area. It is expected that similar significant air quality and climatic benefits will be achieved following revocation of this policy.</p> <p>The policy identifies a series of transport initiatives and infrastructure improvements e.g. investigating the modernisation of the Metro system and promoting a further crossing of the River Wear. The policy identifies the need to improve strategic transport hubs of Newcastle, Sunderland, Durham, City and particularly Newcastle Central Station. The latter has perhaps suffered as a result of the key metro axis locating at the Monument resulting in a northwards shift in focus within the City Centre. It will be for the respective local authorities to determine how these initiatives are to be supported through local plans. However there are potentially opportunities for growth at the Port of Tyne as a result of its inclusion within the North Bank Enterprise Zone. With regard to the other Ports referenced, part of the Port of Sunderland is identified as a development site within the UDP. Seaham North Docks is subject to an emerging masterplan which incorporates leisure related uses. The area has been subject to investment and regeneration with a marina and dock related business units developed at the site.</p> <p>The policy identifies the need to provide the Leamside Rail Line from</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>development which would restrict its reinstatement. Policy NE17 of the Chester-le-Street Local Plan previously provided this level of protection; this policy has not been saved.</p> <p>Green Belt – The NPPF maintains strong protections for Green Belt land (paragraphs 79 – 92). The NPPF identifies that the fundamental aim of Green Belt Policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. Once Green Belts have been defined, local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land. A review of the existing local plan context illustrates that the prevention of the merging of those settlements listed in the Policy is afforded policy protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunderland, with Seaham, Houghton-le-Spring, Washington or Tyneside - Policy CN2 Sunderland City Council UDP; • Gateshead with Hebburn, Washington, Birtley or Whickham – Policy ENV36 Gateshead UDP’; • Washington and Chester-le-Street – Policy CN2 Sunderland City Council UDP and Policy NE3 of the Chester-le-Street Local Plan saved policies; • Newcastle upon Tyne with Ponteland, Newcastle International Airport or Cramlington – Saved Policy GB1 Newcastle City Council UDP, Saved Policy C16 Castle Morpeth Local Plan and Blyth Valley Development Control Policies DPD Policy DC3. It is acknowledged that the emerging Core Strategy for Newcastle Gateshead is proposing alterations to the Green Belt

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>to accommodate residential development up to 2030;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Tyneside with Cramlington or Blyth – Policy E20 North Tyneside UDP and Blyth Valley Development Control Policies DPD Policy DC3; • Durham and Chester-le-Street – Saved Policy E1 City of Durham Local Plan and Saved Policy NE3 Chester-le-Street Local Plan; • The preservation of the Special Character of Durham City Council is afforded policy protection through saved Policies E1, E3 and E6; • Green Belt protection for Hexham and Corbridge is maintained through Tynedale Core Strategy policy GD3 which seeks to protect existing Green Belt boundaries and saved local plan policies NE7, NE8, NE9 and NE14; • Green Belt protection for Morpeth has been retained through the saving of Northumberland Structure Plan Policy S5 until time as a local plan is adopted. <p>English Heritage raised concerns in the previous consultation over the revocation of this policy and their concern over preserving the special character of Durham City, Hexham, Corbridge and Morpeth. The NPPF states in paragraph 129 that local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They (the LPA) should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset’s conservation and any aspect of the proposals. Paragraph 132 goes on to state that when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset,</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. Paragraph 132 states that substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II registered park and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.</p> <p>With specific regard to Morpeth, it is proposed to retain Policy S5 of the Northumberland County Council and National Policy Joint Structure Plan to provide a strategic planning framework for Green Belt policy preparation in the emerging Northumberland Local Plan.</p> <p>From this assessment it is considered that the revocation of the policy will not result in any adverse effects on Green Belts.</p> <p>Environment – No environmental effects are anticipated. It is considered that the objectives identified and need for local authorities to co-operate are maintained through the NPPF. In addition, the revocation of this policy will not remove the requirement for local plans to be consistent with legislation relating to the protection of designated sites. Paragraph 94 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change (in line with the provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008) taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations.</p> <p>Paragraph 95 of the NPPF seeks to support the move to a low carbon future, by stating that local planning authorities should plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; actively support</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and when setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards. Specifically, local planning authorities are expected to identify opportunities where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supplies (paragraph 97).</p> <p>Local planning authorities should apply Integrated Coastal Zone Management across local authority and land/sea boundaries. They should reduce risk from coastal change by avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas or adding to the impacts of physical changes to the coast. They should identify Coastal Change Management Areas where any area is likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast and be clear as to what development will be appropriate in such areas and in what circumstances. In addition, paragraph 114 provides for the maintenance of the character of the undeveloped coast, protecting and enhancing its distinctive landscapes, particularly in areas defined as Heritage Coast, and seeks improvement to public access to and enjoyment of the coast. Paragraph 156 requires local planning authorities to set out the strategic priorities for the area in the local plan, including strategic policies to deliver the provision of infrastructure for flood risk and coastal change management.</p> <p>In summary, this RSS policy addresses a number of key themes providing a sub-regional policy for Tyne and Wear. Whilst the emerging Core Strategies appear to have clear linkages to the RSS, there is no certainty that following its revocation the policies will be delivered to the benefit of the sub-region. In the short-medium term reliance on out of date development plans may mean reduced development in the Tyne and Wear sub-region hindering their regeneration.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Paragraph 111 of the NPPF encourages the effective use of land by reusing land that has been previously developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p> <p>Paragraph 117 of the NPPF states that planning policies should identify and map components of the local ecological networks, including wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them.</p> <p>Statutory duties on environmental protection and policies in the NPPF should provide environmental protection in relation to development.</p> <p>Strategic development proposals would need to be subject to SEA and EIA.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Individual local authorities will collectively deliver co-ordinated development which enable strategic opportunities for sustainable development to be taken. This could be on a lesser scale and with a different geographic emphasis than that proposed under the Regional Strategy. However it has been assumed that in the long term similar effects will be experienced.</p> <p>It has been assumed that NetPark referenced in Policy 9.2b and 10.2g are the same site although they have been referenced in both City Region Policies.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Regeneration, Economic Prosperity and Sustainable Communities - Revocation of this policy will mean that the relevant local plans do not have to conform to this Development Plan policy. The location of development will be a matter for the local plans to take forward in the context of the NPPF's policy framework. In</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>doing so the relevant LPAs will be able to consider the evidence associated with the RSS in reaching policy conclusions. However, there is the possibility that LPA will take an alternative approach would could result in allocate more or less land in different locations, which are of greater or less environmental importance.</p>

RS Policy: 10 – Tees Valley City Region

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?		+	-	-	?	?	?	?	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy aims to support the polycentric development and redevelopment of the Tees-Valley City-Region. The issue of the City-Region is key to the RES which acknowledges the role the City-Region plays as key driver of economic growth and development.</p> <p>The policy seeks to focus regeneration within Core Areas of Stockton, Middlesbrough and Redcar as well as local centres such as Newton Aycliffe. These areas were identified as being in the bottom 20% in terms of deprivation. The policy encourages the recycling of derelict and urban land to support housing market renewal programmes. The policy recognises the need for an upskilling of the workforce and to support the expansion of the two universities in the City-Region.</p> <p>As a pro-development policy it will have adverse effects on material assets through the use (extraction and transportation) of construction materials and energy and an increased generation of waste. There are likely to be adverse effects on water supply in the sub-region in the medium to long term given the proposed scale of development and existing supply issues.</p> <p>However, these are likely to be no different from the effects arising from an equivalent amount of development located elsewhere (e.g. water and construction</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>materials demand would be unchanged overall).</p> <p>Air quality is likely to be adversely affected by focusing development in areas which are already failing to meet their air quality objectives. This may be mitigated through the development of public transport improvements. Air quality will also be adversely affected through airport growth. The support for renewable energy is likely to have positive impacts on climate change; however development of wind farms may have adverse landscape impacts.</p> <p>The establishment of strategic gaps and the strategic network of green infrastructure will be positive for biodiversity.</p> <p>The policy supports the expansion of the recycling sector which has been appraised positively against material assets.</p> <p>The focus on high standards of development and redevelopment should ensure that cultural heritage is respected.</p> <p>It is noted that almost 75% of the previously developed land in the North East is located within the City-Regions of Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley, therefore, even with the revocation of this policy there is still likely to be a need to focus development on brownfield sites.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>No mitigation measures required.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>The implementation of the economic prosperity policies will need to be subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment to mitigate any potential adverse effects.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 10 – Tees Valley City-Region.</p> <p>The policy aims to support the polycentric development and redevelopment of the Tees Valley City-Region. It identifies six key themes which are considered individually below.</p> <p>Regeneration – The RSS sets out a number of priority areas for regeneration but leaves it to local authorities to set our policies to tackle problems of economic, social and environmental deprivation (where these apply).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stockton-Middlesbrough Initiative – this is specifically referenced with Policy CS1 of the Stockton Core Strategy (2010) and referenced throughout the Middlesbrough Core Strategy; Regeneration of both banks of the Tees between Stockton, Middlesbrough and Redcar appears to manifest itself within the Middlesbrough Core Strategy Policy CS1 (Spatial Strategy), CS7 (Economic Strategy), CS20 (Green Infrastructure) and CS21 (Green Blue Heart). This represents a major regeneration initiative for the River Tees and Hinterland between Middlesbrough and Stockton. Reference is made within the main body of 			

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>the Core Strategy to SMI extending to Teesport and into parts of Redcar and Cleveland;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hartlepool Quays – Policy COM4 of the Hartlepool Local Plan identifies uses which are permitted within those areas of the marina outside of the Town Centre. Policy To1 identifies that tourism related development which complements what already exists will be permitted. The policy context for the marina within the emerging Core Strategy is provided in policy RC3; Brownfield Opportunities within Darlington – the context for Darlington, particularly the central Darlington is provided through policies CS1, CS5, CS7, CS8, CS9, CS10 and CS18 of the Adopted Core Strategy; Supporting the Coastal Arc from Hartlepool Headland to East Cleveland. This initiative is identified within the Redcar and Cleveland Core Strategy and Hartlepool Local Plan. The initiative is identified by Tees Valley Unlimited as one of three 'place making' strategies in Tees Valley along with Darlington Gateway and SMI. <p>Policy 10.1c identifies as series of areas where regeneration and development should be supported. The County Durham Core Strategy Directions Documents identifies Newton Aycliffe, Spennymoor, Shildon and Bishop Auckland. Saltburn, Brolton, Shelton, and Loftus are all identified in Policy CS6 (Spatial Strategy for East Cleveland and the Villages) within the Redcar and Cleveland Core Strategy.</p> <p>The environmental impacts associated with the revocation of this element of the policy, particularly for those areas identified within the new Unitary Authority of Durham is uncertain since they do not have an up to date plan which covers the entire area. It will be for Local Authorities to identify the need for regeneration</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>through their own evidence base.</p> <p>Economic Prosperity – The policy identifies priority locations for major new heavy industry, chemical and port related development. The locations identified already include chemical and power station uses. Much of Policy 10.2 refers to supporting various activities and potential development sites. It will be for the relevant local plan to consider how the identified locations are considered within their local plans. It is noted that the Regeneration Strategy for Stockton-on-Tees Borough (2007-12) identified the need to identify sufficient land for chemical/petrochemical development at Billingham, North Tees and Seal Sands. This is replicated within Policy CS4 of the Stockton-on-Tees Core Strategy.</p> <p>The other areas identified are South Tees, Tees Port and Wilton. These sites are identified as being within Redcar and Cleveland. Policy CS4 of the Core Strategy (Spatial Strategy for South Tees Areas) identifies that the council and its partners will aim to improve freight access links to Teesport by rail and road. Policy CS10 addresses all three sites identifying that the continued development and expansion of the chemical and steel works and port industries will be supported. A total of 230 ha of land will be safeguarded for chemical and steel manufacturing.</p> <p>The chemical industry is identified as being important to the economy of the borough and contributes £3bn to Tees Valley. The retention and expansion of employment opportunities is therefore considered to be significant. With regard to the Tees Port, it is recognised that the River Tees and its estuary are identified as part of the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area and Ramsar site. As such, long terms impacts on biodiversity have been recorded as uncertain.</p> <p>Policy 10.2g references the need to support the expansion of the University of</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Teesside and Durham. With reference to the University of Teesside, the Middlesbrough Core Strategy identifies that the University has expanded its campus including its Institute of Digital Innovation. Policy C3 of the City of Durham Local Plan identifies that the City Council will support development proposals by the University of Durham.</p> <p>The RSS policy goes on to identify Wilton and NetPark as centres for R&D. Both sites have been developed Maintenance of existing fee structures despite promotions in order to maintain; Wilton is identified in Policy CS11 of the Redcar and Cleveland Core Strategy. The policy identifies Wilton International as a site for an eco-park, pioneer process park and centre for process innovation. NetPark is identified in the emerging Core Strategy for Durham for a potential 67 ha expansion.</p> <p>In addition to the above initiatives Tees Valley Unlimited (LEP) has secured Government funding for an Enterprise Zone providing Business Rate Relief or Enhanced Capital Allowance on 12 individual sites across the sub-region.</p> <p>Sustainable Communities – It is possible that removing the requirement to direct strategically significant growth to the region’s major urban areas and removing the target for the use of previously developed land (as identified in Policy 29) could lead to less development within the major urban areas, and result in less development of brownfield land. This could lead to more development of unconstrained countryside.</p> <p>There are potential benefits for biodiversity if revocation resulted in less development on those areas of brownfield land with high biodiversity value and to human health where there were lower housing densities and more opportunities for green space within urban areas.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>However, if it increased the amount of development on greenfield land away from existing settlements, this could have negative impacts on the countryside (i.e. loss of soil and landscape); and on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions (if there is a greater need to travel). Depending on the biodiversity value of any countryside lost, including any role it played, or might play, in contributing to a network or corridor for wildlife there could be either positive or negative effects. For example, agricultural land can host lower biodiversity interest than suburban gardens given the wider range of different habitats provided.</p> <p>Paragraphs 18-22 of the National Planning Policy Framework sets out the need to plan proactively to meet the needs of business in order to support sustainable economic growth. Paragraph 22 requires planning policies to avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for that purpose. Where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for the allocated employment use, applications for alternative uses of land or buildings should be treated on their merits having regard to market signals and the relative need for different land uses to support sustainable local communities. Furthermore paragraphs 23 to 27 of the NPPF seek to ensure the continuing vitality of town centres, by underlining the important role of office, retail and leisure uses to achieve this aim.</p> <p>Development at Teesport has already been addressed under Economic Prosperity.</p> <p>Connectivity - Future development at and related to Durham Tees Valley International Airport will continue to be driven by evolving national aviation policy/strategy which is still as set out in the 2003 Aviation White Paper (until it is replaced). Darlington as the relevant planning authority will decide what policies are appropriate to support the airport. Context is provided within the adopted</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Darlington Core Strategy 2011. Paragraph 33 of the NPPF states that when planning for ports, airports and airfields that are not subject to a separate national policy statement, plans should take account of their growth and role in serving business, leisure, training and emergency service needs. Plans should take account of the NPPF as well as the principles set out in the relevant national policy statements and the Government Framework for UK Aviation.</p> <p>The NPPF approach to promoting sustainable transport highlights that Local Transport Plans along with the duty to co-operate will facilitate work by local authorities to promote public transport movements between Regional Transport Nodes.</p> <p>Therefore local authorities will be able to continue to ensure spatial planning and local transport is mutually consistent and delivers the most sustainable patterns of development for their area. It is expected that similar significant air quality and climatic benefits will be achieved following revocation of this policy.</p> <p>The policy identifies a series of transport initiatives and infrastructure improvements e.g. supporting the upgrading of the East Coast Main Line, the Durham Coast Rail improvements and rail freight improvements to Teesport. It will be for the respective local authorities to determine how these initiatives are to be supported through local plans. For example Policy 10.4(f) improving interchange facilities at Strategic Public Transport Hubs of Darlington is addressed within Policy CS19 of the Adopted Darlington Core Strategy.</p> <p>Durham Tees Valley Airport is located in two local authority areas, Darlington and Stockton-on-Tees. Policy CS19 of the Darlington Core Strategy identifies that the Council and its partners will work together to make the best use of and improve existing transport infrastructure within and connecting to the borough. This will include providing new stopping facilities for rail services to the east of Bank Top</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>railway station and serving Durham Tees Valley Airport. Policy CS5 identifies that 25 hectares of land will be allocated at Durham Tees Valley of which 20 hectares is airport related and 5 ha employment related. Policy CS4 of the Stockton on Tees Core Strategy makes provision for 50 ha of employment land at Durham Tees Valley Airport. These allocations total 75 hectares, 5 less that identified within the RSS. This reduction may result in protecting biodiversity and air quality but may adversely impact on population as a result of a reduction in potential employment opportunities.</p> <p>Strategic Gaps – It is possible that removing the requirement to direct most strategically significant growth to the region’s major urban areas and removing the target for the use of previously developed land could lead to less development within the major urban areas, and result in less development of brownfield land. This could lead to more development of unconstrained countryside. Removing the Strategic Gaps could have an adverse effect upon the setting of Marske, Yarm and those other settlements / villages identified in Policy 10.5.</p> <p>There remains policy support at a local level for the following strategic gaps.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between the conurbation (Marske, Redcar, Eston, Middlesbrough, Thornaby, Stockton, Yarm and Billingham) and surrounding towns and villages. Policy CS23 of the Redcar and Cleveland Core Strategy identified green infrastructure and strategic gaps to protect Marske and New Marske; • Between Hartlepool and surrounding villages – Policy LS1 Hartlepool Core Strategy; • Between Darlington and surrounding towns and villages and Newton Aycliffe – this is referenced within the Darlington Core Strategy but has no explicit

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>policy support;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between Eaglescliffe and Middleton St. George – Policy 10 of the Stockton-on-Tees Core Strategy provides the necessary policy support; Between Middleton St. George and Darlington – Policy CS14 of the Darlington Core Strategy. <p>The local plan analysis illustrates that there remains policy protection at a local level for those strategic gaps identified in the RSS. It is acknowledged that the Core Strategy for Darlington only references strategic gaps within the supporting text to Policy CS1, identifying the need importance of maintaining the gap between the main urban area, the Borough’s villages and other settlements. Policy CS1 does state that <i>“Within the limits to development of the Borough’s villages, development that supports the vitality and viability of the village, its services or the rural economy will be supported, particularly in the larger villages of Hurdworth/Hurdworth Place, Middleton St.George and Heighington. Outside the limits to development of the main urban area and villages, development will be limited to that required to meet identified rural needs”</i>.</p> <p>The extent of the development limits for Darlington are to be identified within the Council’s forthcoming Making Places and Accommodating Growth Development Plan (consultation due Autumn 2012). Development Limits for Darlington are currently identified within the Local Plan (1997) and Alterations (2001) and referenced in saved policies E2 and H10. As such, the revocation of RSS Policy 10.5 is not considered likely to result in any adverse impacts.</p> <p>The revocation of this policy will enable local authorities to reconsider development boundaries and the need for strategic gaps as defined in the RSS. There are potential benefits for biodiversity if it resulted in less development on</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>those areas of brownfield land with high biodiversity value and to human health where there were lower housing densities and more opportunities for green space within urban areas.</p> <p>However, if it increased the amount of development on greenfield land away from existing settlements, this could have negative impacts on the countryside (i.e. soil and landscape); and on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions (if there is a greater need to travel) although it is recognised that the NPPF requires new development to be accessible by sustainable transport modes. Depending on the biodiversity value of any countryside lost, including any role it played, or might play, in contributing to a network or corridor for wildlife there could be either positive or negative effects. For example, agricultural land can host lower biodiversity interest than suburban gardens given the wider range of different habitats provided.</p> <p>Environment – No environmental effects are anticipated. It is considered that the objectives identified and need for local authorities to co-operate are maintained through the NPPF.</p> <p>Paragraph 114 of the NPPF expects local planning authorities to set out a strategic approach in their local plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure.</p> <p>Paragraph 94 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change in line with the provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008.</p> <p>Paragraph 95 of the NPPF expects local planning authorities to support the move to a low carbon future, by planning for new development in locations and ways</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; actively supporting energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and when setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, to do so in a way consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards. Specifically, local planning authorities are expected to identify opportunities where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supplies (paragraph 97).</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Paragraph 111 of the NPPF expects planning policies and decisions to encourage the effective use of land by reusing land that has been previously developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p> <p>Paragraph 117 of the NPPF states that planning policies should identify and map components of the local ecological networks, including wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them.</p> <p>Statutory duties on environmental protection and policies in the NPPF should provide environmental protection in relation to development.</p> <p>Strategic development proposals would need to be subject to SEA and EIA.</p> <p>Developments affecting sites protected by the Habitats Regulations will need to be assessed through HRA Appropriate Assessment.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is assumed that local authorities will take into account non-statutory green infrastructure strategies / desirability of retaining strategic gaps in developing their local plans and work together making use of the duty to co-operate and the local</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>nature partnerships to optimise the benefits to the landscape.</p> <p>It has been assumed that NetPark referenced in Policy 9.2b and 10.2g are the same site although they have been referenced in both City Region Policies.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Regeneration, Economic Prosperity and Sustainable Communities - Revocation of this policy will mean that the relevant local plans do not have to conform to this Development Plan policy. The location of development will be a matter for the local plans to take forward in the context of the NPPF's policy framework. In doing so the relevant LPAs will be able to consider the evidence associated with the RSS in reaching policy conclusions. However, there is the possibility that LPA will take an alternative approach would could result in allocating more or less land in different locations, which are of greater or less environmental importance.</p>

RS Policy: 11 – Rural Areas

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the need to build a thriving rural economy and the need to link certain rural areas (particularly around the former coal mining areas) with areas of opportunity in the Region. The RES also acknowledges the role of market towns as hubs of activity will be the focus, again ensuring that rural areas – particularly deprived rural areas – are effectively linked to access opportunities.</p> <p>Job creation, rural regeneration and diversification and promotion of the regional image could be beneficial to the population and human health. However, increased visitor numbers are likely to have negative environmental impacts, especially through increased transport (air quality and climatic effects) pollution and waste generation (negative for material assets). It could also have adverse effects on biodiversity, for example, through recreational pressure and on demand for water.</p> <p>Revenue generated through tourism could assist with the upkeep of some heritage assets. Effects on landscape could be either positive (e.g. visitor management strategies) or negative (e.g. erosion of footpaths, caravans etc.).</p> <p>Alnwick, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Castle Morpeth, Teesdale and Tynedale were identified as having some of the worst access deprivation in England. Strengthening their public transport links will deliver benefits for population and air quality, particularly if it reduces reliance upon private cars. Opportunities to</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>combine landscape improvements, wildlife and heritage conservation will deliver benefits for biodiversity, cultural heritage and landscape. Support for renewable energy may have adverse impacts on landscape quality.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None identified.</p> <p>Assumptions None identified.</p> <p>Uncertainty Effects on soil, water, climatic factors, material assets and landscape will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development across the region over the plan period and beyond.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 11 – Rural Areas. This policy identifies the need for strategies, plans and programmes and planning proposals to support the development of a vibrant rural economy. The policy identifies four key themes:</p> <p>Regeneration The RSS sets out a number of rural service centres where their role needs to be strengthened. In addition the RSS identifies the need for LDF to identify a settlement hierarchy, however it is for local authorities to set out policies based upon their assessment and understanding of need. The environmental impacts associated with the revocation of this element of the policy are uncertain since it will be for Local Authorities to identify the need for regeneration through their own evidence base. However it is noted that Alnwick, Berwick upon Tweed and Castle Morpeth have amongst the worst deprivation levels with regard to access to services.</p> <p>Economic Prosperity – It is considered that the objective of this element of the RSS policy is addressed in part through Paragraph 28 of the NPPF which states that planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development. To promote a strong rural economy, local and neighbourhood plans should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well designed new buildings; • Promote the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>based rural businesses;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors, and which respect the character of the countryside. This should include supporting the provision and expansion of tourist and visitor facilities in appropriate locations where identified needs are not met by existing facilities in rural service centres; and Promote the regeneration and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship. <p>As such no adverse effects on the environment are anticipated following the revocation of this element of the policy (11.2). The NPPF requires local planning authorities to plan positively to meet the needs of their area. This is supplemented by a range of policies which impact on the ability to promote sustainable tourism. This includes: paragraph 23 which provides explicit support for promoting tourism in town centres and also for recognising town centres as the heart of their communities; paragraph 28 which provides support for rural areas. Furthermore paragraphs 107 and 108 state what needs to be assessed when considering planning applications in a Coastal Change Management Area.</p> <p>Sustainable Communities – No adverse environmental effects are anticipated as a result of the revocation of this element of the policy. Paragraph 70 of the NPPF identifies that to deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the communities ability to meet its day-to-day needs; Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community; and Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services. <p>Paragraph 159 of the NPPF outlines the requirement for local planning authorities to identify the need for affordable homes based upon a Strategic Housing Market Assessment. The need for affordable housing within Alnwick, Berwick, Tynedale and Castle Morpeth could be based upon this assessment.</p> <p>Given its generality and non-spatial element, the revocation of 11.3(c) is unlikely to give rise to any environmental effects. It is noted that the definition of Green Infrastructure within the NPPF i.e. <i>“A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities”</i> broadly supports the objectives of 11.3(c).</p> <p>Connectivity – Paragraphs 29-32 of the NPPF set out the Governments view that transport policies have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development and contributing to reducing the need to travel and for local</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>authorities to work together with transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure. It is not considered that the deletion of this section of policy would have adverse significant effects.</p> <p>The concept of community rail is largely driven through the Community Rail Development Strategy. There are a number of Community Rail Partnerships e.g. Hadrian Wall Line in the North East. It is not considered that the revocation of this policy would give rise to any negative environmental effects.</p> <p>The protection of the former goods yard at Tweedmouth was previously provided planning policy protection through Policy M8 of the Berwick Local Plan. This policy was not saved in September 2007 due to the RSS containing a relevant policy. The revocation of this policy means that there is no protection of land at the former goods yard at Tweedmouth. The continued protection of the site was identified within the Northumberland Core Strategy Issues and Options Paper. Outline planning permission was granted in 2012 (subject to the signing of a S106 Agreement) for residential development (71 units) on the site.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u></p> <p>No mitigation measures are required.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u></p> <p>It has been assumed that under Connectivity that land at the former good yards at Tweedmouth will be protected for the East Coast Mainline if required.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u></p> <p>It is unclear what the implication(s) will be of the revocation of the policy support afforded to the former railway goods yard at Tweedmouth. In part the need to protect the goods yard arose from Network Rail and the potential to use the</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>former goods yard for improvements to the East Coast Mainline. The future protection of this site will depend in part upon Network Rails control over the site and future operational requirements.</p> <p>Revocation of this policy will mean that the relevant local plans do not have to conform to this Development Plan policy. The location of development will be a matter for the local plans to take forward in the context of the NPPF's policy framework. In doing so the relevant LPAs will be able to consider the evidence associated with the RSS in reaching policy conclusions. However, there is the possibility that LPA will take an alternative approach would could result in allocating more or less land in different locations, which are of greater or less environmental importance. This uncertainty is reflected in the assessment for the majority of the SEA topics.</p> <p>Effects are dependent on the scale, nature and location of development across the sub-area over the plan period and beyond.</p>

RS Policy: 12 – Sustainable Economic Development

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary	
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L		
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy details the spatial priorities for economic growth in the North East, with priority given first to the Conurbations and Main Settlements of the City-Regions, on brownfield sites and at key employment locations. New economic activity of an appropriate scale should be encouraged in the Regeneration Towns and Rural Service Centres. The RES reflects this policy in a number of aspects, in particular with reference to supporting regeneration and seeking to diversify the region's economy.</p> <p>This policy reflects the locational strategy (Policy 6) and the belief that higher level of job creation will be in the most populous areas. Depending on the nature of the development and its location relative to the homes of the workforce and decisions taken on the mode of travel to work, there could be either positive or negative effects on air quality and climate change. The extraction and use of raw materials required to build new development is likely to have adverse effects on material assets, while transporting them to site could have short term effects on air quality.</p> <p>Employment growth in the regeneration towns and rural service centres should have positive effects as it will reduce the need to travel and should also reduce inequality and provide employment opportunities. It should also provide biodiversity and landscape benefits by avoiding less sustainable locations for</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>development.</p> <p>The policy also prioritises development at brownfield mixed use locations (considered in more detail in policy 13) and at key employment locations (considered in detail in policy 19). The emphasis upon economic development prioritising the renewal and reuse of previously developed land and buildings, particularly within town and city centres and established industrial and commercial estates is likely to have positive effects on soil and cultural heritage.</p> <p>The policy also seeks to improve the region's transport networks to enable the region's businesses to thrive and create an attractive location for employees to work. This policy could have positive or negative effects on climate change and air, depending on the location of the workforce relative to the employment opportunities as well as the nature of the businesses in the north east and their transport needs. The impact of this aspect of the policy is therefore uncertain.</p> <p>As with any pro-development policy in the region there would be adverse effects on material assets and on water, however, these are likely to be no different from the effects arising from an equivalent amount of development located elsewhere (e.g. water and construction materials demand would be unchanged overall).</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u> None.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u> None.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u> None.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	?	?	+	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 12 – Sustainable Economic Development.</p> <p>This policy details the spatial priorities for economic growth in the North East, with priority given first to the Conurbations and Main Settlements of the City-Regions, on brownfield sites and at key employment locations. New economic activity of an appropriate scale should be encouraged in the Regeneration Towns and Rural Service Centres. Revoking the strategy will enable local authorities to work together, in accordance with the duty to co-operate, to determine their own strategic needs.</p> <p>The policy identifies the need to prioritise the use of previously developed land and buildings without identifying specific targets therefore it is uncertain whether the revocation of this policy would result in more or less development on brownfield sites.</p> <p>The Government is committed to ensuring that the planning system should proactively drive and support sustainable economic development to deliver the homes, business units, infrastructure and thriving local places which the country needs.</p> <p>To help achieve economic growth, local planning authorities should plan proactively to meet the development needs of businesses and support an economy fit for the 21st Century Paragraph 158 of the NPPF expects local planning authorities to base their local plans on adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence about the economic characteristics and prospects of the area.</p> <p>Revocation of the policy is therefore unlikely to lead to local authorities not providing an enabling context for job growth, and therefore there are expected to</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>be similar benefits to the population as with retention of the policy.</p> <p>Paragraph 31 the NPPF states that local authorities should working with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development, including large scale facilities such as rail freight interchanges, roadside facilities for motorists or transport investment necessary to support strategies for the growth of ports, airports or other major generators of travel demand in their areas. Paragraph 35 of the NPPF states that developments should be located and designed, where practical to give priority to pedestrian and cycle movements and to have access to high quality public transport facilities and to create safe and secure layouts.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is assumed that Local Authorities will adopt the policy at paragraph 111 of the NPPF which encourages the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Revocation of this policy will mean that the relevant local plans do not have to conform to this Development Plan policy. The location of development will be a matter for the local plans to take forward in the context of the NPPF's policy framework. In doing so the relevant LPAs will be able to consider the evidence associated with the RSS in reaching policy conclusions. However, there is the possibility that LPA will take an alternative approach would could result in</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															allocating more or less land in different locations, which are of greater or less environmental importance. This uncertainty is reflected in the assessment for those SEA topics that concern locational effects.

RS Policy: 13 – Brownfield Mixed-Use Locations

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy identifies a number of brownfield sites for mixed use development, a number of which were progressing at the time of adoption of the Plan. The policy leaves it for local planning authorities to develop policies which make provision for the regeneration of these brownfield sites. The policy also makes reference to seeking to maximise employment opportunities for residents of surround wards. This is a key theme of the RES which identifies a range of mechanisms to improve and increase linkages between deprived locations and centres of employment.</p> <p>Identifying specific locations for major regeneration projects should yield significant population benefits by bringing employment opportunities as well as appropriate level housing to create sustainable communities. However, depending on the nature and scale of development, is likely to lead to adverse effects on air quality and material assets, since it would lead to increased minerals extraction and increased travel to and from the developments. However, these effects are likely to be mitigated by policy 13.3 which seeks to maximise use of sustainable transport, protect environment and cultural assets and ensure that the proposal is consistent with the plan's objectives.</p> <p>The implementation of mixed use development provides opportunities to minimise travel with clear benefits for air quality and climate change. Development of these</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>sites will increase water use and necessitate an increase in material assets (e.g. construction materials, commercial waste generation).</p> <p>Mitigation Measures No mitigation measures are required.</p> <p>Assumptions This policy assumes that the identified sites are largely built out within the next 5 years, and that the proposals on each site meet all the requirements set out in policy 13.3.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 13 – Brownfield Mixed-Use Locations</p> <p>The policy identifies a number of brownfield sites for mixed use development. The policy leaves it for local planning authorities to develop policies which make provision for the regeneration of these brownfield sites. The sites are identified below with a commentary of their development plan status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blyth Estuary – Policy SS1 (Regeneration and Renaissance of Blyth Valley Core Strategy) identifies that mixed use development of the Blyth Estuary will form a key element of the regeneration of Blyth Town Centre (Blyth Valley Core Strategy); Central Newcastle the regeneration of Central Newcastle is a well established initiative in the City with Grainger Town being a good example.

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Emphasis is placed upon the City Centre within the emerging Joint Core Strategy and initiatives are likely to accelerate following the City Deal funding which will be targeted towards key areas within the City Centre;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Tyne Corridor (East of Newburn, excluding the Metrocentre in terms of policy 26) – policies STR4 and STR10 of the Gateshead Unitary Development Plan focus on providing development at the Metrocentre and within its periphery; Central Sunderland – Policies EC10a of the Sunderland UDP focuses development within Central Sunderland; Greater Middlehaven – Policy CS1 and CS2 identify that Greater Middlehaven represents a flagship regeneration scheme in Tees Valley. Policy CS2 of the Middlesbrough Core Strategy allocates 2,780 homes for the site between 2004-2023. Policy CS7 allocates 100ha of brownfield land; Central Darlington – the context for Darlington, particularly the central Darlington is provided through policies CS1, CS5, CS7, CS8, CS9, CS10 and CS18 of the Adopted Core Strategy; Victoria Harbour, Hartlepool – This site been identified as being no longer deliverable with the owners seeking to focus on Port related activities; North Shore, Stockton – North Shore is identified as forming part of the Core Area within Stockton-on-Tees. Policy CS1 (Spatial Strategy) identifies that priority will be given to developing housing on brownfield sites within the Core Area. The Core Strategy also identifies that North Shore has consent for 480 residential units with a further application submitted with would take the number of houses to 999.

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Whilst for those sites identified within adopted Core Strategies e.g. Blyth Estuary, Greater Middlehaven, Central Darlington and North Shore the local planning policy context is largely clear, there is a lack of clarity as to how those sites identified within the Tyne and Wear City-Region are to be implemented. As a consequence the impacts against many of the SEA topics associated with the revocation of this policy are uncertain since it will be for Local Authorities to identify the need for regeneration through their own evidence base. However, revocation of this policy may result in some of these brownfield sites not coming forward. Where these sites have biodiversity value, no development may deliver benefits for biodiversity. A shift in emphasis to greenfield sites is likely to have adverse impacts on landscape, soil, and air (if it generates unsustainable transport needs).</p> <p>Where it occurs, supporting regeneration and protection of the countryside should have benefits for soil and the landscape.</p> <p>The policy identifies the requirement to work with other local authorities to ensure that development does not exacerbate housing market failure elsewhere. It is considered that this aspect of the policy is addressed through Paragraph 159 of the NPPF which requires local planning authorities to prepare a Strategic Housing Market Assessment to assess their full housing needs, working with neighbouring authorities where housing market areas cross administrative boundaries.</p> <p>The policy also identifies the need for local authorities not to exceed their housing provision. Revocation of the Regional Strategy will not remove the need for more houses within the region. The need to monitor housing requirements as identified within the context of the policy is broadly consistent with Paragraph 47 of the NPPF.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>The need to protect existing town centres is maintained through Paragraph 24 of the NPPF which expects a sequential test to be applied to planning applications for main town centre uses which are not in an existing centre and are not in accordance with an up-to-date local plan.</p> <p>The reference to securing any necessary improvements to the strategic and local road network are likely to still be secured via S106 agreements attached to any consents for the identified sites.</p> <p>The need to ensuring adequate utilities provision is adequately addressed through Paragraph 162 of the NPPF which expects local authorities to work with other authorities and providers to assess the quality and capacity of infrastructure for transport, water supply, wastewater and its treatment, energy (including heat), telecommunications, utilities, waste....and its ability to meet forecast demands.</p> <p>As with Policy 17 (Casino) there is a reference to seeking to maximise employment opportunities for residents of surround wards, particularly from more deprived wards. It is considered that by improving the economy of the North East, additional employment opportunities will be generated providing benefits to the population across the region.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u> None.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u> None.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u> It is uncertain as to whether the revocation of this policy and Policy 26 will provide</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>opportunities for further expansion of the Metrocentre. Further consideration is provided within the assessment of Policy 26.</p> <p>Revocation of this policy will mean that the relevant local plans do not have to conform to this RSS policy. The location of development will be a matter for the local plans to take forward in the context of the NPPF's policy framework. In doing so the relevant LPAs will be able to consider the evidence associated with the RSS in reaching policy conclusions. However, there is the possibility that LPA will take an alternative approach would could result in allocating more or less land in different locations, which are of greater or less environmental importance. This uncertainty is reflected in the assessment for the majority of the SEA topics.</p> <p>It is uncertain whether the North Shore scheme makes any provision for employment related development.</p>

RS Policy: 14 – Supporting Further and Higher Education

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy identifies the role that universities, colleges and Centres for Excellence will play in the transition to a knowledge based economy. Retention of this policy should have population benefits by developing a highly-skilled workforce to support the region's economy, and reducing inequality by increasing access to education. However, the impact of the policy to promote links and/or support cluster activity, whilst also having population benefits, will be uncertain depending on the scale, nature and location of this activity.</p> <p>The policy is a central theme within the RES which acknowledges the importance that the Region's colleges and universities have to play both in helping to support the establishment of a better qualified workforce but also to develop linkages with existing and new enterprises to support innovation and R&D.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>The development of linkages between universities and businesses is outside the scope of the planning system, so the role of planning will be limited to facilitating co-location. It will be for local transport plans to facilitate more sustainable modes</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>of transport.</p> <p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 14 – Supporting Further and Higher Education</p> <p>The Policy identifies the role that universities, colleges and Centres for Excellence will play in the transition to a knowledge based economy. No significant effects are anticipated as a result of the revocation of this policy. Paragraph 21 of the NPPF requires Local Authorities to plan positively for the location, promotion and expansion of clusters or networks of knowledge driven, creative or high technology industries.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Newcastle was identified as one of six science cities in 2004. It has been assumed that Sunderland, Durham and Teeside will continue to enhance their links with local and national businesses to drive research and innovation.</p> <p>It will be for universities and colleges within the region to determine the value of strengthening links to assist existing and new companies to take advantage of partnering and cluster activity at NetPark, Knowledge Campus, NaREC, Greater Middlehaven, Central Park and North Shore. It is recognised that Durham University, for example, has close links with NetPark.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Policy 14 identifies six innovation cluster areas. There is uncertainty as to whether these areas will be or continue to be promoted through local plans and strategies.</p>

RS Policy: 15 – Information and Communications Technology Networks

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy seeks to deliver high standard ICT facilities to support households and businesses in the region. The importance of ICT is fully acknowledged within the RES which identifies the need to ensure that the region has the necessary ICT infrastructure to attract new businesses, support the growth of existing industry. The RES identified that ICT can facilitate sustainable patterns of working to minimise the adverse effects of commuting into the City Regions and open up further employment opportunities in rural areas.</p> <p>There may be benefits to population and human health caused by the increased provision of ICT facilities, enabling more flexible working practices, and enabling more people to work and reducing commuting (with positive effects on air and climate change).</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty The planning system plays a very limited role in promoting ICT, by allowing the infrastructure to be created and encouraging such facilities to be installed as part of new development. However, the benefits which may accrue as a result of these</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															services being made available depend on individual preferences and cultural change.
Revocation	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 15 – Information and Communications Technology Networks</p> <p>No adverse environmental effects are anticipated as a result of the revocation of this policy and it is likely that the benefits identified for retention will be maintained. Paragraph 42 of the NPPF states that advanced, high quality communications is essential for sustainable economic growth. The development of high speed broadband technology and other communications networks also plays a vital role in enhancing the provision of (and access to) local community facilities and services. Paragraph 43 of the NPPF goes on to state that in preparing local plans, local authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks including telecommunications and high speed broadband.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Tees Valley Unlimited has appointed Regeneris to approach existing and future potential for super fast broadband. Within Northumberland, funding has been provided through the Rural Growth Network Pilot scheme which will assist in providing better broadband provision.</p> <p>Part of the City Deal Award to Newcastle includes provision for the implementation of superfast broadband infrastructure.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															None.

RS Policy: 16 – Culture and Tourism

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0	0	+	+	+	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy sets out general principles and objectives for promoting, supporting and encouraging culture and tourism. Development of cultural and tourist attractions, including nationally designated site, will create employment and promote rural regeneration and diversification. This will lead to population benefits but increased visitor numbers will have negative environmental impacts, especially through increased transport (air quality and climatic factors) and increased pollution and waste (material assets). The effect on landscape and biodiversity could either be positive or negative depending on the attraction concerned. (e.g. increased walking in the Northumberland National Park may lead to erosion of footpaths, compaction of soil, disturbance of habitats).</p> <p>Promoting sports is likely to have a positive effect on population. However, the impact on air quality, climate change and landscape will depend on the location of these facilities and the ability to travel to them by sustainable transport methods.</p> <p>The importance to displaying a positive external image and provide excellent first impressions for those arriving or passing through the region is identified within the RES.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It has been assumed that local authorities will develop their plans and policies in</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>accordance with the duty to co-operate identified within the NPPF.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Uncertainties over visitor numbers and the consequential effects has resulted in a recording of uncertainty against environmental effects. Developing a strong cultural and tourism industry is largely down to matters outside the planning system, and so this policy will only have limited ability to develop the desired goals.</p>
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0	0	+	+	+	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p><i>Government Tourism Policy March 2011</i> sets out the importance of this industry to the UK. This recognises and supports the positive impact tourism can have on boosting regeneration.</p> <p>The NPPF in paragraph 23 sets out that LPAs should allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in town centres.</p> <p>Paragraph 28 states that planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development. The policy states the need for local and neighbourhood plans to support sustainable rural tourism and leisure development s that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors which respect the character of the countryside.</p> <p>The relevant Local Economic Partnerships (LEP) and Local Tourism Bodies (see <i>Government Policy on Tourism March 2011</i> section 4.2) are taking forward setting the conditions for economic development and tourism marketing and management in areas that reflect FEMAs and an areas' visitor economy rather</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>than public sector administrative boundaries-region.</p> <p>NPPF policies protecting the historic environment (paragraphs 126-141) provide strong protection for local features and assets, such as the historic city of Durham and towns such as Alnwick and Yarm.</p> <p>It is recognised that increasing visitor numbers can have negative environment effects as identified in the original sustainability appraisal. Paragraph 28 of the NPPF states that local and neighbourhood plans should support sustainable rural tourism developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors, and which respect the character of the countryside.</p> <p>This along with the duty to co-operate, NPPF policies relating to planning strategically across local boundaries (paragraphs 156 and 178-181) will mean that local authorities should continue to ensure that land use and local transport policies are mutually consistent, and deliver the most sustainable and effective development for their area.</p> <p>Although it is acknowledged that LEPs and LTBs are non-statutory bodies and are not subject to the duty. However, the bodies that are subject to the duty are required to have regard to the activities of LEPs. This is intended to strengthen strategic planning on economic activity and tourism marketing and management.</p> <p>Therefore revoking this policy will simplify the planning policy context and have no material SEA impact.</p> <p>It is concluded that the effects of revocation of this policy are most likely to be the same as retention.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions It has been assumed that local authorities will develop their plans and policies in accordance with the duty to co-operate identified within the NPPF.</p> <p>Uncertainty Uncertainties over visitor numbers and the consequential effects has resulted in a recording of uncertainty against environmental effects.</p>

RS Policy: 17 – Casino Development

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	0	0	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The policy provides the framework against which LDFs and/or planning proposals for regional, large or small casino development should be assessed. The emphasis of retaining a sequential approach to its location supports the objectives in Policy 4, but the impact of this policy will depend on the location of any proposed casino, in terms of the impact on population (where benefits of job creation and promoting regeneration may be offset by social consequences of problem and pathological gambling), the mode of transport to and from the facility and the impact on the local economy. The consequences of retaining this policy are therefore uncertain.</p> <p>The policy identifies the need to ensure employment opportunities arising from Casino developments are optimised for deprived areas. The theme of providing good access to employment opportunities in deprived areas is a key theme of the RES.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty It is unclear as to whether local authorities or developers will promote casino development which contributes to regional economic growth, creation and</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															enhancement of sustainable communities, tourism and wider regeneration priorities.
Revocation	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 17 – Casino Development</p> <p>The policy provides the framework against which LDFs and / or planning proposals for regional, large or small casino development should be assessed. The revocation of the remaining elements of the policy have been assessed as neutral since it is considered that the objectives contained within the policy are replicated within the NPPF. The NPPF identifies casinos as being main town centre uses. Paragraph 23 of the NPPF expects local authorities to allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure and commercial, tourism, community and residential development needed in town centres. The NPPF also states the need to set policies for the consideration of proposals for main town centre uses which cannot be accommodated in or adjacent to town centres.</p> <p>Paragraphs 29-41 deal with sustainable transport and seek to reduce the need to travel and make greater use of public transport. Benefits to climatic factors would be expected following revocation while the effects on air quality would remain uncertain given the link between congestion and air pollution.</p> <p>The revocation of the policy would remove the certainty applied within the policy to developing a casino on previously developed land. The NPPF encourages the reuse of previously developed land which introduces uncertainty.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty It is unclear as to whether local authorities or developers will promote casino development which contributes to regional economic growth, creation and enhancement of sustainable communities, tourism and wider regeneration priorities.</p>

RS Policy: 18 – Employment Land Portfolio

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>One of the RES Headline Ambition Targets is to deliver a high quality portfolio of business accommodation and to ensure that businesses have access to well located business premises. It is considered that this policy (along with 20) provides the spatial expression of that ambition.</p> <p>Allocating an adequate range of sites to accommodate the full range of sectoral requirements to meet growth needs across a number of economic sectors will have significant positive benefits for the population, and contribute to the delivery of key plan policies 1,2,4 and 12 in particular. However, it will have a significant negative impact on material assets as more construction materials and aggregates are required. The policy will also have an adverse impact on water as development in the region is likely to increase per capita consumption of water. The need to regularly review employment land needs will ensure that there remains a balance between job and housing growth, and avoid movement of employment to unsustainable locations. Furthermore, the emphasis on using existing employment land should have a positive environmental effect on soils biodiversity (in the short and medium-term), and landscape by prioritising brownfield development. The SEA of the Plan highlights the particular benefits in Northumberland and Durham where there exists significant brownfield land within the urban core. Other impacts on the environment will depend on the location of</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 18 – Employment Land Portfolio</p> <p>The NPPF provides high level policy support for the identification of sites to meet the local authority’s economic vision for an area. The NPPF also encourages the regular review of strategic site allocation, and re-allocation where there is no</p>			

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>reasonable prospect of a site being used for the allocated employment use. Paragraph 14 of the NPPF states the requirement for local planning authorities to positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area. Paragraphs 18 of the NPPF states that the Government is committed to securing economic growth in order to create jobs and prosperity, building on the country's inherent strengths, and to meeting the twin challenges of global competition and of a low carbon future. The Government is also committed to ensuring that the planning system does everything it can to support sustainable economic growth by planning positively to meet the development needs of business. Local planning authorities should set criteria or identify strategic sites for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period. Furthermore, paragraph 21 of the NPPF goes on to state that local planning authorities should support existing business sectors, plan positively for the location, promotion and expansion of clusters or networks of knowledge driven, creative or high technology industries and identify priority areas for economic regeneration, infrastructure provision and environmental enhancement.</p> <p>Whilst authorities will need to carry out careful assessment of need when determining which sites should be protected for employment use, and will take into account evidence underpinning the regional strategy, there can be no certainty that they will come to the same conclusions.</p> <p>As with any pro-development policy in the region there would be adverse effects on material assets, however, these are likely to be no different from the effects arising from an equivalent amount of development located elsewhere (e.g. water and construction materials demand would be unchanged overall).</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>The NPPF also seeks to ensure plans remain flexible and capable of responding effectively to market signals and other factors which determine how land should be used. This provides flexibility not found in the regional strategy. This notwithstanding, it is not clear that revoking policy 18 would lead authorities to implement different policies than those in the regional strategy, though the NPPF provides the flexibility to do so. Such decisions could only be based on an assessment of need when the plan is being formulated or reviewed. The effects of revoking these policies are therefore uncertain on biodiversity, soil and cultural heritage.</p> <p>The policies on the provision of land for employment have been examined in all adopted local plans and/or core strategies in the North East of England region.</p> <p>The analysis shows that the indicative targets for net growth in jobs are explicitly referenced in 4 core strategies adopted after or immediately prior to the publication of the North East of England Plan, (South Tyneside has been excluded, noting that the Development Management DPD talks about safeguarding employment land in accordance with local / regional aspirations, whilst the Core Strategy provides for 40 ha against a target of 70 ha). These plans and core strategies also contain policies that allocate land for employment, and in some cases set out details of allocations of floor space for buildings required for different types of employment (eg office space). In the short term (ie including day one of revocation of the regional strategy) therefore there will be no impact of removing the North East of England policy in these authorities since the equivalent allocation is already set out within the relevant local plan.</p> <p>For the other local plans in the region the short term impact is more difficult to determine since allocations of land within these plans cannot be directly linked to the number of jobs these are intended to support.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>The revocation of this policy may result in Northumberland / Durham revisiting their employment sites within the urban core which are identified as being primarily brownfield. Whilst revocation may still deliver population and human health benefits, a change in focus on the use of brownfield sites would result in some uncertainty for impacts on soil. The same significant adverse impacts on water, air and climate change are all expected to arise given the likelihood of a new development to increase per capita water consumption, increase travel and increase greenhouse gas emissions. Development across the region will also place a burden on material assets with an increase in construction material and waste generation.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None identified.</p> <p>Assumptions None identified.</p> <p>Uncertainty As stated above, The NPPF also seeks to ensure plans remain flexible and capable of responding effectively to market signals and other factors which determine how land should be used. This provides flexibility not found in the regional strategy. This notwithstanding, it is not clear that revoking policy 18 would lead authorities to implement different policies than those in the regional strategy, though the NPPF provides the flexibility to do so. Such decisions could only be based on an assessment of need when the plan is being formulated or reviewed. The effects of revoking these policies are therefore uncertain on biodiversity, soil and cultural heritage.</p>

RS Policy: 19 – Office Development Outside of City and Town Centres

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	?	?	?	+	+	+	Likely Significant Effects of Retention This policy seeks to adopt a sequential approach to office development line with paragraphs 23-27 of the National Planning Policy Framework. Consequently this is likely to deliver positive benefits for population, air and climate change as well as landscape, soil and biodiversity benefits through less landtake on greenfield sites. However, it might lead to a negative effect on material assets as more aggregate minerals are required. The impact on cultural assets and water will depend on the location and quality of design of development. Mitigation Measures None. Assumptions This policy assumes that the city and town centres have sufficient public transport to cater for those commuting to work. Uncertainty Promoting sustainable public transport is largely carried by local authorities through local transport plans, with support from planning authorities.

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	?	?	?	+	+	+	
<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 19 –Office Development Outside of City and Town Centres</p> <p>The revocation of this policy is considered to have broadly similar effects to retention. The objectives identified in Policy 19 are addressed within the NPPF. Paragraph 23 states that planning policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period. In drawing up local plans, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities and pursue policies to support their viability and vitality. <p>Paragraph 23 goes on to state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in town centres. It is important that needs for retail, leisure, office and other main town centre uses are met in full and are not compromised by limited site availability. Local planning authorities should therefore undertake an assessment of the need to expand town centres to ensure a sufficient supply of suitable sites. <p>Paragraph 24 requires local planning authorities to apply a sequential test to planning applications for main town centre uses that are not in an existing centre and are not in accordance with an up-to-date local plan. They should require applications for main town centre uses to be located in town centres, then in edge of centre locations and only if suitable sites are no available should out of centre sites be considered.</p> <p>Paragraph 26 states the need for local planning authorities when assessing</p>																												

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>applications for retail, leisure and office development outside of town centres, which are not in accordance with an up-to-date local plan to require an impact assessment if the development is over a proportionate, locally set floorspace threshold (if there is no locally set threshold, the default threshold is 2,500 sqm). It is considered that the approach within the NPPF will help to maintain the viability of town centres and promote sustainable transport.</p> <p>It is considered that the NPPF maintains the clarification identified within Policy 19 that these objectives should not restrict development proposals within rural areas (Policy 11.1 and 11.2).</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty Policy 19 identifies that proposals for major office development will only be approved at Key Employment Locations (as identified in Policy 20 of the RSS). It will be for local authorities to assess whether this remains appropriate. Development away from Key Employment Locations may have adverse impacts on air quality (transport), biodiversity, landscape, soil and water.</p>

RS Policy: 20 – Key Employment Locations

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The policy identifies a series of key employment locations which should be the focus of future investment. One of the RES Headline Ambition Targets is to deliver a high quality portfolio of business accommodation and to ensure that businesses have access to well located business premises. It is considered that this policy (along with 18) provides the spatial expression of that ambition.</p> <p>The Sustainability Appraisal undertaken by Environ identifies that the Key Employment Locations cannot be considered as a single group as they are not a consistent group. The RSS panel report states that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baltic Park Gateshead – this site is consistent with the principles of sustainable development; Newburn Riverside – this is a brownfield site and has merit; Newcastle Great Park – this can be considered as a sustainable urban extension; North East Technology Park – this is remote from major built up areas, will generate higher levels of car traffic and will be difficult to serve by public transport. Wynard – this is remote from major built up areas, will generate higher

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>levels of car traffic and will be difficult to serve by public transport. Every opportunity should be taken to restructure the consents for this site to limit opportunity for large scale development;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Hartford – this site is at risk from sub division. Should be retained to provide a limited number of large development opportunities for manufacturing; Heighinton Lane West – with so much land available with planning permission at Wynard, there is no justification for retaining this site over the RSS Plan period. There should be a presumption in favour of regenerating and upgrading existing employment sites before bringing forward new employment land; Faverdale – this site is intended for only a small number of large investor projects; however it is clear that in the current climate there is limited scope for this type of provision. There are already ample opportunities in the Tees Valley city region to satisfy the needs of the logistics sector. <p>Key employment locations are identified as being less accessible than employment sites in the main conurbations or mixed use developments. Development on such sites will be highly car dependent with likely adverse impacts on air quality. The policy has sought to minimise impacts on climate change by emphasising that the proposals should achieve low or zero carbon emissions, including energy conservation measures and the use of decentralised and renewable or low-carbon sources.</p> <p>The policy highlights the need for developments to achieve high levels of sustainability. The original SA report identified that the development sites may</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>have their own ecological importance resulting in a neutral assessment.</p> <p>The policy requires the preparation of a waste audit and promotes sustainable construction and design methods.</p> <p>Several of the sites are identified as being greenfield sites e.g. Great Park as a result development is likely to have an adverse effect on soil and potentially landscape. Conversely, development on brownfield sites will have a positive effect. The emphasis on protecting historical assets and ensuring the integration of the development with the landscape results in a positive assessment for cultural heritage and landscape.</p> <p>Future economic growth will help to maintain/increase employment opportunities within the region resulting in a positive assessment against population and human health. The use of brownfield sites should result in positive impacts on soil. The same significant adverse impacts on water, air and climate change are all expected to arise given the likelihood of a new development to increase per capita water consumption, increase travel and increase greenhouse gas emissions. Development across the region will also place a burden on material assets with an increase in construction material and waste generation.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>In accordance with Paragraph 36 of the NPPF any development(s) which generate significant amounts of movement should be required to provide a travel plan.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															Uncertainty None.
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	Likely Significant Effects of Revocation Policy 20 – Key Employment Locations The revocation of this policy has been considered broadly similar to that of retention due to the policies contained in the NPPF and locations identified in existing local plans. The approach to seeking zero of low carbon emissions, encouraging public transport (adopting travel plans), ensuring that necessary infrastructure is coordinated with new development, protecting and enhancing historical assets and ensuring the integration of the development within the landscape are all key themes within the NPPF. The revocation of the policy has been assessed favourable against, soil, air, climatic factors, cultural heritage and landscape. This notwithstanding, it is not clear whether revoking policy this would lead authorities to implement different policies than those in the regional strategy, though the NPPF provides the flexibility to do so. The current policy status of the identified sites is summarised below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcastle Great Park - 80 hectares of land was allocated for the Northern Development Area (Policy ED1.1) in the adopted UDP (1998) comprising offices, high technology and R&D. Policy ED1.2 which identified the nature of development on the site was not subsequently saved. It is noted that SAGE has developed its headquarters at this site. Within the emerging Core Strategy, the site (Great Park) is identified as a employment location but is not one of the identified Key Employment Sites;

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newburn Riverside, Newcastle - This site (Newburn Haugh) is allocated for business and general industry uses in the adopted Newcastle UDP (1997). The site is identified as a Key Employment Site in the emerging NewcastleGateshead Core Strategy; Baltic Business Quarter - Baltic Business Quarter are likely to come forward as Accelerated Development Zones under the City Deal award; West Hatford, Cramlington – The 55ha identified in the RSS is replicated in Policy SS1 of the Blyth Valley Core Strategy; North East Technology Park, Sedgefield - The site is allocated within the former district of Sedgefield Core Strategy which identifies the future potential for expansion and allocates 67 hectares; Wynyard, Stockton/Hartlepool – The Stockton-on-Tees Core Strategy allocates 70ha at this site (policy CS4). The Hartlepool Core Strategy Policy EC1 identifies the site but makes no specific reference to the area to be developed; Faverdale, Darlington and Heighington Lane, West Newton Aycliffe – The Darlington Core Strategy allocates 50ha at this site (Policy CS5) for business and logistics. The policy also identifies a further 125 ha at the key employment sites of Faverdale and Heighington Lane. <p>The NPPF provides policy support for the identification of sites to meet the local authority's economic vision for an area. The NPPF also encourages the regular review of strategic site allocation, and re-allocation where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for the allocated employment use.</p> <p>The NPPF expects local planning authorities to ensure plans remain flexible and</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>capable of responding effectively to market signals and other factors which determine how land should be used. The NPPF therefore encourages a flexible approach where sites are de-allocated. This leads to a potential uncertainty in respect of the revocation of Policy 20. If land were allocated instead to housing or another category of use the impacts are likely to remain unchanged. If land were preferred for soft-end uses benefits may accrue.</p> <p>The revocation of the RSS will not result in employment sites being promoted and automatically included in emerging core strategies/local plans. There will still be a significant benefit to the population where new employment opportunities are created. It is anticipated that all of the named sites will come forward, therefore the assessment on soil remains the same as it does for retention with a recognition that some of the identified sites are greenfield. The same adverse impacts on water, air and climate change are all expected to arise give the likelihood of a new development to increase per capita water consumption, increase commuting and increase greenhouse gas emissions. Development across the region will also place a burden on material assets with an increase in construction material and waste generation.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>It is anticipated development of the scale proposed, were it to come forward will be subject to EIA which will identify mitigation measures. It is also anticipated that these sites will be subject to the preparation of green travel plans.</p> <p>In accordance with Paragraph 36 of the NPPF any development(s) which generate significant amounts of movement should be required to provide a travel plan.</p> <p>Assumptions</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>It is assumed that local planning authorities will operate in accordance with their statutory duties on environmental protection in terms of meeting air and water quality standards and affording the appropriate level of protection to designated habitats, protected species, heritage assets and landscapes, sustainable development and climate change including managing flood risk in plan-making and that they have due regard to the policies in the NPPF in plan making and development management decisions.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development across the region over the plan period and beyond. The ultimate effects of revoking the policy will depend on local circumstances as local authorities will have the freedom to set their own local priorities within the NPPF but it is assumed that in the long-term the effects are likely to remain unchanged.</p> <p>Impact is ultimately dependent on the accuracy of guidance figures, employment land assessments and effective balance between employment and housing growth. Overall there has historically been substantial overprovision of employment land within the region and these resources should be reconsidered by local authorities for other uses including the increased requirement for future housing need.</p>

RS Policy: 21 – Airports

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies that there is a need to ensure that transport investment is designed to support increased economic activity. In particular the RES identifies the need to support inter-regional connectivity. The RES identifies a series of actions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retaining existing London hub services from both Newcastle International and Durham Tees Valley Airports; Expanding services to other European Centres; and Developing a transatlantic route from the region. <p>Adverse effects identified with Policy 21 include impacts on climate change, local air pollution problems, associated infrastructure (unspecified whether on greenfield or brownfield sites) and impacts on tranquillity. These could impact negatively on climate factors, human health, biodiversity, soil, landscape and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Providing for further growth in air travel is incompatible with the need to address climate change. Reductions in impacts from shifting journeys to airports from car to public transport are trivial compared to the impacts of the flying itself. The policy identifies the anticipated growth in passenger numbers to 10 million per</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>annum at Newcastle Airport (double 2011 figures) and 3 million passengers at Durham by 2016. The effects are considered to be significant for air and climate change. An increase in activity will result in an increase in noise levels with the potential for adverse effects on public health. However, despite these localised issues, it is recognised that an expansion of the airport would support employment generation resulting in positive effects. The impact on soil, landscape and biodiversity is likely to be negative if the expansion of the airport is on greenfield land. A significant increase in passenger numbers will also increase the water consumption at the airport and will also generate significant additional journeys to and from the airport (with associated effects). Development will also have an adverse impact on material assets.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>EIA provides the mechanism for identifying mitigation measures to address negative effects associated with development proposals.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>None.</p>
Revocation	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 21 – Airports</p> <p>Future development at and related to Newcastle and Durham Tees Valley Airports will be driven by evolving national aviation policy and strategy, National Policy Statements (when published) and commercial operators decisions with or without</p>			

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>the regional strategy. The relevant local planning authorities will need to determine what planning policies are appropriate to support the airports informed by local needs and operators' requirements as well as National Policies and guidance on sustainable development. It appears unlikely that the revocation of the regional policy will in itself have any significant environmental effects in regard to the future of airports in the North East. Paragraph 33 of the NPPF states that when planning for ports, airports and airfields that are not subject to a separate national policy statement, plans should take account of their growth and role in serving business, leisure, training and emergency service needs. Plans should take account of this NPPF as well as the principles set out in the relevant national policy statements and the Government Framework for UK Aviation.</p> <p>Providing for further growth in air travel is incompatible with the need to address climate change. Reductions in impacts from shifting journeys to airports from car to public transport are trivial compared to the impacts of the flying itself. Consequently this policy will have negative impact on air and potentially a significant negative impact on climate change.</p> <p>Increasing air travel will increase exposure to noise and pollution.</p> <p>Paragraph 30 of the NPPF states that that encouragement should be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion. In preparing local plans, local planning authorities should therefore support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport. Paragraph 31 of the NPPF goes on to state that local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development. Paragraph 33 of the NPPF states that all developments which generate significant amounts of movement should be supported by a Transport Statement or Transport Assessment. The current local</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>planning policy context for Airports is addressed through the following Core Strategies and UDP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darlington Core Strategy Policy CS5 – identifies that 25 ha of land will be made available for employment uses of Tees Valley Airport, of which about 20 ha is airport related. Policy CS19 – identifies that the Council and its partners will work together to improve existing transport connections to and within the Borough; Stockton-on-Tees Core Strategy – Policy 4 identifies 50ha of land at Durham Tees Valley Airport as part of its employment portfolio; Newcastle UDP – Policy ED1.4 allocates land for airport related development and states that development will be granted for development which is required for the continued expansion by Newcastle International Airport up to and beyond 2006. <p>It has been concluded that the impacts on revocation are likely to be similar to those of retention.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures EIA provides the mechanism for controlling negative effects.</p> <p>Assumptions It is assumed that local planning authorities will operate in accordance with their statutory duties on environmental protection in terms of meeting air and water quality standards and affording the appropriate level of protection to designated habitats, protected species, heritage assets and landscapes, sustainable development and climate change including managing flood risk in plan-making and that they have due regard to the policies in the NPPF in plan making and</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															development management decisions. Elements such as capacity enhancements will be delivered through Local Transport Plans. <u>Uncertainty</u> The effects will depend on to what extent how local authorities implement the measures.

RS Policy: 22 – Ports

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the need to extend rail freight capacity to maximise the economic potential of the regions ports. In particular the role of Tees Port is identified as having a significant role in reducing some of the pressure experienced by ports in the south.</p> <p>Adverse effects identified as a result of vulnerability to climate change, leading to together with increased demand for fuel, and air and noise pollution. These could impact negatively on human health. However there could be substantial population benefits resulting from economic growth. A number of the regions ports are close to, or adjoin areas of international or national importance for nature conservation. These designated sites are afforded protection through legislation and as such any impact on biodiversity and water are considered likely to be neutral.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None identified.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It has been assumed that any potential for adverse impacts on sites of national or international nature conservation importance adjoining the region's Ports will need</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															to be subject to assessment. Uncertainty The nature of the proposals within the RSS are strategic in nature with limited details over the scale of the development proposal. Effects on soil, air, cultural heritage and landscape will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development at each of the identified ports over the plan period and beyond.
Revocation	0	0	0	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	Likely Significant Effects of Revocation Policy 22 – Ports The Governments National Policy Statement for Ports (January 2012) outlines the Government’s policy for ports. In summary the Government seeks to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage sustainable port development to cater for long-term forecast growth in volumes of imports and exports by sea with a competitive and efficient port industry capable of meeting the needs of importers and exporters cost effectively and in a timely manner, thus contributing to long-term economic growth and prosperity; Allow judgments about when and where new developments might be proposed to be made on the basis of commercial factors by the port industry or port developers operating within a free market environment; and Ensure all proposed developments satisfy the relevant legal, environmental and social constraints and objectives, including those in the relevant European Directives and corresponding national regulations.

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>The NPPF states that local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development, including large scale facilities such as rail freight interchanges and transport investment necessary to support strategies for the growth of ports, airports or other major generators of travel demand in their areas. Paragraph 33 of the NPPF also states that when planning for ports that are not subject to a separate national policy statement, plans should take account of their growth and role in serving business, leisure, training and emergency service needs. Local plans should take account of the NPPF as well as the principles set out in the relevant national policy statements.</p> <p>Paragraphs 30, 31 and 32 of the NPPF expect encouragement to be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion; local authorities to work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development; and, all developments which generate significant amounts of movement to be supported by a Transport Statement or Transport Assessment.</p> <p>With regard to the Tees Port, it is recognised that the River Tees and its estuary are identified as part of the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area and Ramsar site. These designated sites are afforded protection through legislation and as such any impact on biodiversity and water are considered likely to be neutral.</p> <p>Revocation of the Policy 22 will not remove the need to ensure that any development proposals do not have an adverse impact upon this internationally protected site.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>The planning policy context at a local level for Ports is provided through the following Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redcar and Cleveland Core Strategy – Policy CS4 – Spatial Strategy for South Tees Employment Area states that the Council and its partners will aim to improve freight access links to Teesport by rail and road; Port of Tyne – North Tyneside; Policy LE1/8 of the adopted UDP identifies that to meet the needs of marine-related activities including maritime trade and fisheries and to allow for their necessary development and expansion, areas of land with river frontage shown on the proposals map will be reserved for these purposes. The Port of Tyne has also been included within the North Bank Enterprise Zone and along with the former Swan Hunter Ship Yard is subject to a Local Development Order; Port of Sunderland – Sunderland UDP Alteration (2007) identifies Port of Sunderland (around Hudson Dock) as being a site for comprehensive development (Policy EC5.A). Policy SA6A.2 identifies that proposals for the redevelopment of land surplus to Port requirements for alternative employment uses will be supported. Support for port activities is provided through Policy T26 by seeking to control developments within and alongside the tidal water of the Port; Blyth Port – Blyth Valley Core Strategy. The Port of Blyth is identified as being adjacent to a SSSI (Policy DC14) and on a wildlife corridor (Policy DC16) in the LDF Proposals Map (2007). Saved policies W3 and W4 of the Blyth Valley Local Plan (1999) seek to protect and support port related activities. <p>In conclusions, the effects of revocation and retention of this policy are considered</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															to be the same. <u>Mitigation Measures</u> None identified. <u>Assumptions</u> The Port of Tyne (North Estate) forms part of the North Bank Enterprise Zone which has the potential to unlock future economic growth at the site. <u>Uncertainty</u> Effects on soil, air, cultural heritage and landscape will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development at each of the identified ports over the plan period and beyond.

RS Policy: 23 – Chemical & Steel Industries

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	-	-	-	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The chemical and steel industries make a vital contribution to the economy of the region, particularly Tees Valley. The policy seeks to safeguard some 740 hectares of land in order to enable long term growth. The identification and safeguarding of this land is likely to maintain or support growth in employments with benefits for the population. However the original SA identifies that there are likely to be specific biodiversity impacts associated with the development of these site.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>EIA of the installations likely to have significant effects on the environment should address mitigation measures.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>EIA of the installations likely to have significant effects on the environment should address mitigation measures.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Effects on soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development at each of the identified sites over the plan period and beyond. In addition, given</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															the existing challenging economic climate it is uncertain what quantum of development will come forward.
Revocation	-	-	-	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 23 – Chemical & Steel Industries identifies the need to safeguard 740 hectares of land for chemical and steel industry.</p> <p>By revoking the policy, if strategic employment land is no longer safeguarded to the same extent for employment purposes, it is possible that it might be used for other purposes such as housing.</p> <p>The impacts of potentially increased uncertainty for promoters of development on land for employment use are likely to be negative on material assets and population and human health if uncertainty then reduces their confidence to invest in bringing forward these sites. This potentially could result in negative effects at a regional aggregate level on employment arising from reduced construction for employment purposes, and/or an effect at sub-regional and local levels.</p> <p>As per the assessment of retention (based upon the original SA), a negative effect has been identified with regard to biodiversity given the reference to potential significant impacts.</p> <p>The current local level planning policy context for Chemical and Steel Industries is provided through the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stockton-on-Tees Core Strategy - Core Strategy Policy 4 (CS4) – Economic Regeneration states that a range of opportunities will be provided within the employment land portfolio to meet the requirement set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy, including up to 445 hectares of land for the Chemical and Steel Industries;

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>To maximise opportunities for the delivery of the Regional Spatial Strategy requirements land will be safeguarded for chemical production and processing, subject to environmental constraints, in the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. North Tees Pools, up to 100 ha; b. Seal Sands, up to 175 ha; c. Billingham Chemical Complex, up to 65 ha. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hartlepool Core Strategy (submitted) – Policy EC6 Specialist Industries states that the Borough Council will allocate land committed to accommodate a number of specialist uses including heavy industry, chemical and potentially polluting and hazardous industry (253.8 ha with 15.5 available); • Redcar and Cleveland Core Strategy Policy CS10 Steel, Chemical and Port-related Industries – supports the continued development and expansion of the chemical steel and port industries. A total of 230 hectares of land will be safeguarded for chemical and steel manufacturing in line with the RSS. <p>Mitigation Measures EIA of the installations likely to have significant effects on the environment should address mitigation measures.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty The quantum of development identified within the RSS has been incorporated into the relevant Core Strategies for Hartlepool, Stockton-on-Tees and Redcar and Cleveland. Effects on soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															development at each of the allocated sites.

RS Policy: 24 – Delivering Sustainable Communities

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>A number of the objectives identified within this policy are identified within the RES. In particular the RES and RSS acknowledge the same focus in terms of siting development and improving accessibility of development sites to improve access for jobs.</p> <p>This policy identifies the need to assess the suitability of land for development and the contribution that can be made by design. The policy seeks to ensure the provision of sufficient employment land in accessible areas by focusing on defined urban areas and considering their accessibility by public transport. Economic development will be linked to health, education and other social services in order to deliver wider objectives including social cohesion. This will help to deliver wider population, climate change, soil and air quality benefits.</p> <p>Positive assessments against material assets and use of sustainable construction techniques were recorded against the need for sustainable construction techniques and the provision of waste audits.</p> <p>The policy identifies the need to protect water resources referencing supply and treatment.</p> <p>As with any policy promoting growth and development, there will be adverse effects on material assets resulting from the use of building materials. Given the proposed scale of growth there are potential opportunities to maximise the reuse</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
																											<p>of materials, minimise waste being transported off site and specify recycled materials within the developments proposed.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>	
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 24 – Delivering Sustainable Communities</p> <p>The policy does not have specific spatial outcomes but provides generic principles for local plans. Paragraph 69 of the NPPF states that the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Planning policies and decisions should aim to promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might otherwise not come into contact with each other; • Safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder and the fear of crime do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and • Safe and accessible developments containing clear and legible pedestrian routes and high quality public space which encourage the active and continual use of public areas. <p>Paragraph 70 of the NPPF states to deliver the social, recreational and cultural</p>	

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments. In addition there is a need to guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the communities ability to meet its day-to-day needs. Paragraph 70 of the NPPF also expects planning policies and decisions to ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.</p> <p>Paragraph 72 of the NPPF states that the Government attaches great importance to ensuring that a sufficient choice of school places are available to meet the needs of existing and new communities.</p> <p>Paragraph 73 states that access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. There is a need for planning policies to be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Paragraph 74 goes onto state that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built upon unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or • The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or • The development is for alternative sports and recreation provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss. <p>Paragraph 75 states that planning policies should protect and enhance public</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>rights of way and access and seek opportunities to provide better facilities for users.</p> <p>Paragraph 76 states that a new Local Green Space designation has been created which will enable local communities to identify for special protection those green areas of particular importance to them.</p> <p>Paragraph 111 of the NPPF requires planning policies and decisions to encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed provided that it is not of high environmental value.</p> <p>Paragraph 114 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach in their local plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure.</p> <p>Paragraph 156 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should set out the strategic priorities for the area in the local plan. This should include policies to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homes and jobs needed in the area; • The provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development; • The provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat) • The provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and • Climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment including landscape. <p>Paragraph 161 of the NPPF expects local planning authorities to assess</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>locations of deprivation which may benefit from planning remedial action.</p> <p>As identified above, the NPPF sets out key Government objectives covering a range of topics including a number of the sub-policies within Policy 24 such as promoting mixed use developments and actively managing patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of public transport . However, the NPPF leaves it to local planning authorities to apply these policy objectives to fit the local context although local authorities are required to work together, under the duty to co-operate, to ensure that strategic policies are properly co-ordinated and reflected in local plans.</p> <p>In conclusion, the positive effects assessed for the revocation of the policy will be similar to those identified for retention.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u> None identified</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u> None.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u> None.</p>

RS Policy: 25 – Urban and Rural Centres

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary	
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L		
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 25 – Urban and Rural Centres highlights the complex interrelationships within City-Regions between the cities, settlements and rural areas in their hinterland. This is a high level policy which identifies the approach to focusing development within the main city regions and conurbations, allowing development appropriate in scale which is commensurate with the size and function of the settlement. As with any policy promoting growth and development, there will be adverse effects on material assets resulting from the use of building materials.</p> <p>The policy seeks to support the economies of existing centres and improve the correlation between jobs, housing and services – thus reducing need to travel, car reliance and improving access. There are therefore benefits for air quality and climatic factors (through fewer greenhouse gas emissions).</p> <p>The policy may give rise to adverse air quality impacts as a result of focusing development within areas which were already failing to meet air quality objectives.</p> <p>This approach could have significant longer term benefits to the population, particularly when related to policies on employment and services. The focus on development on the two main conurbations and main settlements should provide greater employment opportunities and allow the longer-term balancing of employment and housing, so reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>The proposal to allow regeneration of towns and rural service centres, and maintain vibrant rural areas should support the local economies and provide</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	0	0	0	0	0	?	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>The NPPF provides a strong policy framework for ensuring the vitality of town centres (paragraphs 23 - 27). Paragraph 23 states that planning policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period. In drawing up local plans, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities and pursue policies to support their viability and vitality. <p>Paragraph 23 goes on to state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in town centres. It is important that needs for retail, leisure, office and other main town centre uses are met in full and are not compromised by limited site availability. Local planning authorities should therefore undertake an assessment of the need to expand town centres to ensure a sufficient

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>supply of suitable sites.</p> <p>Paragraph 24 requires local planning authorities to apply a sequential test to planning applications for main town centre uses that are not in an existing centre and are not in accordance with an up-to-date local plan. They should require applications for main town centre uses to be located in town centres, then in edge of centre locations and only if suitable sites are no available should out of centre sites be considered.</p> <p>Paragraph 26 states the need for local planning authorities when assessing applications for retail, leisure and office development outside of town centres, which are not in accordance with an up-to-date local plan to require an impact assessment if the development is over a proportionate, locally set floorspace threshold (if there is no locally set threshold, the default threshold is 2,500 sqm).</p> <p>Paragraph 28 expects planning policies to support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development. To promote a strong rural economy, local and neighbourhood plans should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well designed new buildings; • Promote the development and diversification of agricultural and other land based rural businesses; • Support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors, and which respect the character of the countryside. This should include supporting the provision and expansion of tourist facilities in appropriate locations where identified needs are not met by existing facilities in rural service centres;

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship. <p>It also seeks through the transport policies (paragraphs 29-41) to promote sustainable transport and support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and congestion. Paragraph 30 of the NPPF expects encouragement should be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion. In preparing local plans, local planning authorities should therefore support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport. Paragraph 32 states that all developments that generate significant amounts of movement should be supported by a Transport Statement or Transport Assessment.</p> <p>Paragraph 34 of the NPPF states that plans and decisions should ensure developments that generate significant movements are located where the need to travel will be minimised and the use of sustainable transport modes can be maximised.</p> <p>Revocation of this policy will still mean that local authorities will need to comply with legal and national policy requirements. The NPPF sets out key Government objectives covering a range of topics including the delivery of strategic priorities, ensuring the vitality of town centres, housing, employment, transport, and provision of local services. Furthermore, local authorities are required to work together, under the duty to co-operate, to ensure that strategic policies are properly co-ordinated and reflected in local plans.</p> <p>In the short to medium term, as only 4 out of 13 authorities in the region have adopted core strategies there are likely to be some limitations on improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions (and thus health) through increased urban density and related public transport networks. These effects are</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>less likely within the Tees-Valley City-Region where the adopted core strategies are in broad compliance with the RSS.</p> <p>Since local authorities will need to define the approach to development in the sub-regional cities and towns, the effect of revoking this policy on other aspects of the environment is likely to be neutral.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development across the region over the plan period and beyond. The ultimate effects of revoking the policy will depend on local circumstances as local authorities will have the freedom to set their own local priorities within the NPPF but it is considered that in the long-term positive effects are still likely to occur.</p>

RS Policy: 26 – MetroCentre

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The policy was considered to have a positive effect on access to employment as it sought to maintain the spatial strategy of concentrating additional retail and leisure development in existing urban and rural centres by restricting additional development at the MetroCentre. In particular it was noted that there is considerable travel from rural areas and Durham City to the MetroCentre, this was likely to be exacerbated if expansion at the MetroCentre was to be allowed. Although the MetroCentre is served by a railway station and bus interchange it was considered that by focusing on existing centres there would be more of a reduction on car dependency. Reducing the need to travel by car is likely to deliver improvements for air quality and biodiversity.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary	
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L		
	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	?	-	-	0	0	0	?	?	?	?		?
Revocation	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 26 – MetroCentre seeks to constrain the development of additional retail or leisure development at the Metrocentre or the surrounding retail complex. Revocation of this policy may have positive effects associated with increasing employment opportunities but may have adverse impacts upon air quality and traffic congestion on the A1. In addition, expansion at the MetroCentre may undermine the retail role of Newcastle and Sunderland and to a lesser extent undermine the viability of Gateshead Town Centre which is subject to regeneration at Trinity Square.</p> <p>Impacts on biodiversity, soil, water, cultural heritage and landscape are uncertain and will depend upon the nature of any potential development sites adjoining the MetroCentre compared to those within potential expansion sites within urban centres.</p> <p>The current local planning policy for the MetroCentre is provided through the adopted Gateshead UDP Policy RCL8 which identifies that:</p> <p><i>The MetroCentre is an established regional shopping centre. Proposals here will also be assessed in terms of the extent to which the proposed development:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>improves the appearance of the MetroCentre; and</i> <i>promotes better integration with the surrounding area.</i> <p><i>Whilst provision should continue to be made for safe access to and within the MetroCentre by all forms of transport, priority should be given to improvements to access by means other than the private car, and in particular on-site pedestrian movement. Access arrangements for new development to the west of the main MetroCentre complex should ensure that it is fully integrated with existing</i></p>																												

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p><i>facilities.</i></p> <p>The emerging joint Newcastle Gateshead Core Strategy seeks to more closely reflect the aims of the RSS by seeking to assert Newcastle as the Regional Shopping Destination whilst the role of the Metrocentre is to be sustained and supported.</p> <p>The NPPF paragraph 23 states that planning policies should be positive promote competitive town centre environments and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period. In drawing up local plans, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities and pursue policies to support their viability and vitality. <p>Paragraph 23 goes on to state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in town centres. It is important that needs for retail, leisure, office and other main town centre uses are met in full and are not compromised by limited site availability. Local planning authorities should therefore undertake an assessment of the need to expand town centres to ensure a sufficient supply of suitable sites. <p>Revocation of the policy may result in the potential for some development to come forward at the MetroCentre, to do so any proposals would have to be in accordance with paragraphs 23-27 of the NPPF. Development at the MetroCentre could have positive effects for population where new employment opportunities are created. Adverse effects would be anticipated for air and climate change where new development generates additional trips by private car</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>to the MetroCentre.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is assumed that any development proposal at the Metrocentre would need to be subject to an impact assessment in accordance with paragraph 26 of the NPPF which states that when assessing applications for retail, leisure and office development outside of town centres, which are not in accordance with an up-to-date local plan, local planning authorities should require an impact assessment if the development is over a proportionate, locally set floorspace threshold (if there is no local set threshold, the default threshold is 2,500 sqm). This should include assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the impact of the proposal on existing, committed and planned public and private investment in a centre or centres in the catchment area of the proposal; and the impact of the proposal on town centre vitality and viability, including local consumer choice and trade in the town centre and wider area, up to five years from the time the application is made. For major schemes where the full impact will not be realised in five years, the impact should also be assessed up to ten years from the time the application is made. <p>It is also assumed that Newcastle and Gateshead are working in close partnership on developing their Joint Core Strategy in accordance with the duty to co-operate.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Uncertainty</p> <p>As stated above, Impacts on biodiversity, soil, water, cultural heritage and landscape are uncertain and will depend upon the nature of any potential development sites adjoining the MetroCentre compared to those within potential expansion sites within urban centres.</p>

RS Policy: 27 – Out-of-Centre Leisure Developments

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The policy sets out an approach for planning for out-of-centre leisure developments (to be considered in accordance with Policy 4 and Policy 6). As such it will require facilities to be provided in a location which is accessible and of a scale appropriate to the location. It is recognised that any development located in rural areas is likely to give rise to an increase in traffic, even where there are public transport links. The policy has therefore been assessed negatively in terms of climate factors and air.</p> <p>The policy does not identify any specific locations, therefore it is not possible to assess whether there will be any adverse impacts on biodiversity, soil, water, material assets, cultural heritage or landscape. By supporting development in existing centres, the policy will have a positive impact on access to jobs, facilities, goods and services in those centres.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is assumed that any rural or out-of-town development would need to incorporate new or improved high quality public transport services.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development across the region over the plan period and beyond. The ultimate effects of revoking the policy will depend on local circumstances as local authorities will have the freedom to set their own local priorities within the NPPF but it is considered that in the long-term positive effects are still likely to occur.
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 27 – Out of Centre Leisure Developments</p> <p>Paragraph 23 states that planning policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period. In drawing up local plans, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities and pursue policies to support their viability and vitality. <p>Paragraph 23 goes on to state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in town centres. It is important that needs for retail, leisure, office and other main town centre uses are met in full and are not compromised by limited site availability. Local planning authorities should therefore undertake an assessment of the need to expand town centres to ensure a sufficient supply of suitable sites. <p>Paragraph 24 requires local planning authorities to apply a sequential test to planning applications for main town centre uses that are not in an existing centre and are not in accordance with an up-to-date local plan. They should require applications for main town centre uses to be located in town centres, then in</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>edge of centre locations and only if suitable sites are no available should out of centre sites be considered.</p> <p>The revocation of this policy has been assessed as has having uncertain effects on biodiversity, soil, water, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape. The same positive effects as retention have been assessed for population associated with benefits delivered through economic development and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Within the North East, only four Core Strategies have been adopted on or around the publication of the RSS. This introduces an element of uncertainty as to whether individual local planning authorities will seek to follow the RSS Policy or adopt their own approach to sequential development (albeit one which will need to accord with the NPPF).</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Paragraph 26 states the need for local planning authorities when assessing applications for retail, leisure and office development outside of town centres, which are not in accordance with an up-to-date local plan to require an impact assessment if the development is over a proportionate, locally set floorspace threshold (if there is no locally set threshold, the default threshold is 2,500 sqm). This should include assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the impact of the proposal on existing, committed and planned public and private investment in a centre or centres in the catchment area of the proposal; and the impact of the proposal on town centre vitality and viability, including local consumer choice and trade in the town centre and wider area, up to five years from the time the application is made. For major schemes where the

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>full impact will not be realised in five years, the impact should also be assessed up to ten years from the time the application is made.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty There may be adverse impacts which arise from development proposals which are below the specified floorspace threshold having an adverse impact on town centres.</p>

RS Policy: 28 – Gross and Net Dwelling Provision

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the role to be played by The Regional Housing Board in setting the direction on restructuring the housing market.</p> <p>The increased provision of housing is likely to lead to positive effects on the population and human health in the medium to long term. However, this will also depend on related factors such as the quality of the houses, their density, location relative to green spaces and ambient air quality.</p> <p>The demand for construction materials and energy is likely to increase, as is traffic in the region, while the amount of waste generated is also likely to increase. These are likely to have negative effects on material assets, air quality and climatic factors.</p> <p>This policy seeks to increase and improve the region's housing stock The policy sets out specific targets for the average annual net additions to the dwelling stock between 2004-2021. Whilst it does not specifically mention land use, the increase in housing stock will lead to an increased demand on land for construction. The additional housing growth option proposed will result in greenfield releases e.g. Great Park in Newcastle as not all will be able to be accommodated on brownfield land. This policy therefore has significant negative impacts on the region's geology and soils.</p> <p>The impact of greenfield releases will be dependent on how in practice housing is implemented in terms of its location, design and construction. The link to Policy 29 (Delivering and Managing Housing Supply) and their emphasis on previously</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>developed land is good in terms of re-using land.</p> <p>The housing allocations could potentially have significant negative impacts on historic town centres although more generally, the effects on cultural heritage are uncertain as they will depend on the location and nature of development.</p> <p>There is a degree of mobility in the city region housing market meaning that people are willing to travel relatively large distances to work in the core areas. Focusing dwelling provision in Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley reduces this effect and supports the overall spatial and economic strategy of focusing development in these areas.</p> <p>The scale of the developments will have significant impacts on the character of the affected areas, in addition to negative impacts upon the habitats, wildlife and landscape of the region from the developments.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures Many of the policies in the Regional Strategy (for example, on biodiversity, water, air quality, cultural heritage and landscape) seek to mitigate the effects of the housing provision on the environment. In addition, the statutory duties of organisations such as the Environment Agency and water companies (in this case Northumbria Water) to plan for and licence the necessary infrastructure in a sustainable way.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty The actual effects will depend on the location, nature and scale of development in different areas, linked to available transport modes and the uptake of less polluting forms of travel. In the short term, because of factors such as the current economic climate, the rate of delivery of houses is likely to be lower than provided for by the strategy and therefore the scale of the effects will be lessened but still</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	?	?	-	?	?	+	?	?	-	?	?	-	?	?	-	?	?	-	?	?	-	?	?	-	?	?	-	?	?	-	substantial. Likely Significant Effects of Revocation Revocation of the Regional Strategy will not remove the need for more houses within the region. Indeed it is Government policy to boost significantly the supply of housing, for example through initiatives such as the Community Infrastructure Levy, New Homes Bonus and the local retention of business rates are intended to encourage a more positive attitude to growth and allow communities to share the benefits and mitigate the negative effects of growth. Without the Regional Strategy, local authorities will rely on the NPPF and their respective local plan policies. Those LPAs that had adopted local plans in conformity with the Regional Strategy or which post dated it are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darlington Core Strategy (May 2011), provides targets for average net additions to the dwelling stock from 2011 – 2026; • Middlesbrough Core Strategy (February 2008), provision in Core Strategy Policy CS9 for housing requirements in the RSS to be provided. • Stockton-on-Tees Core Strategy (March 2010) - Core Strategy Policy CS7 aims to meet the Borough's housing needs consistent with the RSS requirement to 2024 of 11,140 new dwellings; • Northumberland National Park Authority Core Strategy (March 2009) – No specific targets for new housing development were included within the Core Strategy. In addition to the above Core Strategies, South Tyneside Site Allocations DPD (April 2012) indicates that the allocations together with those within adopted AAPs are considered to be within the PPS3 +/- 10-20% range of reasonable deviation from the RSS and Core Strategy target trajectories;

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>For those eight authorities with a development plan which does not reflect RSS housing targets the RSS provided clarity on the quantum of development required; however, in the short term following its revocation, there is likely to be a temporary (short and medium term) period of uncertainty whilst some local authorities develop new local plan policies consistent with the NPPF and local needs. During this temporary period, it is likely that the level of development in these LPAs will be lower than if the RSS were in place. This will mean that the negative effects associated with development (on biodiversity, water, air, material assets etc) will be uncertain, as will the beneficial effects (on population).</p> <p>Paragraph 159 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should have a clear understanding of housing needs in their area. They should prepare Strategic Housing Market Assessment to assess their full housing needs, working with neighbouring authorities where housing market areas cross administrative boundaries. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment should identify the scale and mix of housing and the range of tenures that the local population is likely to need over the plan period which meets household and population projections, taking account of migration and demographic change; address the need for all types of housing, including affordable housing and the needs of different groups in the community (such as, but not limited to, families with children, older people, people with disabilities, service families and people wishing to build their own homes); and caters for housing demand and the scale of housing supply necessary to meet this demand.</p> <p>Paragraphs 173 of the NPPF states that it is important to pay careful attention to viability and costs in plan-making and decision-taking to ensure that plans are deliverable. Therefore, the sites and the scale of development identified in the plan should not be subject to such a scale of obligations and policy burdens that their ability to be developed viably is threatened. Paragraph 174 states that local</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>planning authorities should set out their policy on local standards in the local plan, including requirements for affordable housing. Paragraph 175 of the NPPF goes on to state that where practical, Community Infrastructure Levy charges should be worked up and tested alongside the local plan.</p> <p>Paragraph 47 states that to boost significantly the supply of housing, local planning authorities should use their evidence base to ensure that their local plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing in the housing market area, as far as is consistent with the policies set out in the Framework, including identifying key sites which are critical to the delivery of the housing strategy over the plan period. Ultimately, the environmental effects will depend on the housing delivered across the region, their location and other factors such as their design. Much of the NPPF seeks to mitigate as far as possible adverse effects on the environment. Overall, therefore the scale of the effects of revocation is uncertain in the short to early medium term, but over the long term is likely to be similar to retaining the Regional Strategy.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions It is assumed that factors outside the influence of the Regional Strategy, such as the economy and demand for housing remain the same irrespective of whether the Strategy is revoked or retained.</p> <p>Uncertainty As with retention of the policy, in the short to early medium term, because of factors such as the current economic climate, the rate of delivery of houses is likely to be lower than provided for by the strategy and therefore the scale of the effects will be less.</p>

RS Policy: 29 – Delivering and Managing Housing Supply

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the role to be played by The Regional Housing Board in setting the direction on restructuring the housing market The RES also identifies that development will be focused on brownfield sites in accordance with the RSS.</p> <p>The policy identifies sub-regional targets for housing development on previously developed land which reflect that 75% of the regions previously used land is located within Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley. Increasing the amount of development on previously developed sites, re-use of existing buildings and increasing housing density should have a positive effect on all environmental resources (particularly soil and landscape). Identifying densities for new housing development will help to protect the distinctiveness of rural and urban areas.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None Proposed.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty The RSS identified sub-regional previously developed land targets up to 2008 and</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>only a regional target to 2016.</p> <p>Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of housing development across the region over the plan period and beyond, linked to growth in local employment, transport and services and the uptake of less polluting forms of travel, local parking provision and access to green space. As such, effects on air, climatic factors have been appraised as uncertain.</p>
Revocation	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0	0	-	-	-	?	?	?	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>It is possible that removing the requirement to direct most strategically significant growth to the region's major urban areas and removing the target for the use of previously developed land could lead to less development within the major urban areas, and result in less development of brownfield land. This could lead to more development of unconstrained countryside. This could have negative effects on biodiversity through effects on and loss of habitats and species. However, actual effects will depend on the biodiversity value of any countryside lost, including any role it played, or might play, in contributing to a network or corridor for wildlife there could be either positive or negative effects.</p> <p>There are some limited potential benefits for biodiversity if it resulted in less development on those areas of brownfield land with high biodiversity value. There could also be benefits to human health where there were lower housing densities and more opportunities for green space within urban areas.</p> <p>However, if it increased the amount of development on greenfield land away from existing settlements, this could have negative impacts on the countryside (i.e. soil and landscape); and on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions (if there is a greater need to travel).</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Paragraph 50 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations, reflecting local demand. <p>Paragraph 51 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should identify and bring back into residential use empty homes and buildings in line with local housing and empty homes strategies and, where appropriate acquire properties under compulsory purchase powers. They should normally approve planning applications for change to residential use and any associated development from commercial buildings (currently in the B use classes) where there is an identified need for additional housing in that area, provided that there are not strong economic reasons why such development would be inappropriate.</p> <p>The removal of density targets could result in lower level density development necessitating more land to meet locally defined housing targets. This could have an adverse impact on biodiversity, soil and landscape.</p> <p>In considering the release of land and planning proposals, paragraph 47 of NPPF states that to boost significantly the supply of housing, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use their evidence base to ensure that their local plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for the market and affordable housing in the housing market area, as far as is consistent with the policies set out in this Framework, including identifying sites which are critical to the delivery of the housing strategy over the plan period; Identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable (definition of deliverable identified within NPPF) sites sufficient to provide five years worth of housing against their housing requirements with an additional buffer of 5%

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>(moved forward from later in the plan period) to ensure choice and competition in the market for land. Where here has been a record of persistent under delivery of housing, local planning authorities should increase the buffer to 20% (moved forward from later in the plan period) to provide a realistic prospect of achieving the planned supply and to ensure choice and competition in the market for land;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a supply of specific, developable (definition of developable provided in NPPF) sites or broad locations for growth, for years 6-10 and, where possible, for years 11-15; For market and affordable housing, illustrate the expected rate of housing delivery through a housing trajectory for the plan period and set out a housing implementation strategy for the full range of housing describing how they will remain delivery of a five-year supply of housing land to meet their housing target; and Set out their own approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances. <p>Overall revocation is to lead to greater effects due to the potential for a greater amount of development taking place on greenfield land (due to the loss of targets for PDL and dwelling density). Uncertainty remains however, due to lack of clarity on scale and location of any proposed development.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Paragraph 111 of the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed, provided that it is not of high environmental value. Local planning authorities may continue to consider the case for setting a locally appropriate target for the use of brownfield land.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development across the region over the plan period and beyond. The ultimate effects of revoking the policy will depend on local circumstances as local authorities will have the freedom to set their own local priorities in accordance with the NPPF.</p>

RS Policy: 30 – Improving Inclusivity and Affordability

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the role to be played by The Regional Housing Board in setting the direction on restructuring the housing market.</p> <p>A mix of housing type and tenure as well as an increased provision of affordable housing will have significant benefits to the population and human health.</p> <p>The policy could potentially help reduce the need to travel if the delivery of affordable housing meant that people in need of affordable housing lived close to where they work. The opposite effects would occur if the location of affordable houses led to greater travel distances.</p> <p>The impact on the region's landscape, character, sites of significance etc, all depend upon the quality of design and master planning and so are assessed as uncertain.</p> <p>Making adequate provision of sites for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople will deliver positive effects to population and human health. It could also reduce or remove adverse effects arising from illegal sites. The impacts on biodiversity, soil, cultural heritage and landscape will depend on where these sites are identified and so are assessed as uncertain.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty In the short to early medium term, because of factors such as the current economic climate, the rate of delivery of houses is likely to be lower than provided for by the strategy and therefore the scale of the effects will be less.</p>
Revocation	?	?	?	?	?	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	+	?	?	+	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation The assessment of revocation is in two parts, considering 30.1 and 30.2 with an assessment of 30.3 below. Revocation of the Regional Strategy will not remove the need for more houses, Indeed it is Government policy to boost significantly the supply of housing, for example through initiatives such as the Community Infrastructure Levy, New Homes Bonus and the local retention of business rates are intended to encourage a more positive attitude to growth and allow communities to share the benefits and mitigate the negative effects of growth. Paragraph 159 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should have a clear understanding of housing needs in their area. They should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare Strategic Housing Market Assessment to assess their full housing needs, working with neighbouring authorities where housing market areas cross administrative boundaries. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment should identify the scale and mix of housing and the range of tenures that the local population is likely to need over the plan period which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> meets household and population projections, taking account of migration 			

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>and demographic change;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - addresses the need for all types of housing, including affordable housing and the needs of different groups in the community (such as, but not limited to, families with children, older people, people with disabilities, service families and people wishing to build their own homes); and - caters for housing demand and the scale of housing supply necessary to meet this demand. <p>Paragraphs 173 of the NPPF states that in pursuing sustainable development there is a requirement to (give careful attention) to viability and costs in plan-making and decision-taking. Therefore, the sites and the scale of development identified in the plan should not be subject to such a scale of obligations and policy burdens that their ability to be developed viably is threatened. To ensure viability, the costs of any requirements likely to be applied to development, such as requirements for affordable housing, standards, infrastructure contributions or other requirements for affordable housing, standards, infrastructure contributions or other requirements should, when taking account of the normal cost of development and mitigation, provide competitive returns to a willing land owner and willing developer to enable the development to be deliverable.</p> <p>Paragraph 174 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should set out their policy on local standards in the local plan, including requirements for affordable housing.</p> <p>Paragraph 47 of the NPPF states that to boost significantly the supply of housing, local planning authorities should use their evidence base to ensure that their local plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing in the housing market area, as far as is consistent with the policies set out in the NPPF, including identifying key sites which are critical to the delivery of the housing strategy over the plan period.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>In the short to medium term, as only 5 out of 13 authorities in the region have adopted plans which include housing policies in accordance with the RSS, older policies may be out of date in terms of being able to meet local housing needs in these locations. However, the application of the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development and its policies to boost the supply of housing will help where plans or policies are absent, silent or out of date.</p> <p>Ultimately, the environmental effects will depend on the housing delivered across the region, their location and other factors such as their design. Much of the NPPF seeks to mitigate as far as possible adverse effects on the environment. Overall, therefore the effects of revocation are uncertain, but are likely to be similar to retaining the Regional Strategy.</p> <p>Policy 30.3</p> <p>The new national policy for gypsies and travellers, and travelling showpeople should provide the required provision for these groups. It asks local authorities to use a "robust evidence base" to assess needs for the purposes of planning and managing development of traveller sites, and to set targets for traveller sites based on their needs assessment. The policy asks local authorities to bring forward a five-year supply of land for traveller sites in their plans to meet the targets they have set and to update it annually. The policy also asks Local authorities to look into the longer term and also to identify a supply of specific developable sites or broad locations for years six to ten and, where possible, for years 11-15.</p> <p>The allocations of pitches for gypsies and travellers in all adopted local plans and/or core strategies in the region have been examined. The RSS included consultants study figures giving broad indications of additional Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Requirements to 2020 in eight local planning authority groupings. These were not identified as being firm targets, however it is acknowledged that</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Policy 30 suggests the figures should be used for DPD policies for ensuring that identified need is met.</p> <p>The analysis shows that plans in the North East adopted after the North East of England plan was put in place in July 2008 seek to make a provision towards the figures identified within the RSS. However, of the Core Strategies and DPD's adopted after the RSS, only the South Tyneside Site Specific Allocations DPD identifies a quantified increase on pitches to be provided.</p> <p>An analysis of all other local plans indicates that with the exception of Castle Morpeth who identified a single site in their local plan, other plans adopt criteria based policy approach to assessing proposals for gypsy and traveller pitches.</p> <p>It is difficult to assess what the impact of the revocation of the RSS will be since the RSS did not contain specific targets and current local plan policies contain a variety of planning policy positions.</p> <p>Under the new traveller site planning policy, after March 2013, if a local authority does not have an up-to-date five-year supply of deliverable sites, this should be a significant material consideration in any subsequent planning decision when considering the applications for the grant of a temporary permission. It asks local authorities to use a "robust evidence base" to assess needs for the purposes of planning and managing development of traveller sites, and to set targets for traveller sites based on their needs assessment.</p> <p>Overall future allocations (both in terms of numbers and location) will be determined by local authorities consistent with an assessment of local need and other sustainability issues.</p> <p>The difference between overall allocation and its distribution across the region will therefore depend on the difference in the assessment based on the robust evidence base assembled by the local authority under the new policy and the figures allocated to local authorities under the regional strategy system. Given</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>that the aim of the new traveller policy is to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply, it is unlikely that overall quantum of pitches and plots across the region as a whole will be significantly less than that estimated as part of the creation of the North East of England Plan.</p> <p>There should be the same benefits as with retention.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions Revocation assumes that local authorities will continue to use up-to-date evidence to plan for their housing needs, and regularly review their housing needs.</p> <p>Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of housing development across the region over the plan period and beyond, linked to growth in local employment, transport and services and the uptake of less polluting forms of travel, local parking provision and access to green space.</p> <p>The ultimate effects of revoking the policy will depend on local circumstances as local authorities will have the freedom to set their own local priorities within the NPPF but it is considered that in the long-term the environmental effects are likely to be the same as retention.</p> <p>Uncertainty Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development across the region over the plan period and beyond. The ultimate effects of revoking the policy will depend on local circumstances as local authorities will have the freedom to set their own local priorities in accordance with the NPPF.</p>

RS Policy: 31 – Landscape Character

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES Actions identifies that the quality of place is crucial to supporting the interventions and goals within the Business and People Sections. The RES acknowledges that the region’s environmental heritage and cultural assets are vital factors in contributing to its competitive advantage in terms of place.</p> <p>The first part of the policy effectively sets out the statutory requirements to afford the highest level of protection to nationally designated landscapes. Protection and enhancement of landscape character across the region, and particularly the nationally designated landscapes – including the Northumberland National Park, and Northumberland Coast and north Pennines Areas of Outstanding natural beauties as set out in part a of the policy – will have significant landscape and biodiversity benefits and will have population and health benefits through creating recreation opportunities. There are also significant cultural heritage benefits through the aim to respect local distinctiveness for any development in such areas.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>No mitigation measures are required.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Most landscape changes take place outside the scope of the planning system.</p> <p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 31 - Landscape Character</p> <p>The first part of the policy effectively sets out the statutory requirements to afford the highest level of protection to nationally designated landscapes. Paragraph 115 of the NPPF sets out national policy for these designations. There are specific policies restricting development in National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coasts, which would remain if the RSS was revoked.</p> <p>The NPPF also maintains the policy previously contained in PPS7 that local planning authorities should set criteria based policies against which proposals for any development on or affecting protected landscape areas will be judged (paragraph 113), while landscape character assessments should be prepared where appropriate (paragraph 170).</p> <p>The duty to co-operate, NPPF and relevant Local Economic Partnerships will mean that local authorities should continue to ensure that land use are mutually consistent, and deliver the most sustainable and effective development for their area.</p> <p>The NPPF requires landscape character assessments to be prepared where appropriate (paragraph 170). Moreover, the UK is a signatory to the European Landscape Convention 2000, which introduced a Europe-wide concept centring on the quality of landscape protection, management and planning and covering the entire territory, not just outstanding landscapes. Local planning authorities can have regard to the NPPF and Convention when pursuing locally focused approaches to landscape conservation. Furthermore if the policy were revoked local planning authorities would still need to have regard to the strong policy in the NPPF on conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment, and</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>also its policy on requiring good design – which includes ensuring that development responds to local character and history.</p> <p>The NPPF identifies the need for high quality design in both urban and rural locations. One of the core planning policies states that planning should always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings. Whilst the concept of Town Design Statements, Village Design Statements and Countryside Design Summaries are not explicitly identified within the NPPF, reference is made to the need for LPA to take into account the desirability of development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness. Furthermore, the NPPF states that there is a need for local design review arrangements to provide assessment and support to ensure high standards of design.</p> <p>Shoreline Management Plans should continue to inform the evidence base for planning in coastal areas (paragraph 168). The prediction of future impacts should include the longer term nature and inherent uncertainty of coastal processes (including coastal landslip), and take account of climate change.</p> <p>Given the statutory commitments and the range of policies in the NPPF, it has therefore been concluded that the effects of revocation will be the same as retention.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

RS Policy: 32 – Historic Environment

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES Actions identifies that the quality of place is crucial to supporting the interventions and goals within the Business and People Sections. The RES acknowledges that the region’s environmental heritage and cultural assets are vital factors in contributing to its competitive advantage in terms of place.</p> <p>This policy requires local authorities to identify, protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, and seeks to ensure that future development takes account of the existing historical context where possible to reflect local distinctiveness This approach will deliver significant cultural and landscape benefits. In some situations, it may also provide the basis for wider regeneration benefits.</p> <p>The policy has the potential to deliver benefits to material assets through the re-use of buildings and use local resources.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None proposed.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>This policy relies on effective co-operation between local authorities and English Heritage, and pro-active action by local authorities to identify historical assets, to provide detailed advice in plan-making and decision-taking situations over the impact of proposals on the historic environment.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary						
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L							
																																<p>Uncertainty Climate change will have impacts on the historic environment.</p>		
Revocation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation Policy 32 – Historic Environment Legislation protecting listed buildings, scheduled monuments, conservation areas and registered parks and gardens will remain in place. Paragraphs 126 - 141 of the NPPF set out strong national policy on conserving and enhancing the historic environment. It states that local planning authorities should set out in their local plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Paragraph 126 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should set out in their local plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation; • The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring; • The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place. <p>Paragraph 131 of the NPPF goes on to state that local planning authorities should take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation; the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness. <p>Therefore revocation of this policy is considered to have the same effects as retention given the National Planning Policy Framework and the legislative requirement to protect heritage assets.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions The RSS policy identified a number of recommendations for local authorities to prepare and maintain a list of locally important buildings, consider Conservation Area Appraisals (32.2 b-e inclusive). Since there was no formal requirement to adhere to these recommendations it has been assessed that the effects of revocation will be the same as they were for retention. It is assumed that local authorities will continue to prepare and regularly maintain registers of Grade II listed buildings at risk, consider preparing and maintaining lists of locally important buildings, registered landscapes, historic landscape assessments and prepare conservation area appraisals and management plans. Local planning authorities will also need to continue to liaise with English Heritage regarding planning applications where appropriate.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															None.

RS Policy: 33 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary						
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L							
Retention	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy contributes to the Plan's goal of integrating the delivery of biodiversity with social and economic objectives (including policy 8), and to ensure that planning contributes to improving biodiversity objectives set out in Biodiversity Action Plans. Protection and improvement of statutory sites and reversing habitat fragmentation/creating new sites will increase conditions for existing species and attract new species, leading to significant biodiversity, water and soil benefits.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>This policy assumes that local authorities will comply with their statutory duty under Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, in the exercising of their functions, to have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Improvement in biodiversity is also influenced by measures outside the scope of the planning system, for example agri-environment schemes. However, invasive species may be the result of climate change, and will be harder to eliminate.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary						
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L							
Revocation	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 33 – Biodiversity & Geodiversity</p> <p>Legislation protecting habitats, species and sites will remain in place. The legal requirement for local planning authorities to ensure that internationally and nationally designated sites are given the strongest level of protection and that development does not have adverse effects on the integrity of sites of European or international importance for nature conservation would be unchanged by revocation of the policy.</p> <p>The National Planning Policy Framework makes clear that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural environment, including by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible. The NPPF underlines that pursuing sustainable development means moving from a net loss of biodiversity to achieving net gains for nature. This means that local planning policies should promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations linked to national and local targets, and identify suitable indicators for monitoring biodiversity in the plan. NPPF section 11 on conserving and enhancing the natural environment, and paragraph 109 state the need for the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils; recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate. <p>The NPPF policies relating to green infrastructure and planning for climate change to mitigate the effects on biodiversity (paragraph 99 of the NPPF) are also relevant.</p> <p>The NPPF also makes clear that planning permission should be refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.</p> <p>New initiatives set out in the Natural Environment White Paper (June 2011), including Local Nature Partnerships and Nature Improvement Areas, along with existing non-statutory biodiversity strategies can be expected to assist in protecting and enhancing biodiversity. Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 requires all public bodies to have regard to biodiversity conservation when carrying out their functions. Policies on green infrastructure, planning for climate change to mitigate the effects on</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>biodiversity (paragraph 99 of the NPPF) are also relevant.</p> <p>Overall given the commitment in the Natural Environment White Paper to work towards a net gain in the value of nature and to assist with the delivery of green infrastructure it is concluded that revocation of the policy will leave a strong policy framework in its place. Protection and improvement of statutory sites and reversing habitat fragmentation/creating new sites will increase conditions for existing species and attract new species, leading to significant biodiversity, water and soil benefits. The magnitude of any enhancement will depend on local circumstances and decisions.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>The revocation of the policy will have no impact upon contributing to the Regions SSSI favourable condition by 2010 since this target is now out of date. However it is assumed that there remains an underlying commitment to improving the condition of SSSI.</p> <p>It is assumed that local Biodiversity Action Plans will continue in the absence of the regional strategy and that local authorities will take into account these plus non-statutory green infrastructure strategies in developing their local plans.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>None.</p>

RS Policy: 34 – The Aquatic & Marine Environment

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Although the region has an abundance of water supply, the purpose of this policy is to ensure the sustainable provision and use of water (including through water efficiency and sustainable urban drainage systems) in a manner which protects and enhances the river and marine environment. This approach should protect the habitats for many species whilst steering development to appropriate locations away from the risk of coastal change. This policy will therefore have significant biodiversity, water and climate change benefits. It will also preserve the landscape and help maintain public health and safeguard the conservation of marine heritage features.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Local authorities will comply with the legislation required to implement the EU Waste Framework Directive. It also assumes that local authorities will work closely with the Environment Agency and other relevant bodies to improve water resource and water quality.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
	Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>infrastructure implications of development through policies in their local plans, reflecting local circumstances and priorities and to actively engage with relevant bodies. Water companies will have an opportunity to work with local authorities on water infrastructure implications as part of local plan preparation.</p> <p>The NPPF and accompanying technical guidance identifies appropriate forms of development within Flood Zones 1, 2 and 3. The emphasis is on developers and local authorities seeking to reduce the overall level of flood risk and where appropriate apply the use of sustainable drainage systems. Coastal areas are dealt with in chapter 10 of the NPPF: Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change.</p> <p>The Marine Policy Statement (MPS) is the framework for preparing Marine Plans and taking decisions affecting the marine environment. It will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom marine area. It has been prepared and adopted for the purposes of section 44 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.</p> <p>The MPS will facilitate and support the formulation of Marine Plans, ensuring that marine resources are used in a sustainable way in line with the high level marine objectives³ and thereby:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sustainable economic development; • Enable the UK's move towards a low-carbon economy, in order to mitigate the causes of climate change and ocean acidification and adapt to their effects; • Ensure a sustainable marine environment which promotes healthy, functioning marine ecosystems and protects marine habitats, species and

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>our heritage assets; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the societal benefits of the marine area, including the sustainable use of marine resources to address local social and economic issues. <p>Shoreline Management Plans should continue to inform the evidence base for planning in coastal areas (paragraph 168). The prediction of future impacts should include the longer term nature and inherent uncertainty of coastal processes (including coastal landslip), and take account of climate change.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should apply Integrated Coastal Zone Management across local authority and land/sea boundaries. They should reduce risk from coastal change by avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas or adding to the impacts of physical changes to the coast. They should identify Coastal Change Management Areas where any area is likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast and be clear as to what development will be appropriate in such areas and in what circumstances. In addition, paragraph 114 of the NPPF expects local planning authorities to maintain the character of the undeveloped coast, protecting and enhancing its distinctive landscapes, particularly in areas defined as Heritage Coast, and seeks improvement to public access to and enjoyment of the coast. Paragraph 156 requires local planning authorities to set out the strategic priorities for the area in the local plan, including strategic policies to deliver the provision of infrastructure for flood risk and coastal change management. In the absence of the RSS, the policy requirements set out in the NPPF, Marine Policy Statement and SMP should steer development to appropriate locations away from the risk of coastal change. This policy will therefore have significant biodiversity, water and climate change benefits. It will</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>also preserve the landscape and help maintain public health and safeguard the conservation of marine heritage features.</p> <p>As such the impacts of removing the policy are assessed to be neutral or not materially significant.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Recreational activities at Kielder would need to be acceptable to Northumbria Water. Activities on the coast should not give rise to any adverse impact on features of nature conservation.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>None.</p>

RS Policy: 35 – Flood Risk

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p><u>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</u></p> <p>This policy seeks to manage flood risk in areas known to be at risk of flooding, but also to apply the sequential risk-based approach to development and flooding, in line with the approach now set out in the National Planning Policy Framework and the technical guidance.</p> <p>Prioritising development in the areas of lowest risk to flooding will have significant population and human health benefits. They could also have biodiversity, water and soil benefits in those areas.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u></p> <p>Policy assumes that sufficient flood defences will be put in place by the Environment Agency.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u></p> <p>None.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
	Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Management Plans to assess risks from coastal flooding and erosion and set out how to manage these risks. Shoreline Management Plans can continue to provide evidence for local plan-making.</p> <p>The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 places a duty to co-operate on all relevant flood and coastal erosion risk management authorities. The national Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England sets out the considerations and the approach to be followed to risk management, including the functions of those involved and how they can work together better. The national strategy seeks to ensure that local risk management decisions are made in a consistent way, and that decisions made in one area take account of impacts on another.</p> <p>In line with the NPPF and its technical flood risk guidance planning policy, local authorities should continue to take account of advice from the Environment Agency and other relevant bodies (including adjacent local authorities) when preparing policies in their planning documents on flood risk management and in relation to areas potentially identified as at risk of flooding.</p> <p>Overall, given the legislative and planning policy framework, the positive effects associated with the retention of the policy are considered to be the same following revocation of the RSS.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is assumed that local planning authorities will operate in accordance with their statutory duties on environmental protection in terms of meeting air and water</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>quality standards and affording the appropriate level of protection to designated habitats, protected species, heritage assets and landscapes, sustainable development and climate change including managing flood risk in plan-making and that they have due regard to the policies in the NPPF in plan making and development management decisions. It is also assumed that they will take into account non-statutory green infrastructure strategies in developing their local plans.</p> <p>It is assumed that the Environment Agency will continue to fund, build and maintain flood risk measures in the region.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development across the region over the plan period and beyond.</p>

RS Policy: 36 – Trees, Woodlands and Forests

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The policy seeks to achieve an increase in woodland cover by protecting and achieving better management of existing woodland and promoting new planting where consistent with landscape character. This approach will have significant benefits on biodiversity and the region's landscape, and could protect and enhance soil, water and air as well as delivering climate change benefits through its absorption of carbon dioxide. Promoting woodland expansion throughout the region will also have population benefits by encouraging walking and recreation. Furthermore promoting sustainable timber management, allowing some to be used as a fuel, would also have population and climate benefits, as a form of renewable energy.</p> <p>It is considered that the policy provides support to employment creation through the support for integrated timber processing facilities. It is considered that this could deliver population benefits through employment and reduce any adverse impacts on air quality by reducing transport movements.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	None. <u>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</u> The policy does not have specific spatial outcomes but provide generic principles for local plans. The policy seeks to achieve an increase in woodland cover by protecting and achieving better management of existing woodland and promoting new planting where consistent with landscape character. It provides protection for ancient semi-natural woodland and other woodlands of acknowledged national or regional importance in line with the policies previously in PPS 9 and now in paragraph 118 of the NPPF. The NPPF makes clear that planning permission should be refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss. NPPF section 11 on conserving and enhancing the natural environment and the Government's White Paper, The Natural Choice, recognises and supports the protection and improvement of woodland and forests. Paragraph 114 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach in their local plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. The NPPF also states local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Therefore LPAs in devising their local plans will need to take account. Paragraph 92 of the NPPF states that Community Forests offer valuable opportunities for improving the environment around towns,

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>by upgrading the landscape and providing for recreation and wildlife. An approved Community Forest Plan may be a material consideration in preparing development plans and in deciding planning applications.</p> <p>Paragraph 28 of the NPPF states that planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development. The policy identifies four key requirements which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the development and diversification of agriculture and other land-based rural businesses; and Support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors, and which respect the character of the countryside. <p>The concept of integrated timber processing facilities including related industries will be of particular relevance to certain authorities e.g. Northumberland with Egger Hexham and Kielder Forest. It will be for local planning authorities to include appropriate policies in their local plans as necessary.</p> <p>Local planning authorities will still need to have regard to the policies on conserving and enhancing the natural environment in the NPPF. Therefore, revocation of this policy would still be likely to have a positive effect on the environment.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Initiatives such as the Regional Biodiversity Strategy give the potential to act as a focus for joint working.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>It will be for individual local plans to determine what, if any, support is afforded to integrated timber processing facilities. As a result there is an uncertainty over employment.</p> <p>It is assumed that local authorities will take into account non-statutory green infrastructure strategies in developing their local plans; as most new woodlands are established by farmers linked to subsidies (see baseline) it is also assumed that the overall area of woodlands in the region will continue to increase although there will no longer be a regional woodland creation target.</p>

RS Policy: 37 – Air Quality

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy seeks to continue the downward trend in air pollution in the region, and making sure that it is considered as part of the development control process, particularly the impacts of traffic and the impact on designated areas.</p> <p>Reduction in pollutants in the air will have strong beneficial effects on air quality and benefits for human health, both in urban and rural areas. Furthermore, mitigation measures to offset the increase in pollutants inside or near designated areas should have beneficial effects on local biodiversity and population through seeking to mitigate traffic levels.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Further measures as part of new developments e.g. Travel Plans.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>The actual impacts of this policy will depend on local decisions. Furthermore, the main issues affecting air quality, for example the volume of traffic and number of car journeys, fall outside the scope of the town and country planning system.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary						
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L							
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Air quality has improved in the Region in part due to the decline of heavy industry and the closure of coal-fired power stations at Stella, Dunston and Blyth. However as identified within the baseline review there are four authorities in the region, Blyth Valley (now part of Northumberland), Gateshead, Newcastle and South Tyneside, that had declared Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) indicating that they were unlikely to meet the target for levels of nitrogen oxide/ dioxide/ particulate pollutants in their city/ town centres.</p> <p>Paragraph 124 of the NPPF states: <i>'Planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas'</i>. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the local air quality action plan.</p> <p>The NPPF emphasises good design, and paragraph 35 gives more detail on design relating to transport. Paragraph 144 states the requirements on local planning authorities relating to dust and particle emissions relating to minerals development. In preparing plans to meet development needs, the aim should be to minimise pollution and other adverse effects on the local and natural environment.</p> <p>Given the RSS policy provided generic advice on how local plans can achieve improvements and the existence of the above national policy framework for local plan to take account of there should be no material adverse impact of revoking this policy and the benefits should be similar to retention.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Further measures as part of new developments e.g. Travel Plans.</p> <p>The Environment Act 1995 identifies the responsibilities of local authorities to declare Air Quality Management Areas and prepare action plans where it is considered that air quality objectives are unlikely to be met.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

RS Policy: 38 – Sustainable Construction

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	Likely Significant Effects of Retention This policy encourages development which minimises energy use, promotes energy efficiency and increases the amount of energy from renewable sources. The policy also requires plans and planning proposals to promote and secure greater use of local renewable energy in new development. This policy supports Policy 2 on sustainable development and should deliver significantly positive climate change benefits. However, the impact will depend on how the renewable energy resource is delivered, since there may be potential adverse effects on landscape and cultural heritage such as from wind turbines (or microgeneration), but more positive effects on material assets should waste be a feedstock. Mitigation Measures None. Assumptions None Uncertainty None.

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 38 – Sustainable Construction</p> <p>With the legislative, policy and financial framework now in place to drive cuts in carbon emissions and deliver places well-adapted to its impacts, it is reasonable to conclude that the contribution made by planning decisions to real world outcomes will not differ significantly from what could have been expected with the RS's policies in place.</p> <p>Climate change is one of the core land use planning principles which the National Planning Policy Framework expects should underpin both plan-making and decision-taking. To be found sound, local plans will need to reflect this principle and enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance in accordance with the policies in the NPPF. These include the requirements for local authorities to adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change (paragraph 94) and co-operate to deliver strategic outcomes which include climate change.</p> <p>In addition to the statutory requirement to take the NPPF into account in the preparation of local plans, Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 puts a specific duty on local planning authorities to ensure their local plan (taken as a whole) includes policies designed to tackle climate change and its impacts¹.</p>

¹ Inserted by section 182 of the Planning Act 2008 “(1A) Development plan documents must (taken as a whole) include policies designed to secure that the development and use of land in the local planning authority's area contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.”

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
	Revocation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0		0	0	0

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>which reduce greenhouse gas emissions (not least through transport solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions); actively supporting energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and promoting energy from renewable and low carbon sources. These strategies are expected to be in line with the objectives and provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008 which introduced a statutory target of reducing carbon dioxide emissions to at least 80% below 1990 levels by 2050, with an interim target of at least 34% by 2020. The NPPF does not look to local planning authorities to set renewable energy targets. Local planning authorities are however reminded of the responsibility on all communities to contribute to green energy generation and, because of this, they are expected to design their policies to maximise renewable and low carbon energy development. In doing so, the NPPF is clear that local planning authorities should ensure that adverse impacts arising from such developments are addressed satisfactorily including cumulative landscape and visual impacts. Local planning authorities are specifically encouraged to consider identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources. The regional renewable energy and low carbon capacity study funded by DECC together with the National Heat Map can provide useful contributions to this local work. Local strategies can also set local requirements for new development to draw its energy supply from local green sources where this would not make development unviable. In comparison with a regional target, local councils will have more discretion to target their plan-making and policies where the real differences can be made.</p> <p>The NPPF's proactive, plan-led approach sits within a wider set of requirements and policy initiatives to cut emissions and deliver renewable energy that will be relevant to local plan-making and decision-taking. These include the UK's legally binding target that by 2020, 15% of energy should come from renewable energy.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Additionally, there are substantial changes underway to help ensure that local communities benefit from – and have more of a stake in – hosting renewable developments. These are aimed at supporting delivery on the ground and have the potential to change how energy developments are received locally. For example, Feed-in-Tariffs will encourage the deployment of small-scale (less than 5MW) low-carbon electricity generation, particularly by organisations, businesses, communities and individuals that have not traditionally engaged in the electricity market. Additionally, the Government confirmed in December 2011 that local authorities will be able to benefit from retaining all the business rates paid by new renewable energy projects. What renewable developments pay in business rates varies, but a medium sized (6 turbines, 24 MW) wind farm could pay over £200,000 in business rates per annum. The commitment to localising business rates is being taken forward through the Local Government Finance Bill which is currently being considered by Parliament. Subject to receiving royal assent, this will come into effect from April 2013.</p> <p>Overall, therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the impact of revoking the RS's policies on cutting greenhouse gas emissions and securing more green energy is unlikely to reduce the region's contribution to tackling climate change. Depending on the locality and mix of technology pursued locally, there may be changes in landscape impacts arising from revocation.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

RS Policy: 39 – Renewable Energy Generation

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention The policy seeks to achieve 10% of the region's energy consumption from renewable sources by 2010, rising to and aspiration of achieving 20% by 2020. This would contribute to the national target in the Climate change programme, and to meeting European obligations by 2020. There would be strong benefits to climatic factors as well as biodiversity through mitigating of climate change. Renewable energy sources include photovoltaic energy, solar-powered and geothermal water heating, wind, energy crops and biomass (such as wood from existing woodlands, sawmill co-products, and organic waste products that might otherwise be destined for landfill) and energy from agricultural, plant and animal, domestic and industrial waste. It includes energy generated as a product of anaerobic digestion and energy gained on site and/or from a decentralised supply, including power from combined heat and power (but excluding renewable heat). It has been concluded that the delivery of renewable energy technology will help to mitigate climate change with positive impacts across the environmental topics. The development of renewable energy generation will displace the need for coal and gas resulting in a positive assessment for material assets.</p> <p>Assumptions It is assumed that emissions from any renewables sources are controlled through environmental permits with no significant effects.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>There is a legally-binding target to ensure 15% of energy comes from renewable sources by 2020. The UK Renewable Energy Roadmap (July 2011) sets out the path to meet it. This National Target is 5% lower than the 2020 target which the RSS aspired to meet. Given the NPPF's policy for LPA to support the move towards a low carbon economy (paragraph 94) and increase the supply of renewable energy (paragraphs 97-99), there is still national planning support for investment and supply if the policy is revoked.</p> <p>The RSS adopted sub-regional targets for Northumberland, Durham, Tyne & Wear and Tees Valley with an overall target of 454MW of installed renewable energy capacity by 2010. The local plan analysis shows that, consistent with the approach adopted in the RSS, local plans and/or core strategies do not therefore include targets for the production of renewable energy at local authority level. Only the adopted plans of Darlington, Redcar & Cleveland and Gateshead make reference to contributing towards the RSS 2010 target, albeit without apportioning the target to a local level.</p> <p>Some local plans adopted before the North East of England Plan was adopted do not contain policies on renewable energy and for these authorities there is a clear policy gap. Other pre-2008 local plans contain policies that support the production of renewable energy but do not include a target for its generation for the local authority areas.</p> <p>In the short term, the amount of renewable energy development will be dependent on the decisions of individual local authorities made in the light of their adopted plans, the NPPF and other material considerations.</p> <p>It is noted from DECC 2009 statistics that the North East had failed to meet its 2010 target for 454MW of renewable energy with 281 MW of installed capacity</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>being achieved. Data from the DECC 2011 statistics illustrate that there is now 312MW of installed renewable energy capacity in the North East. There is a further 1047MW of consented capacity awaiting construction and a further 186MW in the planning system. If the consented capacity were to be implemented, the North East would exceed its 20% target of 897MW by 2020. Therefore, the revocation of this policy would have no effect upon meeting the regional targets as identified to the period 2020 resulting a significant positive effect on climatic factors and long term significant positive assessment for biodiversity.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures NPPF policies and statutory duties (e.g. Habitats Regulations) provide mitigation for the negative effects of renewable energy development on the environment. Habitats Regulation Assessment is carried out for any planning applications affecting Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty Although there is sufficient consented capacity to enable the North East to meet its 2020 target, there is uncertainty how targets will be identified at a local authority level in order to help meet national targets. In the long term this could have significant issues on EU and UK targets for increasing energy produced from renewable sources and reducing carbon dioxide emissions.</p>

RS Policy: 40 – Planning for Renewables

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Policy 40 identifies the need to support and encourage renewable energy proposals and in assessing proposals for renewable energy development to give significant weight to wider environmental, economic and social benefits. The policy also identifies the need to features of biodiversity and cultural heritage significance as well as areas of landscape value.</p> <p>Retention of this policy should have positive effects on climate change given its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It will also have positive benefits to cultural heritage through protection of designated sites and landscape areas given the emphasis in the supporting text (para 3.186) on supporting small-scale proposals in such areas so long as they have minimal impact. There are also potential air quality and population benefits if the larger renewable energy projects, such as biomass and energy recovery facilities, are situated in areas which are accessible by means other than roads, or are strategically located to minimise the volume of through traffic in built-up areas.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>The impact on the environment from renewable energy proposals will vary according to scale and location of the proposal. Any Environmental Impact</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Assessments which accompany individual proposals should address the mitigation of any significant negative effects.</p> <p>Uncertainty It is assumed that emissions from the operation of any renewable source are controlled through environmental permits and have no significant effects.</p>
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 40 – Planning for Renewables Policy 40 identifies the need to support and encourage renewable energy proposals and, in assessing proposals for renewable energy development, to give significant weight to wider environmental, economic and social benefits. The policy also identifies the need to consider features of biodiversity and cultural heritage significance as well as areas of landscape value. The planning considerations identified within the policy are addressed within the NPPF and would need to be included in any planning application/EIA submission. The effect of the revocation of this policy would be neutral.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures EIA of renewable energy proposals which are likely to have significant effects on the environment should address mitigation measures.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

RS Policy: 41 – Onshore Wind Energy Development

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy identifies the areas within the region which offer the greatest potential to accommodate onshore wind energy development, to support delivery of the targets in Policy 39, with the least environmental constraint. Retention of this policy will deliver significant climate change benefits. However, there is the potential for adverse effects on the landscape from wind turbines, although it is noted that the identification of sites has been informed by an assessment of constraints and landscape capacity studies.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Local planning authorities will seek to maximise onshore wind development in these areas, and the impact of each proposal will still be considered on a case-by-case basis, having regard to Policy 40 and any environmental impact assessment, to mitigate any significant effects identified.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>It is assumed that emissions from the operation of any major renewable energy developments are controlled through environmental permits and have no</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary						
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L							
Revocation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	?	?	<p>significant effects.</p> <p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 41 – Onshore Wind Energy Development</p> <p>The policy identifies Kielder Forest at a Strategic Renewables Resource Area and a number of broad locations which have the potential for medium scale and small wind farms. In the case of Kielder Forest, South and West Berwick upon Tweed, North/South Charlton, Knowesgate, Harwood Forest, Northern Coalfield and Kiln Pit Hill these were all identified within the Northumberland Structure Plan. The relevant policy in the Structure Plan is no longer saved and therefore the revocation of this policy leaves a void which may deter potential investors resulting in adverse environmental effects. However it is noted that the RSS policy left it to individual authorities to set out specific policies in their plans and strategies.</p> <p>With regard to the other sites identified within the RSS, it is noted in their May 2011 Consultation <i>Towards a Strategy for Low Carbon Energy for County Durham</i> the local planning authority identified that whilst North Durham Upland Coalfield areas have been subject to a landscape assessment which has concluded that the existing 32 turbines exceeds the scale of development originally envisaged for the area and as such opportunities for further development are limited. With regard to the South Durham Upland Coalfield, the landscape capacity study identified that this area is not capable of accommodating the level of wind turbine development envisaged by the RSS.</p> <p>The East Durham Limestone Area was identified as being nearly at capacity with opportunities for additional development limited. With regard to Tees Plain it was considered that this area could potentially exceed the identified RSS</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>recommended levels. Durham County Council intends to consult on their core strategy from mid-September 2012. It is anticipated that their proposed approach in identifying areas for wind farm development will be identified in the core strategy.</p> <p>Policy CS21 of the Redcar and Cleveland Core Strategy identifies two broad areas of least constraint have the potential for onshore wind farm development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Tees for medium scale development; and • East Cleveland for small scale development. <p>Neither Sunderland nor South Tyneside include policies identifying (broad) location(s) for future onshore windfarm development. Instead both the respective UDP and Core Strategy adopt a criteria based approach for assessing renewable energy planning proposals.</p> <p>In conclusion, the effects associated with the revocation of this policy are considered to be broadly the same as they were for retention.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u></p> <p>It is assumed that use will be made of the Landscape Capacity Studies commissioned by the North East Assembly which identified broad areas of potential for onshore wind farm.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u></p> <p>None.</p>

RS Policy: 42 – Overall Minerals Provision

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>Minerals extraction is a temporary use of land (for a short or long period of time), after which time the land is restored for a further use. The length of time of the extraction and the period of time before restoration is completed will vary between different sites. Furthermore mineral extraction is driven by geology and can only be extracted where it exists, which may include designated areas.</p> <p>The policy seeks to ensure the prudent use of the region's indigenous natural resources in line with sustainable development objectives. This policy will have a negative impact on materials assets since it involves the extraction of non renewable resources.</p> <p>However, retention of this policy will have significant population and health benefits through extraction of raw material to meet society's needs. Prudent use of minerals, such as maximising recycled or secondary aggregate, will have beneficial effect on material asset and reduce the amount of primary extraction required.</p> <p>Although it is recognised that there are measures to protect against adverse environmental impacts arising from extraction and associated activities, it is anticipated that there will be an adverse impact on biodiversity, soil, air and landscape whilst the site is under operation, this may be fully mitigated by high</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>quality working standards and restoration required under the National Planning Policy Framework and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Overall the effect on biodiversity and landscape is likely to be minor positive.</p> <p>Whilst the policy promotes the use of non-road transport modes 'wherever practicable', the policy recognises that the extraction of minerals brings additional traffic. The policy therefore results in minor negative effects for air and climate factors.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>The environmental impact assessments should identify any significant effect which can be mitigated.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Minerals planning authorities continue to safeguard sites to prevent sterilisation of mineral, and continue to use secondary and recycled material to minimise the need for primary extraction throughout the Plan period.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>The actual environmental impact of mineral extraction will depend on the scale, nature and location of the proposed site.</p>
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Revocation of this policy is not likely to have a significant environmental effect. Paragraphs 143-149 of the NPPF set out the national policies for minerals extraction. The NPPF requires mineral planning authorities to plan for minerals extraction, it provides strong protections for the natural and historic environment, human health, and important landscapes, it provides for the restoration and</p>		

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>aftercare of worked sites at the earliest opportunity and for it to be carried out to the highest standards. This may include restoration to biodiversity. It also actively encourages consideration of recycled and secondary sources before the extraction of primary materials and the safeguarding of known mineral resource to avoid unnecessary sterilisation of the mineral. Soil, air, climatic factors and materials assets continue to be appraised negatively since it involves the extraction of non renewable resources, and will involve an increase in road transport. The assessment of revocation remains the same as it does for retention.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures The environmental impact assessments should identify any significant effect which can be mitigated.</p> <p>Assumptions Minerals planning authorities continue to safeguard sites to prevent sterilisation of mineral, and continue to use secondary and recycled material to minimise the need for primary extraction throughout the Plan period.</p> <p>Uncertainty The actual environmental impact of mineral extraction will depend on the scale, nature and location of the proposed site.</p>

RS Policy: 43 – Aggregate Minerals Provision

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy should be read alongside Policy 42, and sets out sets out an apportionment for aggregate mineral over the plan period to ensure that the region contributes towards ensuring a steady and adequate supply of aggregates across the country. Retention of this policy will have significant population benefits through extraction of raw material to meet society’s needs. Prudent use of minerals, such as maximising recycled or secondary aggregate, will minimise primary extraction and result in minor negative effects for material assets. Safeguarding wharves will also allow imports from marine sources, so reducing the need for extraction in the region.</p> <p>The environmental impact of this policy is as for Policy 42 above.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>The environmental impact assessments for each proposal should identify any significant effect which can be mitigated.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>The full apportionment is planned for and extracted over the plan period.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>The actual environmental impact of mineral extraction will depend on the scale, nature and location of the proposed site.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
	Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>known mineral resource as well as the need to safeguard existing and potential rail links to quarries, wharfage and associated storage. These paragraphs also provide strong protection for the natural and historic environment, human health and important landscapes.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures The environmental impact assessments for each proposal should identify any significant effect which can be mitigated.</p> <p>Assumptions The full apportionment is planned for and extracted over the plan period.</p> <p>Uncertainty The actual environmental impact of mineral extraction will depend on the scale, nature and location of the proposed site.</p>

RS Policy: 44 – Opencast Coal

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary		
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L			
Retention	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	<p><u>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</u></p> <p>With the region have significant coal resource; this policy sets the overall framework for identifying areas of resource and governing its extraction. This policy largely reflects existing Government policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, including paragraph 149 which sets out the criteria for determining individual applications.</p> <p>Retention of this policy will ensure that the region still plans for opencast coal extraction. As a fossil fuel, extraction will have a negative impact on climatic factors, but positive effects on human health through the provision of employment and contributing to meeting the country's energy needs. The intention of the policy is to ensure that proposals are environmentally acceptable, but the actual impact of extraction will vary depending on the scale, and location.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u></p> <p>EIA of opencast works likely to have significant effects on the environment should address mitigation measures.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u></p> <p>Minerals planning authorities continue to safeguard sites to prevent sterilisation of coal extraction throughout the Plan period. The environmental impact assessments should identify any significant effect which can be mitigated. This</p>		

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	Likely Significant Effects of Revocation Policy 44 – Opencast Coal This policy largely reflects previous policy in <i>Minerals Planning Guidance note 3</i> . Paragraphs 143, 147 and 148 of the <i>National Planning Policy Framework</i> set out Government policy on extraction of energy minerals. Minerals planning authorities are required to plan for opencast coal extraction where coal resources exist, and stockpile fireclay wherever possible. Paragraph 149 of the NPPF sets out updated policy on coal extraction. Planning policy for coal mining remains unchanged and there is still a clear expectation that the environmental effects of coal mining are properly considered in the planning process. However, the wording of the policy has been refined to provide greater clarity, given that the <i>NPPF</i> includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development. As identified under retention, the extraction of a fossil fuel will have a negative impact on climatic factors, soils, material assets and landscape but positive effects on human health through the provision of employment and contributing to meeting the country’s energy needs. The intention of the policy is to ensure that			

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>proposals are environmentally acceptable, but the actual impact of extraction will vary depending on the scale, and location.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures EIA of opencast works likely to have significant effects on the environment should address mitigation measures. Although adverse effects have been identified in the short, medium and long term, impacts on soil, biodiversity and landscape should be addressed through the implementation of a restoration strategy for opencast sites.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

RS Policy: 45 – Sustainable Waste Management

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The policy reinforces aspects of national policy that will need to apply across the region if waste generation is to be successfully decoupled from economic growth. It respects the European and national policy context and, in seeking to achieve the required shift towards more sustainable waste management, building on principles set out in the Waste Strategy for England and PPS10. Moving waste up the waste hierarchy, such as through promotion of waste minimisation and re-use activities will have significant benefits to material assets from example by replacing primary aggregate with recycled construction waste. It will also have climate change and air quality benefits from having to manage less waste. Furthermore, the provision of suitable facilities will have benefits to human health. The drive to reduce the amount of waste disposed of to landfill will reduce the risk of water contamination and emission of green house gases (i.e. methane). However, modern waste management practice seeks to prevent this. Reducing the need to send waste to landfill will have positive effects on soil and landscape and biodiversity.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 45 Sustainable Waste Management</p> <p>Policy 45 seeks to establish a policy framework for sustainable waste management based on the waste hierarchy, the proximity principle, and stresses the need for initiatives that encourage behavioural change through waste.</p> <p>Revocation of this policy is not likely to have a significant negative environmental effect. Local planning authorities are expected to draw up local plans which comply with Planning Policy Statement 10. This policy sets out key objectives to deliver sustainable waste management, and highlights the pivotal role of the planning system in putting in place the right facilities at the right time in the right place. These key objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving waste management up the hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource and looking to dispose as the last option, but one which must be adequately catered for; • Preparing and delivering planning strategies that provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste; 			

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping to implement the international and national waste legislation and targets; Ensuring waste is handled safely, and enabling waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations. <p>Moving waste up the waste hierarchy, such as through promotion of waste minimisation and re-use activities will have significant benefits to material assets from example by replacing primary aggregate with recycled construction waste. It will also have climate change and air quality benefits from having to manage less waste. Furthermore, the provision of suitable facilities will have benefits to human health. The drive to reduce the amount of waste disposed of to landfill will reduce the risk of water contamination and emission of green house gases (i.e. methane). However, modern waste management practice seeks to prevent this. Reducing the need to send waste to landfill will have positive effects on soil and landscape and biodiversity. The assessment has concluded that the environmental impacts of retention and revocation will be the same.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None</p> <p>Assumptions In order to help reduce the volume of waste generated it will be necessary to promote behavioural change which is largely delivered outside of the planning system.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

RS Policy: 46 – Waste Management Provision

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	
Retention	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy provides the framework for managing non-hazardous waste in the region, setting recycling targets and the overall volume of waste to be managed throughout the plan period.</p> <p>Continuing to drive waste up the waste hierarchy, and only landfilling waste as a last resort, would have positive effects on water, air, climatic factors and material assets for the reasons set out in relation to Policy 45.</p> <p>National planning policy requires individual planning authorities to plan for waste arising in its area, taking into account capacity requirements, and that they should continue to monitor waste arisings. The criteria in parts a), b), d) and e) reflect current national policy, whilst part c) is consistent with national policy aimed at factoring in sustainable waste management within individual developments. It should have significant benefits to air quality and contribute positively to climatic factors reducing the distance waste should travel for recovery or disposal.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Waste management can have significant adverse effects across the SEA topics</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>if not properly managed. The Environment Agency's permitting regime, covering the operation of individual sites, addresses these issues. Furthermore, this assessment assumes that waste planning authorities put in place and maintain up-to-date waste plans.</p> <p>Uncertainty Policy 46b is an aspirational measure which cannot be delivered through the planning system.</p>
Revocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Waste Planning Authorities will still be required to comply with national policy in Planning Policy Statement 10 and the National Planning Policy Framework, as well as their legal obligations under the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011. Waste planning authorities should plan for the waste management needs in their area, driving waste management up the hierarchy, helping to implement the international and national waste legislation and take more responsibility for their own waste. Each waste planning authority should set out its ambitions for additional waste management capacity required, based on an assessment of existing and forecast waste arisings, and should monitor to enable it to adapt if required. Furthermore, waste planning authorities should assess the suitability of land against criteria set out in PPS10, including the physical and environmental constraints on development and the cumulative effect of previous waste disposal facilities on the well-being of the local community.</p> <p>There are 9 local waste plans in the region, of which only the two most recently adopted (Tees Valley and South Tyneside) based the forecasts set out in Table 3 and 3A which support policy 46. The other plans rely largely on generic policies to assess the need for and suitability of development, or rely on future</p>			

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>work to be carried out in order to assess the need for additional capacity.</p> <p>Those authorities which need to prepare up-to-date waste plans will need to do so based on relevant and up-to-date data – which they will obtain through close co-operation with the Environment Agency and other waste planning authorities - and are required to monitor performance against provisions in their plan. In doing so, paragraph 218 of the NPPF makes it clear that they are able to draw on planning authorities may also continue to draw on evidence that informed the preparation of regional strategies (such as Tables 3 and 3A) to support local plan policies as supplemented as needed by up to date, robust local evidence.</p> <p>The target on Commercial and Industrial Waste exceeds that required by national policy but to deliver all targets require a step change in provision for recycling, composting and recovery is needed. Decisions about how targets are met should take account of local circumstances. The policy allows for the range, type, capacity and location of new waste and/ or expanded waste management facilities and their operational arrangements to be determined by the waste planning authority (or authorities) concerned, informed by relevant appraisals. The basic principles on allocating sites for handling waste are set out in PPS10 and will continue to apply locally.</p> <p>Paragraphs 35 and 36 of PPS10 make it clear that good design and layout in new development can help to secure opportunities for sustainable waste management, including for kerbside collection; and that new development makes sufficient provision for waste management.</p> <p>Overall, therefore, revocation of this policy and the requirements of tables 3 and 3A are not likely to lead to any change in effect, either in the short or long-term as a result.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions Waste planning authorities produce up-to-date plans to provide sites to facilitate movement up the waste hierarchy. As waste management can have significant adverse effects across the SEA topics if not properly managed it is assumed the Environment Agency's permitting regime will adequately address these issues.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>

RS Policy: 47 – Hazardous Waste

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy sets out the strategic framework for managing hazardous waste in the region, setting out the expected arisings of hazardous waste, their disposal route, and requiring waste planning authorities to identify site or criteria for the location to manage these wastes. National planning policy requires individual planning authorities to plan for waste arising in its area, taking into account capacity requirements, and that they should continue to monitor waste arisings. Expecting the region to deal with all its hazardous waste arisings, and encouraging the facilities closest to where the majority of arisings occur, will reduce travel of such waste, so improving air quality and climate factors.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Waste management can have significant adverse effects across the SEA topics if not properly managed. The Environment Agency's permitting regime, covering the operation of individual sites, address these issues.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Given the nature of hazardous waste, it may not be economically feasible to develop required capacity or facilities to deal with all hazardous waste arising in the region.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
	Revocation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>of individual sites, address these issues.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>Given the nature of hazardous waste, it may not be economically feasible to develop required capacity or facilities to deal with all hazardous waste arising in the region.</p>

RS Policy: 48 – International Gateways

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>The RES identifies the need to utilise the Region's national and international links to drive up productivity and in particular references the need to support and enhance the region's ports and airports.</p> <p>This policy seeks to improve surface infrastructure to support the development of the region's ports and airports, as set out in policies 21 and 22. Retention of this policy will encourage more sustainable modes of freight transport at ports but, should the volume of tonnage going through ports increase, as Policy 22 envisages, such benefits may be offset by increased road tonnage.</p> <p>Equally, proposed surface access improvements to serve increased numbers of passengers at the region's airports may have climate change and air quality benefits through reduced emissions from public transport. However, this may be offset by increased emissions through more travel to and from the airports following increased passenger numbers as a consequence of the road improvements</p> <p>The impacts of this policy are uncertain, but are likely to be negative rather than positive. Population has been assessed positively on the basis that increasing connectivity will result in localised adverse impacts but overall will provide greater benefits.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	Likely Significant Effects of Revocation The NPPF approach to promoting sustainable transport highlights that Local Transport Plans along with the duty to co-operate will facilitate work by local authorities to promote public transport movements between Regional Transport Nodes. The NPPF also states that local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development. The duty to co-operate will assist the strategic approach. Therefore local authorities will be able to continue to ensure spatial planning and local transports is mutually consistent and deliver the most sustainable patterns of development for their area. It is considered that Airport and Port related developments will be driven by the respective operators in accordance with Government Guidance. It is therefore considered that the appraisal for retention is equally valid for revocation. It is noted that Paragraph 33 of the NPPF identifies that when planning for ports, airports and airfields that are not subject to a separate national policy statement, plans should take account of their growth and role in serving business, leisure,

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>training and emergency service needs. Paragraph 41 of the NPPF states that also identifies that local planning authorities should identify and protect, where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice.</p> <p>The impacts of the revocation of this policy are uncertain, but are likely to be negative rather than positive. Population has been assessed positively on the basis that increasing connectivity will result in localised adverse impacts but overall will provide greater benefits.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u> None.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u> None.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u> Effects will depend on the resulting scale, nature and location of development across the region over the plan period and beyond.</p>

RS Policy: 49 – Regional Transport Corridors

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the need for stakeholders to work together and with the Regional Transport Board to prioritise investments to support the region’s housing and economic development objectives.</p> <p>This policy seeks to develop and improve key transport corridors in the region to support projected growth, through a combination of road and rail expansion movement, and demand management measures. Air quality and climate change have been appraised negatively on the basis that the road improvements are likely to increase vehicle movements reducing air quality and resulting in an increase in greenhouse gases.</p> <p>The policy has been appraised positively against population on the basis that it seeks to promote and improve access to services and facilities.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None</p> <p>Assumptions It is assumed that local planning authorities and transport authorities will work together under the duty to co-operate to deliver positive outcomes.</p> <p>Uncertainty Many of the measures proposed are outside the scope of the planning system. As a result the assessment has concluded uncertain environmental effects for</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															biodiversity, soil, cultural heritage and landscape.

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>The policy deals with transport investment priorities. It identifies a number of locations/ transport corridors which it considers requires further work. Paragraph 30 of the NPPF states that encouragement should be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion. In preparing local plans, local planning authorities should therefore support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>Paragraph 31 of the NPPF requires local authorities to work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development, including large scale facilities such as rail interchanges, roadside facilities for motorists or transport investment necessary to support strategies for growth of ports, airports or other major generators of travel demand in their areas.</p> <p>Paragraph 41 of the NPPF goes on to state the need for local planning authorities to identify and protect, where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice.</p> <p>Whilst the proposals detailed within Policy 49 seek to make the best use of existing infrastructure, it is considered that investment on the highway network is likely to result in an adverse increase in air quality, climatic factors and material assets unless they are supported by an investment in public transport. It is concluded that the effects are likely to be the same as retention in the short to long term.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is assumed that local planning authorities and transport authorities will work together under the duty to co-operate to deliver positive outcomes.</p> <p>Certain projects may need to be considered as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects under the Planning Act 2008.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>The impact will depend on sufficient funding for local transport projects, either through the local transport plan or through the Community Infrastructure Levy.</p> <p>Many of the measures proposed are outside the scope of the planning system or lack sufficient detail to make a full assessment. As a result the assessment has concluded uncertain environmental effects for biodiversity, soil, cultural heritage and landscape.</p>

RS Policy: 50 – Regional Public Transport Provision

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES addresses public transport in a number of key areas identifying the role improved public transport can play in enhancing employment opportunities in rural and deprived areas and providing a viable alternative to the level of commuting by private car, particularly into and out of the City-Regions.</p> <p>This policy seeks to rebalance the transport system in favour of more sustainable modes by setting the framework for improvements to public transport across the region, with particular emphasis on sustainable travel within the city-regions and to key Employment locations and other employment areas. Seeking to deliver a shift away from the car towards public transport should significantly improve human health, reduce inequality by increasing access to employment locations and result in improvements to air quality whilst also contributing to tackling climate change.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is assumed that local planning authorities and transport authorities will work together under the duty to co-operate to deliver positive outcomes.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>Uncertainty</p> <p>The impact will depend on sufficient funding for local transport projects, either through the local transport plan or through the Community Infrastructure Levy.</p> <p>The effects of this policy will depend, in part, on behavioural change with the need for the local population to drive less and increase the use of public transport, walking and cycling.</p>
Revocation	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 50 – Regional Public Transport Provision</p> <p>Policy 50 does not have specific spatial outcomes but provides the generic planning policy context in which local plans will promote sustainable travel patterns and passenger movements in the region. The NPPF and other relevant government policies reflect the new administration's transport related policy context for local plans to take account of.</p> <p>The revoking of this policy will simplify the planning policy framework and have no material SEA impact, beyond those already identified associated with retention.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>None.</p>

RS Policy: 51 – Strategic Transport Hubs

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the need for stakeholders to work together and with the Regional Transport Board to prioritise investments to support the region’s housing and economic development objectives.</p> <p>The policy provides generic principles for local plans and in taking forward the spatial strategy of regional, sub-regional and local transport interchanges, to support delivery of Policy 50. Retention of this policy would increase accessibility and reduce inequality by opening up areas across the region. It will have climate change and air quality benefits from reduced travel by car.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>It is assumed that local planning authorities and transport authorities will work together under the duty to co-operate to deliver positive outcomes.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>The impact will depend on sufficient funding for local transport projects, either through the local transport plan or through the Community Infrastructure Levy.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
	Revocation	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>local transport plans to ensure that land use and local transport policies are mutually consistent, and deliver the most sustainable and effective development for their area.</p> <p>The effects of revoking this policy are considered to be the same as they would be for retention.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u> None.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u> None.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u> None.</p>

RS Policy: 52 – Strategic Framework for Demand Management

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This creates a strategic framework by which the regional planning body will work with key partners to promote a range of measures to facilitate modal shift in transport away from the car to more sustainable forms. Given the abolition of the regional tier of government under the Localism Act 2011, this policy can no longer be fully delivered. It will be left to local authority and the Highways Agency to carry forward this proposal.</p> <p>This Policy cannot be delivered since the Regional Planning Body no longer exists.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None.</p> <p>Assumptions None.</p> <p>Uncertainty There is some uncertainty about the extent to which demand management will lead to change in travel behaviour. This policy relies on close co-operation between local authorities to be successful.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p><u>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</u></p> <p>Policy 52 Strategic Framework for Demand Management.</p> <p>Demand management will be a matter for local authorities to consider in consultation with their communities and business partners. The legal powers available under the Transport Acts would not be affected by the revocation of the policy.</p> <p>The implementation of this policy will be led by the Highways Agency and other authorities subject to need and their other commitments.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u></p> <p>None.</p>

RS Policy: 53 – Demand Management Measures

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy sets out detailed expectations on demand management measures, with a focus on the Tyne & Wear and Tees Valley conurbations to promote more sustainable forms of transport and reduce travel by private car. As with policy 52, create a range of initiatives to reduce travel by private car, with benefits to population, air and climatic factors.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>Local planning authorities and local transport authorities will work together to deliver sustainable measures.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>To deliver this policy requires close co-operation between a number of authorities, who might have separate priorities for demand management.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p><u>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</u></p> <p>Policy 53 Demand Management Measures.</p> <p>Demand management will be a matter for local authorities to consider in consultation with their communities and business partners. The legal powers available under the Transport Acts would not be affected by the revocation of the policy.</p> <p>Road charging will be a matter for local authorities to consider in consultation with their communities and business partners. The legal powers available under the Transport Acts would not be affected by the revocation of the Plan. It is concluded that the effects are likely to be the same as retention in the short to long term.</p> <p><u>Mitigation Measures</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Assumptions</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Uncertainty</u></p> <p>None.</p>

RS Policy: 54 – Parking and Travel Plans

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>This policy seeks to actively manage parking arrangements, as well as promote sustainable transport options for major development, to complement the overarching transport objectives set out in the plan.</p> <p>Policy 54.1 references the Regional Planning Body which is no longer in existence. However, it is possible that under the duty to co-operate, local planning authorities could work together to deliver the objectives of his policy 54.1 and 54.2.</p> <p>Parts 2 and 3, if successful, will discourage unnecessary journeys and support the delivery of improved public transport throughout the region, with resulting benefits for air quality and climate change. Furthermore this approach should encourage attractive vibrant areas and lead to overall improvement in local environmental quality.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>The effects will depend on whether and how local authorities implement the measures.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	0	0	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0	0	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 54 – Parking and Travel Plans.</p> <p>National policy on local parking standards is at paragraph 39 of the National Planning Policy Framework. This leaves decisions on parking standards to the discretion of local councils, whereas Plan Policy 54 adheres to the parking policy in the now withdrawn PPG13 which set quantified maximum parking standards across England and allowed regional strategies and local planning authorities only to adopt more rigorous standards.</p> <p>Government has introduced a duty to co-operate and NPPF policies relating to planning strategically across local boundaries (paragraphs 156 and 178-181). Therefore, local authorities are likely to consider setting consistent standards across LPA boundaries where it makes sense to do so, and to utilise the range of powers to control parking provision and enforcement powers under Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004.</p> <p>LPAs in the North East may opt to set rigorous maximum standards similar to those in the Policy. Revocation will result in no significant difference in environmental effects where they do so.</p> <p>However, other LPAs may decide to take a less restrictive approach and allow higher parking provision where they consider this is justified - for example by design considerations.</p> <p>The difference in effects of LPA pursuing this approach compared to the Policy is uncertain. However, a substantial increase in parking provision over and above the Policy standards could potential result in significant negative effect arising from encouraging significantly more trips by car and a corresponding rise in pollution harmful to health and CO² emissions.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>The impact on population and health could be neutral if significant benefit is gained from improved car access to facilities though. Additional soil loss would be proportional to the impact of additional parking on land that is free from development and increase overall land take for development. These would potentially be significant negative effects, but there is uncertainty around all of them.</p> <p>In terms of the policy position on rail stations and cycle parking the NPPF provides and appropriate policies for LPAs to make local choices on these matters.</p> <p>On travel plans, the NPPF in section 4 states the policy approach to promoting sustainable transport and paragraph 36 highlights that Travel Plans is a key tool to facilitate this. Therefore, LPAs should continue to ensure that land use and local transport policies are mutually consistent, and deliver the most sustainable and effective development for their area.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Paragraph 36 of the NPPF requires developments which generate significant amounts of movement will be required to provide a travel plan. Travel plans should seek to exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport for the movement of people or goods.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>It is unclear whether local authorities will work on producing a consistent set of parking figures.</p>

RS Policy: 55 – Accessibility within and between the City-Regions

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the need for stakeholders to work together and with the Regional Transport Board to prioritise investments to support the region’s housing and economic development objectives.</p> <p>This policy seeks to support inter-urban movements, including within the two City-regions and between these city-regions and other regeneration areas to deliver improved accessibility and free movement within the City-region. If successful this policy should have effects on health through improved safety of the population, and increased air quality and climate benefits.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>None.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Revocation	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation</p> <p>Policy 55 – Accessibility within and Between the City Regions.</p> <p>The NPPF approach to promoting sustainable transport highlights that Local Transport Plans along with the duty to co-operate will facilitate work by local authorities to promote public transport movements between Regional Transport Nodes.</p> <p>The NPPF also states that local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development. The duty to co-operate will assist the strategic approach.</p> <p>Therefore local authorities will be able to continue to ensure spatial planning and local transport planning is mutually consistent and delivers the most sustainable patterns of development for their area.</p> <p>Revoking this policy will simplify the planning policy context and have no material SEA impact other than the positive effects identified for retention.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>None.</p>

RS Policy: 56 – Accessibility in Rural Areas

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES identifies the need for stakeholders to work together and with the Regional Transport Board to prioritise investments to support the region’s housing and economic development objectives.</p> <p>This policy seeks an increase in use of public transport outside the main areas of population, whilst recognising the critical role of the private car in transport around the local areas. Retention of this policy may result in increased public transport accessibility, which in turn will have health benefits and would bring environmental benefits to individual areas (including villages), alongside climate change benefits.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p> <p>Local planning authorities and local transport authorities will work together to deliver sustainable measures.</p> <p>Assumptions</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Uncertainty</p> <p>To deliver this policy requires close co-operation between a number of authorities, who might have separate priorities for demand management. Benefits to climate change will arise from a behavioural change in the local population in adopting to use sustainable modes of transport (where it is available).</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
	Revocation	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0

RS Policy: 57 – Sustainable Freight Distribution

Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
Retention	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Retention</p> <p>The RES includes specific reference to ports and the need to extend rail freight capacity (including gauge enhancement) to maximise the economic potential of the region's ports.</p> <p>This policy seeks to promote sustain freight movement through creating the framework for managing freight traffic in the region. Creating the right conditions to promote sustainable freight movement may reduce the amount of freight transported by road. However is recognised that there will remain an increase in vehicle movements. Impacts on population have been appraised significantly positive give the potential employment opportunities which may be sustained/ generated (particularly if Teesport can act as a greater focus for freight as per recommendations within the RES). It is acknowledged that there may be localised effects on communities living in proximity to routes where increased movements will be experienced. The impacts on soil are uncertain since the policy is not specific on the location of new development. The increase in vehicle movements and green house gas emissions is likely to result in an adverse impact on air and climate change. Material assets has been scored negatively given the need for construction materials. Impacts on cultural heritage and landscape are uncertain at this stage.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>May be scope to utilise the reuse of aggregates to minimise the adverse impact on material assets.</p> <p>Assumptions The creation of rail-freight interchanges, may fall outside the scope of the policy should breach the threshold in the Planning Act 2008.</p> <p>Uncertainty None.</p>
Revocation	?	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	?	<p>Likely Significant Effects of Revocation Policy 57 – Sustainable Freight Distribution. Paragraphs 29-41, as well as paragraphs 162 and 178-181 of the NPPF set out the Government’s policy on sustainable transport. It requires local authorities to plan for transport infrastructure, and that they should work together with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development. This includes freight facilities such as strategic rail freight interchanges and transport investment necessary to support strategies for the growth of ports, airports of other major generators of travel demand in their areas. Furthermore the Government published its National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2011, which sets out major investment priorities for the region. The impact of revoking this policy is uncertain. Individual local authorities will have greater flexibility to determine the infrastructure needs for their area and, as a result may choose not to invest in or safeguard the facilities identified in this policy. However it is still anticipated that population benefits associated with the creation of new employment will remain the same.</p>

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Alternative	Biodiversity, flora and fauna			Population & human Health			Soil			Water			Air			Climatic factors			Material assets			Cultural Heritage			Landscape			Commentary			
	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L	S	M	L				
																															<p>The policy identifies the need to provide the Leamside Rail Line from development which would restrict its reinstatement. Policy NE17 of the Chester-le-Street Local Plan previously provided this level of protection; this policy has not been saved.</p> <p>Policy CS4 of the Core Strategy (Spatial Strategy for South Tees Areas) identifies that the council and its partners will aim to improve freight access links to Teesport by rail and road.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures None Identified.</p> <p>Assumptions It is assumed that the projects identified within the policy remain a priority for LTP.</p> <p>Uncertainty It is uncertain as to what (if any) protection has been afforded to the former goods yard at Tweedmouth with reference to the East Coast Main Line Improvements.</p>