## Guiding principles for sustainable development

The government's refreshed vision for sustainable development builds on the principles that underpinned the UK's 2005 sustainable development strategy, by recognising the needs of the economy, society and the natural environment, alongside the use of good governance and sound science.

The following set of shared principles forms the basis for sustainable development in the UK and devolved administrations. Sustainable policy must respect all five of these principles, though some policies, while underpinned by all five, will place more emphasis on certain principles than others.

Living Within Ensuring a Strong, Healthy Environmental Limits & Just Society Respecting the limits of the Meeting the diverse needs of planet's environment, all people in existing and resources and biodiversity future communities, promoting personal wellto improve our environment being, social cohesion and and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are inclusion, and creating equal unimpaired and remain so for opportunity for all. future generations. Using Sound Promoting Good Achieving a Sustainable Science Governance Economy Responsibly Actively promoting Building a strong, Ensuring policy is effective, participative stable and developed and systems of sustainable economy implemented on the governance in all which provides basis of strong levels of society prosperity and engaging people's scientific evidence. opportunities for all, and in which whilst taking into creativity, energy, environmental and account scientific and diversity. social costs fall on uncertainty (through those who impose the Precautionary them (Polluter Pays), Principle) as well as and efficient resource use is incentivised. public attitudes and

values

Sustainable development recognises that the three 'pillars' – the economy; society; and the environment - are interconnected. The government has initiated a series of growth reviews to put the UK on a path to a strong, sustainable and balanced growth. Our long term economic growth relies on protecting and enhancing the environmental resources that underpin it, and paying due regard to social needs.