

South Tees Area Supplementary Planning Document

Environmental Report Non-Technical Summary

On behalf of **Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council** and **The South Tees Development Corporation**



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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Peter Brett Associates LLP (PBA) has been commissioned by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council (RCBC), acting in partnership with the South Tees Development Corporation (STDC), to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the emerging South Tees Area Supplementary Planning Document ('the SPD'). This Environmental Report Non-Technical Summary ('the ER NTS') summarises the key findings of the SEA. More detailed analysis is provided within a full Environmental Report ('the ER') which accompanies the SPD.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of this NTS is to summarise the findings of a SEA which has been carried out in respect of the SPD. In doing so, this NTS responds to legislative requirements, considers the evolution of the emerging SPD to date and presents an assessment of likely effects from the SPD.

1.2 How to Comment on this Non-Technical Summary

- 1.2.1 This ER NTS, together with the full ER, will be subject to public consultation alongside the SPD. All three documents will be consulted on from 26th March 2017 for a period of four weeks. Details of how to participate in the consultation will be provided on RCBC's website.

1.3 NTS Structure

- 1.3.1 This NTS is structured as follows:
- **Section 1 – Introduction:** provides an overview of the emerging SPD which this ER NTS accompanies;
 - **Section 2 – Environmental and Policy Context:** summarises relevant baseline environmental characteristics (including environmental problems and protection objectives), considers the evolution of the baseline in the absence of the SPD, and notes the relationship between the SPD and other relevant policy documents;
 - **Section 3 – Approach to SEA:** describe the methodology adopted to undertake the SEA of the SPD;
 - **Section 4 – SEA Key Findings:** summarise the findings of the SEA carried out in respect of the SPD;
 - **Section 5 – Mitigation and Enhancement Recommendations:** outlines mitigation and enhancement measures identified for the SPD through the SEA process, and,
 - **Section 6 – Next Steps and Monitoring:** identifies the next steps in the SEA process and outlines proposed mechanisms to monitor the SPD once adopted.

1.4 Background to the South Tees Area SPD

Historic Context

- 1.4.1 On 2nd October 2015, Sahaviriya Steel Industries (SSI) went into liquidation, marking the end of almost 170 years of iron and steel making on Teesside. The loss of SSI led to the closure of the Redcar iron and coke making complex and the Lackenby steel making plant, along with closure of the South Bank Coke Ovens. Up to that point, Teesside was one of the three main steel producer sites in the UK. The liquidation of SSI led to significant loss of employment,

centred on the STDC area, but also affecting wider supply chains across the Tees Valley and beyond. Approximately 2,000 direct employees, 1,000 contractors and a further 1,000 indirect jobs were lost.

- 1.4.2 Upon the 2015 closure, the SSI assets and landholdings were placed in the hands of the Official Receiver and on 1st December 2016, South Tees Site Company Ltd (STSC) assumed responsibility for the safe management of the SSI sites on behalf of the Official Receiver, having been established by the UK Government's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy for this purpose. In August 2017 the STDC was established on a statutory basis to lead the comprehensive regeneration of the STDC area, which includes not only the SSI sites, but also an array of surrounding landownerships extending to 1,800ha in total.

South Tees Area Background Study and the SPD

- 1.4.3 Given the vast scale of the STDC area, the environmental legacy left by decades of heavy industry and the long-term vision for comprehensive regeneration, the STDC recognised that a Master Plan would be required to underpin the transformation of the STDC area. A detailed South Tees Regeneration Master Plan ('the Regeneration Master Plan') was therefore prepared by CH2M on behalf of the STDC as a live document to inform the comprehensive regeneration of the STDC area. This Regeneration Master Plan was launched by the elected Mayor for the Tees Valley in October 2017. The Regeneration Master Plan has evolved in tandem with the SPD and for clarity has been retitled 'the South Tees Area Background Study'.
- 1.4.4 The purpose of the SPD is to distil the main elements of the South Tees Area Background Study into concise and formal planning policy guidance, which will be a key material consideration in assessing future development proposals within the STDC area. RCBC remains the statutory local planning authority (LPA) for the STDC area, and the statutory Development Plan for Redcar and Cleveland will remain applicable for determining all planning applications, although it should be noted that the emerging RCLP has been modified to include specific reference to the SPD. Once approved the SPD will therefore support the implementation of both the RCLP as it applies to the STDC area and the STDC Regeneration Master Plan.

1.5 Preparation of the South Tees Master Area SPD

- 1.5.1 In tandem with the preparation of the STDC's South Tees Regeneration Master Plan / Area Background Study, RCBC were invited by the STDC to prepare an associated SPD. An initial draft of the SPD, structured around a series of key development principles which reflected the content of the Regeneration Master Plan, was published in tandem with the STDC's Regeneration Master Plan in October 2017.
- 1.5.2 After the close of an initial consultation at the end of November 2017, the initial draft SPD was reviewed by PBA and a redrafted version was produced by RCBC officers in January 2018, which was also reviewed by PBA (see **Section 4.5** of the ER full details). Further amendments were then made in response to this review by RCBC before the final draft SPD was produced and subject to a formal SEA (which included the identification or recommended mitigation and enhancement measures). This demonstrates that the SEA process has directly influenced the preparation of the SPD.

1.6 Proposed Form and Content of the South Tees Area SPD

- 1.6.1 In line with the STDC's South Tees Area Background Study, the SPD defines a vision, spatial objectives and a suite of development principles which development proposals within the STDC area will be expected to have regard to. The SPD is structured as follows:

- **Section 1 – Introduction:** provides background information, explains the context in which the SPD has been prepared and outlines the document’s purpose;
- **Section 2 – Vision and Objectives:** sets out a vision and linked set of 10 objectives to underpin the SPD;
- **Section 3 – Strategic Development Principles:** sets out a suite of 10 thematic development principles which apply across the STDC area and which all development proposals should have regard to where relevant;
- **Section 4 – Site Specific Development Principles:** splits the STDC area into 5 development zones (plus additional ‘white land’ where redevelopment is not expected) and sets out a development principle for each, aimed at guiding specific uses to specific locations; and,
- **Section 5 - Implementation and Delivery:** outlines the mechanisms which will be adopted to implement, monitor and review the SPD.

2 Environmental and Policy Context

2.1 Relevant Environmental Information

2.1.1 A summary of the key environmental issues, problems and objectives which need to be considered within the SPD and the associated SEA is provided in **Table 2.1** below. This draws upon a detailed environmental baseline review presented within **Appendix A** of the full ER.

Table 2.1 Key Environmental Issues Relevant to the SPD and this SEA

SEA Topic	Key Environmental Issues
Population (including relevant socio-economic issues)	<p>The need to ensure that the STDC area remains of strategic regional and national importance for industrial activities and employment.</p> <p>The need to maximise the contribution of the STDC area to the local and regional economy and to the achievement of sustainable development.</p> <p>The need to reduce multiple deprivation and provide suitable opportunities (economic, social and environmental) for the benefit of all local people</p>
Human Health	<p>The need to protect and enhance the health and wellbeing of the local population, including through avoiding harm from industrial activities and action to reduce significant health inequalities.</p> <p>The need to create and enhance open space provision and accessibility within the STDC area.</p>
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	<p>The need to conserve and enhance biodiversity including sites designated at all levels for their ecological value.</p> <p>The need to safeguard and enhance the green infrastructure network within the STDC area</p>
Soil & Land	<p>The need to remediate extensive areas of contaminated land within the STDC area and to reduce environmental effects associated with known contamination.</p> <p>The need to safeguard soil resources.</p> <p>The need to optimize the efficient use of available land.</p>
Water	<p>The need to protect and enhance the quality of water resources (including surface water and groundwater) and the water environment</p> <p>The need to protect the quantity of available water resources (including surface water and groundwater).</p> <p>The need to locate new development away from areas of flood risk or to fully mitigate potential flood risks, taking into account the effects of climate change.</p>
Air	<p>The need to minimize the emissions of pollutants to air, in particular from industrial installations and traffic generation.</p> <p>The need to safeguard and improve air quality.</p>

SEA Topic	Key Environmental Issues
Climatic Factors	<p>The need to decouple industrial activity, employment and economic growth within the STDC area from significant greenhouse gas emissions, in order to contribute to climate change mitigation whilst meeting socio-economic objectives.</p> <p>The need to provide a sustainable transport strategy for the STDC area.</p> <p>The need to ensure that new development is adaptable to the effects of climate change, taking account of the location of the STDC on the south bank of the River Tees estuary and associated flood risks.</p>
Material Assets	<p>The need to make best use of existing infrastructure and provide new/upgraded infrastructure to meet identified needs.</p> <p>The need to maximize resource efficiency, use natural resources sustainably and support the transition to a circular economy.</p> <p>The need to manage hazards and waste arisings in a safe and sustainable manner.</p>
Cultural Heritage	The need to protect and enhance cultural heritage assets and their settings.
Landscape	The need to conserve and enhance townscape character, key views and visual amenity.
Inter-related Effects	<p>The need to ensure that the comprehensive regeneration of the STDC contributes to sustainable development.</p> <p>The need to align the SPD with relevant policies and proposals within the emerging statutory RCLP, as well as with relevant national and local policy documents.</p>

2.2 Predicted Evolution of the Baseline in the Absence of the Emerging SPD

- 2.2.1 The SEA Regulations require consideration of the likely evolution of the current state of the environment in the absence of the plan or programme under consideration, in this case the emerging SPD.
- 2.2.2 In the absence of the SPD, it is considered that policies LS4 and ED6 within the RCLP may not be able to provide full detailed planning guidance for development proposals within the STDC area, as many site-specific issues would be left undefined. Furthermore, STDC's South Tees Area Background Study would be unable to influence decisions as it is not itself a material consideration and will rely on the SPD for this. As such, the absence of the SPD would limit the ability of RCBC to steer the comprehensive regeneration of the STDC area in accordance with the both RCLP (in particular its spatial and economic strategies) and the objectives of the STDC.
- 2.2.3 The following environmental and socio-economic consequences could therefore occur in the absence of the SPD:
- Piecemeal development of potentially conflicting land uses could result, as the priority of the Official Receiver in maximising the disposal value of SSI assets may not be reconciled with spatial planning objectives. This could hinder the efficient use of existing infrastructure and impede the ability of the STDC to transform the STDC area through strategic scale development targeted around specific industrial sectors. In consequence, the absence of the SPD would place at risk the achievement of the STDC's key aim of delivering 20,000 new jobs within the STDC area when fully developed and could also reduce the national and regional economic importance of the STDC area;

- There is a risk that strategic scale industrial development may be unable to proceed due to uncertainty regarding the effects of, and required mitigation for, cumulative development on the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA (including the possible SPA extension), as the implications of such development within the STDC for the SPA are not addressed within the emerging RCLP (beyond general strategic assessment of employment/industrial uses). There is a further risk that development proposals could result in unacceptable adverse cumulative effects on the SPA and wider biodiversity interests as whilst Appropriate Assessments would be undertaken where required in respect of individual development proposals, these Assessments may be unable to identify, assess and mitigate likely cumulative effects from proposed industrial development across the STDC area;
- There would be no formal site-specific strategy to underpin the phased remediation of heavily contaminated land within the STDC area. This could result in large areas of heavily contaminated land being left untreated, with a myriad of potential adverse environmental and social consequences; and,
- There would be no site specific strategy to address existing surface water flooding across the STDC area, particularly on existing roads and Made Ground. The lack of such a strategy is likely to result in continued surface water flood risks within the STDC area.

2.2.4 It can be assumed that the implementation of the emerging RCLP would prevent development that would be likely to have an unacceptable significant adverse impact on the environment. However, in the absence of the SPD it may be difficult for RCBC to require development proposals within the STDC area to meet high design standards and provide environmental enhancements, especially due to known viability issues regarding extensive contaminated land remediation. As such there is a risk that without the SPD, development proposals could individually or cumulative increase pressure on environmental and amenity receptors whilst planned environmental enhancements (e.g. open space provision) may fail to materialise.

2.3 Relationship with other Plans and Programmes

2.3.1 The following types of other plans and programmes were examined for their relevance to the SPD and this SEA:

- International conventions and treaties;
- European Directives and associated legislation;
- Legislation enacted by the UK Parliament; and,
- Policy documents and strategies published at the national, regional and local levels, including by the UK Government, the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) and RCBC.

2.3.2 A detailed review of all other plans and programmes of relevance to the South Tees Area SPD (whether deemed as 'qualifying' for the purposes of the SEA Regulations or not) is provided in **Appendix B** of the full ER. In summary, it is clear that the SPD should:

- Steer the industrial led regeneration of the STDC area in accordance with the emerging RCLP and the aspirations detailed in the South Tees Area Background Study;
- Set out a spatial strategy for the STDC area which maximises its contribution to the local, regional and national economy and delivers sustainable development;
- Support the remediation and redevelopment of contaminated land within the STDC area on a phased basis;

- Ensure that there are no significant adverse impacts on internationally and nationally designated nature sites, whilst affording appropriate protection to all other designated sites;
- Set out a sustainable transport strategy to accommodate the planned level of employment and industrial activity within the STDC area;
- Promote the efficient and optimal use of land, existing infrastructure and environmental assets within the STDC area;
- Provide detailed guidance to protect and enhance environmental quality, including through: safeguarding air quality, avoiding adverse effects on human health, reducing flood risks, reducing environmental hazards, managing waste appropriately, responding to the landscape characteristics of the STDC area, and increasing high quality and accessible public open space provision;
- Ensure that industrial development does not substantially increase greenhouse gas emissions from the RCBC area; and,
- Promote the transition to a low carbon and circular economy.

3 The SEA Process

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This section outlines the approach taken to assess the SPD through the preparation of the ER.

3.2 SEA Purpose and Objectives

- 3.2.1 The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 as amended ('the SEA Regulations') require relevant and qualifying plans and programmes to undergo a SEA and be accompanied by an Environmental Report. Previous SEA screening and scoping processes have determined that a formal SEA was required in respect of this SPD.
- 3.2.2 The purpose of SEA is to identify, assess and evaluate the likely significant environmental effects of a qualifying plan or programme. A key objective of SA, incorporating SEA, is to enhance the environmental and wider sustainability performance of the plan or programme under considerations. This is achieved through identifying any likely significant effects from implementation of the plan or programme as drafted, proposing mitigation measures to address any identified significant adverse environmental effects, and identifying enhancement measures to improve its overall effectiveness and sustainability performance. As such, SEA is an integral part of good policy development and should not be viewed as a separate or retrospective activity.

3.3 SEA Methodology

SEA Project Team

- 3.3.1 This SEA is being undertaken independently by Peter Brett Associates LLP (PBA) on behalf of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council (RCBC), acting in partnership with the South Tees Development Corporation (STDC). The consultant team involved in carrying out the SEA is therefore independent of the SDP preparation team, which helps to ensure the objectivity of the SEA and to identify components requiring improvement throughout its development. The independence of the consultant team within PBA who have carried out this SEA of the SPD has therefore aided its objectivity and led to the production of a robust suite of mitigation and enhancement recommendations to improve its effectiveness.

SEA Framework

- 3.3.2 A SEA Screening and Scoping Report ((November 2017) was produced by PBA to provide relevant information to enable the SEA Consultation Bodies¹ to consider the need for SEA as well as to form a view on the consultation period and scope/level of detail that would be appropriate for an Environmental Report (ER) which would accompany the draft SPD for public consultation in the event that a full SEA is determined to be required. The responses from the SEA Consultation Bodies have informed the SEA which is being carried out in respect of the SPD.
- 3.3.3 A key objective of the SEA Screening and Scoping Report was to identify a proposed SEA Framework to assess in a systematic way the likely environmental effects from all components of the SPD. This Framework comprises a series of sustainability objectives and guide questions regarding identified socio-economic and environmental issues of relevance to the STDC area and the surrounding environment which may affect (or be affected by) the emerging SPD. The SEA objectives are accompanied by a set of guide questions and criteria

¹ Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency

to enable assessment of proposed SPD components as well as any identified reasonable alternatives.

- 3.3.4 The SEA objectives are shown in **Table 3.1**, whilst the full SEA Framework is provided in **Appendix C** of the ER.

Table 3.1: SEA Objectives within the South Tees Area SEA Framework

South Tees Area SEA Objectives	
1.	Biodiversity and Geodiversity: Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network.
2.	Placemaking: Enhance design quality to create great places, protect and enhance key landscape features and historic assets, and safeguard industrial heritage.
3.	Air Quality: Prevent and reduce emissions and concentrations of harmful atmospheric pollutants and minimise exposure to poor air quality.
4.	Water: Conserve, protect and enhance the water environment, water quality and water resources.
5.	Energy and Climate Change: Decouple industrial growth and economic prosperity from increased fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
6.	Flood Risk and Resilience: Reduce the risk of flooding, taking into account the effects of climate change, adaptation efforts and the need to enhance resilience.
7.	Materials and Waste: Contribute to the implementation of the circular economy, promote recycling and manage waste with minimal environmental impact.
8.	Community: Reduce poverty and inequality, tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion.
9.	Environmental Quality: Remediate land, reduce harmful effects on the environment from contamination, improve land quality and enhance the quality of the physical environment.
10.	Health, Wellbeing and Safety: Protect and improve health, wellbeing and safety, including through reducing health inequalities, enhancing access to high quality open space and avoiding adverse impacts on human health.
11.	Transport: Enhance and improve connectivity and accessibility through implementing a sustainable transport strategy.
12.	Employment: Increase high quality employment opportunities for the working age population across the RCBC and TVCA areas.
13.	Economic Growth and Industrial Excellence: Maximise the contribution of the STDC area to the local, regional and national economies, diversity economic activity, encourage enterprise and support industrial excellence.
14.	Land and Infrastructure: Optimise the efficient use of land and existing infrastructure and provide new or upgraded infrastructure to meet identified needs.

SEA Matrices

- 3.3.5 All components of the SPD were assessed in detail using matrices to identify likely significant effects on the SEA objectives. This approach allowed for systematic recording of potential effects and their significance together with any assumptions, uncertainties and suggested mitigation or enhancement measures (e.g. changes to policy wording). The assessment of

each SPD component was undertaken between February - March 2018 on a pre-mitigation basis, i.e. assuming full implementation of the SPD as drafted at that point, without the provision of additional policy safeguards or mitigation measures. The assessment was then updated to take account of the incorporation of mitigation and enhancement measures into the SPD.

- 3.3.6 Owing to the high-level nature of the proposed SPD vision and objectives it was not possible to identify individual likely significant effects from these SPD components with any certainty. In contrast, the greater detail of individual site allocations and precise wording within individual development principles allowed for the clear identification of likely significant effects from these SPD components (although a number of key uncertainties were also identified). A compatibility matrix and scoring system was therefore developed to test the alignment of the SPD vision and objectives with the South Tees Area SEA Framework, whilst a detailed assessment matrix and associated scoring system was developed to identify likely significant effects from all proposed development principles. These scoring systems are outlined in **Tables 3.2** and **3.3** respectively.

Table 3.2 SEA Compatibility Assessment Scoring

Compatibility Description	Symbol
The assessed component is compatible with this SEA Objective	+
The assessed component would have a neutral effect on this SEA Objective	0
The assessed component would have an uncertain effect on this SEA Objective	?
The assessed component is incompatible with this SEA Objective and mitigation is therefore required to ensure the avoidance of likely significant adverse effects	-
There is no clear relationship between the assessed component and this SEA Objective.	~

Table 3.3 SEA Scoring System to Establish Likely Significant Effects from Proposed Development Principles

Score	Description	Symbol
Significant (Major) Positive Effect	The proposed development principle contributes significantly to the achievement of the SEA objective.	++
Minor Positive Effect	The proposed development principle contributes to the achievement of the SEA objective but not significantly.	+
Neutral Effect	The proposed development principle is related to but does not have any effect on the achievement of the SEA objective	0
Minor Negative Effect	The proposed development principle detracts from the achievement of the SEA objective but not significantly.	-

Significant (Major) Negative Effect	The proposed development principle detracts significantly from the achievement of the objective. Significant Adverse effect predicted; mitigation therefore required in accordance with the 2004 Regulations.	--
Uncertain Effect	The proposed development principle has an uncertain relationship to the SEA objective or the relationship is dependent on the way in which the aspect is managed. In addition, insufficient information may be available to enable an assessment to be made.	?
No Clear Relationship	There is no clear relationship between the proposed development principle and the achievement of the SEA objective or the relationship is negligible.	~

Identification of Reasonable Alternatives

- 3.3.7 In line with legislative requirements, consideration was given to the need to identify and assess any reasonable alternatives to the components within the SPD. However, the development principles set out within the SPD relate to and derive their soundness from the SPD Vision and Objectives set out in Section 2 of the SPD, which in turn derive their soundness from relevant policies within the higher level RCLP (scheduled for adoption May 2018). As such, each component of the SPD is intended to fulfil a specific role in terms of guiding the siting and design of development proposals, realising industrial led regeneration across the STDC area and implementing policy requirements. It has therefore not been possible to identify clear reasonable alternatives to individual components of the SPD in order for these to also be assessed.
- 3.3.8 Instead, a suite of high level reasonable alternative development scenarios for the STDC area and associated potential variations in the content of the SPD, have been identified and are assessed in **Appendix G** of the full ER.

4 SEA of the South Tees Area SPD

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 This section summarises the results of the SEA undertaken for each constituent part of the SPD. The following plan components have been subject to SEA and are considered below in turn:

- Vision and Objectives;
- Strategic Development Principles; and,
- Site Specific Development Principles.

4.1.2 Full details of the assessment findings are provided in **Section 5** and **Appendices D – F** of the full ER.

4.1.3 The assessment was first undertaken on a pre-mitigation basis, following which SEA mitigation and enhancement recommendations have been incorporated into the SPD to address identified uncertainties and strengthen its performance against the South Tees Area SPD SEA Framework. Taking account of this mitigation and enhancement, some of the assessment findings have changed and a greater number of the SPD components are now likely to result in Major Positive and significant effects, with no significant adverse effects now considered likely. **Sections 4.2 – 4.4** below outline the predicted likely significant effects of each component of the SPD in turn.

4.2 SEA of the Proposed SPD Vision and Objectives

4.2.1 The proposed SPD vision and objectives are considered to align well with all SEA Objectives, indicating the potential for a range of significant beneficial effects and the absence of the potential for significant adverse effects. As with the proposed SPD vision, the proposed objectives seek to address economic and environmental issues in tandem and therefore demonstrate a strong commitment to the delivery of sustainable development. Of particular relevance to this SEA, SPD Objective 8 relates closely to seven of the fourteen SEA Objectives through seeking to improve multiple aspects of the physical environment within the STDC area.

4.3 SEA of Strategic Development Principles

4.3.1 This subsection presents key findings from the SEA of the proposed strategic development principles (Development Principles STDC 1 – 10) within the SPD. The summary assessment provided below uses each of the SEA Objectives from the South Tees Area SEA Framework as headings, whilst detailed assessment matrices identifying all likely environmental effects from each individual strategic development principle are provided in **Appendix E** of the full ER.

SEA Objective 1 - Biodiversity and Geodiversity: Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network

4.3.2 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities; and,

- Development Principle STDC7: Environmental Protection and Enhancement;
- 4.3.3 These strategic development principles set out clear and objective criteria to protect and where possible enhance biodiversity and geodiversity interests, in particular:
- an expectation that development proposals contribute to habitat protection and encourage biodiversity;
 - Particular consideration is given to the need to safeguard the integrity of the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA and Ramsar Site, as well as the need for development proposals to comply with a mitigation hierarchy that seeks to minimise environmental impacts.
 - Support for the delivery of green infrastructure to create a network of open spaces; and,
 - Commitment to the future preparation of environment, biodiversity and open space strategies for the STDC area.
- 4.3.4 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.3.5 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 2 - Placemaking: Enhance design quality to create great places, protect and enhance key landscape features and historic assets, and safeguard industrial heritage

- 4.3.6 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

Pre-Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC5: Transport Infrastructure;
- Development Principle STDC7: Environmental Protection and Enhancement; and,
- Development Principle STDC8: Preserving Industrial Heritage;

Post Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities

- 4.3.7 These strategic development principles provide support for:
- Public realm improvements and the creation of a new and enhanced cycle and footpath network within and around the STDC area;
 - A suite of road, rail and port infrastructure upgrades subject to these proposals avoiding unacceptable adverse amenity or environmental impacts, including on heritage assets and their setting;
 - The protection of (industrial) heritage assets; and,
 - The delivery of green infrastructure to create a network of open spaces.

4.3.8 These strategic development principles also:

- Set out a commitment to prepare thematic strategies for the STDC area regarding the environment, biodiversity and open space;
- Requires the identification and protection where appropriate and viable of industrial heritage assets within the STDC area, including as part of a new industrial heritage trail which is also supported; and,
- Requires the avoidance of unacceptable harm to the significance of specific retained heritage or cultural assets (i.e. to their integrity and reasons for retention).

4.3.9 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.10 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 3 - Air Quality: Prevent and reduce emissions and concentrations of harmful atmospheric pollutants and minimise exposure to poor air quality

4.3.11 The only proposed strategic development principles predicted to have a Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effect on aspects of this SEA Objective is Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities. One of the priorities identified in this development principle is for redevelopment of the STDC area to reduce pollution and deliver long term sustainability. At the same time, the principle prioritises the development of advanced manufacturing and associated industries, which may result in the release of industrial atmospheric pollutants. On balance however, the development principle provides a clear framework to tackle pollution, which would improve local air quality.

4.3.12 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.13 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 4 - Water: Conserve, protect and enhance the water environment, water quality and water resources

4.3.14 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

Pre-Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC7: Environmental Protection and Enhancement; and,
- Development Principle STDC10: Utilities.

Post Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC9: Site Remediation.

4.3.15 These strategic development principles:

- Requires development proposals to respond to their environmental setting and to protect and where possible enhance designated and non-designated biodiversity sites. This would include the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA, South Gare and Coatham Sands SSSI; Coatham Marsh and Bran Sands Lagoon, which are designated in part due to the habitats they provide in the water and foreshore environments.
- Explicitly supports the remediation of known contaminants within the STDC area, including in the water environment as well as on land. This would help to improve the quality of the water environment, including the chemical status of waterbodies through removing contaminants and reducing the potential for loading effects, leakage or contaminant migration;
- Supports the provision of utilities and infrastructure, including for drainage, to accommodate the planned industrial business park within the STDC area; and,
- Commits to the development and implementation of a water and flood risk management strategy and a strategy for the disposal of industrial effluent.

4.3.16 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.17 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 5 - Energy and Climate Change: Decouple industrial growth and economic prosperity from increased fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

4.3.18 The only proposed strategic development principle predicted to have a Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effect on aspects of this SEA Objective is Development Principle STDC6: Energy Innovation. This development principle promotes and supports the development of renewable energy generation other innovative energy projects within the STDC area.

4.3.19 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.20 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 6 - Flood Risk and Resilience: Reduce the risk of flooding, taking into account the effects of climate change, adaptation efforts and the need to enhance resilience

4.3.21 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

Pre-Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC10: Utilities

Post Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities

4.3.22 These strategic development principles:

- sets out criteria that would help to minimise the risk of flooding from all sources to land, infrastructure, property and people, avoid new flood risks and manage existing flood risks appropriately;
- provide support for upgraded and new utilities and infrastructure;
- commit to the development and implementation of a water and flood risk management strategy; and,
- identify the need for the redevelopment of the STDC area to deliver long term sustainability, including in respect of sustainable flood risk management.

4.3.23 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.24 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 7 - Materials and Waste: Contribute to the implementation of the circular economy, promote recycling and manage waste with minimal environmental impact

4.3.25 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities; and,
- Development Principle STDC10: Utilities.

4.3.26 These strategic development principles:

- Provide support for the development of uses connected to the circular economy within the STDC area;
- Seek to minimise waste generation;
- Require new major developments to carry out a waste audit and take steps to minimise and manage waste arising from construction and operational activities in accordance with the waste hierarchy; and
- Commit to the development and implementation of a materials and waste management strategy for the STDC area.

4.3.27 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.28 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development

principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 8 - Community: Reduce poverty and inequality, tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion

- 4.3.29 The only proposed strategic development principles predicted to have a Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective is Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities. This development principle identifies the need to;
- Strengthen connections between the STDC area and Redcar and other centres in order to secure economic and community benefits; and,
 - Ensure regeneration makes a major contribution to transformation of education and skills.
- 4.3.30 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.3.31 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 9 - Environmental Quality: Remediate land, reduce harmful effects on the environment from contamination, improve land quality and enhance the quality of the physical environment

- 4.3.32 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

Pre-Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities;
- Development Principle STDC7: Environmental Protection and Enhancement; and,
- Development Principle STDC9: Site Remediation.

Post Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC3: Phasing Strategy

- 4.3.33 These strategic development principles identify the need:

- For redevelopment of the STDC area to reduce pollution (not merely avoid additional pollution) and contribute to long term sustainability; and,
- To remediate known contamination, including to reduce environmental harm.

- 4.3.34 These development principles also:

- Provide clear support for remediation and redevelopment across the whole STDC area, including to reduce deliver environmental betterment.
- Require development proposals to respond to their environmental setting and provide net environmental gains where appropriate;

- Support the delivery of green infrastructure improvements within the STDC area; and,
 - Commit to future environmental, biodiversity and open space strategies for the STDC area.
- 4.3.35 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.3.36 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 10 - Health, Wellbeing and Safety: Protect and improve health, wellbeing and safety, including through reducing health inequalities, enhancing access to high quality open space and avoiding adverse impacts on human health

- 4.3.37 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

Pre-Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC5: Transport Infrastructure; and,
- Development Principle STDC9: Site Remediation.

Post-Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC1: General Principle

- 4.3.38 These strategic development principles:

- Provide support for the creation of a new and enhanced cycle and footpath network within the STDC area and other path improvements;
- Provide strong support for appropriate remediation within the STDC area to reduce environmental harm and provide environmental betterment, thereby reducing human health risks and allowing safe access to open space within the STDC area; and,
- Address human health and safety risks from current and planned future industrial activities within the STDC area.

- 4.3.39 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

- 4.3.40 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 11 - Transport: Enhance and improve connectivity and accessibility through implementing a sustainable transport strategy

- 4.3.41 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

Pre-Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC5: Transport Infrastructure; and,
- Development Principle STDC10: Utilities.

Post Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities

4.3.42 These strategic development principles:

- Identify the need to make the best use of available transport infrastructure assets within the STDC area;
- Provide support for a suite of identified transport infrastructure upgrades (road, rail, port and active travel infrastructure) to improve connectivity within the STDC area and to other areas; and,
- Provide support for measures to enhance the accessibility and capacity of the transport network.

4.3.43 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.44 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 12 - Employment: Increase high quality employment opportunities for the working age population across the RCBC and TVCA areas

4.3.45 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities;
- Development Principle STDC2: Land Assembly and Delivery;
- Development Principle STDC3: Phasing Strategy;
- Development Principle STDC4: Economic Development Strategy;
- Development Principle STDC5: Transport Infrastructure; and,
- Development Principle STDC10: Utilities.

4.3.46 These strategic development principles:

- Require the redevelopment of the STDC area to prioritise the creation of high-skilled employment opportunities, prioritise high value economic sectors (advanced manufacturing) and make a major contribution to education and skills improvements in the local area;

- Promote land assembly to maximise the development and regeneration potential of the STDC area, in particular by creating sites to meet inward investment demands and thereby generate substantial new employment opportunities. In the absence of land assembly, individual parcels of land may be unsuitable for future industrial use, which could restrict new employment opportunities and limit the economic potential of the STDC area;
- Prioritise the redevelopment of land where 'quick wins' can be achieved, in order to kick-start regeneration and increase economic activity across the STDC area. This approach would maximise the potential creation of new employment opportunities in the short term, which would contribute to the longer term aim of delivering 20,000 new jobs;
- Provide support for the location of specialist industries and other new employment generating developments, as well as supporting the growth of existing operators within the STDC area. This would directly help to increase and diversify local employment opportunities; and,
- Provide support for suite of identified transport infrastructure upgrades (road, rail, port and active travel infrastructure) which would unlock inward investment and regeneration within the STDC area, thereby enabling the delivery of substantial new employment opportunities in high value sectors and increasing physical access to such opportunities for local residents.

4.3.47 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.48 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

**SEA Objective 13 - Economic Growth and Industrial Excellence:
Maximise the contribution of the STDC area to the local, regional and national economies, diversity economic activity, encourage enterprise and support industrial excellence**

4.3.49 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities;
- Development Principle STDC2: Land Assembly and Delivery;
- Development Principle STDC3: Phasing Strategy;
- Development Principle STDC4: Economic Development Strategy;
- Development Principle STDC5: Transport Infrastructure; and,
- Development Principle STDC10: Utilities.

4.3.50 These strategic development principles:

- Require redevelopment proposals to align with the Government's Industrial Strategy;
- Prioritise the location of high value economic sectors including advanced manufacturing and uses connected with new technologies within the STDC area;

- Set out the ambition of creating a “world class offer” to high value industries;
- Promote land assembly to maximise the development and regeneration potential of the STDC area, in particular by creating sites to meet inward investment demands;
- Prioritise the redevelopment of land where ‘quick wins’ can be achieved, in order to kick-start regeneration and increase economic activity. This approach would maximise inward investment and the creation of new businesses in the short term;
- Provide support for the clustering of related industries, which would directly promote the co-location of synergistic economic activities, industries and land uses;
- Provide support for the location of specialist industries, including process industries, and other new employment generating developments, as well as supporting the growth of existing operators, within the STDC area;
- Promote the designation of a Free Trade Zone at the STDC area; and,
- Provide support for a suite of identified transport infrastructure upgrades (road, rail, port and active travel infrastructure) which would unlock inward investment and regeneration, thereby helping to maximise the contribution of the STDC area to the local, regional and national economies and supporting economic growth.

4.3.51 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.52 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 14 - Land and Infrastructure: Optimise the efficient use of land and existing infrastructure and provide new or upgraded infrastructure to meet identified needs.

4.3.53 The following proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

Pre-Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC2: Land Assembly and Delivery;
- Development Principle STDC3: Phasing Strategy;
- Development Principle STDC4: Economic Development Strategy;
- Development Principle STDC5: Transport Infrastructure; and,
- Development Principle STDC10: Utilities.

Post Mitigation

- Development Principle STDC1: Regeneration Priorities

4.3.54 These strategic development principles:

- Promote land assembly and comprehensive redevelopment to maximise the development and regeneration potential of the STDC area. In the absence of land assembly, individual parcels of land may be unsuitable for future industrial use, which could undermine efforts to transform the STDC area and impede the efficient use of land and infrastructure;
- Require development proposals not to sterilise land or impede the redevelopment of other land within the STDC area, thereby helping to reduce conflicts and maximise the efficient use of available land;
- Require development proposals to make best use of available land;
- Provide support for the potential use of compulsory purchase powers to assist the creation of an integrated industrial business park;
- Prioritise the redevelopment of land where ‘quick wins’ can be achieved, in order to kick-start regeneration and increase economic activity across the STDC area. This approach would help to make efficient use of available land and existing infrastructure before major new infrastructure is installed;
- Provide support for the location of specialist industries and other industries that would benefit from the STDC area’s location and assets, which would help to make efficient use of available land and existing infrastructure for employment generating uses;
- Provide support for the growth and expansion of existing operators within the STDC area, which would help to safeguard the viability of existing industrial infrastructure and enhance the case for new business infrastructure being provided; and,
- Provide support for a suite of identified transport infrastructure upgrades (road, rail, port and active travel infrastructure) all aimed at maximising the functioning of transport infrastructure and unlocking the most efficient use of available land within the STDC area for employment generating purposes. In particular a multi-modal Infrastructure Corridor is to be safeguarded from conflicting development and a suite of new rail infrastructure connections is proposed in order to support new economic activities in parts of the STDC area not presently served by rail facilities.

4.3.55 None of the proposed strategic development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.3.56 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed strategic development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

4.4 SEA of Site Specific Development Principles

4.4.1 This subsection presents key findings from the SEA of the proposed site specific development principles (Development Principles STDC 11 – 15) within the SPD. Detailed assessment matrices identifying all likely environmental effects from each site specific development principle are provided in **Appendix F** of the full ER.

SEA Objective 1 - Biodiversity and Geodiversity: Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity and promote improvements to the green infrastructure network

4.4.2 None of the site specific development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective, whilst taking account of

mitigation which has now been incorporated into the SPD, no Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects are now considered likely.

- 4.4.3 A range of proposed strategic development principles are however predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed site specific development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 2 - Placemaking: Enhance design quality to create great places, protect and enhance key landscape features and historic assets, and safeguard industrial heritage

- 4.4.4 The only proposed site specific development principle predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective is Development Principle: STDC15 Coastal Community Zone. This strategic development principle provides support for proposals for environmental enhancement, small-scale leisure and community uses and improved public access within the Coastal Community Zone. This would directly help to create and maintain a safe and attractive public realm and would indirectly help to improve the placemaking qualities of the STDC area.
- 4.4.5 None of the proposed site specific development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.4.6 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed site specific development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 3 - Air Quality: Prevent and reduce emissions and concentrations of harmful atmospheric pollutants and minimise exposure to poor air quality

- 4.4.7 The following proposed site specific development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:
- Development Principle: STDC11 North Development Zone;
 - Development Principle: STDC12 North East Ecological Industrial Zone; and,
 - Development Principle: STDC14 South Industrial Zone.
- 4.4.8 These site specific development principles require development proposals within relevant zones to be supported by a full gas risk assessment, incorporating any required measures to reduce landfill gas migration, as well as for any development proposals on the site of closed landfill operations to be supported by risk assessments to ensure no increased gas and leachate risk. This would help to safeguard local air quality and prevent the release of harmful atmospheric pollutants.
- 4.4.9 None of the proposed site specific development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.4.10 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed site specific development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 4 - Water: Conserve, protect and enhance the water environment, water quality and water resources

4.4.11 None of the site specific development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) or Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective. A range of the proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective, whilst no clear relationship is predicted between Development Principle STDC 13 – Central Industrial Zone and this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 5 - Energy and Climate Change: Decouple industrial growth and economic prosperity from increased fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

4.4.12 The following proposed site specific development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective:

- Development Principle: STDC11 North Development Zone;
- Development Principle: STDC14 South Industrial Zone; and,
- Development Principle: STDC15 Coastal Community Zone.

4.4.13 These strategic development principles direct proposals for energy innovation, power generation, offshore energy industries and renewable energy generation to these zones. This would directly facilitate investment in and promote the use of low carbon and sustainable technologies, equipment and infrastructure.

4.4.14 None of the proposed site specific development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.

4.4.15 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. A number of other proposed site specific development principles have no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 6 - Flood Risk and Resilience: Reduce the risk of flooding, taking into account the effects of climate change, adaptation efforts and the need to enhance resilience

4.4.16 The site specific development principles have been amended through the SEA process and now clearly address potential flood risks within each zone. Taking account of mitigation and enhancement measures which were identified through the SEA process and have now been incorporated into the SPD, all of the site specific development principles are now considered likely to have a Major Positive and significant effect on this SEA Objective.

SEA Objective 7 - Materials and Waste: Contribute to the implementation of the circular economy, promote recycling and manage waste with minimal environmental impact

4.4.17 The only proposed site specific development principle predicted to have a Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effect on aspects of this SEA Objective is Development Principle: STDC12 North East Ecological Industrial Zone. This strategic development principle directs proposals for advanced manufacturing, research & development and testing & laboratory

services to the North East Ecological Zone, which would directly support the development of industries related to the circular economy.

- 4.4.18 None of the proposed site specific development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.4.19 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive effects on this SEA Objective. Development Principles 13 and 15 are assessed as having no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 8 - Community: Reduce poverty and inequality, tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion

- 4.4.20 The only proposed site specific development principle predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective is Development Principle: STDC15 Coastal Community Zone. This strategic development principle provides support for proposals for environmental enhancement, small-scale leisure and community uses and improved public access within the Coastal Community Zone. This would directly help to create and maintain a safe and attractive public realm in this zone.
- 4.4.21 None of the proposed site specific development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.4.22 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive or Uncertain effects on this SEA Objective.

SEA Objective 9 - Environmental Quality: Remediate land, reduce harmful effects on the environment from contamination, improve land quality and enhance the quality of the physical environment

- 4.4.23 All of the proposed site specific development principles except Development Principle STDC13: Central Industrial Zone are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective: These strategic development principles set out criteria to:
- Require development proposals within relevant zones be supported by a full gas risk assessment, incorporating any required measures to reduce landfill gas migration;
 - Require any development proposals on the site of closed landfill operations to be supported by risk assessments to ensure no increased gas and leachate risk; and,
 - Provide support for proposals for environmental enhancement, small-scale leisure and community uses and improved public access within the Coastal Community Zone. This would directly help to create and maintain a safe and attractive public realm and would indirectly help to improve the physical attractiveness of the environment in this zone.
- 4.4.24 Development Principle: STDC13: Central Industrial Zone is assessed as having no clear relationship with this SEA Objective due to the absence of coverage of relevant environmental issues.

SEA Objective 10 - Health, Wellbeing and Safety: Protect and improve health, wellbeing and safety, including through reducing health inequalities, enhancing access to high quality open space and avoiding adverse impacts on human health

- 4.4.25 The only proposed site specific development principle predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective is Development Principle: STDC15 Coastal Community Zone. This strategic development principle provides support for proposals for environmental enhancement, small-scale leisure and community uses and improved public access within the Coastal Community Zone. This would directly help to protect and enhance the quality of and access to recreational assets, including open spaces and path networks, thereby potentially increasing the uptake of active travel and physical recreation with associated health benefits.
- 4.4.26 None of the proposed site specific development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.4.27 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive or Uncertain effects on this SEA Objective.

SEA Objective 11 - Transport: Enhance and improve connectivity and accessibility through implementing a sustainable transport strategy

- 4.4.28 The only proposed site specific development principle predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective is Development Principle STDC13: Central Industrial Zone. This strategic development principle directs proposals related to rail infrastructure to the Central Industrial Zone and provides support for such proposals in this location. This would support the development of an integrated transport network within the STDC area and encourage sustainable modal shift in the freight and logistics sectors.
- 4.4.29 None of the proposed site specific development principles within the SPD are predicted to have Major Negative (i.e. significant adverse) effects on this SEA Objective.
- 4.4.30 A range of other proposed strategic development principles are predicted to have Minor Positive or Uncertain effects on this SEA Objective.

SEA Objective 12 - Employment: Increase high quality employment opportunities for the working age population across the RCBC and TVCA areas

- 4.4.31 All of the proposed site specific development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective. All of these development principles direct specific industries and employment generating uses to specific zones and provide support for the development of these. This would directly help to increase and diversify employment opportunities within the STDC area.

SEA Objective 13 - Economic Growth and Industrial Excellence: Maximise the contribution of the STDC area to the local, regional and national economies, diversity economic activity, encourage enterprise and support industrial excellence

- 4.4.32 All of the proposed site specific development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective. All of these development principles direct specific industries and economic activities to specific zones and provide

support for the development of these. This would directly help to diversify the local economy, encourage inward investment and deliver the right type of development in the right location to maximise the economic competitiveness of the STDC area and its contribution to the economy.

SEA Objective 14 - Land and Infrastructure: Optimise the efficient use of land and existing infrastructure and provide new or upgraded infrastructure to meet identified needs.

- 4.4.33 All of the proposed site specific development principles are predicted to have Major Positive (i.e. significant beneficial) effects on aspects of this SEA Objective. These development principles direct specific industries and economic activities to specific zones and provide support for the development of these. This would directly help to make efficient use of available land and existing infrastructure, support the provision of new or upgraded infrastructure to meet identified needs and safeguard existing industrial infrastructure.

Assessment of Reasonable Alternative Redevelopment Scenarios

- 4.4.34 For the reasons detailed within the full ER, it has not been possible to identify clear reasonable alternatives to individual components of the SPD in order for these to also be assessed. Instead, a suite of high level alternative redevelopment scenarios for the STDC area and associated potential variations in the content of the SPD, have been identified and are assessed in **Table G2.1** of the full ER. This aligns with the proposed approach to the consideration of alternatives previously proposed within the SEA Screening and Scoping Report (PBA, November 2018). However, this assessment of alternative potential development scenarios has not identified any likely significant effects in relation to the assessed scenarios, owing insufficient information in order to undertake a full assessment of each.

5 Mitigation and Enhancement Recommendations

5.1 Overview

- 5.1.1 Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations requires consideration to be given to “*the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme*”. The identification of any assumptions and uncertainties is also an important element of SEA, as all SPD components need to be unambiguous to ensure they can be implemented as intended.
- 5.1.2 The assessment of each SPD component was initially undertaken on a pre-mitigation basis, which allowed any ambiguities and other weaknesses to be identified and appropriate mitigation or enhancement recommendations to be devised by the SEA project team to address such issues.
- 5.1.3 A draft ER containing a schedule of proposed mitigation and enhancement recommendations was issued by PBA to RCBC in mid-March 2018, following which RCBC incorporated all but one of the recommendations into the SPD. Details of how the SEA recommendations have been addressed are given below.

5.2 Mitigation and Enhancement Recommendations

- 5.2.1 The following mitigation and enhancement recommendations were made by the SEA project team and have been agreed by RCBC. As such, all of these changes have now been incorporated into the SPD to remove uncertainties and strengthen its alignment with the South Tees Area SEA Framework:

SPD Vision – Mitigation and Enhancement Recommendations

- The SPD Vision should be expanded to provide a high-level hook for connectivity and transport infrastructure related Objectives and Development Principles which follow;
- The reference within the SPD Vision to “*promoting and encouraging environmental improvement and bio-diversity*” should be reworded for clarity;
- To address identified uncertainties and inconsistencies, paragraph 2.1 in section 2 of the SPD should be amended to delete the word “*Core*”. This paragraph should also be expanded to include a link to individual Development Principles;
- The SPD Vision and relevant Objectives should be expanded to address design quality and placemaking issues;
- The SPD Vision would benefit from the inclusion of a reference to prioritising redevelopment which capitalises on existing industrial infrastructure and makes best use of available land;
- To allow the SPD vision to contribute positively to SEA Objective 10 (Health, Wellbeing and Safety), it should be expanded to include a consideration of human health and safety, including in relation to future industrial activities. SPD objective 6 or 10 should also be expanded to include similar consideration of health, wellbeing and safety imperatives.

SPD Objectives – Mitigation and Enhancement Recommendations

- Objective 8 should also be reworded for clarity and expanded to include references to landscape character, green infrastructure and open space improvements;
- To allow SPD objective 7 to contribute positively to SEA Objectives 2 (Placemaking) and 5 (Energy and Climate Change), it should be expanded to support the creation of an integrated and safe transport network which takes account of the needs of a variety of users (which would include active travel users and pedestrians) and includes sustainable travel measures;
- To address identified uncertainties in SPD objective 9, the wording in relation to education and skills transformation should be clarified. To enhance the contribution of this objective to SEA Objective 8 (Community) and address equalities issues, consideration should also be given to including a reference to providing economic and employment opportunities for a wide range of demographic groups. For example, this could relate to the promotion of apprenticeship schemes in new industrial developments;
- To address identified uncertainties in SPD objective 10, the wording in relation to realising economic and community benefits should be clarified.

5.2.2 The assessment conclusions presented in **Section 5** and detailed further in **Appendix D** have taken account of the incorporation of these mitigation and enhancement recommendations into the SPD.

Development Principles – Mitigation and Enhancement Recommendations

5.2.3 There are several general methods which can be used to mitigate potential adverse impacts and more widely enhance the contribution of individual development principles (strategic and site specific) to delivering the proposed vision and achieving sustainable development:

- Implementing additional development principles to address environmental issues not fully addressed within those proposed or to mitigate specific predicted impacts;
- Adjusting or expanding the wording of development principles to ensure they can be implemented successfully and as intended in pursuit of sustainable development. This could include, clarifying or making wording less ambiguous or more positive for some development principles to help deliver the desired output; or,
- Setting requirements for developers to show how they have addressed environmental concerns through their development, including through individual development principles.

5.2.4 During the SEA a number of detailed mitigation and enhancement recommendations were made by the SEA project team in respect of each development principle, and with one exception these have all been agreed by RCBC. As such, these changes have now been incorporated into the SPD to remove uncertainties and strengthen its alignment with the South Tees Area SEA Framework. Full details are provided in **Table 6.1** of the full ER. It should be noted that due to the tight timescale for finalising this report, PBA has not reviewed the specific wording which RCBC has incorporated into the SPD to address each recommendation.

6 Next Steps and Monitoring

6.1 Future Stages of South Tees Area SPD Preparation

6.1.1 The SEA of the SPD will continue until its adoption by RCBC. This ER NTS has been prepared to accompany the formal consultative draft SPD, following which a revised (final) version of the SPD will be prepared and presented to a full meeting of RCBC for adoption. The preparation of the final SPD will take account of:

- All findings and recommendations within the ER; and,
- All representations received regarding both the SPD and the associated ER (including this NTS).

6.1.2 At the time of adoption, a Post Adoption Statement must be published setting out how the SEA process has informed the adopted SPD. The Statement must also identify “*the measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan or programme*” (see below).

6.2 Monitoring

6.2.1 The SEA Regulations requires SEA Environmental Reports to provide a “*description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring*” after the adoption of the plan or programme.

6.2.2 Section 5 – Implementation and Delivery of the SPD already identifies the need to monitor, review and update the SPD throughout the expected 25 year period of regeneration at the STDC area in order to respond to emerging regeneration activities, changes in environmental baseline conditions and relevant policy developments. Paragraph 5.11 of the SPD states that the first review of the SPD is intended to take place 12 – 18 months after the date of adoption of the SPD. The focus of this review will be to take account of market demand analysis and the development of thematic strategies for the STDC area which are expected to have been completed in the interim.

6.2.3 It is recommended that RCBC, acting in partnership with the STDC, should develop a bespoke and formal monitoring framework for use in monitoring and reviewing the SPD. The South Tees Area SEA Framework provides a good starting point for developing relevant monitoring targets and indicators. It is therefore recommended that a monitoring framework should be framed around the SEA Framework and include specific targets and indicators in response to each of the fourteen SEA Objectives.

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