

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening based on DCLG Practice Guide 2005

Suffolk Growth Strategy – 15 February 2013

<p>1. Is the plan/programme subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament of Government? (Article 2(a))</p>	<p>Yes – Prepared by Suffolk County Council in conjunction with district and borough councils. To be endorsed by all local authorities in Suffolk. It will not, however, be part of the statutory plan such as supplementary planning guidance.</p>
<p>2. Is the plan/programme required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Article 2(a))</p>	<p>No – The Growth Strategy is not required through statute and the Government has not required for it to be produced. (SEA is not required).</p>
<p>3. Is the plan/programme prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive? (Art. 3.2(a))</p>	<p>The Growth Strategy does cover some of these matters but it does not set a framework for future development consent.</p> <p>Areas and sites identified in the document have been assessed through the local plan process and/or through assessments associated with planning permission.</p> <p>To avoid debate about the status of the Growth Strategy as a material consideration in determining planning applications, sites identified in the draft that have not been allocated in local plans for granted planning permission have been removed from the document.</p>
<p>4. Will the plan/programme in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Article 3.2(b))</p>	<p>The Growth Strategy covers a wide range of matters to promote economic development.</p> <p>Matters most relevant to sites (such as the Breckland, Sandlings SPAs and Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC) include the location of growth, the identification of tourism as a key sector, and the selection of transport projects.</p> <p>The identification of sites and transport projects have been taken from documents that have already been assessed.</p> <p>The identification of tourism, particularly the key sites, is relevant, but the Strategy does not identify targets or suggest particular locations that would be promoted. The document does promote a shift from day to overnight trips. Existing capacity would be utilised and, potentially, further capacity provided. However, the Growth Strategy</p>

	does not specify that further capacity is in fact required.
5. Does the plan/programme determine the use of small areas at local level OR is it a minor modification of a Plan or policy subject to Art.3.2?	N/A
6. Does the plan/programme set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in Annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Article 3.4)	<p>The Growth Strategy does not set a framework for future development consent. Areas and sites identified in the document have been assessed through the local plan process and/or through Appropriate Assessments associated with planning permission.</p> <p>The draft document suggested a key development at Mildenhall/Five Ways. This site was removed from the final document.</p> <p>(SEA is not required).</p>
7. Is the plan/programme sole purpose to serve national defence or civil emergency OR is it a financial or budget PP	N/A
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Article 3.5)	No