

# A Sustainable Development Strategy for Gloucester



LOCAL AGENDA 21





# **A Sustainable Development Strategy for Gloucester**

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For further information please contact:

Meyrick Brentnall  
Gloucester City Council, Herbert Warehouse,  
The Docks, Gloucester GL1 2EQ  
(01452) 396829  
email:[meyrickb@Gloucester.gov.uk](mailto:meyrickb@Gloucester.gov.uk)



**GLOUCESTER**  
CITY COUNCIL

## **Executive Summary**

The 1992 Rio Summit (Earth Summit) and current Government advice places an onus upon Local Authorities to produce a Local Agenda 21 strategy for their areas. A Local Agenda 21 (LA 21) strategy is essentially a sustainable development strategy.

An Agenda 21 process is very much consultation focused. This aspect of Gloucester City Council's LA 21 has in effect been undertaken by the City Plan process, our long term vision for Gloucester City. The residents of Gloucester - through the City Plan process - identified a number of themes and concerns. The strategy is based upon these.

Recognising that many strategies end up gathering dust, the LA 21 for Gloucester is focused around a series of projects. Each project takes reference from a City Plan theme, and has been given an identity, a funding package and a time scale. If as an authority we have not delivered it will be easy to hold us to account.

The projects in the short term will not turn around the sustainability performance of Gloucester, what they will do is act as local exemplars, that can provide inspiration for others. Over a long period it is hoped that some of the ideas embodied in the projects will become standard practice.

Part 1 of the document gives the background and reasoning behind the strategy. Part 2 is the doing, and consists of the projects directory. For easy reference a project summary in the form of a table is also included.

The strategy also floats the possibility of a Sustainable Development Trust. This could provide a vehicle to take forward some of the projects by accessing funds that are normally not available to a local authority.

Finally, a sustainability check list is included. This can be applied to all manner of City Council projects, policies and programmes to give an understanding as to how sustainable they are.

## **Part 1 - Introduction and Background**

### **Background**

Back in 1992, the heads of over 150 governments from across the world met in Rio de Janeiro. They were there for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development - often called the Earth Summit. Their purpose was to try and find ways of improving peoples' lives without reducing environmental quality.

There were many products of the Conference but one of immediate concern to us is something called Agenda 21.

Agenda 21 was different from other activities generated by the Earth Summit. It recognised that global problems could be addressed at a local level by local people. It was also different in that it recognised that wealth or lack of it was an environmental issue. Until then, environmental protection was seen by many as a luxury for the rich and not a right of the poor.

The Earth Summit also introduced to a wider audience the term sustainable development. Sustainable development has been defined in a number of ways. What all definitions have in common is that it is about increasing the quality of life for all, without damaging the environment now or in the future.

Sustainable development recognises that the social, economic and environmental agenda are all linked together. You can not for example have environmental protection, if people are living in poverty. Economic well being can not co-exist with social injustice.

The Earth Summit required Local Authorities to initiate a local agenda process - in other words a strategy to achieve a more sustainable society. What this document does is explain what Gloucester City Council intends to do over the next few years to make Gloucester a more sustainable place. This will be in effect our Local Agenda 21 or Sustainable Development Strategy.

## National, Regional and County Framework

All councils will soon have a legal duty to promote the social, environmental and economic well being of the areas for which they are responsible. Agenda 21 strategies will provide a major contribution to fulfilling that responsibility.

There are sustainable strategies at the national and County level. At the regional level Sustainability South West is developing its sustainable framework and the City Council is actively participating in that process.

The City Council's strategy will need to sit within the context of these documents. Each one has its own set of aims and objectives. The reality is that the principles are the same but the degree of detail varies.

There are certain aspects of the various strategies that are of particular relevance. For example the choice of sustainability indicators. Indicators done through City Plan will show how well we are doing in moving to a more sustainable society, the ones chosen for the city will reflect many of the national, regional and county ones, with some that are specific to just Gloucester.

## Internal Processes

No matter how good our Sustainable Strategy is, or how good we are at achieving its objectives, we as an organisation will need to set a good example in how we go about delivering our services and running the City Council.

Spending time and money instigating projects to cut energy consumption in the city will lack credibility if we at the Council do not reduce our energy usage. Trying to get the public to cut down on waste will be pointless if we are seen as wasteful ourselves.

To make sure that our house is in order the Environmental co-ordinator is looking at a number of internal sustainability issues. For example how we go about getting people to work, and how much energy we as a Council use.

## City Plan

You may have heard about the City Plan. This was a process initiated by the City Council a couple of years ago. City Plan was set up to provide a vision for the future of Gloucester. It draws in the main from the results of an extensive public consultation programme, while building on the strategies of the council and where appropriate other organisations in the city.

City Plan has a number of aims, these are to:

- *allow the City Council to fulfil its responsibility to provide community leadership.*
- *establish a clear vision of how we should be improving Gloucester over the next 15 - 20 years.*
- *produce quality of life indicators which can be measured to test whether improvements are being achieved.*
- *maximise the contribution to the vision from a wide cross section of the community and partner organisations.*
- *develop mechanisms which will allow the City Council to work with the community and partner organisations to implement the vision.*
- *co-ordinate the various city council policies and strategies and influence the strategies of partner organisations so that co-ordinated action is taken to deliver the City Plan vision.*

Those familiar with an LA 21 process will recognise much in the above. It has most of the key components of an LA 21 in that it has; a Vision, Quality of Life Indicators and Community Partnership and Ownership. All that is really missing is an action plan to actually bring about some improvement in the city's sustainable performance.

What the City Councils LA 21 will do therefore is build upon the work done by City Plan - its vision, its partnerships and consultation process - and use the results to identify a series of projects in Gloucester that can make Gloucester a more sustainable place.

The responses to the City Plan exercise were grouped together into a series of 7 themes. These were as follows:

- *Looking After the Environment*
- *Working Together*
- *Getting Around Gloucester*
- *A Modern City Council*
- *Listening to Young People*
- *Opportunities for All*
- *Gloucester as a Safe and Healthy Place.*

Within these themes a number of concerns were identified, for example that air pollution was a concern of many. A series of new directions were also flagged up, these looked 5 years and beyond to how Gloucester could look.

Summarising these New Directions City Plan is clear in that looking five years and beyond, Gloucester will be:

- *A city that offers a high quality of life*
- *A city that is ambitious*
- *A city that is caring, friendly and fair*
- *A city that has a strong local economy*

Part 2 of this document identifies the concerns and new directions that have a sustainability angle and tries to identify a project that will some how address the problem or fulfil the new direction. In this way we hope the strategy will achieve something rather than be a policy based document that may well find itself sitting on a shelf gathering dust.

## Part 2 - The Doing

### Project Directory

This section is the heart of our LA 21 statement, it identifies a series of local exemplar projects, that in some way reflect upon the themes identified by the City Plan process. Some are fairly straight forward and can be delivered without significant new resources. Others are very ambitious and will take many years to implement.

The emphasis on projects recognises that a policy based Local Agenda 21 strategy is not going to change the way that people in Gloucester go about their everyday lives. What we have done, is to identify a series of achievable focused projects that we as an authority can be judged on. It should also provide an example for others to follow. The biggest obstacle to change is fear of change, showing someone what can be done will hopefully give others the confidence to do things in a more sustainable way.

Some of the projects listed are already in progress, although they have been modified in light of City Plan consultation exercise. Others will have been waiting for officer time or funding. Inclusion within this strategy will hopefully provide the catalyst to bring them on stream - where funding has been an issue inclusion in this strategy may help in bids to grant giving bodies, or they could be brought on stream by the Sustainable Development Trust - more of that later. Most of the projects are brand new, and have been identified taking reference from the city Plan consultation work. They will of course need to be built into the next round of Service Development Plans and Best Value Performance Plans.

Inclusion within this document does not guarantee its implementation. The Strategy has a long lifespan and priorities will inevitably evolve and funding criteria will change. We will however do all we can to ensure that as many of the projects as possible are implemented as soon as is feasible.

For completeness existing projects and strategies are identified, they are not exhaustive, they are meant to give a flavour of what the City Council is doing.

As we have described, sustainable development is not just about protecting the environment, it is about peoples social and economic needs too. To help you get some idea as to what each project means in terms of sustainable development, we have come up with a sustainability index. It works like this:

Each project will be assessed against social, economic and environmental criteria and given star ratings. The more the stars the more the project helps Gloucester move towards a more sustainable living.

It is not meant to be a scientific assessment, it is just a very rough guide to indicate how sustainable a project is. Just because one project comes out with 4 stars and another with 5 does not necessarily mean the latter is more sustainable.

To aid understanding each project is laid out in the same manner. Each is grouped under the relevant City Plan Theme (Looking After the Environment, Getting Around Gloucester, Gloucester as a Safe and Healthy Place). The City Plan concern and new direction is then identified. Each project is then described, followed by a list of partner organisations. It concludes with a timetable, funding package and its sustainability rating.

## City Plan Theme Looking After the Environment

### What You Had to Say

More trees and flowers and better access to the countryside are necessary

### New Directions

Gloucester will be a greener city and host to a wide diversity of plants and animals

### Issues and things we do anyway

People are probably aware of Robinswood hill and the work that goes on there promoting wildlife and countryside access, what is less known are the other reserves such as Alney Island that are also managed by the ranger service. The Green up Gloucester Campaign has been running for a number of years now, notable achievements include the free tree scheme and the Trees 2000 project. The parks department manages green space within the City, and is increasingly looking at more interesting, innovative wild life friendly ways in which to do this - you may have seen for example the wildflower meadow on the Barnwood bypass.

Much, much more can be done; the following exemplar projects are identified as targeting this very broad issue.

### Projects

#### 1. Tree Wardens

Tree wardens are volunteers who after receiving significant training, are qualified to help in the management and planting of Gloucester's tree stock both public and private. Gloucester has many trees, however there are a number of threats for example from utility companies digging trenches and cutting tree roots. Tree wardens are people in the community and can inform the Council of any problems they see. They can also provide advice to people, get involved in planting and generally help the city increase the number and quality of trees in the city.

### Partner Organisations

*British Trust for Conservation Volunteers/National Grid/Quedgeley Parish Council/Community Organisations/Civic Trust.*

### Timetable and Funding

Before 2002. Training costs £3000 for up to 30 wardens potentially from City Plan Budget. Significant officer time is needed for the start up period, after that the scheme can save time though more likely to be neutral.

### Sustainability Index

Social	*
Economic	*
Environmental	***

#### 2. Green Burials

An increasing number of people are asking for a form of burial that will benefit the environment. Green burial addresses this desire, and indeed there are a number of cemeteries up and down the country already offering this service. The main components of a green burial are the use of renewable materials in any coffin, and importantly the planting of a tree rather than the use of a headstone. Not only does the tree provide a focus for friends and relatives, but provides an attractive landscape feature and wildlife habitat.

### Time scale and funding

The scheme will be self funding. It is hoped to introduce green burials in 2002.

### Sustainability Index

Social	
Economic	
Environmental	**

#### 3. Pond Project

Ponds are very important habitats and due to agricultural intensification they are quickly disappearing from our countryside. It is estimated for example that 63% of the Britain's ponds have been lost over the last century. Urban areas are

ideal for ponds, and can often be useful habitats for some protected species.

For example, although Great Crested Newts are nationally rare, in Gloucester they seem to do rather well. Any pond that can provide a habitat for these animals is really helping to protect a threatened species.

Over the next two years using volunteers and working with local people, we are going to have a concerted effort to create at least six new ponds in the city that are good habitats for Great Crested Newts.

### **Partner Organisations**

*British Trust for Conservation Volunteers/  
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust/English Nature/  
Pond Action/Schools and other land owners.*

### **Timescale and Funding**

Beginning early 2001 in conjunction with the BTCV it is proposed to have a rolling programme over a two year period. Funding potentially from numerous sources including Green Up Gloucester, City Plan Budget and English Nature.

### **Sustainability Index**

Social                   \*  
Economic  
Environmental   \*\*\*

## **4. River Rehabilitation**

Rivers are a vital component of the city's natural environment. Not only are they interesting and attractive in their own right, but they link together disparate habitats, preventing them from becoming isolated and degrading as a result.

We are lucky in that most of the rivers and brooks in the city are still relatively under developed, though many could do with some positive management to make them more nature conservation friendly. The first stage of this process is to identify a stretch of water and survey it for its biodiversity and amenity potential. We then need to look at what physical improvements need to be done and build these into a management plan. Final implementation will

depend upon funding.

### **Partner Organisations**

*Cheltenham and Gloucester College/  
Environment Agency/Gloucestershire Wildlife  
Trust*

### **Time table and funding**

Survey work 2001 - no funding required.  
Implementation of physical works subject to possible funding from sustainable development trust and/or EA. 2005.

### **Sustainability Index**

Social                   \*  
Economic  
Environmental   \*\*\*

## **5. Urban Habitat Officer**

The urban habitat is a significant under utilised resource. Urban areas are home to a vast array of plants and animals, many of them are rare or threatened species. Some once common animals such as the frog are virtually absent from the countryside. With out garden ponds and ornamental lakes they would undoubtedly be threatened.

Not only is it important to encourage wildlife in urban areas for the sake of biodiversity - there are also clear links between the nature conservation value of an urban area, and peoples feeling of well being and subsequent health. Harsh grey environments are not conducive to sound health, getting people involved in habitat management brings even more gains.

The quality of urban habitat varies significantly however, and much can be done to manage the existing urban estate to benefit wildlife and people. It is proposed therefore to seek funding for an urban habitat officer. Their role would be to encourage gardeners, business and other land owners (including the city council) to manage their piece of land with nature conservation in mind.

Education would be an important role and it is hoped the post would provide a useful resource for schools. Funding is now unclear for this project following the refocusing of the new opportunities fund. We will now have to investigate other sources.

### Partners Organisations

*Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust*

### Timescale and funding

It was hoped that a bid to the new opportunities fund would be submitted in 2001. It appears however that their funding criteria has changed. An alternative funding package will have to be identified to take this project forward.

### Sustainability Index

Social	**
Economic	*
Environmental	***

## 6. Locally Managed Nature Reserves

The parks strategy floated the idea of Friends of the Park. This simply involves handing some of the power of open space management over to local residents and interest groups. What we are proposing is simply an extension of that process. Essentially local groups will be encouraged to become active in the day to day management of areas of nature conservation interest. They will be involved in the drawing up of management plans and the detail implementation of works on the ground, often in conjunction with city council contractors. A number of potential sites have been identified and base line ecological surveys done. Some contacts have already been made and it is hoped that over the next two years at least three groups can be set up. It is proposed that they become formally constituted groups to give them a degree of autonomy and fund raising capabilities.

### Partner Organisations

*British Trust for Conservation Volunteers/  
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust/Local community  
groups*

### Timetable and funding

It is hoped that by April 2002 we shall have at least three groups involved with management of nature conservation sites. Funding will be from existing council budgets, primarily the Green Up Gloucester.

### Sustainability Index

Social	**
Economic	*
Environmental	***

## What You Had to Say

Air pollution is a concern of many

### New Directions

Pollution to land air and water will be reduced to levels that do not place unnecessary stress on human health and other living systems.

### Issues and things we do already

Pollution is a concern to us all, none of us want to suffer the ill effects of pollution yet it is a fact that pollution is a result of human activity and ultimately we all are to blame. The city council's role in pollution control tends to be a very formal, regulatory one. Certain polluting processes are monitored and controlled by the Environmental Health Service Unit. Under our planning function we can direct potential polluting uses to the most appropriate site. There is scope to be more proactive however, and below are listed a couple of projects that try to be just that. (Transport is a significant contributor to local and global pollution. These aspects will be looked at under the Getting Around Theme.)

### Projects

#### 1. SUDS

Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems or SUDS is a new method of looking at how new buildings deal with surface water run off. Currently rainwater is simply collected in pipes and put straight into a storm water sewer and then to a watercourse. This has a number of problems. Oil and other pollutants that have accumulated on tarmac, roofs and other hard standing get flushed into the sewer and then into a watercourse. Particularly after a dry period this can lead to significant problems for river ecology.

On undeveloped open land, rainwater slowly percolates into ground water and would have taken many weeks even years to reach a stream or watercourse. Hard surfaces do not allow this to happen, resulting in depleted ground water flows and potential flooding problems as vast quantities of water are discharged all at once.

SUDS deals with water on site in a series of swales (broad open ditches) and containment ponds. Water seeps slowly away, and pollutants are trapped close to the site. This system has the added advantage in that attractive wildlife friendly habitats are created as part of the process.

We intend to address this issue through the review of the Local Plan. It is proposed that a new policy will require any significant new development to look at the appropriateness of using some sort of sustainable method of surface water run off. We would also like to encourage at least one school currently discharging water to a sewer to deal with its water on site. There is an added sustainable bonus to this in that schools currently pay Severn Trent to deal with this water. If it can be dealt with on site it will save money which can be better spent on educating children.

### Partner Organisations

*Environment Agency/County Council/Severn Trent.*

### Timetable and Funding

The Local Plan review has already begun, a formal consultation document should be out early next year, and a draft policy should be included. The first system could come on stream in 2002. Funding would be through the development process. Getting a funding package together to convert an existing building is an ambitious task and could take 2-3 years. Possible funding sources include the EA and the Sustainable Development Trust.

### Sustainability Index

Social	*
Economic	*
Environmental	***

### 2. Smoke Control Zones

Smoke control zones are nothing new. They grew out of the severe pollution incidents of the 1950s and 60s where tens of thousands of people are now known to have lost their lives due to smogs caused primarily by burning coal often for domestic heating. Many large towns and cities

now have such zones within them, where the burning of coal, wood and other products in household fires is restricted. Although the legislation is generally seen to be out dated, there is an increasing problem from people often in modernised Victorian properties burning wood and coal. In areas such as the Bristol Road, this combines in winter with traffic borne pollution to bring about pollution events exceeding current recommendations.

Gloucester has a particular problem with respiratory disease. Air borne pollution if not the cause, certainly exacerbates the problem. The cutting out of nitrous oxides sulphur dioxides and particulates from household fires could make a significant difference to air quality, especially in the critical winter months. It is proposed therefore to investigate the feasibility of a smoke control zone in the Bristol Road area. If implemented people would not be banned from having open fires, however they would have to use smokeless coal. The sale of untreated coal would be banned within and around the area.

### Partner Organisations

*Environment Agency*

### Funding and Timetable

The main funding issue here is officer time, in that it is a very time consuming statutory process that has to be gone through before a zone can be designated. Quite simply it will need to be considered against other priorities. Given the current work load of the Environmental Health department this will not happen in the next couple of years but hopefully within the next 5.

### Sustainability Index

Social	**
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### 3. 'Starry Starry Night'

Light pollution is an increasing concern, it is distracting for people, it can disorientate wildlife, and sadly it blots out the night sky rendering it impossible for urban dwellers to see all but the brightest celestial bodies. Not only is this

unfortunate it is wasteful. Sending light up into the sky and not to where it is needed wastes energy and should be discouraged.

It need not be like this, properly designed lighting units direct their light towards the areas where it is needed. The City Council, as opportunities arise, replaces worn out and obsolete street lighting lanterns with more modern designs that direct light where it is wanted and not up into the sky. Private sites however may not be addressed and it is often on industrial sites and private retail parks where unsympathetic lighting is most common.

We as an organisation could not realistically request that all existing lights are replaced, however through the development process we can ensure that new schemes address the issue of light pollution and trespass.

To have an impact on development, policies need to be adopted in the Local Plan. It is therefore proposed that a policy on light pollution and trespass be incorporated into the emerging Local Plan with the possibility of linking it to Supplementary Planning Guidance and a good practice leaflet.

### Partner Organisations

Developers /Business

### Timetable and Funding

Existing budgets within the timetable of the local plan review i.e. 2001-2002.

### Sustainability Index

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Economic	
Environmental	**

## What You Had to Say

Better use should be made of the river and canal.

## New Directions

The canal, river and surrounding countryside will be fully integrated with the rest of city by clearly marked footpaths and cycleways. These areas will be enhanced, promoted and marketed to Gloucester Residents.

## Issues and things we do already.

Some would view the river and the canal as the defining features of Gloucester, yet since the decline of commercial shipping the city has turned its back on both of these assets. Since the 1980s the flood meadows nearest the city have been managed as a nature reserve and for quiet enjoyment. The urban design strategy identifies a number of attractions including the Quay, the Docks and the canal that are under valued and in need of recognition conservation and promotion. It proposes that these key urban are linked in a coherent manner raising the quality of the whole urban experience. Cultural Services who have responsibility for tourism promotes all aspects of the city including the river and canal.

## Projects

### 1. Severnside Countryside Management Project

The stretch of land between the Sharpness Canal and the River Severn is a special area, rich in cultural, landscape and natural assets. All this is a few minutes walk from the centre of Gloucester, yet very few people know of its existence let alone have been there. If the city is to make the most of the river and canal then this area needs to be opened up and marketed to tourists and residents alike. Being on the urban fringe it does suffer from petty vandalism, dumping and marginal farming. Landowners have not really invested in the land, therefore bringing problems as well as benefits.

To address some of these problems and to ensure the area is an asset to Gloucester a countryside management project is proposed. This would involve the employment of a project

officer, who with support from local communities, landowners and other stakeholders will help manage the area for amenity landscape and wildlife. The project will focus on the river and the canal, and for example one of the projects first tasks will be to bring the Severn Way up to standard.

## Partner Organisations

*Gloucestershire Environmental Trust Company/ Environment Agency/Severn Trent/British Waterways.*

## Timetable and Funding

A project officer should be in post by January 2001. It is hoped that a project can run for at least 3 years. Funding has been confirmed from Gloucestershire Environmental Trust and the Environment Agency for at least year 1.

## Sustainability Index

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## What You Had to Say

The Docks has great potential for good quality regeneration developments

### New Directions

The Docks, canal and quay area are rejuvenated with high quality new development including houses, restaurants and shops. People, especially walkers and cyclists should be able to enjoy the river and canal.

### Issues and things we do anyway

Since the 1980s, much investment and effort has gone into restoring the central docks area. There are now a number of offices, shops and museums occupying old warehouses or new buildings within the dock area. It has to be said however that many of the old buildings are still vacant and much of the land along the canal is currently derelict. The city has recently launched an urban design strategy for the city - this identifies a number of attractions within the city including the docks. It is intended that the strategy will enable the city's assets to be highlighted, enhanced and connected with each other. Part of the National Cycle Network developed by Sustrans runs right through the heart of the Docks, not only does this fulfil a local need but should attract long distance cycle tourists into the city.

## 1. Western Waterfront

The Western Waterfront is the area of land stretching from Monk Meadow on the Sharpness Canal, through the docks and onto the area bordering the Severn in Westgate. An urban design framework is being created for this area that should ensure it is redeveloped in a manner that; creates and maintains a quality environment, that supports and encourages investment, and increases activity and enjoyment of the area. The actual framework is only the start of the process and much work will be needed before some of the planned for improvements come on stream. It needs to be stressed that sustainability is at the heart of the process, and the actual framework document will be the first council strategy to be assessed against the Sustainability Checklist (see final section).

## Partner organisations

*SW Regional Development Agency/County Council/Gloucester Docks Development Company/British Waterways/Landowners/Developers.*

### Funding and timetable

The urban design framework for the area is funded and will be complete by the end of this year. Actual work on the ground will be dependant upon Regional Development Agency funding, the willingness of developers to invest, and the ability of the city council to facilitate development through its development control function and its compulsory purchase powers.

### Sustainability Index

Social	**
Economic	***
Environmental	***

## What You Had to Say

There are not enough green spaces around the city.

### Issues and things we do anyway

Gloucester is fortunate in that it has a great number of open spaces around the city - unfortunately provision of parks and their associated facilities does not always match up to demand. This problem was identified in the public open space strategy, that document along with local plan policy will try and resolves some of the mismatch between demand and provision. The local plan also requires new public open space to be provided in large new residential developments. Trying to provide brand new open spaces within urban areas will always be problematic especially where land values are high.

Although the graveyard at St Mary de Crypt is existing open space, environmental improvements have made it more accessible, interesting and useable.

### 1. St Michael's Square - 'Car park to Green park'

St Michael's Square - currently used as a car park - is located within the heart of the city just off Brunswick Road. It forms a transition area between the commercial core, the attractive spa and an established residential area. The square was formally laid out in 1882 and would have provided an attractive green environment for the merchants and other professionals occupying the surrounding houses. The re-creation of the green open space is seen as a fundamental part of a series of measures to bring the whole square back to its former glory.

### Partner Organisations

*Heritage Lottery Fund/Gloucestershire Housing Association*

### Timescale and funding

Long term 5-10 years. Funding primarily as part of Heritage Lottery fund (Townscape Heritage Initiative) bid for central Gloucester.

## Sustainability Index

Social	***
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## **New Directions**

Less waste will be produced. What is discarded will be re-used or recycled.

### **Issues and things we do anyway**

A number of neighbourhoods in the city receive a green box and/or have a monthly collection of newspapers and magazines. There is extensive provision of bring schemes across the city primarily for bottles, paper and tins. Even so the recycling rate for the city is 6.5% this is against an overall increase waste generated.

Studies have shown that in Gloucester about a third of rubbish thrown away and collected by the dustcart is compostable. This will consist of kitchen refuse and garden waste. Sending to landfill is costly, a waste of a useful resource and results in methane generation that is a significant green house gas.

### **1. Green Waste Initiative**

It is proposed to run a pilot scheme in at least two neighbourhoods where ultimately a fortnightly collection of green waste will be established through the introduction of an extra bin. The introduction will coincide with an extensive awareness raising campaign co-ordinated by a new part time assistant to the recycling officer.

### **Timescale and funding**

Funding of the scheme will be subject to a bid to the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust Company. If successful it could be up and running during 2001.

### **Sustainability Index**

Social                   \*  
Economic  
Environmental   \*\*\*

## New Directions

Energy use from housing and commerce will be reduced through better insulation and more efficient use. Energy that is used will increasingly be from a green source that does not involve the burning of fossil fuels like oil, gas and coal.

## Sustainability Indicators

None currently identified

## Issues and things we do anyway

Energy use from heating, lighting or transport is a major sustainable development issue. Global warming is with us, as a nation we have obligations under the Kyoto agreement to cut green house gases principally carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels. We simply can not continue to use as much energy as we currently do.

The City Council's obligations under the Home energy conservation act require us to survey both private and public sector housing stock to assess its energy efficiency. Over 80% of the city council's housing stock has been surveyed for energy efficiency. There is also a rolling programme of refurbishment, which includes the fitting of double glazing, high efficiency boilers and increased insulation. Building control ensures that new development is built to current requirements in terms of insulation.

The City Council now buys most of its electricity from a renewable source - thus cutting down on green house gas emissions and other pollutants.

## 1. Sustainable Construction Guide

Once a building is complete trying to make it more sustainable is an uphill struggle. Loft insulation can perhaps be bettered and a more efficient boiler may be fitted, but generally most of the important aspects of design can not be changed. It is very important therefore that new build is designed from the very outset to be as sustainable as possible. Many aspects of sustainable design are common sense and often cost little more than standard build. More often than not developers do what they have always done, and may be ignorant of how to construct buildings in a more sustainable way.

That is where a local guide can be useful. Not only can it inform how to go about designing buildings in a more sustainable manner reflecting local characteristics, but it can inform developers where to go for further information and local suppliers.

## Partner organisations

*Vision 21/Green Business Club/The Next Step*

## Timetable and funding

The information needed to draft the guide is already held by a number people within the city council and in the above partner organisations. All that is needed is for this material to be put together in a publication and can therefore be completed by 2001. Funding will only be needed for printing and distribution.

## Sustainability index

Social	*
Economic	*
Environmental	***

## 2. Energy Efficiency Advice Centre

Fuel poverty is a serious issue, many on low incomes can not afford to heat and light their homes, what energy is consumed ends up being wasted. This situation can result in poor health and even death. In Gloucester, it is estimated that approximately 80 - 100 people a year die of a cold related illness; although about average for England and Wales, this is still unacceptable.

Tackling the problem should be straight forward - insulate peoples homes. Unfortunately if the actual science of energy efficiency is complex enough, then it is nothing compared to the complexity of grants and assistance, in this field. There is currently a myriad of organisations and groups involved with energy efficiency, some are concerned with fuel poverty others with renewable energy, what is certain is that those in most need are least likely to get it.

To try and target those houses and households that could benefit most from advice and grants, it proposed to set up an advice centre within the Barton Tredworth area.

## Partner Organisations

*Energy 21/National Energy Advice/Affordable Warmth Strategy/Group for Gloucestershire*

## Timetable and funding

This is a long term project that needs careful planning and long term funding. The Head of Renewal and Regeneration is looking into a number of aspects of the proposal. What ever is agreed needs to take on board the emerging fuel poverty strategy for the County, and needs to be sustainable in itself, i.e. needs some sort of long term funding package or income stream. This may be candidate for the Sustainable Development Trust.

## Sustainability Index

Social	***
Economic	***
Environmental	***

## 3. Sustainable School

With the exception of Meadowside school at Quedgeley educational buildings have not in the past been designed with sustainability in mind. Cost was the driving force. The result of this is that school buildings especially those built in the sixties and seventies are woefully inefficient in terms of energy use. Money spent on heating draughty, poorly insulated rooms could be better spent on educating young people. Schools often have large grounds, and can be well suited to generate a degree of their own electricity, not only would this save on energy bills but would provide an amazing educational tool.

Hempsted school is such a building, parts of it are now past their design life and needs a re-fit. Being on top of an exposed hill, with large grounds it is ideally suited to have some of its own generating capacity.

Conventional energy generation results in a significant amount of waste ash that has to be disposed of, so energy efficiency may be eligible for Landfill Tax Funding. The fact that the school looks out over Hempsted tip will hopefully make it a good candidate to receive funding from Gloucestershire Environmental Trust Company. Energy 21, a local charity dedicated to

sustainable energy are keen to assist in this project.

## Partner Organisations

*Energy 21/Hempsted School/Gloucestershire Environmental Trust Company*

## Timetable and Funding

The project would come in two parts, the first is a feasibility study to see what can be realistically done. This can be achieved fairly quickly and could be complete by the middle of 2001. The actual implementation is longer term and will be subject to a further funding package.

## Sustainability Index

Social	***
Economic	**
Environmental	***

## 4. Reema re-development

In Tuffley, seventy Council houses built as temporary accommodation almost 50 years ago are due to be demolished. They will be replaced by new homes designed, built and managed by a housing association.

We have discussed above the importance of energy efficiency, especially with respect to those least able to heat their homes. People on low incomes or benefits spending money on electricity and gas does nothing for the local economy, or for their own quality of life. To tackle this, and other related issues, the tender document for this particular re-development has requested housing associations to take on board sustainability issues.

As a result of this clause within the tender document we should be faced with a number of bids offering various aspects of sustainable design. It will then be up to selection panel to judge this, and other aspects of the bid before coming to a decision.

## Partner Organisations

*Housing Associations/Vision 21*

## Timetable and Funding

The tender document has already been sent out, and bids will be assessed later in the year. Development is expected to start next year to be complete by 2002. Funding will be part of the redevelopment cost, if a green specification is chosen it may add 1%-3% on the development cost.

## Sustainability Index

Social	***
Economic	***
Environmental	***

## 5. Homes for the Future

The re-development of the RAF site at Quedgeley provides a real opportunity to showcase innovative sustainable house and community design. A planning brief will be drawn up that will include a range of constraints and opportunities. Sustainable development issues will be taken on board during this process, however there is the opportunity to go one step further and get a home for the future developed.

A home for the future would be built to very high sustainability standards, these have been done before, Milton Keynes has its energy park, South London will soon have its state of the art ZEDBED development and closer to home Tewkesbury will have their Millennium Houses. What is proposed is not necessarily a futuristic house where the internal environment is computer controlled, and all the energy and water needs are generated or dealt with on site. These are interesting academic exercises but stand little chance of becoming mainstream.

What we will hope to achieve is a house built to good sustainability standards at little extra cost, that looks and feels like any other. The object of the exercise is not to build the most sustainable house but one which can be taken up by the development industry as mainstream.

To increase the sustainability performance further, any such homes built at RAF Quedgeley would benefit significantly from being part of a Home Zone area. These zones based on the Dutch Woonerf concept ensure that pedestrians and cyclists have priority over the car in any street layout. Streets become attractive vital spaces in their own right, not just a vehicular access.

## Partner Organisations

*The Consortium/Vision 21*

## Timetable and funding

The brief for RAF Quedgeley will be developed over the coming months. Implementation will depend upon phasing of the site, it should happen over the next 5 years or so.

## Sustainability Index

Social	**
Economic	**
Environmental	***

## City Plan Theme Getting Around

How we move around the city was obviously an important issue for those involved in the City Plan exercise, to the degree that it justified its own theme. Obviously a lot of what is said in this context will also be relevant to the looking after the environment and Gloucester as a safe and healthy place to live themes.

There appeared to be a general consensus that growth in traffic for a number of reasons had to be reduced - even so, asking people to give up their cars overnight was considered unrealistic and could result in damage the local economy.

What came through was a pragmatic vision, where traffic congestion was tackled over a period of time, where alternatives to the car were encouraged and gradually introduced.

Transport in sustainable development terms is one of the big issues. Transport has significant impacts on health, local and global pollution and on the viability of the economy. Carrying on as we are is not sustainable in environmental, economic or social terms.

### What You Had to Say

Public Transport needs to be improved in the city

Public Transport improvement cannot be changed on its own - it has to be connected to things such as where jobs are, where people live and where people shop.

### New Directions

Public Transport is more attractive to use than private motoring for as many journeys as possible.

New development is directed to places where there are good public transport facilities and contributes to improving them.

A car sharing system will operate that matches people wishing to make a particular journey with a driver making the same trip who is prepared to offer a lift.

## Issues and things we do anyway

Recent years has seen a proliferation of activity with regard to public transport provision, such as new bus lanes and Park & Ride schemes. Quality partnerships in which Local Authorities enter into a pact with a local bus operator to improve services provision have also been investigated. The local plan currently under review will direct uses attracting a lot of people to sites readily accessed by public transport.

### 1. 'The Bus Stops Here'

To be an attractive alternative to the private car, the public transport experience has to be one of quality and comfort, right from the time the passenger leaves their home to arriving at their destination. The city council can do little to improve the quality of the actual bus journey (other than through quality partnerships) though it can make the walk or cycle to the bus stop, and the wait at the stop as pleasant and as simple as possible.

We intend therefore to do the following:

In conjunction with Adshell (a bus shelter manufacturer and advertising group) to improve the quality of the bus shelters so that passengers waiting for a bus can do so in relative comfort.

As passengers inevitably have to cross the road at least once on their return journeys, busy stops will have refuges and other pedestrian friendly features incorporated.

Important strategic stops on the periphery of the city will have bicycle racks installed, thus enabling people to cycle to the stop and leave their bike in relative security.

The environment around strategic stops will be improved with litter bins and quality street scape to make the wait for a bus as pleasant as possible.

Work towards raised platforms at important bus stops for easy accessibility.

### Partner Organisations

*Adshell/Stagecoach/Bus User Groups/County Council.*

## Timetable and funding

Adshell will be the principle funding body and will pay for shelters in return for advertising space. Other improvements will come from existing highway budgets but re-focused. A rolling plan of refurbishment could begin mid-2000. It would take several years to complete.

## Sustainability Index

Social               \*\*\*  
Economic           \*\*\*  
Environmental     \*\*\*

## 2. Major Employees Transport Group

Commuting to work is a major cause of congestion. Traffic volumes increase significantly during the rush hour peak, most of these journeys will be commuters travelling to work and back. The City Council is trying to put its house in order by implementing a Green Transport Plan. This will encourage Council workers to access work by means other than their car. Obviously if there is to be a real impact in rush hour commuting then other major employers in the city similarly have to address this problem.

For many employers this is a new field of work, on which they may have very little information - A Working group of large companies has therefore been set up that can pool knowledge and facilities like car sharing databases and work busses. Success can be built upon, failures avoided. The group would also have access to expertise to give advice on national and local policy. The group may be in the position to make recommendations to the Cabinet on items of Council policy which effect travel to work.

### Partner Organisations

*Gloucestershire County Council/Gloucestershire Environmental Business Forum/Major Employees.*

## Timetable and Funding

Contact has been made with a number of major employers and the first meeting has been scheduled. Secretariat will be provided by the city out of existing resources.

## Sustainability Index

Social               \*\*  
Economic           \*\*\*  
Environmental     \*\*\*

## 3. Travel Centre

Travel patterns are increasingly complex, people generally want access to more services and do more things at different times of the day. Gone are days when travel patterns largely concerned going to the city centre and back. Many peripheral sites around the city are large generators of traffic in their own right. People take their leisure in rural locations, and will often wish to travel at all times of the day and night.

Simplistic assumptions that transport problems can be solved by providing a good public transport service from the suburbs into city centres is no longer as true as it was.

To try and provide a more sophisticated response to this general problem Sustrans a well known charity renowned for its cycle network has been looking at best practice through Europe. It has identified a package of measures including car sharing, taxi busses, safe routes to schools and home deliveries that together can make a real difference. Rather than implemented in an ad hoc way these programmes are all co-ordinated through a travel centre. Frome in Somerset has been identified for a pilot study, Gloucester has the potential to also participate.

### Partner Organisations

*Sustrans/County Council/Bus Companies/  
Schools/Travel Smart*

## Timetable and funding

This is an ambitious project involving significant input from partners outside of the city councils control. Even so a certain amount of work has already been done and Sustrans have already been giving very useful advice and guidance. No funding has been identified, if the scheme is considered worthwhile a decision will have to be made on how it is to be financed.

## Sustainability index

Social               \*\*\*  
Economic           \*\*\*  
Environmental     \*\*\*

## What You Had to Say

More cycle lanes are needed, as are secure parking facilities for bicycles in town.

### New Directions

Cycling is safe, convenient and has advantages over the car.

As with public transport provision a lot of time and resources has been devoted to increasing the basic infrastructure to be more cycle friendly. More is proposed and any new commercial development will have to include cycle friendly infrastructure.

### 1. Fun Ride

No matter how many cycle lanes and other cycle friendly infrastructure is developed, there will still be a need to sell cycling as an enjoyable, healthy, environmentally benign form of transport. Many people are concerned about venturing out on their bikes, even on dedicated cycle paths. There is a real need therefore to reassure people and convince them of the very real benefits available to them.

A simple way of doing this is to organise a fun ride, this is simply an organised ride along a marshalled, safe pleasant and enjoyable route. Its aim is to coax people out on to their bikes who do not normally do so. There are more bikes in the U.K than cars sadly most of them are locked away in garages, a fun ride can at least encourage more usage.

National Bike Week in June is a useful opportunity to promote cycling to people generally, and in 2001 it is proposed that a ride is organised to coincide with this national festival. If successful it could become an annual event.

The ride will be done in conjunction with the Severnside Countryside Management Project and therefore encourage people out into the countryside around Gloucester (looking after the environment).

### Partner Organisations

*Cyclists Touring Club*

## Timetable and funding

Arranging a fun ride does not cost a lot of money though it can take up a lot of officer time. The little funding that will be required will come from highways promotional budget. It is proposed that the first ride is done in June 2001 to coincide with national bike week. Future events will depend on how well it fulfils its target of getting people on to their bikes.

### Sustainability Index

Social	**
Economic	*
Environmental	***

### 2. Biking About

Cycling needs to be sold, car culture dominates how people make transport decisions, reducing this dependence will take a lot of 'hard sell' and education. 'Biking About' draws together a number of initiatives that will promote cycling as a clean, healthy and efficient means of getting around the city.

In general, cycling will be encouraged and promoted as part of a Mobility Management Strategy, aimed at promoting a wider transport vision for the City. This will include:

- Special events, principally during National Bike Week.
- New publicity material, including maps, guides and other leaflets encouraging more cycling and less car use.
- Working with the Major Employers Transport Group encouraging them to promote cycling as part of Green Transport Plans and to help them set up Bicycle User Groups.
- The promotion of School Travel Plans and Safe Route to School projects.
- Electronic Information Points providing information on cycle infrastructure and promoting cycling generally.

## **Partner Organisations**

Gloucestershire County Council/ Major Employers/Secondary Schools/Cyclist Touring Club/Bicycle Action Group for Gloucester/Sustrans

## **Timetable and Funding**

Funded from existing budgets and better co-ordination of resources. Various aspects will come on stream over the next 2 years.

## **Sustainability Index**

Social	**
Economic	***
Environmental	***

## What You Had to Say

The city centre should be a walkable area, with good rail, bus and boat links from the suburbs.

## New Directions

Walking is safe and convenient and given advantages over the car.

## Issues and things we do anyway

Pedestrianisation of the gate streets has been a huge success, with other phases to come on stream over the next few years. Safer City has done much to calm the influence of the car and allowed people to move on foot around the city with more ease and confidence.

### 1. Pedestrian Audit

Being able to walk around the city in safety and confidence is important for the resident and visitor alike. Routes need to be legible, well signposted, and free of threatening dark spaces where people may feel vulnerable.

To ensure that current routes are improved and new ones identified, it is proposed to carry out an audit to find out where the problem areas are, and where opportunities for improvement might arise. This baseline information can then be used to co-ordinate City Council resource allocation, act as justification for bringing in outside funds and to influence the location and design of new development.

## Partner Organisations

*County Council/City Centre Management Group.*

## Timetable and funding

Work can begin on the audit in the 2001 and should be complete at the end of the year. Funding for the audit will be from existing resources. Funding actual improvements will be done as opportunities arise and through the development process.

## Sustainability Index

Social	**
Economic	*
Environmental	**

## City Plan Theme Gloucester as a safe and healthy place to live

We as a society cannot develop in a sustainable manner if people live in fear of crime, or do not enjoy a reasonable degree of health. These are fundamental quality of life issues that need to be addressed in a sustainable development strategy. Having said that it is an issue that is covered by a myriad of other strategies and primarily the responsibility of the police and the health authority.

There are many cross-overs with other aspects of the strategy, for example the walking audit is designed to make the city safer to walk around. Many of the transport related issues have significant health implications. The number of projects identified although limited is in no way a reflection of the importance of these particular issues.

### What you had to say

Healthcare facilities should be available and accessible to all who use them

### New Directions

The health of Gloucester people is improved

### Things we do anyway

Safer City is all about cutting down on road accidents. Much of the work undertaken to encourage cycling and walking will have quite significant health implications. Protecting green space and encouraging diverse habitats as done through the Local Plan and Open Space Strategy will also have an impact on peoples health and well being. Leisure management through sports promotion and the work of the Countryside Unit promote healthy lifestyles. Environmental Health has a significant regulatory role in ensuring a healthy environment. The crime and disorder partnership involving the City Council, County Council and Police Authority produces a 3 year rolling strategy. It aims to improve community safety and the quality of life for Gloucester Citizens over the coming years.

## 1. Local Produce Market

Poor diet in particular and the lack of fresh fruit and vegetables has been identified as significant contributing factor to poor health. The UK as a whole has a very poor record and despite a number of campaigns not enough fresh fruit and vegetables is currently consumed. Health problems due to a poor diet tend to fall on the disadvantaged and those on low incomes.

Most fruit and vegetables these days is bought in supermarkets where it can be expensive, and is often focused around high value products flown in from around the globe. Increasingly supermarkets are located in peripheral sites where a car is essential. Those without access to a car will not even have access to these products.

Food scares are now common place, and the link between consumer and producer has disappeared. Many have simply lost confidence in how our food is produced, hence the growth in organic products seen over the past few years.

Apart from health concerns, there is a growing worry about the environmental damage caused by shipping vast amounts of food around the globe. Even when UK fruit and vegetables are in season, supermarkets will still source from distant locations. This further alienates the producer from the consumer and leads to a blurring of the seasons and a lack of understanding of how food is produced. Dairy products are similarly brought in from as far afield as Eastern Europe, often local subsidies and preferential exchange rates making it economic to do so.

A local produce market can help tackle these and many other problems by bringing the producer and consumer together. If located in the city centre there are further benefits regarding the revitalisation of the shopping area and being readily accessible to the vast majority of Gloucester's population.

Local produce markets by cutting out the middle man can provide fresh fruit and vegetables and other farm produce at very competitive prices. By buying local the relationship between producer and consumer is re-forged and local farmers have an outlet for their produce. Specialist producers such as organic or free range farmers

have found these outlets particularly useful, providing further environmental, social and economic benefits.

Any proposal will however need to address the sensibilities of any existing retailers that may be effected.

### **Partner Organisations**

*City Centre Management Board/Gloucester Chamber of Trade and Commerce/National Farmers Union/Farm Retail Association/Soil Association/Westgate Traders/Women's Institute.*

### **Timetable and funding**

Some work has already been carried out by the Property and Markets section. There are potential legal problems which may take time to resolve, there is also the issue of the cattle market and its relocation which may hinder implementation. There will be initial start up costs, however if successful it should be self supporting.

### **Sustainability Index**

Social	***
Economic	***
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## **2. Allotments - A Fresh Start for Fresh Food**

Growing you own fruit and vegetables is a healthy, socially active way to better your diet. Home grown produce is cheap, fresh and likely to be free of pesticide and other residues that are found in most supermarket produce. Allotments have a long history. They developed as a consequence of the changes in agricultural practices during the nineteenth century where the landless poor had their common rights to grazing taken away by acts of parliament. Allotments were seen as a means by which people could feed their families.

The City Council currently owns nearly 700 allotments plots, a large number of which are sadly under-utilised or vacant. This is a waste and a way needs to be found by which allotments are re-invigorated.

We have discussed the possibility of setting up a local produce market, this or something like it, could be an ideal opportunity for allotment holders to sell on excess produce.

This has numerous benefits:

- It allows allotment holders who may be retired or on a low wage to supplement their incomes.
- It allows local people to access locally produced fresh food, and ensures that the allotments themselves do not fall in to disrepair.

There may be a problem however, because legislation dating from the early 20th Century implies that produce from allotments should be used for the holder and their family and not commercial production. There may well be a way around this however and it does seem that as long as it is surplus that is sold on then it may not fall foul of the law. Further investigation is needed. Subject to legal problems it is proposed therefore that an allotment stall is tied to a local produce market or similar outlet found for allotment produce.

### **Partner Organisations**

*As above*

### **Timescale**

This project is not totally dependant upon the local produce market. There are other potential outlets ranging from door to door box delivery to a dedicated shop. What ever is decided as the best way forward, it will need to be bound up with the allotment strategy that will be published next year. This will also be a good time to gauge whether or not the scheme has enough support from existing holders to get the scheme off the ground.

### **Sustainability Index**

Social	**
Economic	**
Environmental	**

## **Sustainable Development Trust**

Many of the projects put forward will require external funding. Although the City Council has a good record in bringing in money from outside organisations there are some funding streams which are difficult to access or are totally off limits to local authorities.

One way of addressing this problem is to set up an independent charitable trust. Although potentially administered by a City Council officer the trust would be responsible trustees, drawn from outside as well as inside the authority. Gloucester Historic Buildings is an example of a Trust that was set up by the City Council and the local Civic Trust. It has been operating successfully for a number of years now and has provided funding for a variety of schemes involving historic buildings.

It may be that outside trustees could be drawn from members of the Environment and Ecology Forum, this would give that body a heightened role and hopefully more than make up for the budget it lost a couple of years ago.

It is envisaged that the trusts prime aim would be to bring in funding to implement aspects of the Local Agenda 21 strategy although other projects not identified would not necessarily be excluded.

The process of setting up a charity is lengthy and not to be entered into lightly. We also need to be aware that funds gained to implement aspects of the strategy may have been destined for other sustainable projects, possibly within the Gloucester area. Before setting up a Trust we need to be sure therefore that the effort is worth it, and that Gloucester's sustainability profile will clearly benefit. If a decision is made to progress matters, it is unlikely that a Trust will be up and running within the next 2 years.

## **Sustainability Checklist**

We have a duty to ensure that the City Council delivers its services in the most sustainable manner possible. This checklist will provide staff and councillors with a framework for making decisions on how sustainable a proposal, policy or service is.

It has been constructed by drawing on the work of the City Plan and will form part of the City Council's Local Agenda 21 (Sustainable Development Strategy). Aspects of sustainability not covered by the City Plan, though considered good practice, are included as well.

Using the checklist is not a scientific process - it can not prove that something is sustainable - it's a fact that very little of human activity is sustainable. What it can do is allow various options to be compared to indicate which is the more sustainable. It can also be used to show that the relevant thought processes have been gone through. Where scores have been poor or negative it will allow amendments to be made.

### **How to use it**

Simply go through the checklist for your particular proposal policy or service and score between negative 3 and positive 3 if not relevant or if the impact is neither good or bad score 0.

### **For each question appraisers should:**

Consider the impact of the proposal/service in a holistic manner and over a long time frame. Try and judge potential and indirect impacts as well as the more direct.

Make relative not absolute judgements. Sustainability is about improving performance, remember very little of human activity is sustainable.

Try and judge if the impact is making matters worse negative or better positive. Mark everything out of 3. If it is a big difference give it 3, a small one 1. If there is no discernible impact, or it is not relevant mark it 0.

Try to summarise the impacts for the benefit of other readers so they can see where you were coming from- remember transparency is all.

Do not total a score and conclude that something is sustainable just because it scores highly.

**The Checklist - Policy/Proposal.....**

Looking after the environment	Score	Comments
<p><b>Does the proposal/policy/service:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a net beneficial impact upon biodiversity especially on BAP species and habitats?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• result in increased tree cover?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• result in increased access to the countryside?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have an impact upon air pollution?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make better use of the river and canal?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• help regenerate the dock area of the city?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lead to an increase in accessible green space?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make the city's streets cleaner?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• result in the re-use/re-cycling of waste/assets?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lead to better or more environmentally benign energy use?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Getting around</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• facilitate the use of public transport?</li> </ul>		

	Score	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• encourage people to walk or cycle in and around the city?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• result in a reduction of traffic especially heavy goods vehicles in the city centre?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lead to a closer correlation of homes jobs and services?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lead to a reduction in transport related pollution?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• facilitate the use of the canal for passenger traffic?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Working together</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• involve local people in consultation on the proposal?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Gloucester as a safe and healthy place to live</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• address the problem of crime and vandalism?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve the health of Gloucester residents?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lead to a reduction in road accidents?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Opportunities for all</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase the mix of employment opportunities available to residents of Gloucester?</li> </ul>		

	Score	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make Gloucester an interesting and attractive place in which to invest and retain young and qualified employees?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• build upon Gloucester's strengths as a centre of excellence for the medical industry?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• address skills shortages especially through education and training of existing workforce?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>A modern City Council</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase confidence in the City Council and local government generally?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• address the needs of Gloucester's residents?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• involve the public in the decision making process in an efficient fair and open manner?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Other aspects of sustainability not explicitly addressed through the City Plan</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• result in the use of brownfield in preference to Greenfield sites?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enhance the built environment and preserve local heritage?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve and protect local distinctiveness including street-scape and landscape?</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduce water consumption?</li> </ul>		

	<b>Score</b>	<b>Comments</b>
• impact upon water quality in rivers and streams?		
• have an impact upon flooding in Gloucester or further upstream or downstream?		
• promote the use of locally produced goods and services?		
• lead to a reduction in noise pollution and disturbance generally?		
• promote racial and religious harmony and understanding?		
• have an impact upon homelessness?		
• provide opportunities for life long learning for all?		
• assist those on low incomes and other disadvantaged groups?		
• improve services and opportunities for the young and elderly groups?		
• improve services and opportunities for disabled persons?		
<b>Overall score</b>		

**Overall comments**