

Assembly Select Committee Recommendation	What will be done in response to our recommendation	Responsibility	Timetable for action	Progress and achievements (approx. six months after initial response)	Further actions (approx. six months after initial response)
<p>Recommendation 1 - For policy formulation and evaluation, regional bodies in the South East must supplement ecological footprint measures with a range of other supplementary indicators to provide a fuller 'toolkit' to guide policy development. This should include measures covering wider resource use, such as water use, biodiversity and addressing waste.</p>	<p>i) The regional partners have recently completed the review of the Regional Sustainability Framework (RSF) which includes high-level indicators to measure sustainable development. The intention is that these indicators will periodically be monitored by the Sustainable Futures Group (SFG) who will review the region's sustainable development priorities.</p> <p>ii) Moving forward these indicators will become the contextual indicators for the monitoring of the South East Plan.</p> <p>iii) SEEDA is developing a compendium of guidance and a toolkit for the "Diamonds for Growth" which will support them in taking action on the ecological footprint. This will contribute to the delivery of targets agreed by the Diamonds Leaders (more challenging than the targets included in the Regional Economic Strategy) and allow them to measure their progress toward those targets. Although being developed for the Diamonds, this toolkit will also be appropriate for use by other Local Authorities and partners.</p>	<p>i) SFG</p> <p>ii) The Regional Assembly</p> <p>iii) SEEDA</p>	<p>i) RSF completed end March 2008. Formal launch planned for May</p> <p>ii) Regional Monitoring Report 2008</p> <p>iii) By June 2008 for launch at Diamonds conference.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 2 - The Regional Assembly's and SEEDA's route map on reducing the ecological footprint should include a mapping of activities required to reduce the ecological footprint, identify the relevant organisations and partnerships involved, and identify responsibilities for delivering key activities.</p>	<p>The Assembly and SEEDA jointly commissioned this study to set out a route-map to achieving our shared footprint stabilisation and reduction targets.</p> <p>Preliminary modelling work has been carried out and the results and assumptions were tested at a well-attended workshop in February.</p> <p>Following the workshop the consortium of consultants has been working to produce a draft final report (detailing relevant organisations and activities) which will be available in April.</p> <p>The resulting report will be utilised as part of the evidence base for the first review of the South East Plan and for taking forward the RES Implementation Plan. It will also be utilised in sub-regional work such as the guidance and toolkit for Diamonds discussed under recommendation 1.</p>	<p>The Regional Assembly and SEEDA are coordinating the project.</p> <p>It will be up to all regional and sub-regional partners to implement their relevant activities.</p>	<p>Draft report available April 2008.</p> <p>Implementation ongoing</p>		
<p>Recommendation 3 - The Sustainable Futures Group working with other regional partners should champion a communication campaign, where relevant drawing on regional expertise. This should include:</p>	<p>i) The committee's report, and in particular this recommendation, will be discussed and a response agreed by the SFG at their next meeting. The group will also be considering its future work programme and will consider how to incorporate the committee's recommendations. The work programme is likely to include case studies which will address recommendations b and c (economic case for business and best practice from public sector organisations). It is unlikely that SFG will produce targeted public information but they may be able to support local organisations in their delivery of key messages.</p>	<p>i) SFG</p>	<p>i) Next SFG meeting 7 May 2008</p>		

<p>a. Public information, providing practical solutions tailored to individual circumstances. This should challenge South East residents to make changes in their behaviour but highlight the potential benefits for the <i>individual</i>.</p> <p>b. Information on the economic case for businesses, including potential for competitive advantage. In particular, there is a need to develop effective case studies relating to the circumstances of micro, small and medium enterprises, which make up the majority of the South East economy.</p> <p>c. Best-practice sharing between public sector organisations.</p>	<p>ii) The Assembly has produced a draft communiqué for SFG, the first step towards developing a communications campaign explaining the groups' activities. This will be distributed with the Regional Sustainability Framework.</p> <p>iii) SEEDA is currently exploring with other partners, such as CBI, Natural England and Environment Agency, the potential for a joint, coordinated campaign making use of each organisations evidence and networks, and providing common leadership messages. SEEDA is also coordinating a 'greening campaign' that has the objectives of signing up at least 100 communities in year 1 to take action. This will provide significant case studies. This proposition, and an action plan for delivery, will be included in the Living RES Implementation Plan.</p> <p>iv) SEEDA is negotiating with Business Links to include the development of 500 sustainability case studies per year demonstrating the benefits to SMEs of tackling environmental footprint, as well the impact of action on the RES ecological footprint target.</p>	<p>ii) Regional Assembly</p> <p>iii) SEEDA</p> <p>iv) SEEDA and Business Link</p>	<p>ii) Distributed with RSF in May 2008</p> <p>iii) The Living RES Implementation Plan will be published on SEEDA's website by the end of April.</p> <p>iv) the new BL contract will be in place for 1 April 2008.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 4 - Public sector organisations, including those operating at the regional and local level, must recognise the importance of 'leading by example'. They should accept the challenge to evaluate and make changes to their own activities in relation to reducing the ecological footprint.</p>	<p>i) SEEDA has recently been recommended for ISO14001, an environmental management system standard. The Assembly has supported this process with staff resource, providing obvious benefits for both organisations.</p> <p>ii) Diamond authority leaders with support from SEEDA (and with input from the Assembly) have agreed a stretching target to stabilise their Ecological Footprint by 2014. This overarching target is underpinned by targets to reduce carbon emissions and water use as well as early adoption of Code for Sustainable Homes level 4 and 6 and an increase in renewable energy sources.</p> <p>iii) The Corporate Plan includes a target for all regional public sector organisations to commit to a 30% reduction in their carbon emissions by the end of the Corporate Plan period.</p>	<p>i) SEEDA</p> <p>ii) Diamond Authorities with support from SEEDA and input from the Assembly</p> <p>iii) SEEDA to coordinate, public sector bodies to deliver.</p>	<p>i) First audit 28th February 2008</p> <p>ii) Ongoing</p> <p>iii) Corporate Plan period - 2008- 2011</p>		
<p>Recommendation 5 - There should be a concentrated focus on retro-fitting existing buildings in order to complement building regulations for new buildings:</p> <p>a. The Regional Housing Board (RHB) should take leadership of helping to stimulate demand for retro-fitting products and technologies within existing homes in the South East. In part, this will involve a campaign on the benefits of these technologies.</p>	<p>5a) The Regional Housing Board meets on 15 May 2008 and will consider this recommendation as part of its process of agreeing a 2009/10 action plan, alongside its current proposals. The current proposals include that during 2009/10 the RHB should explore the potential to promote sustainable development and changes in domestic energy use through retro-fitting energy efficiency measures to existing homes. The Board is expected to consider outcomes and recommendations from work by Board partner organisations through a report to the Board's meeting in December 2009.</p>	<p>Regional Housing Board</p>	<p>i) Consider 15 May 2008.</p> <p>ii) Identification of opportunities and key actions Apr - Nov 2009.</p> <p>iii) Report and recommendations to Board December 2009.</p>		

<p>b. SEEDA should work with partners to co-ordinate a regional programme of skills training that responds to the demand for knowledge of retro-fitting products. This should include, but is not limited to, the construction industry and should also help to ensure that those conducting renovation and refurbishment can guide customers on the benefits of more sustainable technologies.</p>	<p>5b) i) The issue of skills for retro-fitting will be raised at the next Regional Skills for Productivity Alliance (RSPA) meeting. The RSPA brings together partners with a responsibility or interest in skills to consider businesses' skills needs and transform business support services to meet these needs. The intention is to provide a proposition that the members of RSPA work together on a major push on retrofitting skills.</p> <p>ii) The Institute for Sustainability will be part of a network giving access to world class knowledge in sustainability. The science and innovation campus in integrated resource management for buildings and communities will provide a focus for planned skills programmes in sustainable construction, construction consolidation, urban renaissance and environmental technologies including retrofit skills, and the provision of objective advice on appropriate retrofit solutions.</p>	<p>i) RSPA</p> <p>ii) Institute of Sustainability</p>	<p>i) Next meeting of RPSA is 17 April</p> <p>ii) Development phase: 2008-09 Implementation: 2009-11</p>		
<p>Recommendation 6 - The Assembly, with SEEDA, should undertake work to assess the barriers to, and potential for, greater deployment of decentralised energy in the region. This should consider the planning, perception and technical barriers of such schemes in order to realise opportunities through delivery of the RES, South East Plan and local development frameworks.</p>	<p>i) SEEDA has recently commissioned work from TVEnergy reviewing the renewable energy targets. This work will consider the opportunities across the South East for renewable energy and decentralised energy schemes. Following an interim report, a route map is now being developed as part of the final report to guide implementation.</p> <p>ii) The Assembly will take forward work to identify opportunities for increasing deployment and use of decentralised low carbon energy. This will also consider means of overcoming planning, perception, technical and financial barriers. This will help meet new requirements arising from the supplement to PPS1 as well as contributing to policies and targets in the RES and South East Plan.</p>	<p>i) SEEDA</p> <p>ii) Regional Assembly</p>	<p>i) Report with route-map to be finalised April 2008</p> <p>ii) 2008-09 work programme</p>		
<p>Recommendation 7 - As part of its mobility management programme, the Regional Assembly and Regional Transport Board should develop a resource centre, for use by all sectors, to provide lessons on mobility management programmes. In particular, this should include the development of locally-produced monitoring of the impacts of such schemes.</p>	<p>The Regional Transport Board will formally consider the committee's report and this recommendation at its next meeting in May 2008.</p> <p>i) RTB has identified the need to provide leadership on mobility management as a priority action. The RTB secretariat is working with ACT/Travelwise to explore opportunities for aligning work at the regional level with initiatives being promoted at the national level. A progress report on work to date will be considered by RTB in May 2008 with potential actions identified subsequently.</p> <p>ii) The Regional Assembly is currently preparing technical guidance on implementing the Regional Transport Strategy policy framework (which includes mobility management) through Local Development Frameworks. Guidance will be published in May 2008 at a workshop with Local Authorities and will be made available via Regional Assembly website.</p>	<p>i) Regional Assembly/ Regional Transport Board</p> <p>ii) Regional Assembly and local authorities</p>	<p>i) 2008/09 work programme</p> <p>ii) Guidance published May 2008</p>		

