

AIM

Sustainable development, which means a better quality life for everyone, now and for generations to come, including:

- a better environment at home and internationally, and sustainable use of natural resources;
- economic prosperity through sustainable farming, fishing, food, water and other industries that meet consumers' requirements; and
- thriving economies and communities in rural areas and a countryside for all to enjoy.

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS

1. *To promote sustainable development across government and in the UK and internationally, as measured by:*
 - *the achievement of positive trends in the Government's headline indicators of sustainable development;*
 - *the UK's progress towards delivering the World Summit on Sustainable Development commitments, notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture; and*
 - *progress towards internationally agreed commitments to tackle climate change.*

Objective I: Protect and improve the rural, urban, marine and global environment, and lead integration of these with other policies across government and internationally.

2. *To reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 12.5% below 1990 levels in line with our Kyoto commitment and move towards a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2010, through measures including energy efficiency and renewables. **Joint with the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department for Transport.***
3. *Care for our natural heritage, make the countryside attractive and enjoyable for all and preserve biological diversity by:*
 - *reversing the long-term decline in the number of farmland birds by 2020, as measured annually against underlying trends; and*
 - *bringing into favourable condition, by 2010, 95% of all nationally important wildlife sites.*

Objective II: Enhance opportunity and tackle social exclusion in rural areas.

4. *Reduce the gap in productivity between the least well performing quartile of rural areas and the English median by 2008, demonstrating progress by 2006, and improve the accessibility of services for people in rural areas.*

Objective III: Promote a sustainable, competitive and safe food supply chain which meets consumers' requirements.

Objective IV: Promote sustainable, diverse, modern and adaptable farming through domestic and international actions.

5. *Deliver more customer-focused, competitive and sustainable farming and food industries and secure further progress, via Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations, in reducing CAP trade-distorting support.*

Objective V: Promote sustainable management and prudent use of natural resources domestically and internationally.

6. *Enable at least 25% of household waste to be recycled or composted by 2005-06, with further improvements by 2008.*
7. *Eliminate fuel poverty in vulnerable households in England by 2010 in line with the Government's Fuel Poverty Strategy objective. **Joint with the Department for Trade and Industry.***

Objective VI: Protect the public's interest in relation to environmental impacts and health, and ensure high standards of animal health and welfare.

8. *Improve air quality by meeting the Air Quality Strategy targets for carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particles, sulphur dioxide, benzene and 1,3 butadiene. **Joint with the Department for Transport.***
9. *To improve the health and welfare of kept animals, and protect society from the impact of animal diseases, through sharing the management of risk with industry, including:*
 - *a reduction of 40% in the prevalence of scrapie infection (from 0.33% to 0.20%) by 2010;*
 - *a reduction in the number of cases of BSE detected by both passive and active surveillance to less than 60 in 2006, with the disease being eradicated by 2010; and*
 - *a reduction in the spread of Bovine TB to new parishes to below the incremental trend of 17.5 confirmed new incidents per annum by the end of 2008.*

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERY?

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is responsible for the delivery of this PSA. The Secretary of State for Transport is jointly responsible for the delivery of target 8 and, with the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, target 2. The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry is jointly responsible for delivery of target 7.

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is also responsible for delivering the agreed efficiency target set out in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs chapter of the 2004 Spending Review White Paper.