

# Integrated impact assessment for the SRDFs

final report

submitted by  
Ben Cave and Salim Vohra, Seahorse IA Ltd and  
Sean Nicholson, Entec UK Ltd

M: 07786 930 391

E: [info@seahorseia.co.uk](mailto:info@seahorseia.co.uk)

[www.seahorseia.com](http://www.seahorseia.com)

 Seahorseia

**Entec**

Company registered in England & Wales  
Registered office: PO Box 220, 55 Ryde  
Road, BN2 3WJ  
Company No 04774488

## 1 Key findings

- Many models for impact assessment and appraisal show underlying similarities in approach and convergence on key issues.
- Although there are similarities between different forms of impact assessment (IA) there are also important differences: for example practical issues eg the amount of guidance which the different models provide to the practitioner/plan team and conceptual issues eg some IAs aspire to be value-free, neutral and objective while others explicitly draw on qualitative and less quantifiable data (this might include evidence from people likely to be affected by the initiative under assessment).
- This integrated impact assessment (IIA) model is based on three domains: environment, society and economy. The model does not prioritize one domain over another. People who contributed to the development of this model were clear that policies for sustainability are policies for a healthy public policy.
- It is important that the team conducting the IIA have a broad spread of skills and knowledge eg social (including health), economic and environmental.
- Health and social impact assessment bring important learning about distribution of effects within population groups.
- This IIA model needs to be piloted. Valuable learning will come from using the model.
- The work to develop this model contributed to thinking about how impact assessment should be used in the SRDFs and the implications of conducting integrated impact assessment within a complex organisation such as the GLA.

## 2 Introduction

This is the final report of a project commissioned by the Regional Public Health Group on behalf of the London Health Commission.

The work was carried out by Seahorse IA in conjunction with Entec.

The consultants would like to thank all those who took part in the workshops and the meetings and who contributed to developing this model.

The model for integrated impact assessment has been developed for the teams preparing the sub regional development frameworks (SRDFs) for London.

The London Health Commission are keen that the learning from the Mayoral health impact assessments should be developed and applied to appraisals of the SRDFs. The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) directive <sup>1</sup> was identified as a useful vehicle for piloting an integrated impact assessment. This will look in more depth at sustainability issues including social, economic and environmental issues.

It was agreed that the timetable for this programme was dependent upon the timetable that the SRDF teams are following. The SRDF timetable ran later than expected so the programme of work developing the model for integrated impact

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<sup>1</sup> see

[www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm\\_control/documents/contentservertemplate/odpm\\_index.hcst?n=4136&l=2](http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_control/documents/contentservertemplate/odpm_index.hcst?n=4136&l=2)

assessment was altered to take account of this change: this programme of work did not involve piloting the model.

The IIA model, which was submitted to the Regional Public Health Group on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2004, provides a framework for conducting an impact appraisal of a spatial plan. This IIA model is compliant with the ODPM guidance on SEA of land use and spatial plans. The model is meant to be read in conjunction with the ODPM guidance on SEA and with forthcoming guidance on the integration of SEA and SA.

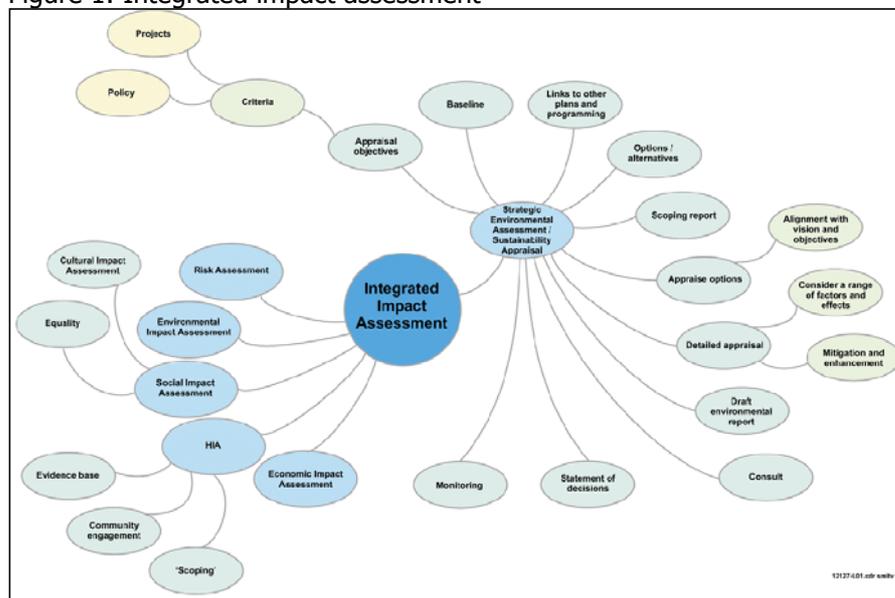
### 3 Report on the process

The programme of work involved the following phases:

- review of impact assessment approaches - local, regional, national and international
- 1<sup>st</sup> workshop with GLA officers and members of London Sustainable Development and London Health Commissions to examine issues in developing an integrated model for use in London context;
- development of a draft integrated impact assessment model;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop with GLA officers and members of London Sustainable Development and London Health Commissions to examine the objectives for the IIA process;
- final integrated impact assessment model with report on the process and recommendations for next steps.

The dates of the meetings and attendance at the meetings is given below in section 5.

Figure 1: Integrated impact assessment



#### Review of IA models

We prepared a review of impact assessment methodologies. This was discussed with the steering group before being circulated to the participants in advance of the first workshop.

This review was accompanied by an issues paper which posed a series of questions for the workshop participants about how integrated impact assessment should be developed within London.

Figure 1 above shows how IIA encompasses different models;<sup>2</sup>

### **Workshops**

At the first workshop it was identified that the London Sustainable Development Commission had developed a model for Sustainability Appraisal.

A key outcome of the workshop was the input from the LSDC officers into the process of developing the IIA model.

The next workshop focussed on the objectives and the supporting criteria for the IIA. The framework developed by the London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC) was used as a sounding board for these objectives. An initial set of objectives was drafted after a review of appraisal models, including the framework developed by the LSDC<sup>2</sup>. The objectives were developed further in consultation with GLA officers and members of the LHC and the LSDC.

### **Objectives**

The objectives and criteria in this model are appropriate for the appraisal of a spatial plan, eg the Sub Regional Development Framework. It would be necessary to review the objectives before using this model to appraise another type of policy document.

It is important that the objectives used in SEA have a degree of independence from the policy-making process. This ensures that the appraisal is rigorous and is not self-fulfilling. While the consultants recognise that the objectives may need to be revised to ensure that they are relevant to the plan in question it is important that these revisions are minor and few in number.

## **4 Recommendations for next steps**

The London Health Commission should support the SRDF teams in addressing health and social issues when preparing, and appraising, the development frameworks. The IIA model provides a framework for this process.

The London Health Commission should continue to work with the London Sustainable Development Commission.

It is important to pilot the IIA model before wider learning about the model itself can be disseminated.

Once pilots have been completed the London Health Commission/Regional Public Health Group should consider disseminating the IIA model so that it can be adopted at a local level within the region.

The London Health Commission/Regional Public Health Group should link with other regions to identify work being carried out to address health issues in SEA and to disseminate the findings from the IIA pilot nationally.

The London Health Commission/Regional Public Health Group should lobby the Department of Health/ODPM to identify how health is being addressed in SEAs and to identify how capacity can be developed to enable the health sector to contribute to SEA (and so to the spatial planning process)..

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<sup>2</sup> Seahorse IA and Entec (2003) IIA: an issues paper. an interim report for London Health Commission. December.

## 5 Involvement in developing the IIA model

The consultants worked to a steering group. The initial membership was

- Paul Plant, Regional Public Health Group, GOL;
- Sarojini Ariyanayagam, Regional Public Health Group, GOL;
- Vicky Hobart, Regional Public Health Group, GOL;
- Muzaffar Malik, NE London Strategic Health Authority;
- Jane Carlsen, Greater London Authority; and
- Anna Hamilos, Greater London Authority.

Matthew Chell, of the London Sustainable Development Commission joined the steering group after the first workshop.

The dates for the meetings were as follows:

Date	Meeting
4 <sup>th</sup> November 2003	Steering group #1
26 <sup>th</sup> November 2003	Steering group #2
12 <sup>th</sup> December 2003	Workshop #1
29 <sup>th</sup> January 2004	Workshop #2
17 <sup>th</sup> February 2004	Objectives

Attendance at IIA workshops:

Name	Organisation	Workshop #1	Workshop #2	Objectives
Paul Plant	Regional Public Health Group & London Health Commission	✓	✓	
Jenny Mindell	London Health Observatory	✓		
Gillian Seabright	North East London Training & Workforce Development Confederation	✓		
Jane Carlsen	Greater London Authority	✓		✓
David Dash	Greater London Authority	✓	✓	
Debbie McMullen	Greater London Authority	✓	✓	
Gary Cox	HUDU (originally as URS Corporation)	✓	✓	
Rachel Phillipson	London Development Agency	✓		
Vicky Hobart	Regional Public Health Group	✓	✓	✓
Anna Boltong	London Health Observatory	✓	✓	
Anna Hamilos	Greater London Authority	✓	✓	
Chris Baker	Government Office for London	✓		
Doreen Kenny	Greater London Authority	✓		
Helen Davis	London Health Commission	✓	✓	
Matthew Chell	Greater London Authority, London Sustainable Development Commission	✓	✓	✓
Salim Vohra	Seahorse IA	✓	✓	✓
Sean Nicholson	Entec UK	✓	✓	✓
Ben Cave	Seahorse IA	✓	✓	✓
Paula Hirst	Greater London Authority, London Sustainable Development Commission			✓
Niall Machin	Greater London Authority, London Sustainable Development Commission			✓
Jay Silcott			✓	
David Fell	London Sustainable Development Commission		✓	
Catherine Max	London Works		✓	
Peter Hoyle	London Sustainable Development Commission		✓	

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Workshop #1</b>	<b>Workshop #2</b>	<b>Objectives</b>
Robin Stott	London Sustainable Development Commission		✓	
RP ???			✓	
MM ???			✓	