

National Rivers Authority, North West
Region



Environmental Screening for the
Merseyside Objective 1
Programme: *Environmental
Screening Guidelines*

July 1995

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ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

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National Rivers Authority, North West
Region

Environmental Screening for the
Merseyside Objective 1
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For and on behalf of Environmental Resources Management
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Position: <u>Technical Director</u>
Date: <u>26/7/95</u>

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1.1

THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS REPORT

This document sets out the proposed environmental screening procedures for the Objective 1 programme on Merseyside. The adoption of environmental selection criteria fulfils two purposes:

- it helps to ensure that proposals put forward for Objective 1 funding do not adversely affect the environment; and
- it encourages applicants to incorporate environmentally beneficial elements into their proposals, which will have a positive influence on the economic regeneration of the region.

Applicants should be encouraged to adopt environmental features at the design stage of the proposal process. Notes for applicants and a description of the scoring system will allow a greater understanding of the secretariat's expectations, and will enable applicants to assess the advantages of building environmental features into their proposals.

Section 1.5 of the 1994-1999 Single Programming Document (SPD) provides the justification for the use of environmental features in Objective 1 bids. The SPD states that one of the key findings of the Objective 2 programme which preceded the current programme was that there was a need to adopt a more targeted approach to projects under the "image and the environment priority". The SPD therefore supports measures which package image and environment schemes in a better way, and which target resources more clearly on the areas of greatest need.

1.2

THE STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

These guidelines have been designed to further the strategic environmental goals described in the SPD. The guidelines set out the procedures to be adopted for the environmental screening of Objective 1 projects on Merseyside. To assist project appraisers and applicants this guide to environmental assessment contains the following sections:

- an introduction to the screening philosophy that has been adopted, and an outline of how consideration of the environment can make a strong contribution to the regeneration process on Merseyside;
- a two stage appraisal process, with stage one covering the eligibility of the project and conformance with all necessary environmental regulations, and the second stage setting out environmental screening criteria at the Measure level for each of the Measures set out in the SPD; and

- an Annex containing guidance on how to assess the quality of Environmental Statements, which are mandatory for large infrastructure projects listed in the European Union directive on environmental impact assessment.

These appraisal guidelines have been formulated to fit in with the overall appraisal structure for funding applications on Merseyside and have been designed to be simple and transparent. The two guiding principles have been that resources should be targeted at those areas most in need of environmental improvement and that rather than adopt a mechanistic, quantified output driven scoring system, projects should be judged on whether or not they are likely to make positive or negative contributions to the environment and, therefore, the regeneration process in the region.

2.1

INTRODUCTION

These guidelines recognise that environmental considerations are just one of the project selection criteria, but seek to emphasise how early and careful consideration of the environmental impacts of projects can significantly enhance their regeneration potential. In doing this it is hoped that the belief that environmental improvement and protection are obstacles to economic development can be demonstrated to be a misconception.

2.2

THE ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Five major ways in which environmental issues affect economic development are set out below:

- **The perception of investors.** The quality of the environment in a region is now one of the major factors potential investors will consider when choosing a site for investment. Environmental quality is directly linked to the quality of life and is a major influence on the ability to retain and attract skilled, mobile labour. The historic perception of Merseyside as a declining industrial port and hinterland has begun to be addressed in recent years by a series of high profile developments, but the region's image problem remains. A study undertaken on behalf of St Helens First in August 1994 emphasises this point. The following environmental factors were found to influence potential investors in St Helens:
 - overall image of the locality;
 - accessibility by road, rail, and air;
 - quality of estates and sites available;
 - quality of landscape; and
 - general quality of life.

Most of these factors are highly subjective, but regardless of the ability to show cause and effect, Objective 1 funds should be channelled in a way, and into areas, which will not only create job opportunities but also create the right climate for secondary and tertiary investment;

- **The perception of visitors.** The quality of the environment is very important for the tourism and leisure industries on Merseyside - sectors which have been identified as being of crucial significance to the regeneration of the region. Not only must tourist facilities be attractive places to visit, but the areas around them and the corridors used to access them must be of a good environmental quality if the region is to benefit from having a good image;

- **The effect of legislation.** Environmental regulations increasingly affect business. It is therefore important that project sponsors are aware of the rules that apply to their activities to avoid regulatory problems, and to ensure that the most economical methods of compliance are planned for from the very beginning;
- **Environmental protection as a business.** The market for environmental technology, services and products is one of the fastest growing in the world, and represents a major commercial opportunity for businesses aware of the commercial potential it offers. By making businesses aware of the environmental factors driving the market, the Objective 1 programme can raise awareness about the range of business opportunities on offer and help foster a climate of innovation; and
- **Staying ahead of change.** Government policies affecting all aspects of business life will change in coming years to allow government targets for pollution control and sustainable development to be met. The effects will vary across sectors but will lead to profound changes in the way many activities are carried out. It is therefore important that new projects which will operate or be in place over a long period are designed so that their worth is not diminished by changing patterns of behaviour and demand.

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Environmental screening will be carried out using a two stage process:

- an initial eligibility stage where projects are screened for having met relevant statutory controls, such as having undertaken an environmental impact assessment (where appropriate) or having any relevant emissions permits; and
- second stage screening where projects are scored against environmental criteria specific to the priority and measure under which the project is submitted for funding, and where additional marks are available for projects taking place in an environmental priority area.

3.2 ELIGIBILITY

Table 3.2a sets out the two stages to be undertaken to ensure that projects comply with statutory obligations with regard to environmental issues. The principal requirement that is likely to be necessary for projects funded under the Objective 1 programme is the need for an environmental statement (ES). Stage one of the eligibility check therefore ensures that applicants with a requirement to undertake an ES will be aware of their responsibilities and will have made plans to commission the study. If an ES has not been undertaken where one is compulsory the project may not go ahead under current planning legislation. The ES must also be of an adequate quality and address the issues relevant to the project. Annex A of this report contains a guide on how to assess the adequacy of an environmental statement.

If project promoters are not compelled to undertake an ES under the current planning framework appraisers may still require the preparation of some form of environmental review of the project. This may apply to projects which fall just short of the criteria used to assist the need for an ES, or to projects which may have some environmental implication which would not normally be expected to be an issue, but which in the particular circumstances of the project needs further investigation.

3.3 MEASURE LEVEL SCREENING

3.3.1 Introduction

The second stage of the environmental screening and scoring process focuses on scoring projects against measure level assessment questions. Assessment forms have been prepared for every measure in the Single Programming

Table 3.2a Guidelines for Environmental Appraisers of Projects

Screening Philosophy

Three principles should underlie the environmental screening of projects:

- taking account of environmental factors can aid the regeneration of Merseyside. Projects should therefore be examined to see what benefits and opportunities for regional conversion have been identified, and what steps have been suggested to exploit them;
 - resources should be targeted at those areas most in need of environmental improvement. These will be areas with degraded environments or gateway areas with particularly strong impacts on the image of the region; and
 - applications should be rewarded for innovative solutions to environmental challenges, thereby rewarding imaginative applicants and helping to foster a climate where innovation is rewarded.
-

1. Eligibility.

Is an environmental statement (ES) needed¹ (Y/N)? If no, proceed to stage 2.

If yes, is the ES attached (Y/N) and is the ES, including mitigation measures, of an acceptable standard (Y/N)? If yes, proceed to stage 2 (See Annex A of the Guide for Environmental Appraisers or refer to the local planning authority for guidance on what constitutes an acceptable environmental statement). If the answer to either of these questions is no reject the application.

(1) The requirement to have undertaken an ES is governed by the European Union Directive on Environmental Impact Assessment (Directive 85/337/EEC) and implemented through the Town and Country Planning Act (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988. If the project is an Annex I project an ES is compulsory and should be attached. Local planning officers will be able to indicate whether or not an environmental statement is necessary.

2. Sift

Is the project an Annex II project (a project where the need for an ES is discretionary and dependant on a decision by the determining authority) or would you expect the project to have significant negative environmental effects (Y/N)?

If yes, are details of an environmental assessment and proposed mitigation measures attached and is the assessment of an acceptable standard (Y/N)? If yes proceed to stage 3, if no refer back to applicant for further details.

3. Score Against the Measure Level Criteria for the Environment

Environmental criteria have been prepared for each of the measures set out under the five priorities in the SPD, and are presented as forms tailored to the nature of each measure. Having established the eligibility of the project for Objective 1 funding, the project should be scored against the specific measure level criteria set out on the forms.

Scoring against the specific measure level criteria produces a maximum score of 6.5 points out of the possible 10 available for the environment. The remaining points are awarded if the project is in an environmental priority area. These are areas of particular environmental need and include regional gateways, which have a particularly strong impact on the image of the region, and areas with particularly degraded environments. The points for being in an environmental priority area are calculated by multiplying the score out of 6.5 by a factor of 1.5. The total score is then obtained by rounding to the nearest whole number.

Document, focusing on the potential positive environmental aspects of projects. The appraisal forms comprise the title of the Priority and Measure, a statement of the objective of the Measure as set out in the SPD, a space for the project name and a reference number to be entered, the assessment questions and a box for identifying whether or not the project is taking place in an environmental priority area. As it is important that any points claimed are validated, a notice on the form requires the project promoter to justify the claim for points on attachments.

The assessment questions and the definition of the environmental priority areas are discussed below in *Sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.3*. The environmental screening forms that have prepared by ERM on behalf of the NRA for the Objective 1 programme are included in this report as *Annex B*.

3.3.2 *The Assessment Questions*

The aim of the environmental screening questions is to establish whether the project will make a positive or negative contribution to environmental issues relevant to the project under consideration. Scores are given for the projects based on the most appropriate responses to the assessment questions. To illustrate the format that has been adopted *Table 3.3a* shows the form for Priority One, Measure One of the SPD: Quality Sites and Premises for Industrial and Commercial Investors.

The environmental screening scores are weighted according to the importance of the issue. For example, because of the legacy of derelict land in the region and the need to conserve the natural resources of Merseyside, the key issue for the site development measures has been identified as the reuse of brownfield sites and existing buildings. Another important issue for the site development options is the transport arrangements for the site, and in particular whether or not the development will reduce the reliance on private cars. If the impact will genuinely be neutral, or if the assessment question is not relevant, a score midway between the positive and negative scores has been allocated. For example, for Priority 1, Measure 1 a score of one is given if the project takes place on a brownfield site. Therefore, a score of 0.5 is given if the impact is neutral or if the question is not applicable.

The maximum score available at the assessment question stage is 6.5. The remaining marks are awarded if the project has been identified as being in an area of environmental need (see below).

3.3.3 *Areas of Environmental Need*

After consultations with the Objective 1 secretariat and the five local authorities, it was decided that a proportion of the score available for the environment should be reserved for projects which improve the local environment in parts of the region with particularly severe environmental problems, or areas where the state of the environment has a particularly strong impact on the development of the region. This is achieved by multiplying the score obtained after answering the assessment questions by

Table 3.3a *Priority 1, Measure 1: Quality Sites and Premises for Industrial and Commercial Investors*

Objective:

- To ensure an adequate provision of quality industrial and commercial sites and premises to encourage investment, indigenous growth and increased employment opportunities.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Is the development on a brownfield site, will it reduce the area of derelict land or will it return buildings to productive use?	1.0	0.5	0
2. Does the development respect designations regarding the natural environment or built heritage (eg SSSIs, SPAs, greenbelt, listed building)?	1.0	0.5	0
3. Does the development incorporate good practice for energy conservation, water recycling/reuse or waste minimisation/reduction or involve innovative environmental measures?	1.0	0.5	0
4. Will the site have an environmental management plan, or are measures in place for post development environmental management?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Have measures been taken to ensure that the development is easily accessible by public transport?	1.0	0.5	0
6. Is the development designed to improve the local built environment, for example by minimising the effects of crime, vandalism or litter?	0.75	0.38	0
7. Does the development project contain proposals for environmental improvements such as landscaping?	0.75	0.38	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

1.5, which raises the maximum number of marks available to ten. In this way it is hoped that the strongest possible positive impact of the Objective 1 programme will be secured. After consulting the local authorities and examining the unitary development plans for the authorities the following broad principles were agreed:

- the improvement of a site should be linked to an improvement in the investment opportunities of the site, or the surrounding area;
- the visibility and reputation of the site is an important consideration; and
- there was an agreement that the environmental areas of need should not directly overlap with the areas already covered by other sources of funding such as bids under the Single Regeneration Budget or City Challenge.

The consensus of opinion led to the adoption of the following areas of need:

- highly visible degraded sites located along strategic transportation corridors;
- derelict or eyesore sites located in areas which are visible from locations regarded as a primary asset of the local authority; and
- less visible sites which require urgent environmental improvement and are well known by reputation as detractors to the image of the surrounding area.

Areas Requiring Urgent Environmental Improvement

A number of areas on Merseyside have been identified as needing urgent environmental improvement. These are generally the worst of the derelict inner city sites or areas of industrial dereliction. They are set out in *Table 3.3b*.

Table 3.3b Areas Requiring Urgent Environmental Improvement

Local Authority Area	Environmental Priority Areas
City of Liverpool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seel Street/Duke Street; • Speke/Garston; • Gillmoss/Fazakerley/Aintree; • North Docklands/Melrose/South Docklands; • Granby/Toxteth; • Land adjacent to Lime Street Station; and • Land adjacent to the Loop Line.
Sefton Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of Liverpool area; • Seaforth Vale/Elm Road priority area; • Linacre Road, Litherland priority area; • Brookhill Road, Bootle priority area; • Oriel Road, Bootle priority area; and • Derby Road, Bootle priority area.
St Helens Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land adjacent to St Helens Junction station; • Burtonhead Road; • Watson Street; • The United Glass area; and • Land adjacent to the proposed rail station at Marshall's Cross.
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirkby Industrial Estate; • Huyton Quarry Industrial Estate • Stockbridge Village; • Lickers Lane Estate, Whiston; and • Northwood.
Wirral Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dockland areas of Wallasey, Tranmere, and Eastham; • Peripheral residential estates at Liscard, and Leasowe.

Strategic Transport Corridors

Sites adjoining the transportation corridors set out in *Table 3.3c* should be considered as areas of environmental need.

Table 3.3c Strategic Transport Corridors

Local Authority	Environmental Priority Areas
City of Liverpool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A59/A580 (Byrom Street, Scotland Road, County Road, Walton Lane, Walton Road, Walton Hall Road, East Lancashire Road); • A5047 (Edge Lane, Edge Lane Drive); • A562/A561 (Parliament Street, St James Place, Park Road, Aigburth Road, St Mary's Road, Speke Boulevard); • A565 (Great Howard Street, Derby Road); • A5049 (Islington, Brunswick Road, West Derby Road, Mill Bank); • A57 (East Prescott Road); • A562 (Menlove Avenue, Hillfoot Road, Speke Hall Road); • A5053/A5056 (Leeds Street, The Strand, Wapping, Chaloner Street, Sefton Street, Riverside Drive, Jerico Lane); • A5058 (Queens Drive). • The Leeds-Liverpool Canal Corridor • All Northern Line routes; and • All City Line and Intercity railway routes.

Continued...

Local Authority	Environmental Priority Areas
Sefton Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A565 urban corridor (Crosby Road South from Cambridge Road, Rimrose Road, Derby Road); • A5036 (T) Dock Link Road (Princess Way, Church Road, Dunningsbridge Road); • A59 (Ormskirk Road); • All Northern Line routes; • Southport to Wigan rail corridors; and • The Leeds-Liverpool Canal Corridor.
St Helens Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A580 (East Lancashire Road); • The M62 corridor; • The M62 Link Road corridor; • The M6 corridor; • The Liverpool to Wigan rail corridor; and • The Liverpool to Manchester rail corridor.
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5300 (M57 extension); • A580 (East Lancashire Road); • A57 (Liverpool Road, Warrington Road); • A50 (Prescot-By Pass); • A5080 (Tarbock Road, Cronton Road); • A561 (Speke Boulevard, Speke Road); • The Liverpool to Runcom Intercity rail corridor; • The Liverpool to Wigan rail corridor; • The Liverpool to St Helens rail corridor; and • The Liverpool to Manchester rail corridor
Wirral Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M53 corridor (Woodchurch to Leasowe/Bidston); • A41(T) (New Chester Road); • A5088 (Wallasey Bridge Road, Poulton Bridge Road, Poulton Bridge); • A5139/A554 (Docks Link Road, Dock Road, Four Bridges/Tower Street, Woodside Gyratory, Chester Street); • Birkenhead Freeport Route (Corporation Road, Beaufort Road); • A5029 Birkenhead North/South Route (Watson Street, Exmouth Street); • The Wrexham to Birkenhead rail corridor; • The Birkenhead Park to Bidston rail corridor; and • The Birkenhead Central to Bebington rail corridor

Enhancement and Protection of Primary Asset Resources

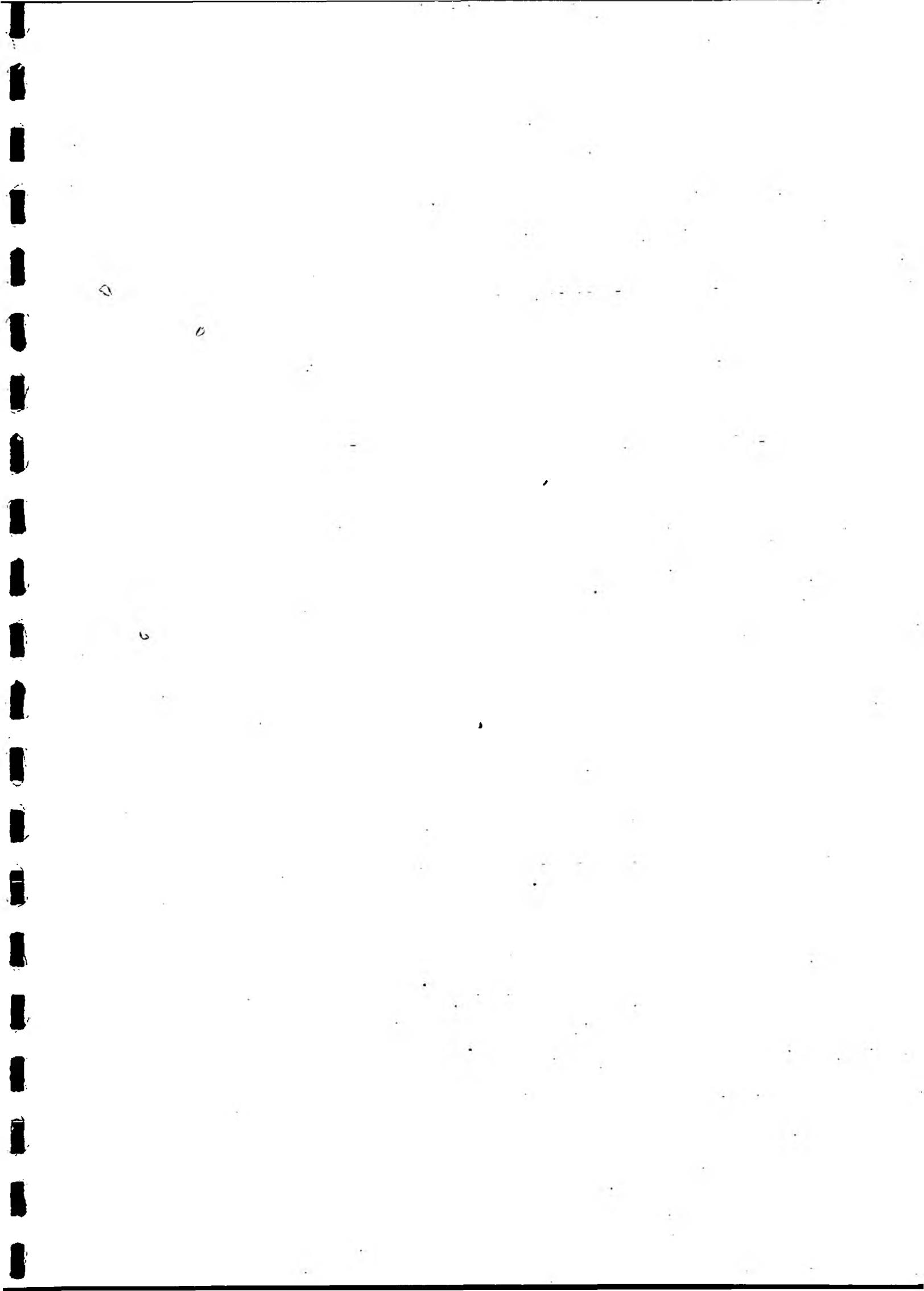
Sites located close to the areas regarded as primary assets to the local authority set out in *Table 3.3d* should be considered as areas of environmental need.

Table 3.3d Primary Environmental Assets

Local Authority Area	Environmental Priority Areas
City of Liverpool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The waterfront promenade; • St. George's/William Brown Street area; • China Town; • Bold Street; • The Cavern Quarter; and • The Cathedral/Hope Street/Rodney Street area.
Sefton Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southport Hotel/Guest House Mixed Use Area; • Southport Seafront; • Coast nature conservation area between Ribble Marshes and Altcar; and • Royal Seaforth Dock.
St Helens Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Helens Town Centre; • St Helens Canal; • The Hotties Science and Arts Centre; and • Haydock Park Race Course.
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescot Town Centre; • Huyton Town Centre; • Kirkby Town Centre; and • Halewood, Leathers Lane.
Wirral Metropolitan Borough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dockland*and heritage attractions of central Birkenhead including Hamilton Square Conservation Area, Birkenhead Park Conservation Area, Birkenhead Priory, Shore Road Pumping Station, and Pacific Road Museum; • The urban waterfront including the Mersey ferries and riverside walkways; • The coastal resorts of New Brighton, West Kirby, and Hoylake; and • Port Sunlight Conservation Area.

Annex A

Checklist for the Review of
Environmental Information
Submitted Under EIA
Procedures



CHECKLIST FOR THE REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SUBMITTED UNDER EIA PROCEDURES

1

OBJECTIVES OF THE REVIEW CHECKLIST

This Review Checklist has been developed as a method for reviewing environmental information submitted by developers, to the competent authorities, as part of an EIA procedure ⁽¹⁾. Its purpose is to assist reviewers in evaluating the completeness and suitability of this information from a technical and decision making viewpoint. In particular it will assist reviewers in deciding whether all relevant information is available to fulfil two main functions:

- to provide an adequate basis for decision making;
- to provide information to the public.

The Checklist is not intended to be a tool to verify whether the information provided meets *legal* requirements. This is only possible in the context of specific Member States' legislation.

The use of the Review Checklist is entirely voluntary. It is not meant to replace any existing review method in the Member States. Reviewers may use it where they consider it helpful. When using it reviewers are free to adapt it to suit local circumstances or to reflect practical experience over time. Some provisions for this have been made in the Checklist.

2

REVIEW CRITERIA

The review criteria are organised in eight *Review Areas* as follows.

- 1 Description of the Project
- 2 Outline of Alternatives
- 3 Description of the Environment
- 4 Description of Mitigation Measures
- 5 Description of Effects
- 6 Non-Technical Summary
- 7 Difficulties Compiling Information
- 8 General Approach

Within each Review Area there are *Review Questions* which identify, in some detail, the items of information which may need to be provided by the developer to the competent authority.

⁽¹⁾ In some jurisdictions this information may be presented in an Environmental Impact Statement comprising one or more documents. In others the information may be provided in other documents and formats for example as part of an application for development consent.

REVIEW METHOD

In general there are four sequential tasks to be carried out.

- Firstly, decide which information is relevant in the specific context of the project.
- Secondly, determine whether there are omissions and/or shortcomings in the information presented.
- Thirdly, if there are omissions and/or shortcomings, determine which of these are crucial for the decision making process.
- Fourthly, specify which additional information is required and, where appropriate and feasible, recommend a way of obtaining this information.

The checklist has been designed on the basis of these tasks. The Review method consists of the following steps:

Step 1 (the first task):

For each Review Question the reviewer first of all decides whether the particular type of information is relevant to the type of development proposed. If not, the reviewer notes this and moves on to the next Question.

Step 2 (the second and third tasks):

If the Question is considered relevant the reviewer examines the information provided by the developer and assesses it as:

- *Complete:* all information relevant to the decision-making process is available; no additional information is required;
- *Acceptable:* the information presented is not complete, however, the omissions need not prevent the decision-making process proceeding;
- *Inadequate:* the information presented contains major omissions; additional information is necessary before the decision-making process can proceed.

Guidance on factors to be considered in assessing the adequacy of information is given on the flyleaf.

Step 3 (the fourth task):

Where a Question is assessed as Acceptable or Inadequate, the reviewer notes in the right hand column what information is missing, and, where appropriate and feasible, recommends a way of obtaining this information.

OTHER REVIEW OPTIONS

The primary purpose of the Review Checklist is to assist in reviewing the environmental information for individual project proposals.

However, it is also possible to use the Review Checklist to examine a number of Environmental Impact Statements for research and monitoring purposes; for example:

- to analyse the environmental information for a number of projects to identify areas in which information is typically complete, acceptable or inadequate - by type of project, by location, by source, etc; or
- to analyse the environmental information provided for projects over the course of time to identify trends in the completeness of information.

For some purposes, for example long term monitoring, it may also be appropriate to provide an overall assessment of the quality of environmental information provided in project ELA. An overall quality grading system may not be appropriate in particular circumstances, but if reviewer wishes to use the checklist for this purpose a provision for this has been made on the last page.

The specific circumstances of a project may indicate that additional criteria might usefully be provided for review. Spaces have been left at the end of each Review Area for this purpose.

GUIDANCE NOTES

1 For each Review Question consider *first* whether the information is relevant to the particular project proposal. If not go to the next question.

2 If the information is relevant, review the documents containing the environmental information to establish whether, for the particular topic, the information is:

- *Complete:* all information relevant to the decision-making process is available; no additional information is required;
- *Acceptable:* the information presented is not complete, however, the omissions do not prevent the decision-making process proceeding;
- *Inadequate:* the information presented contains major omissions; additional information is necessary before the decision-making process can proceed.

3 In considering the relevance and adequacy of the information bear in mind:

- the legal provisions applying;
- the level of decision-making at which the EIA is being conducted; for example is the decision on the principle of the project or on the detailed engineering design? What further decisions are still to be taken on the project and will environmental issues be considered?
- the particular characteristics of the proposed project; for example is the project very large or does it involve new or experimental technology? Could it set a precedent for other projects in the same location or elsewhere?
- the particular characteristics of the environment; for example is the project in a particularly sensitive location or one where there are significant impacts from existing activities?
- public attitudes to this type of project and to the particular project; for example is it a controversial type of project or does it raise high profile environmental issues?

THE REVIEW CHECKLIST

1 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Principal Features of the Project</i>				
1.1	Are the purpose(s) and objectives of the project explained?			
1.2	Are the nature and status of the decision(s) for which the environmental information has been prepared clearly indicated?			
1.3	Is the estimated duration of the construction phase, operational phase and, where appropriate, decommissioning phase given, together with the programme within these phases?			
1.4	Are the design and size of the project described, using diagrams, plans and/or maps as necessary?			
1.5	Are the methods of construction described?			
1.6	Are the nature and methods of production or other types of activity involved in operation of the project described?			
1.7	Are any additional services (water, electricity, emergency services etc) or developments required as a consequence of the project described?			
<i>Land Requirements</i>				
1.8	Has the land taken up by the project site(s) and any associated access arrangements, auxiliary facilities and landscaping areas and by the construction site(s), including camps for housing workers (if required), been clearly shown on a scaled map?			
1.9	For a linear project, has the land corridor, vertical and horizontal alignment and need for tunnelling and earthworks been described?			
1.10	Have the uses to which the land will be put been described and the different land use areas demarcated?			
1.11	Has the reinstatement and after use of temporary landtake been described?			

Continued...

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Residues and Emissions</i>				
1.12	Have the types and quantities of waste matter, energy (noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation etc) and residual materials generated during construction and operation of the project, and the rate at which these will be produced, been estimated?			
1.13	Have the ways in which it is proposed to handle and/or treat these wastes and residual materials prior to release/disposal been indicated, together with the routes by which they will eventually be disposed of to the environment?			
1.14	Have any special or hazardous wastes which will be produced been identified as such and the methods for their disposal been described, as regards their likely main environmental impacts?			
1.15	Have the means by which the quantities of residuals and wastes were estimated been indicated and has uncertainty been acknowledged and ranges provided where appropriate?			
<i>Project Inputs</i>				
1.16	Is some indication of the nature and quantities of materials needed during both the construction and operational phases given?			
1.17	Have the numbers of workers and visitors entering the project site during construction and operation been estimated?			
1.18	Have the access of workers and visitors to the site and likely means of transport been described?			
1.19	Have an indication of the means of transporting materials and products to and from the site during construction and operation, and the number of movements involved, been given?			

Continued...

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Other Relevant Criteria ⁽¹⁾</i>				
1.20				
1.21				
1.22				
1.23				
1.24				

⁽¹⁾ Insert here other criteria, if any have been identified, which are considered relevant in the specific circumstances of the proposed development.

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
2.1	Where appropriate does the information include reference to the consideration of alternatives by the developer?			
2.2	If alternatives were considered, are the reasons for selecting the proposed project, and the part environmental factors played in the selection, adequately described?			
2.3	If alternatives are described, are they realistic and genuine alternatives to the proposed project?			
2.4	If alternatives are described, have their main environmental impacts been compared clearly and objectively with those of the proposed project and with the likely future environmental conditions in the absence of the project?			
	<i>Other Relevant Criteria</i> ⁽¹⁾			
2.5				
2.6				
2.7				

⁽¹⁾ Insert here, other criteria, if any have been identified, which are considered relevant in the specific circumstances of the proposed development.

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Description of the Area Occupied by and Surrounding the Project</i>				
3.1	Have the areas expected to be significantly affected by the various aspects of the project been indicated with the aid of suitable maps?			
3.2	Have the land uses on the site(s) and in the surrounding areas been described?			
3.3	Has the affected environment been defined broadly enough to include any potentially significant effects occurring away from the immediate areas of construction and operation?			
<i>Baseline Conditions</i>				
3.4	Have the components of the environment potentially affected by the project been identified and described sufficiently for the prediction of impacts?			
3.5	Were the methods used to investigate the affected environment appropriate to the size and complexity of the assessment task?			
3.6	Has a prediction of the likely future environmental conditions in the absence of the project been developed?			
3.7	Have existing technical data sources, including local records and studies carried out for environmental agencies and/or interest groups been searched?			
3.8	Have local, regional and national plans and policies been reviewed and other data collected as necessary to predict future environmental conditions?			
3.9	Have local, regional and national agencies holding information on baseline environmental conditions been approached?			

Continued...

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Other Relevant Criteria</i> ⁽¹⁾				
3.10				
3.11				
3.12				
3.13				
3.14				
3.15				
3.15				

⁽¹⁾ Insert here other criteria, if any have been identified, which are considered relevant in the specific circumstances of the proposed development.

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Description of Mitigating Measures</i>				
4.1	Has the mitigation of significant negative impacts been considered and, where feasible, have specific measures been proposed to address each impact?			
4.2	Have the reasons for choosing the particular type of mitigation, and the other options available, been described?			
4.3	Where mitigating measures are proposed, has the significance of any impact remaining after mitigation been described?			
4.4	Where appropriate, do mitigation methods considered include modification of project design, construction and operation, the replacement of facilities/resources, and the creation of new resources, as well as 'end-of-pipe' technologies for pollution control?			
4.5	Is it clear to what extent the mitigation methods will be effective?			
4.6	Where the effectiveness is uncertain or depends on assumptions about operating procedures, climatic conditions, etc, or where there is a risk that mitigation will not work, is this made clear and has data been introduced to justify the acceptance of the assumptions?			
<i>Commitment to Mitigation</i>				
4.7	Have details of how the mitigation measures will be implemented and function over the time span for which they are necessary been presented?			
<i>Monitoring Proposals</i>				
4.8	If impacts are uncertain, have monitoring arrangements been proposed to check the environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the project and their conformity with the predictions made?			
4.9	Does the scale of any proposed monitoring arrangements correspond to the potential scale and significance of deviations from expected impacts?			

Continued...

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Environmental Effects of Mitigation</i>				
4.10	Have any adverse environmental effects of mitigation measures been investigated and described?			
4.11	Has the potential for conflict between the benefits of mitigating measures and their adverse impacts been considered?			
<i>Other Relevant Criteria ⁽¹⁾</i>				
4.12				
4.13				
4.14				

⁽¹⁾ Insert here other criteria, if any have been identified, which are considered relevant in the specific circumstances of the proposed development.

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
	<i>Impact Identification (Note: impacts may be described taking into account mitigation which is part of the basic project design, or mitigation may be identified after significant impacts have been identified. In the latter case the information should describe impacts before and after mitigation.)</i>			
5.1	Have direct and indirect/secondary effects of constructing, operating and, where relevant, after use or decommissioning of the project been considered (including both positive and negative effects)?			
5.2	Does the information include consideration of whether effects will arise as a result of 'consequential' development ie whether additional development, which it would be difficult to resist, will be induced in the area, leading to further environmental effects?			
5.3	Have the above types of impacts been investigated in so far as they affect the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • air and climate; • water and soils; • noise; • landscape; • ecology; • historic and cultural heritage; • land use; • impacts on people and communities. 			
5.4	If any of the above are not of concern in relation to the specific project and its location is this clearly stated in the information?			
5.5	Is the investigation of each type of impact appropriate to its importance for the decision, avoiding unnecessary information and concentrating on the key issues?			
5.6	Are impacts which may not be themselves be significant, but which may contribute incrementally to a significant effect considered?			
5.7	Does the information include a description of the methods/approaches used to identify impacts and the rationale for using them?			

Continued...

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
5.8	Has consideration been given to impacts which might arise from non-standard operating conditions, (for example equipment failure or unusual environmental conditions such as flooding), accidents and emergencies?			
5.9	If the nature of the project is such that accidents are possible which might cause severe damage within the surrounding environment, has an assessment of the probability and likely consequences of such events been carried out and the main findings reported?			
	<i>Magnitude of Impacts</i>			
5.10	Are impacts described in terms of the nature and magnitude of the change occurring and the nature (location, number, value, sensitivity) of the affected receptors?			
5.11	Has the timescale over which the effects will occur been predicted such that it is clear whether impacts are short, medium or long term, temporary or permanent, reversible or irreversible?			
5.12	Where possible, have predictions of impacts been expressed in quantitative terms? Otherwise, have qualitative descriptions been defined?			
5.13	Where quantitative predictions have been provided is the level of uncertainty attached to the results described?			
	<i>Data and Methods</i>			
5.14	Have the methods used to predict the nature, size and scale of impacts been described and are they appropriate to the importance of each projected impact?			
5.15	Are the data used to estimate the size and scale of the main impacts sufficient for the task, are they clearly described and have their sources been clearly identified?			
	<i>Evaluation of Impact Significance</i>			
5.16	Has the significance of effects been discussed in terms of the impact on the local community and on the protection of environmental resources?			

Continued...

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
5.17	Has the significance of effects been discussed taking account of appropriate national and international standards or norms, where these are available. Otherwise, have the magnitude, location and duration of the effect been discussed in conjunction with the value, sensitivity and rarity of the resource?			
5.18	Have the available standards, assumptions and value systems which can be used to evaluate significance been discussed?			
5.19	Where there are no generally accepted standards or criteria for the evaluation of significance, have alternative approaches been discussed and, if so, is a clear distinction made between fact, assumption and professional judgement?			
5.20	Does the information include a clear indication of which impacts may be significant and which may not?			
	<i>Other Relevant Criteria ⁽¹⁾</i>			
5.21				
5.22				
5.23				
5.24				
5.25				
5.26				
5.27				

⁽¹⁾ Insert here other criteria, if any have been identified, which are considered relevant in the specific circumstances of the proposed development.

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
6.1	Does the summary contain at least a brief description of the project and the environment, an account of the main mitigation measures to be undertaken by the developer, and a description of any remaining or residual impacts?			
6.2	Have technical terms, lists of data and detailed explanations of scientific reasoning been avoided in the summary?			
6.3	Does the non-technical summary present the main findings of the assessment and cover all the main issues raised in the information?			
6.4	Does the summary include a brief explanation of the overall approach to the assessment?			
6.5	Does the summary provide an indication of the confidence which can be placed in the results?			
	<i>Other Relevant Criteria</i> ⁽¹⁾			
6.6				
6.7				
6.8				

⁽¹⁾ Insert here other criteria, if any have been identified, which are considered relevant in the specific circumstances of the proposed development.

DIFFICULTIES COMPILING THE INFORMATION

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
7.1	Have any gaps in the required data been indicated and the means used to deal with them in the assessment been explained?			
7.2	Have any difficulties in assembling or analysing the data needed to predict impacts been acknowledged and explained?			
	<i>Other Relevant Criteria</i> ⁽¹⁾			
7.3				
7.4				
7.5				
7.6				
7.7				

⁽¹⁾ Insert here other criteria, if any have been identified, which are considered relevant in the specific circumstances of the proposed development.

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Organisation of the Information</i>				
8.1	Is information logically arranged in sections?			
8.2	Is the location of information identified in an index or table of contents?			
8.3	When information from external sources has been introduced, has a full reference to the source been included?			
<i>Presentation of Information</i>				
8.4	Has information and analysis been offered to support all conclusions drawn?			
8.5	Has information and analysis been presented so as to be comprehensible to the non-specialist using maps, tables and graphical material as appropriate?			
8.6	Are all the important data and results discussed in an integrated fashion within the information?			
8.7	Has superfluous information (ie information not needed for the decision) been avoided?			
8.8	Has the information been presented in a concise form with a consistent terminology and are there logical links between different sections?			
8.9	Have prominence and emphasis been given to severe adverse impacts, to substantial environmental benefits, and to controversial issues?			
8.10	Is the information objective?			
<i>Third Party Opinions</i>				
8.11	Does the information identify and address the main concerns of the general public and special interest groups (clubs, societies etc) who may be affected by the project.			
8.12	Does the information take account of the main concerns of the relevant statutory bodies.			

Continued...

No.	Criterion	Relevant? (Y/N)	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
<i>Other Relevant Criteria</i> ⁽¹⁾				
8.13				
8.14				
8.15				
8.16				
8.17				

⁽¹⁾ Insert here other criteria, if any have been identified, which are considered relevant in the specific circumstances of the proposed development.

OVERALL APPRAISAL OF THE INFORMATION

If the reviewer wishes to use the Review Checklist results to derive a single overall appraisal of the quality of environmental information provided, this appraisal could start with assessments of entire Review Areas using the table below. On the basis of these assessments an overall appraisal of the information could be made according to the following grading system suggested below.

- Excellent:** The environmental information contains everything required for decision-making on the project. There are no gaps.
- Good:** The environmental information contains most of the information required as far as it is relevant in the particular circumstances of this project; any gaps are relatively minor.
- Satisfactory:** The information presented is not complete; there are significant omissions but in the context of the proposed project, these are not so great as to prevent a decision being made on whether the project should be allowed to proceed.
- Inadequate:** Some of the information has been provided but, there are major omissions; in the context of the proposed project these must be addressed before a decision on whether the project should be allowed to proceed can be taken.
- Poor:** The information required has not been provided or is far from complete and, in the context of the proposed project, the omissions must be addressed before a decision in whether the project should be allowed to proceed can be taken.

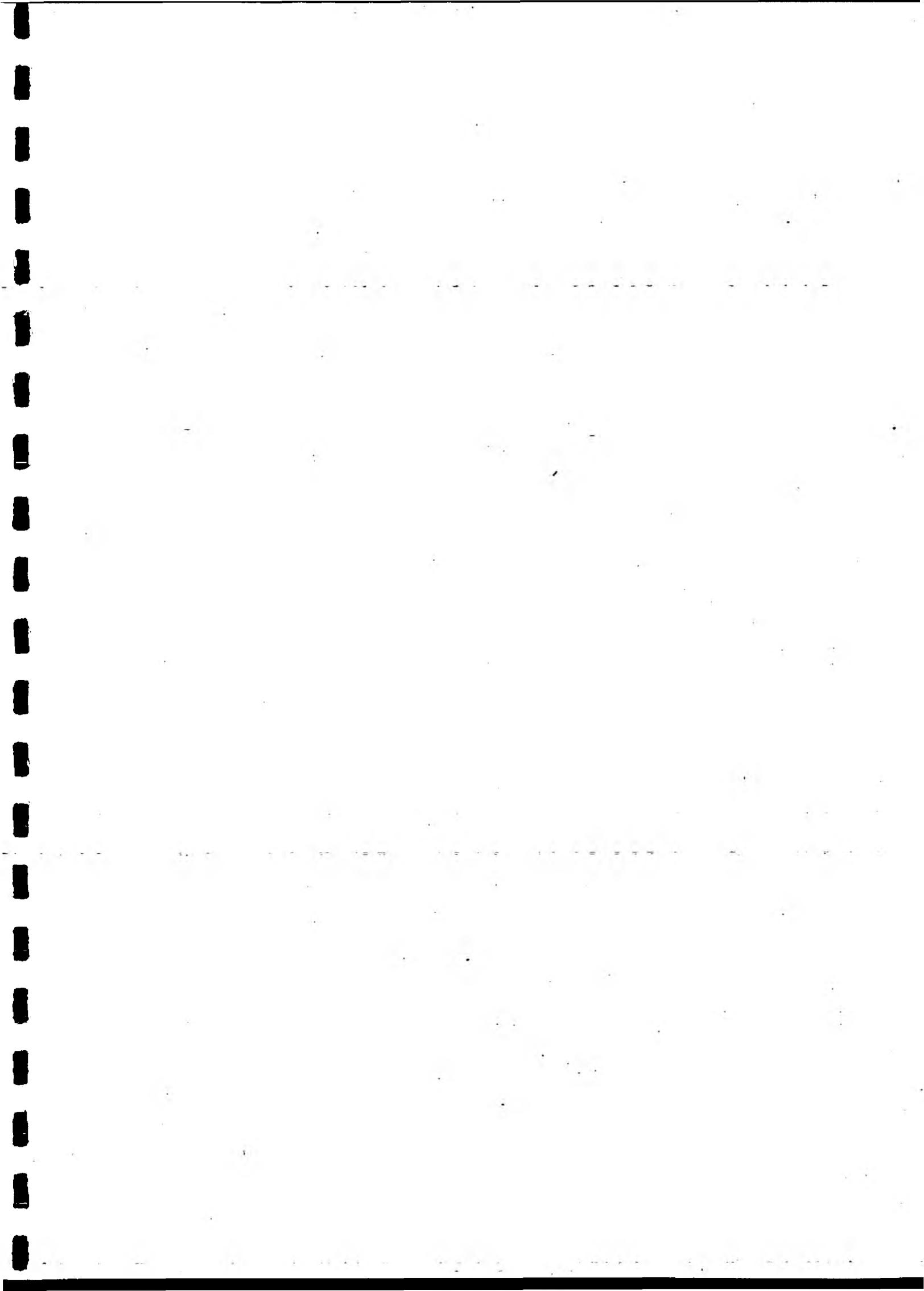
No.	Criterion	Grade	Judgement (C/A/I)	Comment
1	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT			
2	ALTERNATIVES			
3	DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT			
4	MITIGATION			
5	DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS			
6	NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY			
7	DIFFICULTIES COMPILING THE INFORMATION			
8	GENERAL APPROACH			

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (GRADE): Excellent / Good / Satisfactory / Inadequate / Poor

Comment:

Annex B

Environmental Screening Forms



Priority 1

Measure 1: Quality Sites and Premises for Industrial and Commercial Investors

Objective:

- To ensure an adequate provision of quality industrial and commercial sites and premises to encourage investment, indigenous growth and increased employment opportunities.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Is the development on a brownfield site, will it reduce the area of derelict land or will it return buildings to productive use?	1.0	0.5	0
2. Does the development respect designations regarding the natural environment or built heritage (eg SSSIs, SPAs, greenbelt, listed building)?	1.0	0.5	0
3. Does the development incorporate good practice for energy conservation, water recycling/reuse or waste minimisation/reduction or involve innovative environmental measures?	1.0	0.5	0
4. Will the site have an environmental management plan, or are measures in place for post development environmental management?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Have measures been taken to ensure that the development is easily accessible by public transport?	1.0	0.5	0
6. Is the development designed to improve the local built environment, for example by minimising the effects of crime, vandalism or litter?	0.75	0.38	0
7. Does the development project contain proposals for environmental improvements such as landscaping?	0.75	0.38	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 1

Measure 2: The Specific Training Needs of the Key Corporate Sector: Improving Business Competitiveness

Objectives:

- To encourage companies to become investors in people;
- To assist the protection or creation of jobs; and
- To make the qualifications of the workforce more relevant to market needs.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Does the training equip workers to implement required environmental/environmental health and safety standards?	1.5	0.75	0
2. Does the training set out least cost ways of meeting the required environmental/environmental health and safety standards?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Does the training identify business opportunities arising from environmental regulation or environmental awareness?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the training assist firms to introduce an environmental management system, eco-auditing or other environmentally beneficial activity such as waste minimisation?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Does the training equip firms to carry out non-mandatory environmental improvements which will contribute to the alleviation of environmental problems on Merseyside?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 1

Measure 3: The Mersey Image Campaign

Objective:

- To improve the image of the region on a national and international basis.

Project:

Project:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. If the promotion campaign is designed to attract inward investment will it attract investors who will improve the state of the environment (built or natural) on Merseyside?	2.5	1.25	0
2. If the promotion campaign is designed to attract tourists will it focus on attractions that are sustainable (eg accessible by public transport or low users of natural resources or greenbelt land)?	1.5	0.75	0
3. If the promotion campaign is designed to boost exports for local businesses will it expand opportunities for local businesses specialising in environmental products, technologies and services?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the regional promotion campaign stress the environmental benefits of locating on/visiting Merseyside, for example by highlighting architectural heritage or natural environments?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 1

Measure 4: Merseyside Gateways to Industry: Developing Merseyside's Ports and Airport for Business Needs

Objectives:

- To increase tonnage handled by the ports, and create investment and extra jobs in port and associated activity;
- To develop links with Ireland through the port, especially for SMEs;
- To strengthen the role of Merseyside as the primary land bridge with the rest of the EU through the Channel Tunnel and east and south coast ports; and
- To increase investment and employment in airport related opportunities.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project reduce air or water pollution or noise levels or include mitigation measures to minimise or eliminate pollution?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will the project help reclaim derelict or contaminated land or will it return derelict buildings to productive use?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Does the project respect the integrity of designated areas such as SSSIs, SPAs, nature reserves, the greenbelt or conservation areas?	1.0	0.5	0
4. Will the project reduce road traffic, lead to better traffic management or promote public transport use?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Will the project protect and enhance the architectural heritage of the region, for example by protecting listed port buildings or improving landscaping?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Objectives:

- To ensure that the key, industrial, business and tourist sites are properly connected to the national network, and removing access constraints; and
- To increase employment and investment at key sites on Merseyside.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the access measures proposed cut road traffic, remove traffic from unsuitable roads or promote the use of public transport or other sustainable modes?	2.5	1.25	0
2. Will the project lead to a reduction of noise or air pollution or improve transport safety in sensitive areas such as residential neighbourhoods or near schools?	2.5	1.25	0
3. Will the project respect the integrity of designated areas such as SSSIs, SPAs, greenbelt, nature reserves or conservation areas?	1.5	0.75	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 1 Measure 6: Managing and Recycling Waste

Objectives:

- Develop new or improved methods of waste disposal; and
- Encourage wider public recycling and reuse.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project make a significant contribution to encouraging recycling or reuse of waste on Merseyside?	1.5	0.75	0
2. Will the project present an opportunity for the development of businesses and employment on Merseyside in the waste, recycling and environmental sectors?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Will the project be innovative or will it advance best practice in the management of waste in the region or beyond and/or will it improve the image of the surrounding area?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the project make use of existing land or buildings devoted to waste handling or derelict land and/or improve the waste management infrastructure available on Merseyside?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Will the project raise public awareness and recycling participation rates or will it provide an analysis of markets for recycled products to assist businesses identify opportunities?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 2

Measure 1: Premises for SME Development

Objective:

- To ensure an adequate provision of quality industrial and commercial sites and premises to encourage investment, indigenous growth and increased employment opportunities.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Is the development on a brownfield site, will it reduce the area of derelict land or will it return buildings to productive use?	1.0	0.5	0
2. Does the development respect designations regarding the natural environment or built heritage (eg SSSIs, SPAs, greenbelt, listed building)?	1.0	0.5	0
3. Does the development incorporate good practice for energy conservation, water recycling/reuse or waste minimisation/reduction or involve innovative environmental measures?	1.0	0.5	0
4. Will the site have an environmental management plan, or are measures in place for post development environmental management?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Have measures been taken to ensure that the development is easily accessible by public transport?	1.0	0.5	0
6. Is the development designed to improve the local built environment, for example by minimising the effects of crime, vandalism or litter?	0.75	0.38	0
7. Does the development project contain proposals for environmental improvements such as landscaping?	0.75	0.38	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Objectives:

- To encourage the establishment, development and improved competitiveness of indigenous and growing SMEs;
- To encourage additional private sector investment in Merseyside SMEs;
- To encourage the creation and preservation of long term employment opportunities;
- To promote the concept of quality within Merseyside and establish Merseyside as an area where business is committed to quality;
- To maintain Merseyside's industrial SME base;
- To improve networking between businesses and other agencies to share experience and benefit from new market opportunities;
- To increase accessibility and take up of advanced telecommunication services among SMEs; and
- To reduce production costs and increase the energy efficiency of Merseyside companies.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project assist SMEs by cutting energy/water/raw material consumption and costs and/or by reducing the costs of waste generation and removal (eg emissions permits)?	1.5	0.75	0
2. Will the assistance highlight business opportunities arising out of environmental concerns and/or environmental regulations, or aid businesses seeking to market environmental products?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Will the assistance improve the state of the environment on Merseyside, eg by helping the expansion or formation of firms on previously derelict land or by reducing pollution?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the assistance given help firms to comply with environmental regulations and/or suggest least cost ways of meeting regulatory or voluntary environmental standards?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Will the assistance contribute to the goals of sustainable development in a way not mentioned above?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 2

Measure 3: Support for the Specific Training Needs of SMEs

Objectives:

- To assist in the creation or retention of jobs;
- To make the qualifications of the workforce more relevant to market needs, as identified in the SME training audits; and
- To improve SME business performance and increase competitiveness.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the assistance make businesses aware of the environmental regulations they must comply with and/or help train staff in how to meet these obligations?	1.5	0.75	0
2. Will the assistance identify least cost ways of reducing the negative environmental implications of business activity on Merseyside?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Will the assistance identify business opportunities arising out of environmental regulations and concerns, or assist firms already active in environmental products/services markets?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the assistance advance best practice in environmental management and training?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Will the assistance advise on ways in which environmental training can boost the regeneration process on Merseyside?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Objectives:

- To improve the efficiency of farm holdings and conserve environmental features through investment aid;
- To enable farmers to remain competitive in an increasingly market orientated agricultural sector by enhancing business skills and encouraging collaborative activity;
- To enable farmers to diversify their business activities, for example to include recreation and tourism;
- To encourage the sensitive management of farmland and the development of countryside management practices which enable farmers to cope better with pressures on the environment arising from, for example, increasing demands for access by the urban population; and
- To enable the food processing sector to improve its competitive position through skill training and aid towards upgrading plant and equipment.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project reduce the negative impact of farming practices on the environment, for example by reducing effluent run-off or the use of artificial fertilizers?	1.5	0.75	0
2. Will the project enhance the rural landscape, for example by returning buildings to productive use or by restoring original landscape features such as ponds, hedgerows or farm woodlands?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Will the project improve the impact of the food industry on the environment on Merseyside, for example through waste reduction, improved effluent control or water recycling?	1.5	0.75	0
4. If the project increases public access to the countryside, will measures be implemented to mitigate any likely environmental damage, for example by providing visitor facilities or signing?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Will the project enhance the special characteristics of designated areas such as SSSIs, ESAs, SPAs, nature reserves or the greenbelt?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 3 Measure 1: Research, Innovation and Technology Development for Business Needs

Objectives:

- To establish a plan of action on R&D and innovation on Merseyside which will identify gaps in market opportunities and areas of potential growth;
- To build on and add to existing strengths and networks;
- To propose measures which will assist the creation of a modern and diverse Merseyside economy through the increased exploitation of R&D and innovation into commercial applications; and
- To provide a framework within which the R&D and innovation business support, infrastructure and training measures can be implemented.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project promote the environmental technology sector and/or existing networks of organisations on Merseyside and so help develop markets for environmental products?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will the proposed R&D focus on enabling firms to meet environmental standards or advance environmental management practice?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Will the research activities be applicable to areas/markets outside Merseyside?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the assistance target priority areas such as derelict or contaminated land?	1.5	0.75	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Objectives:

- To encourage the take-up of science and technology options among school leavers;
- To transfer knowledge and expertise between firms and educational/research establishments; and
- To increase the number of people with technological qualifications relevant to the needs of firms on Merseyside.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project assist Merseyside firms to establish networks to assist in technology transfer and skills transfer of relevance to the environment?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will the project provide technical training that will help Merseyside enterprises and the local labour force gain skills that will help them meet required environmental standards?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Will the project focus on the transfer and development of technical skills necessary for the management of Merseyside's environment?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the training help reduce the costs of compliance with environmental regulations for Merseyside firms?	1.5	0.75	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 3

Measure 3: Developing Clean Technologies on Merseyside, and Increasing Environmental Awareness on Merseyside

Objectives:

- To strengthen the regional economy and create new jobs;
- To increase the research capacity of regional H/FEIs and SMEs in these areas; and
- To reduce harmful emissions.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

1. Will the project focus on the introduction and demonstration of innovative technologies, cleaner processes or improved process management techniques?

	Yes	NA or Neutral	No
	2.5	1.25	0

2. Will the project introduce or publicise environmental management techniques, such as environmental management systems, waste minimisation and environmental auditing schemes, for Merseyside firms?

	2.0	1.0	0
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3. Will the project increase public awareness of environmental issues or provide environmental information, for example through helping to establish local environmental organisations or amenity groups, or by the setting up of local media initiatives and information points?

	2.0	1.0	0
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Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Objectives:

- To make the qualifications of the workforce more relevant to the market needs in the environmental management, clean technology, energy efficiency and pollution control fields;
- To improve SME business performance and increase competitiveness in the environmental and construction sectors; and
- To assist the protection or creation of jobs.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project train workers in innovative environmental management techniques or pollution management?	2.5	1.25	0
2. Will the project introduce environmental management techniques, such as environmental management systems, waste minimisation or environmental auditing, for Merseyside firms?	2.0	1.0	0
3. Will the project increase employee awareness of environmental issues, for example through training on environmental regulations?	2.0	1.0	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 4

Measure 1: The Cultural and Media Industries of Merseyside: Development of Facilities for Investors

Objective:

- To increase employment opportunities in cultural and media industries; and
- To encourage indigenous growth in the cultural and media sector and in particular the increase the survival rate of SMEs.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Does the proposed development make use of existing buildings or premises?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Does the development incorporate good practice for energy conservation, water recycling/reuse or waste minimisation/reduction or involve innovative environmental measures?	2.0	1.0	0
3. Have measures been taken to ensure that any premises or courses developed under this measure are easily accessible by public transport?	2.0	1.0	0
4. Are the proposed facilities designed to improve the local built environment, for example by minimising the effects of crime, vandalism or litter?	1.5	0.75	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 4 Measure 2: Better Quality in the Cultural and Media Industries

Objectives:

- To assist the protection or creation of jobs in the cultural/media field;
- To make the qualifications of the workforce in the cultural/media field more relevant to market needs, as identified in the SME training audits; and
- To improve SME business performance and increase competitiveness in the cultural/media field.

Project:-

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project assist in the creation of jobs or the provision of training on the protection of the built environment and cultural heritage on Merseyside?	2.5	1.25	0
2. Will the project provide training in management and conservation techniques of value to the management of the built environment?	2.5	1.25	0
3. Will the training programme identify opportunities for establishing business opportunities for SMEs in the area of the protection and management of the built environment and cultural heritage issues?	1.5	0.75	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Measure 3: Attracting Visitors to Merseyside: Help for Investment in Festivals, Events and Tourist Attractions

Objectives:

- To increase visitor numbers and expenditure;
- To increase overnight stays;
- To increase regional income and employment from tourism;
- To improve the region's endowment of tourist attractions and facilities;
- To improve the region's quality of accommodation and facilities; and
- To ensure adequate and effective promotion of the industry.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Is the attraction or facility to be developed on a brownfield site, will it reduce the area of derelict land or will it return buildings to productive use?	1.5	0.75	0
2. Does the attraction or facility respect designations regarding the natural environment or built heritage (eg SSSIs, SPAs, greenbelt, listed building)?	1.0	0.5	0
3. Does the attraction or facility incorporate good practice for energy conservation, water recycling/reuse or waste minimisation/reduction or involve innovative environmental measures?	1.0	0.5	0
4. Will the development have an environmental management plan, are measures in place for post development environmental management, or will environmental training be given?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Have measures been taken to ensure that the attraction or facility is easily accessible by public transport?	1.0	0.5	0
6. Is the attraction or facility designed to improve the local built environment by, for example, restoring a historical building or minimising the effects of crime, vandalism or litter?	0.75	0.38	0
7. Does the development project contain funds for environmental improvements such as landscaping?	0.75	0.38	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 4

Measure 4: Improving Quality: Upgrading Skills in the Tourist Industry

Objectives:

- To improve the quality of services for tourists and visitors.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project help to train people in the environmental aspects of tourism?	2.5	1.25	0
2. Will the project improve the information and assistance on Merseyside's environment available to visitors?	2.0	1.0	0
3. Will the training assist in developing a positive attitude to environmental issues in the Merseyside tourism industry?	1.0	0.5	0
4. Will the project help to educate and inform visitors and tourists of environmental issues relevant to the project, or help them to participate in environmental work or studies?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 4

Measure 5: Protecting and Developing the Natural and Historic Built Environment

Objectives:

- To increase the number of buildings and sites brought back into productive or tourist use, to increase private investment in the region and create employment;
- To increase visitor numbers, and public understanding of these sites and habitats;
- To ensure the long term future and retention in a good state of the region's stock of historic buildings and environments.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project reduce the area of derelict or contaminated land, repair or bring back into use historic buildings, or enhance the natural environment?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will the project include an environmental management plan for the site or will measures be implemented to mitigate any environmental problems, such as increased visitor numbers?	2.0	1.0	0
3. Will the project educate and inform visitors about environmental issues and attributes relevant to the project?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the development be easily accessible by public transport?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 5

Measure 1: Pathways to Integration: A Package of Economic and Social Support Targeted on Key Communities in Merseyside

Objectives:

- To develop opportunities for education, vocational training and employment of the residents of the communities, in particular the long term unemployed, young people and others at a disadvantage in the labour market;
- To integrate the residents of the target communities, in particular the long term unemployed, young people and others at a disadvantage in the labour market; and
- To improve the physical environment and the quality of life of community residents.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the assistance lead to improvements to buildings in the target areas, for example through the redevelopment and refurbishment of derelict land and buildings?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will the project involve local improvements to public space such as landscaping or improved street furniture or enhancements to the provision of parks and other green space?	2.0	1.0	0
3. Will the project involve training or publicity that will raise environmental awareness, provide environmental skills or set in place local environmental management plans?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the project lead to community participation in the planning of environmental improvements, or will it raise community awareness of environmental issues?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 5

Measure 2: Career Development: Responding to People's Needs for Lifetime Training in Identified Growth Sectors

Objectives:

- To help young people, the long term unemployed and others at a disadvantage in the labour market acquire the skills they need to get and keep jobs;
- To promote lifetime learning; and
- To assist individuals reach their full employment potential.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the training include modules on how to minimise the environmental impact of the occupation the training is being provided for?	2.5	1.25	0

2. Will the training include modules on the environmental regulations governing the occupation training is being provided for?	2.0	1.0	0
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3. Will the training help employees to implement an environmental management plan or advance good environmental management practice?	2.0	1.0	0
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Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Measure 3: Accompanying Measures to Improve Equal Opportunities for Men and Women in the Labour Market

Objectives:

- To broaden access to education, training and employment and encourage men and women to enter non-traditional areas of unemployment;
- To change traditional perceptions of men and women in employment; and
- To increase the number of women in senior management and other positions.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the training help employees to implement an environmental management plan or advance good environmental management practice?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will the training include modules that will allow employers to minimise the environmental impacts of the positions the trainees are being trained for?	2.0	1.0	0
3. Will the training help employees to identify business opportunities in the environmental sector?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will the training include modules on the environmental regulations governing the occupation training is being provided for or modules on possible savings such as waste minimisation?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 5

Measure 4: Targeted Action to Improve Access to Jobs and Training for Those with Special Needs Facing Exclusion from the Labour Market

Objectives:

- To facilitate the reintegration of those facing exclusion, such as the very long-term unemployed, drug addicts, ex-offenders, lone parents, people from racial minorities and people with disabilities; and
- To improve the capacity of education, training and employment services personnel to respond to the needs and potential of excluded groups.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project include training for workers that will enable them to reduce the environmental implications of the occupation they are being trained for, eg by reducing energy use or waste?	2.5	1.25	0

2. Will the training include an environmental component?	2.0	1.0	0
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3. Will the training give workers the ability to implement an environmental management plan or other form of environmental management?	2.0	1.0	0
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Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 5

Measure 5: Improved and More Flexible Education, Training and Employment Services

Objectives:

- To improve the quality of education, training and employment services;
- To make provision more flexible and responsive to the needs of its users;
- To build closer links between training, education and industry; and
- To develop a more systematic and rationalised approach to continuing training.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will there be provision for improving the quality/relevance of environmental training, or will it be easier for careers service clients to seek out environmental training?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will measures be taken to assist the continuing training of workers in environmental issues relevant to their occupation?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Will support be given to organisations to enable them to incorporate training regarding environmental standards into corporate business and training plans?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Will support be given to make environmental training more accessible, for example through introducing new techniques such as distance learning?	1.5	0.75	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Objectives:

- To improve the accessibility to training and work of the communities covered by the "pathways to integration" measure, and to provide a better quality of life for those people dependent on public transport for their everyday travel needs;
- To encourage economic growth and increase employment opportunities by increasing the mobility of labour, and ensuring that major tourist, commercial and industrial sites are effectively served by public transport;
- To improve the efficiency of the public transport system on Merseyside by improving the interchange, availability, understanding and use of high quality and attractive public transport facilities; and
- To accommodate the travel needs of a growing economy in a sustainable manner that is sensitive to environmental and energy considerations.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Will the project increase mobility, promote a shift to public transport and reduce dependence on private car use?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will the public transport links improve access to sites not previously served by public transport, or will they serve sites which are a focus for redevelopment?	1.5	0.75	0
3. Will the public transport schemes include appropriate mitigation measures to minimise any adverse environmental consequences arising from infrastructure investment?	1.0	0.5	0
4. Will the public transport system have an environmental management plan or provide environmental training to employees?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Will the transport scheme funded avoid damage to designated sites and buildings such as SSSIs, conservation areas, greenbelt or listed buildings?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)

Priority 5

Measure 7: A Better Environment: Measures to Treat Derelict, Contaminated and Neglected Land

Objectives:

- To reduce the amount of land classed as derelict, contaminated and neglected, and to return as much as possible to productive, recreational or tourist uses;
- To protect the region's green belt and environmental endowment through the reuse of existing derelict or contaminated sites, thereby contributing to sustainable development; and
- To increase the environmental quality of key zones within the region by achieving a marked improvement in their visual and amenity value, concentrating on transport corridors, derelict urban areas not covered by the "pathways to integration" measure, and public open space.

Project:

Reference:

NB. If answers given to any of the questions below result in points being awarded to the project, supporting information must be supplied to back up the claim. Failure to justify any scores adequately may result in the points claimed being deducted. Please attach all supporting information to this sheet, stating clearly which question the information relates to. Thankyou.

	NA or		
	Yes	Neutral	No
1. Does the project make use of "derelict" land or will it reduce the amount of derelict land?	2.0	1.0	0
2. Will the improvement of the site involve the use of innovative techniques which represent new technology for Merseyside?	2.0	1.0	0
3. Will the site be brought back into productive use to ensure the viability of continued site management?	1.5	0.75	0
4. Does the development include funding for environmental improvements such as landscaping to ensure a visually attractive finished development?	1.0	0.5	0
5. Will developments on the site incorporate good practice in energy conservation, water conservation or waste minimisation/recycling?	1.0	0.5	0

Total Score (Maximum = 6.5)

If the project is in a priority area multiply the score by 1.5 and round to the nearest 1 (see introductory notes)



NRA

*National Rivers Authority
North West Region*