EA-Midlands Box 2

Sustainable development indicators

Monitoring Change in the East Midlands

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

RSPB

GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS

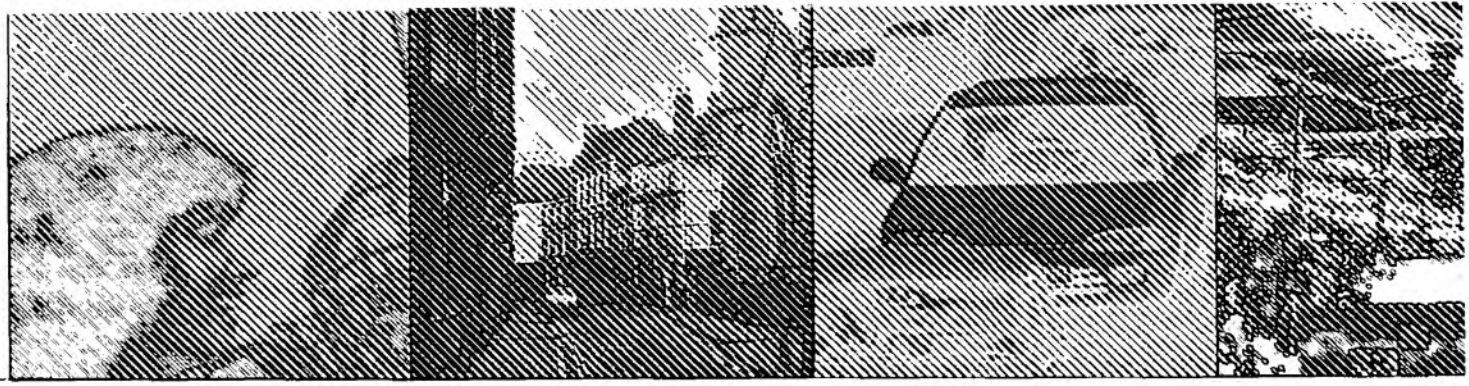
EA-Midlands

FOREWORD

The East Midlands Region Sustainable Development Indicators (SDIs) project is an innovative pilot project set up to produce an initial set of SDIs for the East Midlands Region as part of an on-going process of SDI development. Despite the considerable work that has gone into the project, the indicators presented in this report can only be considered as provisional. As the new regional structures emerge, new issues gain importance and new data sources are made available the indicators will evolve. At present, they represent a starting point on the long road towards a comprehensive means of monitoring the Region's progress towards sustainable development.

We, as East Midlands regional decision makers, support the principle of monitoring progress towards sustainable development in the East Midlands and the commitment to this principle initiated by this project.

- *East Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA)*
- *East Midlands Development Agency (EMDA)*
- *East Midlands Regional Local Government Association (EMRLGA)*
- *East Midlands Roundtable for Sustainable Development (EMRSD)*
- *Environment Agency*
- *Government Office of the East Midlands (GOEM)*



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ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

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SUMMARY TABLE

THE CURRENT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS

1. AGRICULTURE

NUMBER OF FARMS USING ORGANIC METHODS IN FOOD PRODUCTION

First data point: 1999 Last data point: 1999
Next data point: the register of organic producers is continually updated, therefore the next data point will be determined by the the next update of this report.
Comments: with no historical data, no trend can be determined.

2. AIR QUALITY

NUMBER OF DAYS AIR POLLUTION LIMITS WERE EXCEEDED FOR KEY POLLUTANTS

URBAN SO_2; NO_2; O_3; PM10; CO
First data point: 1994 Last data point: 1997
Next data point: available annually.
Comments: fluctuating trends make this indicator difficult to interpret.

RURAL O_3
First data point: 1981 Last data point: 1997
Next data point: available annually.
Comments: fluctuating trends make this indicator difficult to interpret.

MEAN URBAN AND RURAL CONCENTRATIONS OF SO_2
First data point: 1977 Last data point: 1997
Next data point: available annually.
Comments: there has been a decline over the last 20 years.

Comments: future copies of this report will give a Regional breakdown of the national headline indicator.

3. BUILT HERITAGE

NUMBER OF GRADE 1 LISTED BUILDINGS AND NUMBER AT RISK

First data point: 1998 Last data point: 1998
Next data point: these registers are continually updated, therefore the next data point will be determined by the next update of this report.
Comments: with no historical data, no trend can be determined.

4. COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS

CONDITION AND LENGTH OF RIGHTS OF WAY

First data point: 1994 Last data point: 1994
Next data point: future revisions are planned.
Comments: with no historical data, no trend can be determined.

5. CRIME

RECORDED CRIME

First data point: 1992 Last data point: 1997
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: the downward trend in recorded crime may to some extent reflect an increasing trend in the non-reporting of crime.

FEAR OF WALKING ALONE AT NIGHT
First data point: 1994 Last data point: 1996
Next data point: published every two years.
Comments: two data points are not sufficient to identify a trend.

6. CULTURE

AMOUNT OF INWARD TOURISM

First data point: 1993 Last data point: 1997
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: this is a difficult indicator to interpret. Whilst increasing visits to the East Midlands indicates that the cultural resources of the area are attracting visitors, this measure offers no indication of the possible adverse impacts of tourism.

7. DERELICT LAND AND DEVELOPMENT

STOCK AND RECLAMATION OF DERELICT LAND

First data point: 1988 Last data point: 1993
Next data point: unknown.
Comments: a trend cannot be determined from just two data points.

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON BROWNFIELD SITES
First data point: 1985 Last data point: 1994
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: data shown do not include conversions of existing buildings to housing use.

8. ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

GDP PER HEAD RELATIVE TO THE ENGLAND AVERAGE

First data point: 1986 Last data point: 1996
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: GDP is growing in the East Midlands, but remains below the English average.

BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS (AND SURVIVALS)
First data point: 1985 (1992) Last data point: 1996 (1995)
Next data point: both sets of data are published annually.
Comments: after a dramatic fall in business registrations in the late 1980s they are now slowly increasing again, as are survival rates. Data exclude businesses whose earnings are below the VAT threshold.

EMPLOYEES RECEIVING JOB RELATED TRAINING
First data point: 1985 Last data point: 1998
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: trainees on Government schemes are not included in this measure.

NUMBER OF COMPANIES WITH EMAS AND ISO14001 CERTIFICATION
First data point: 1999 Last data point: 1999
Next data point: these registers are continually updated, therefore the next data point will be determined by the next update of this report.
Comments: with no historical data, no trend can be determined.

9. EDUCATION

PERFORMANCE OF 11 YEAR OLDS IN NATIONAL 'KEY STAGE' TESTS

First data point: 1996 Last data point: 1998
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: changes in Government education policies mean that pre-1996 data are not available for this indicator.

10. HEALTH

HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY

First data point: 1991 Last data point: 1991
Next data point: 2001
Comments: census data have been used here, but a more frequent data source may become available if this remains a national headline indicator.

MORTALITY RATES FOR CORONARY HEART DISEASE AND LUNG CANCER
First data point: 1987 Last data point: 1997
Next data point: published annually.

MORTALITY RATES FOR ASTHMA
First data point: 1995-7 Last data point: 1995-7
Next data point: to be published annually.
Comments: with no historical data, no trend can be determined.

11. HOMELESSNESS

HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS ACCEPTED FOR PERMANENT ACCOMODATION

First data point: 1987 Last data point: 1997/8
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: this trend should be interpreted with caution as it is influenced by changes in local recording procedures and national policies.

12. INCOME, UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY

TOTAL HOUSEHOLD DISPOSABLE INCOME PER HEAD

First data point: 1993 Last data point: 1997/8
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: the sample size for this indicator is small, meaning trends should be interpreted with caution.

INCOME DISTRIBUTION

First data point: 1988 Last data point: 1998
Next data point: published annually.

ILO UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

First data point: 1993 Last data point: 1998
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: the ILO unemployment measure attempts to overcome interpretation difficulties created by changes in Government policy and recording methods.

LONG TERM CLAIMANT UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

First data point: 1993 Last data point: 1998
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: these measures are based on claimant rates, and therefore do not represent those who do not come forward to claim benefits. The measure is subject to changes in the way long term unemployment is defined.

BENEFITS RECEIPTS

First data point: 1993/4 Last data point: 1996/7
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: this indicator should be interpreted carefully as a fall in the number of claimants could reflect changes in eligibility criteria or it could be due in part to people failing to come forward to claim their entitlements.

13. PARTICIPATION AND DEMOCRACY

REGIONAL TURNOUT AT NATIONAL ELECTIONS

First data point: 1979 Last data point: 1997
Next data point: available every four or five years.
Comments: although there has been a large fall in turnout between the last two national elections, this could have been influenced by any number of national and regional factors.

PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL VOLUNTARY WORK

First data point: 1996/7 Last data point: 1996/7
Next data point: to be published annually.
Comments: a small sample size and lack of historical data for this indicator makes interpretation difficult.

14. SOCIAL COHESION

COMMUNITY SPIRIT (AND FRIENDLINESS)

First data point: 1995/6 (1996/7) Last data point: 1995/6 (1996/7)
Next data point: to be published annually.
Comments: small sample sizes and lack of historical data for these indicators makes interpretation difficult.

15. TRANQUILITY

TRANQUIL AREAS

First data point: c1960 Last data point: c1990
Next data point: unknown.
Comments: with only two data points, it is difficult to determine a trend.

16. TRANSPORT

MILES TRAVELLED PER HEAD BY MODE OF TRANSPORT

First data point: 1991-3 Last data point: 1994-6
Next data point: published annually.

17. WASTE

TOTAL WASTE GENERATED BY TYPE OF WASTE

First data point: 1995/6* Last data point: 1995/6
Next data point: to be published annually.
Comments: with no historical data, no trend can be determined. *Derbyshire data represent 1996/7.

VOLUME OF WASTE LANDFILLED BY TYPE OF WASTE

First data point: 1995/6* Last data point: 1995/6
Next data point: to be published annually.
Comments: with no historical data, no trend can be determined. *Derbyshire data represent 1996/7.

18. WATER

RIVERS AND CANALS OF GOOD OR FAIR QUALITY

First data point: 1956 Last data point: 1998
Next data point: published annually.
Comments: data show chemical water quality for all monitored watercourse stretches in the East Midlands for the period 1993-5 and biological water quality for a particular stretch of river between 1956 and 1998.

WATER RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

First data point: 1999 Last data point: 1999
Next data point: to be available annually.
Comments: with no historical data, no trend can be determined.

19. WILDLIFE, HABITATS AND LANDSCAPE

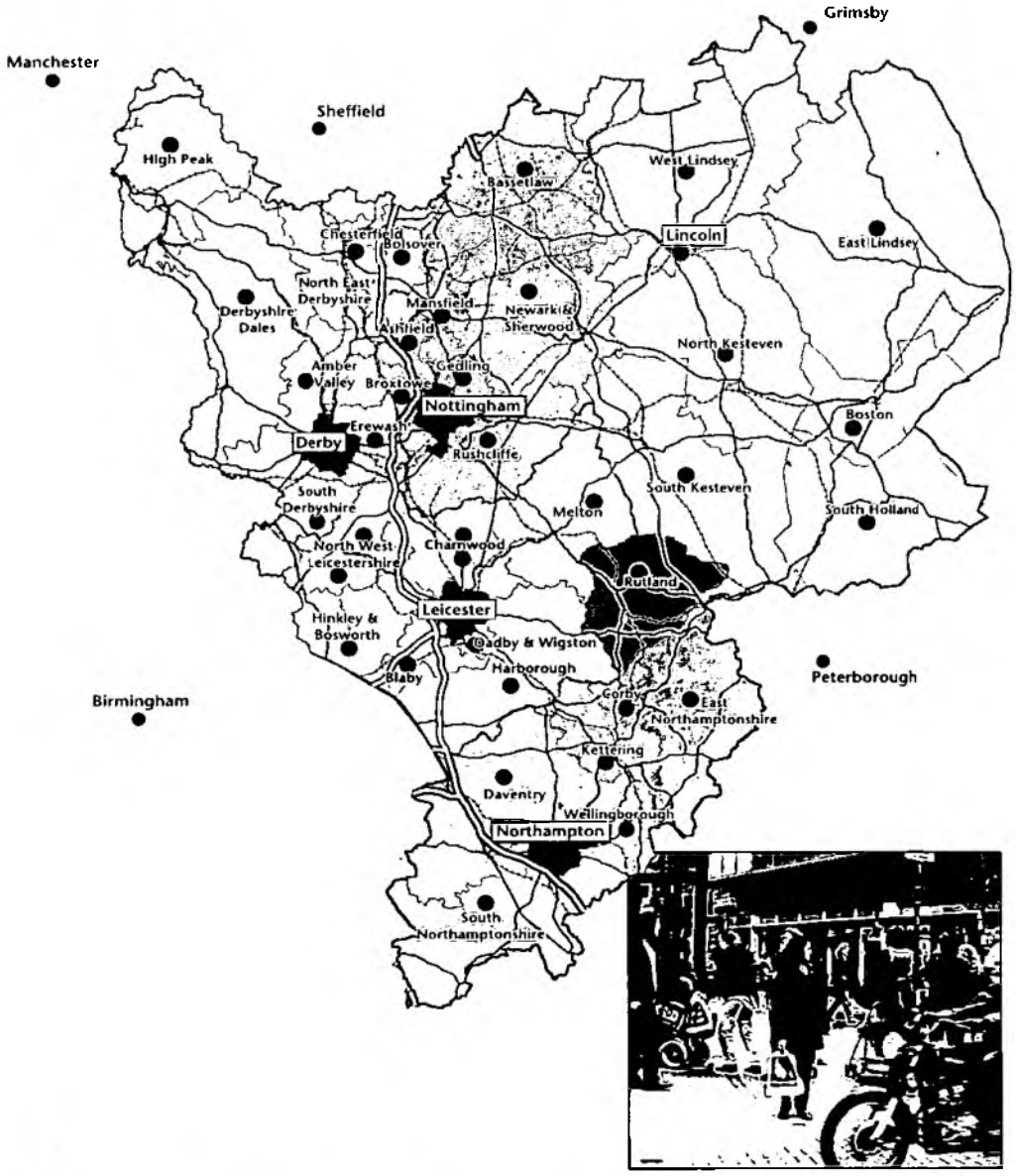
CHANGES IN THE AREA OF ANCIENT SEMI-NATURAL WOODLAND

First data point: c1920 Last data point: c1990
Next data point: unknown.
Comments: data have been extrapolated from maps and are not exact.

INTRODUCTION

The East Midlands Region Sustainable Development Indicators (SDIs) project is an innovative, pilot project being funded by a consortium of the Environment Agency, the East Midlands Regional Local Government Association, the Government Office of the East Midlands, the RSPB and a number of East Midlands local authorities including Derby, Derbyshire, Leicester, Leicestershire, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire.

The project has evolved from earlier work on the East Midlands Land Use Strategy Sustainability Appraisal and is closely linked to the 'Viewpoints on the East Midlands Environment' initiative which is another national pilot aiming to produce regional environmental guidance. The SDIs draw on the wealth of environmental information presented in the 'Viewpoints' report and the East Midlands SDIs Feasibility Study completed by the University of Aberystwyth.



Purpose of the Project

The project has the following aims:

1. *To establish interest amongst regional stakeholders in the principle of monitoring progress towards sustainable development;*
2. *To discuss with stakeholders how this should proceed; and*
3. *To develop an initial set of Sustainable Development Indicators for the region.*

Although a set of indicators are presented in the report, they can only be considered as provisional. As new issues emerge, priorities change and new data sources are made available the indicators will change. Hopefully, despite this, the project has initiated an on-going process of monitoring the region's progress towards sustainable development.

The East Midlands Region

The East Midlands is made up of the counties of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire and includes the unitary local authorities of Derby, Leicester, Nottingham and Rutland. The whole of the Peak District National Park is also included for planning purposes. The region has a total area of 15814.75 km2. The population of the Region in 1996 was estimated at 4,141,500. GDP is 91% of the EU average, placing the Region sixth out of the twelve UK regions. Unemployment has recently been below the national average although the regions does have deprivation 'hotspots' and is dealing with the legacy of the decline in coal mining, threats to the textile industry and job losses due to agricultural change.

The East Midlands Region is going through a period of change and we need to monitor this change if we are going to understand how to manage it.

Tourism in the region is on the increase. The East Midlands has a number of important environmental areas including the Peak District National Park, the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB and the Wash. The region also has a rich industrial heritage.

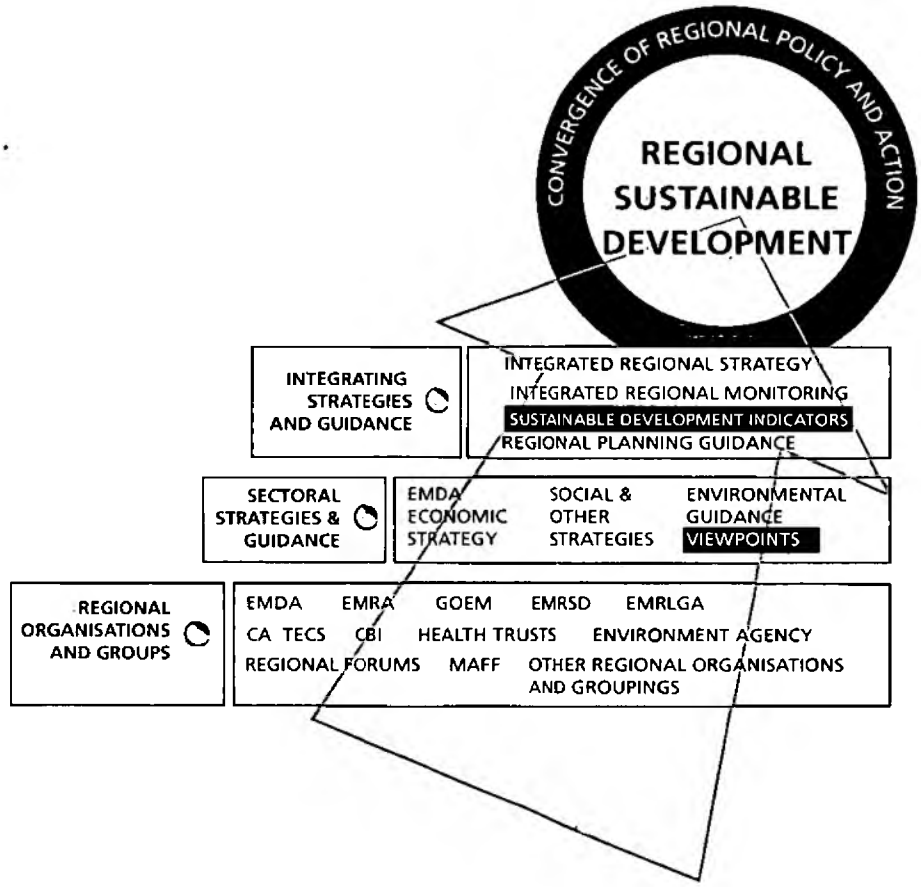
INTRODUCTION

Evolving Regional Structures and Activities

The introduction of the new regional structures and activities, including the East Midlands Development Agency (EMDA) and the East Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA), places greater emphasis on the concept of regional development. It is the intention of the EMRA to prepare an Integrated Regional Strategy that will provide the framework for other regional strategies. The Strategy will be a key component in progress towards securing social, economic and environmental well-being in the region. The role of regional planning guidance has recently been strengthened to include a requirement to prepare a regional transport strategy and a sustainability appraisal. There is also increasing European pressure for stronger regional decision-making and monitoring systems that assess the impact of funding on progress towards sustainable development.

Ultimately, it will be the role of the new regional structures to monitor change in the East Midlands.

The SDIs project should make a contribution in all of these areas.



The Sustainable Development Challenge

Sustainable development is development that provides economic opportunity whilst protecting the environment and ensuring social equity.

Sustainable development has recently taken its place on the regional agenda and represents a challenge to all regional policy makers.

It is the role of Sustainable Development Indicators to monitor progress towards sustainable development.

Sustainable Development Indicators

Seven years after the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, SDIs have become firmly established as a key tool for helping to achieve sustainable development. Progress with the development of SDIs has been rapid and a number of projects now exist at international, national and local levels. The Government recently pledged its support for the concept of SDIs by publishing a set of thirteen national 'headline' indicators. The Government is also working on a basket of local level indicators for use by local authorities. It will not be long before they turn their attention to regional SDIs.

The idea of SDIs is to provide a more balanced understanding of the consequences of our actions and highlight (but not explain) the links between different key social, economic and environmental issues.

By definition, any set of SDIs must cover a whole range of social, economic and environmental issues and provide the information needed to make 'balanced' decisions about regional development. They should promote cross-discipline, 'joined-up' thinking that integrates the needs of society, the economy and the environment.

INTRODUCTION

Consultation with Regional Stakeholders

Identifying the range of social, economic and environmental issues that define regional sustainable development is only possible through consultation with a wide range of practitioners operating at the regional level.

The SDIs have been developed in partnership with a wide range of regional stakeholders and policy makers from the social, economic and environmental sectors because defining the issues that make up sustainable development is only possible if all are involved.

The consultation started with a seminar attended by representatives of approximately forty organisations and was followed by a wider postal questionnaire completed by fifty organisations. The seminar refined a 'wish list' of indicators drawn from the East Midlands Region SDIs feasibility study that was completed last year by the University of Aberystwyth, the 'wish list' also included additional indicators taken from other sets of SDIs such as the national headline indicators. The postal consultation was used to further refine the results of the seminar. A more detailed summary of the methodology used to develop the indicators is presented in Appendix 1.

The Indicators

SDI development in general is in its very early stages and faces many challenges, notably a lack of good quality data. Very often it is impossible to obtain high quality, meaningful data to describe an issue. In addition, the exact nature of sustainable development is still up for debate. As a result, most indicator sets are not ideal and represent a best attempt.

Eventually, new data sources will be made available and new insights will emerge. In the meantime indicator sets only represent an initial step towards developing a mechanism for monitoring progress towards sustainable development. In their current state the East Midlands SDIs do provide a general indication of the Region's social, economic and environmental well being, but they cannot be used to make conclusive statements about overall progress towards sustainable development.

At present, the SDIs represent a starting point on the long road towards a comprehensive means of monitoring the Region's progress towards sustainable development.

A total of 19 issues are covered by the indicators. The main role of the current set of SDIs is to raise awareness, stimulate debate, inform on progress towards sustainable development in key areas and provide a source of information to help make decisions about policy and strategy.

A Continuing Process

Despite the current absence of an agreed mechanism, it is inevitable that the process of SDI development and use will continue. To fulfil their monitoring role, the indicator values must be reported on regular basis. In addition, the indicators must be continually reviewed. There is also considerable current debate about vertical and horizontal integration of indicators. Vertical integration refers to a coherent pattern of indicator use from the national level down to the local level. Horizontal integration would allow comparisons across regions. The East Midlands already has experience essential to this debate.

Issues will change, new data sources will be made available and new insights into the concept of sustainable development will emerge. SDIs represent an ongoing commitment.

The Next Steps

To register your interest in progressing this work through future workshops, seminars and projects please contact:

Dr Simon Slater, Regional Planning Team, The Environment Agency, Sapphire East, 550 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull, B91 1QT. Tel: 0121 711 2324. Fax: 0121 711 5824. E-mail: simon.slater@environment-agency.gov.uk

For additional copies of this report please visit the Environment Agency website at: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Or contact, Glenda Simpson, Sustainability Team, Government Office of the East Midlands, The Belgrave Centre, Stanley Place, Talbot Street, Nottingham NG1 5GG. Tel: 0115 971 2477 Fax: 0115 971 2404 E-mail: gsimpson.goem@go-regions.gov.uk

AGRICULTURE

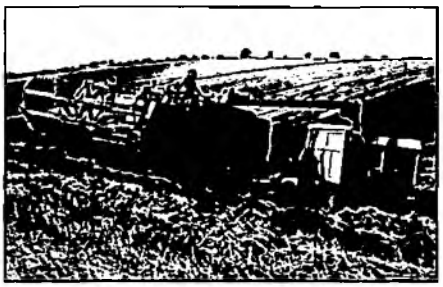
NUMBER OF FARMS USING ORGANIC METHODS IN FOOD PRODUCTION

Importance of the Issue

Farming practices have profound impacts on the environment, the landscape and the local economy. Over 80% of the total land area in the East Midlands region is given over to agriculture, making the way we farm an issue of great importance for the future of the region.

The use of intensive farming methods and chemical fertilisers and pesticides has increased over recent decades. These methods have enabled the cost-effective production.of plentiful food, but in doing so are widely believed to have damaged natural eco-systems, put strain on the land and its inhabitant wildlife and contributed over the years to a reduction in the biodiversity of our countryside. Intensive farming methods have led to cramped, unnatural conditions for 'factory farmed' animals and have been implicated in recent food safety scares such as BSE. They also require fewer hands, reducing the number of jobs available in the farming industry - this is borne out by figures which show a steady decrease in the numbers employed in agriculture in the East Midlands. None of these outcomes is sustainable over the longer term.

An alternative way of producing food is to use organic farming methods. These work with rather than against natural systems, making no use of intensive methods or chemical products and actually create employment for local people. Although total organic food production may not be realistic and would mean more expensive food, an increase in organic production begins to redress the balance.



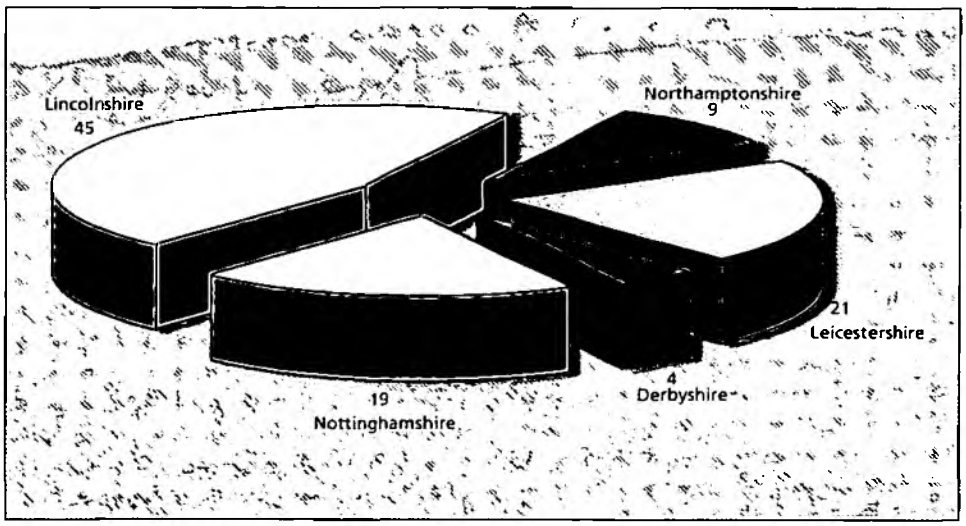
Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the number of farms in each county of the East Midlands region that are registered with MAFF as producing foods using organic methods. Unfortunately this does not present any information relating to the area of land in the region that is being farmed organically, nor the percentage of farms using organic methods.

What the Indicator Tells Us

This is the first time these data have been gathered and so no trends are apparent. All we can see at the moment is that there are a total of 98 farms in the region that produce food using organic methods and that these are unequally distributed across the counties - probably partly due to the extent of agricultural activity in each county. A move towards sustainability would be indicated by an increase in the number of farms producing food using organic methods next time the data are gathered.

Number of organic producers in the East Midlands by county, 1999



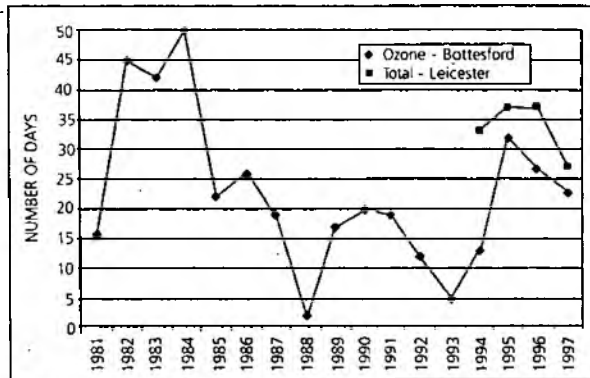
Technical Information

Indicator: Number of organic producers in the East Midlands that are on the UK Register of Organic Food Standards held by the Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods at March 1999.

Source: UKROFS, MAFF.

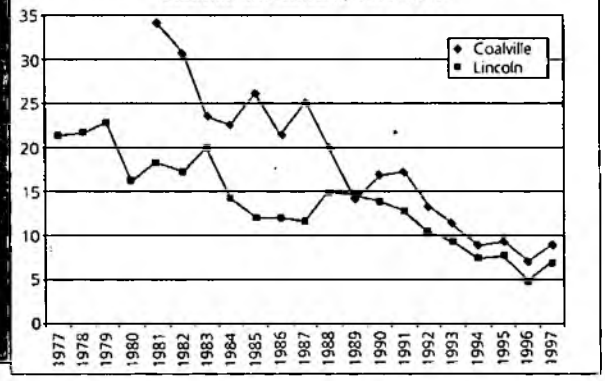
AIR QUALITY

NUMBER OF DAYS POLLUTION LIMITS WERE EXCEEDED FOR KEY POLLUTANTS



Number of days air pollution limits were exceeded for ozone at bottesford monitoring station and for five pollutants, Leicester, 1994-7

Yearly mean concentrations of sulphur dioxide measured at Coalville and Lincoln, 1977-1997



Importance of the Issue

Air quality is a key environmental issue and one that effects human health. Nitrogen dioxide can exacerbate asthma and increase susceptibility to infections. Sulphur dioxide may cause wheezing and aggravate chest infections. Ozone can irritate the eyes and air passages and increase sensitivity to allergies. Carbon monoxide can impair the brain.

The global consequences of air pollution are also evident. Ozone holes, acid rain and the "greenhouse effect" have all been linked to air pollution of one kind or another. Perhaps less well known is the damage to crops and buildings resulting from some forms of air pollution. A sustainable East Midlands would be one with low levels of air pollution.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the number of days each year that National Air Quality Standards set by the UK Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions were exceeded at two automated monitoring sites:

1. *The number of days National Air Quality Standards for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulates (PM10) and carbon monoxide were exceeded at the urban site in Leicester City centre; and*
2. *The number of days National Air Quality Standards for ozone were exceeded at the rural site in Bottesford.*

In addition, the concentration of sulphur dioxode measured at Coalville and Lincoln since 1977 provides an indication of a longer term air quality trend.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The data present a mixed picture. Exceedances appear to show no distinct trends over recent years, although the data are not available to show the longer term trends that would offer a clearer indication of the changing picture of air quality in the region. Sulphur dioxide concentrations certainly appear to have declined.

Exceedances for nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide have been almost non-existent recently. The exceedance data for PM10 and ozone show a fluctuating trend over the monitoring period. In the case of ozone, this is particularly complicated to interpret. Production of the pollutant depends upon the presence of sunlight. In addition, the pollutant is broken down when it reacts with oxides of nitrogen so decreasing amounts of local traffic leading to less nitrogen oxide in the air can result in higher concentrations of ozone. Ozone is to a large extent a regional and even national issue as much as a local issue.

Concentrations of sulphur dioxide have shown a steady decline over the last two decades. This is probably due to shifts in domestic fuel use, the introduction of smoke control legislation and the use of cleaner technologies. Nevertheless, the last data point shows an increase in concentrations between 1996 and 1997.

Technical Information

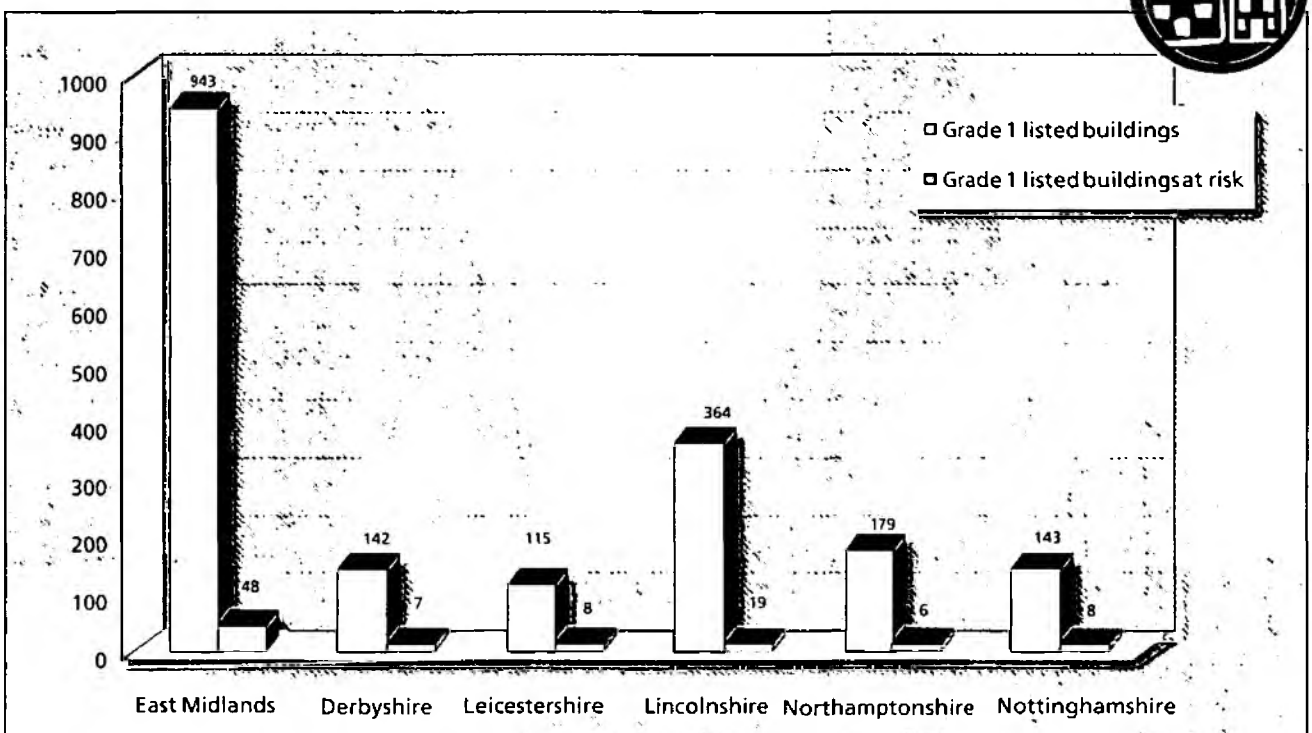
The National Air Quality Standards were only introduced recently and have been applied retrospectively to concentrations data.

Indicator:
1. The number of days National Air Quality Standards were exceeded for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, PM10 and carbon monoxide monitored in the centre of Leicester, 1994-1997.
2. The number of days National Air Quality Standards were exceeded for ozone monitored at the rural site of Bottesford, 1981-1997.
3. Sulphur dioxide concentrations measured at the sites of Coalville (urban) and Lincoln (rural), 1977-1997.

Source: NETCEN, AEA Technology.

BUILT HERITAGE

NUMBER OF GRADE ONE LISTED BUILDINGS AND NUMBER 'AT RISK'



Grade 1 listed buildings in the East Midlands and number 'at risk', 1998

Importance of the Issue

Retaining the history and culture of an area helps to maintain society's links with its past. Nurturing these links whilst keeping up with modern developments can be difficult, but losing all sense of connection with the past can lead to a loss of heritage. A balance needs to be found between new development and the protection of our heritage.

Listed buildings represent a measure of the value society places on our heritage. Buildings with special scientific, architectural or historical value are listed as a means of preserving and protecting them from development and disrepair.

Description of the Indicator

The indicator shows the number of buildings in the East Midlands that are listed with Grade 1 status, and the number of these buildings which have been recorded on the 'Buildings at Risk' register. Those buildings listed with Grade 1 status are deemed to be of particular architectural or historical interest and cannot be altered in any way without special consent. However, many are considered to be at risk from loss or ruin.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The data shows that there were almost 1000 listed buildings in the region with Grade 1 status in 1998, and that 48 of these were registered as 'at risk'. As no historical data are available, trends cannot be established. However, in the future we would hope to see an increase in the number of listed buildings and a decrease in the percentage at risk.

Technical Information

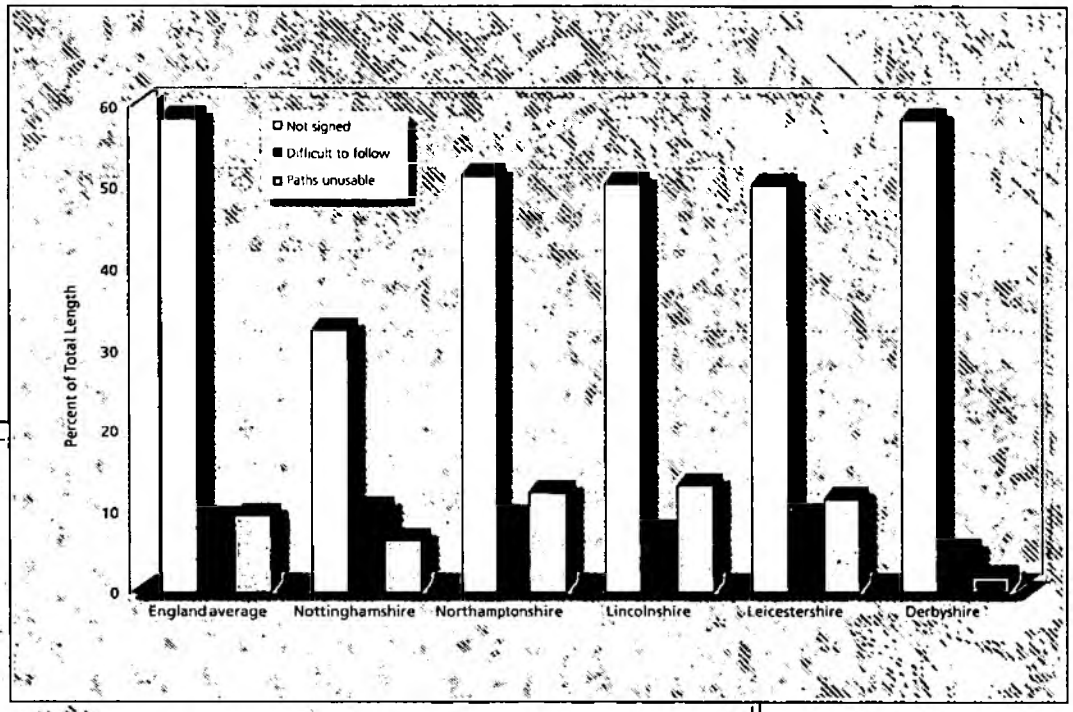
Indicator: Number of Grade 1 listed buildings in the East Midlands and the number on the Buildings at Risk register, 1998.

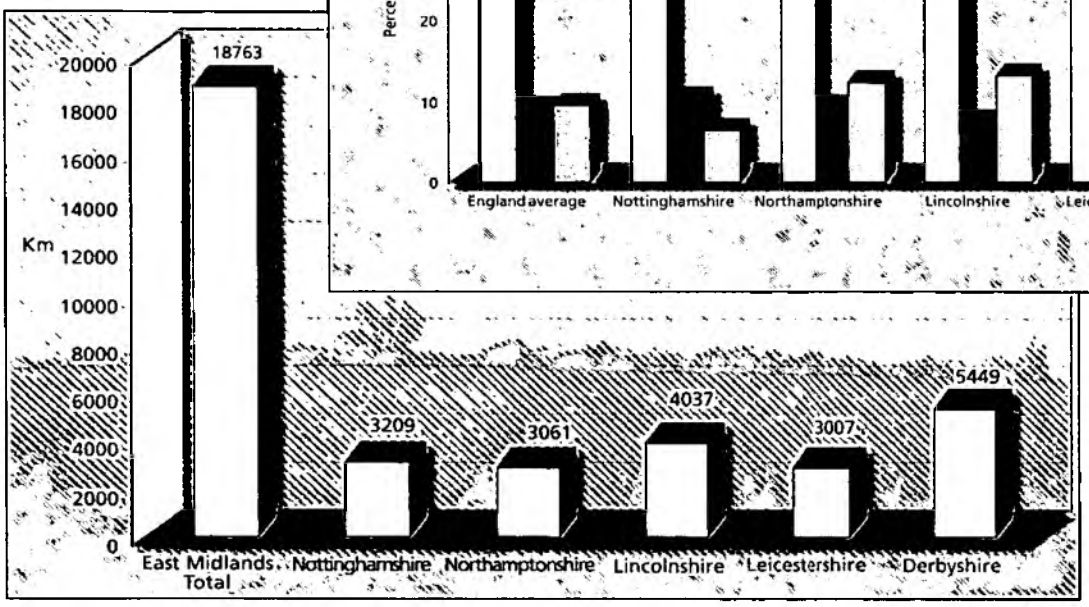
Source: Royal Commission on Historic Monuments; English Heritage.

COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS

CONDITION AND LENGTH OF RIGHTS OF WAY

Condition of rights of way, England and East Midlands by county, 1994





Total length of public rights of way, East Midlands by county, 1994

Importance of the Issue

There has been a great deal of debate in the UK recently about the importance people place on having adequate access to the countryside. Many feel that our countryside should be a resource that is available for everyone, with access for all. Having somewhere to escape from the traffic, noise and pace of urban life can contribute greatly to people's quality of life, whilst those living in more rural areas appreciate the opportunity to make use of their 'green' surroundings.

The UK rights of way network is an invaluable resource providing access to the countryside, and the condition and length of rights of way in the region may be used as a proxy for the extent of access to the countryside.

Description of the Indicator

The indicator shows the length of public rights of way in the region, and the proportion of these that are not sign-posted, that are difficult to follow or where the paths are unusable. We cannot tell from this indicator where the rights of way are located, nor how easy access would be for wheelchair users or others with mobility difficulties.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The charts show that there is an extensive network of almost 19,000 km of rights way in the region with adequate accessibility to large tracts of it. The lack of historical data makes it impossible to gauge any trend in this indicator at the moment.

Technical Information

Indicators: 1. Total lengths of public rights of way in the East Midlands by county, 1994
2. Percent of total lengths that are not signed, difficult to follow or unusable in the East Midlands counties and in England, 1994.

Source: The Countryside Commission (now The Countryside Agency)

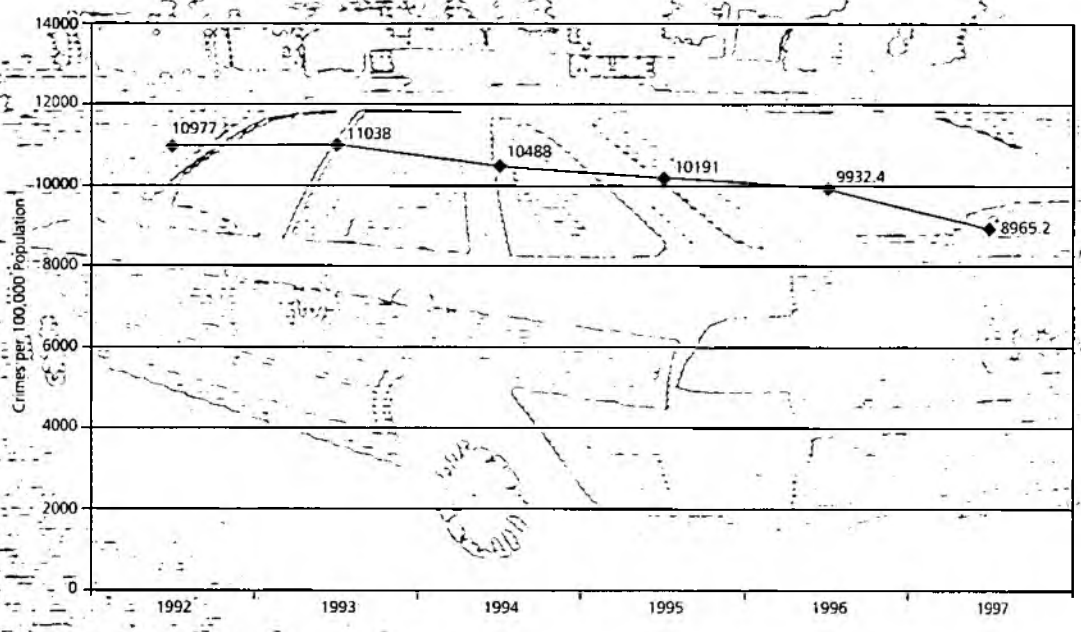
CRIME

5.1 RECORDED CRIME

Importance of the Issue

Crime is a major social problem that effects both the individual and society as a whole. Victims of crime suffer directly. The fear of crime spreads further and is potentially more damaging. An increase in crime can reduce social interaction and damage the local economy. Crime is likely to be more prevalent in areas where other social, economic and environmental problems already exist. Where there is poverty, deprivation, lack of opportunity or unpleasant surroundings - most notably perhaps in urban areas - there is often crime, making these areas even less attractive as places to live.

Offenses of all categories recorded by the police per 100,000 population, East Midlands, 1992-1997



Description of the Indicator

This indicator charts the number of offenses of all categories per 100,000 population recorded by the police in the East Midlands between 1992 and 1997. The figures do not necessarily equate to the number of offenses committed, however. Many crimes go unreported meaning that this indicator may underestimate the true extent of crime considerably. Under-reporting may in part reflect an increasing reluctance to report some types of crime such as minor incidents of theft or vandalism.

What the Indicator Tells Us

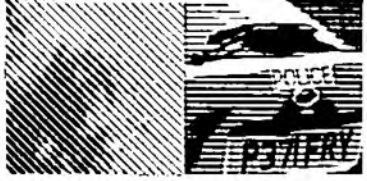
The trend in recorded crime since 1992 has generally been downwards, which indicates a move towards sustainability. Unfortunately however, we cannot tell conclusively from these data whether the underlying crime rate is also falling.

Technical Information

These data have been compiled from police returns to the Home Office recorded according to nationally set standard categories of crime. As from 1997/8 data on racially motivated crimes will be recorded separately.

Indicator: Notifiable offenses of all categories recorded by the police in the East Midlands per 100,000 population, 1992-1997.

Source: Home Office (annually), Criminal Statistics England and Wales.



CRIME

5.2 FEAR OF WALKING ALONE AT NIGHT

Importance of the Issue

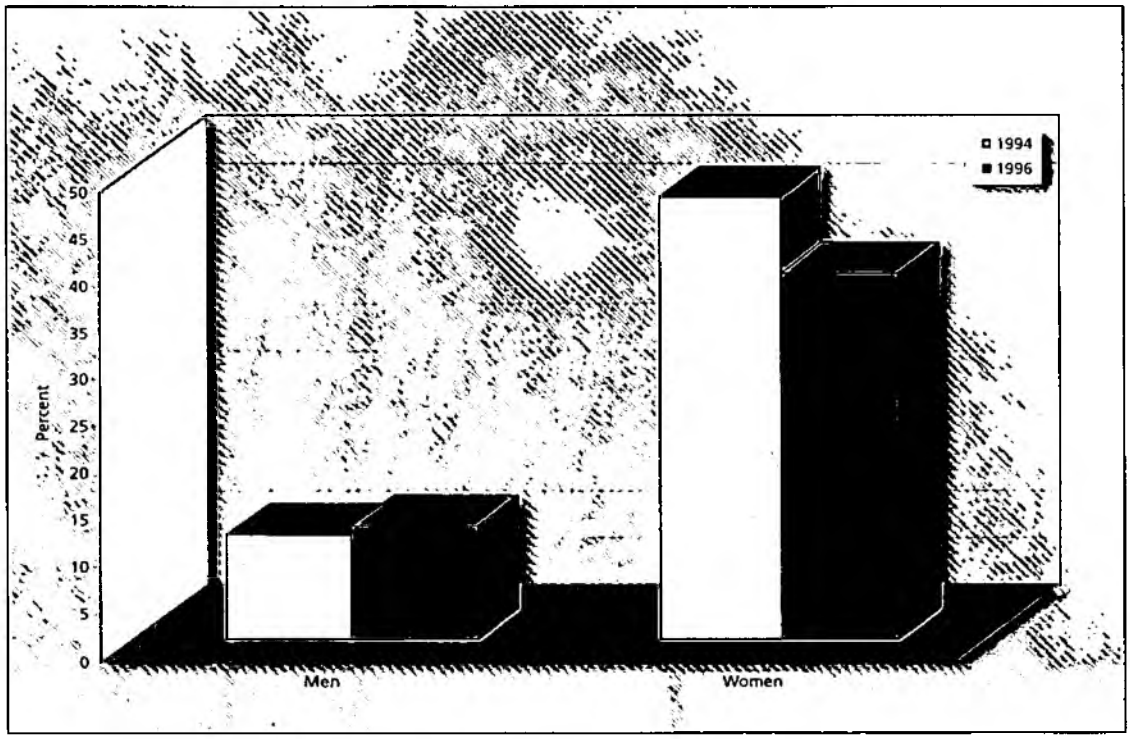
Crime has repercussions that extend beyond the impact of the crime on the victim. The existence of crime in an area often leads to feelings of fear and insecurity among the community, destroying trust and breaking down community spirit. Those who feel particularly vulnerable may curb their usual activities as a response to the fear of becoming a victim. In a truly sustainable East Midlands everyone would feel safe in their homes and when walking around their local area.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator represents the extent to which people of the East Midlands feel insecure when walking alone at night. The graph shows the percentage of people who claimed to feel 'very' or 'fairly' unsafe in this situation.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The graph suggests that whilst a decreasing proportion of women feel insecure whilst walking alone at night, the proportion of men feeling insecure is increasing. However, it is impossible to gauge any reliable trend from just two data points based on a small sample size. A better indication will be available once further data have been gathered.



Feelings of insecurity walking home at night: percent feeling very or fairly unsafe, East Midlands, 1994 and 1996

Technical Information

Indicator: Percentage of people aged 16-59 in the East Midlands feeling very or fairly unsafe walking alone at night by gender, 1994 and 1996.

Source: The British Crime Survey.

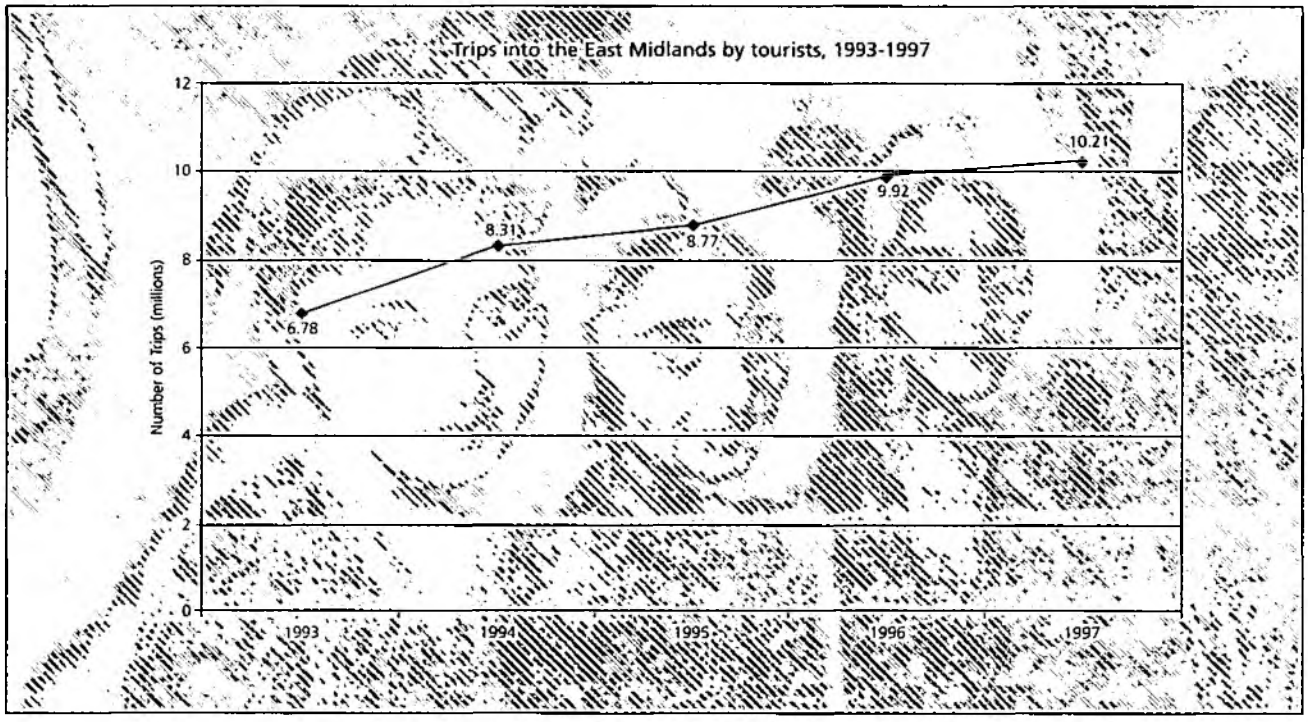
CULTURE

AMOUNT OF INWARD TOURISM

Importance of the Issue

'Culture' refers to the traditions and inheritances that communities share, and which bring people together through common bonds. A community's cultural heritage is often celebrated and continued through arts, leisure and sporting activities and through the maintenance of cultural traditions and sites. With current changes in governance and decision-making structures at the regional level, it will be increasingly desirable to encourage a sense of common purpose and identity across the East Midlands region, whilst recognising and celebrating the cultural traditions of different groups.

Tourist figures can be used as a proxy for cultural resources in an area. However 'more tourists' does not necessarily mean 'more sustainable'. Whilst the capital generated through this influx of people helps the region's economy, tourism when not appropriately managed can create an extra strain on the environment. Pursuing a move towards more sustainable tourism would maintain economic benefits whilst reducing negative environmental and social impacts.



Description of the Indicator

The indicator describes the number of trips made by tourists to the East Midlands. The indicator does not measure the use of cultural sites and activities by residents of the region, and gives no indication as to why visitors are coming to the East Midlands.

What the Indicator Tells Us

Over the period for which data are presented a constant increase in trips to the region is shown. It is difficult to interpret this trend in terms of sustainability.

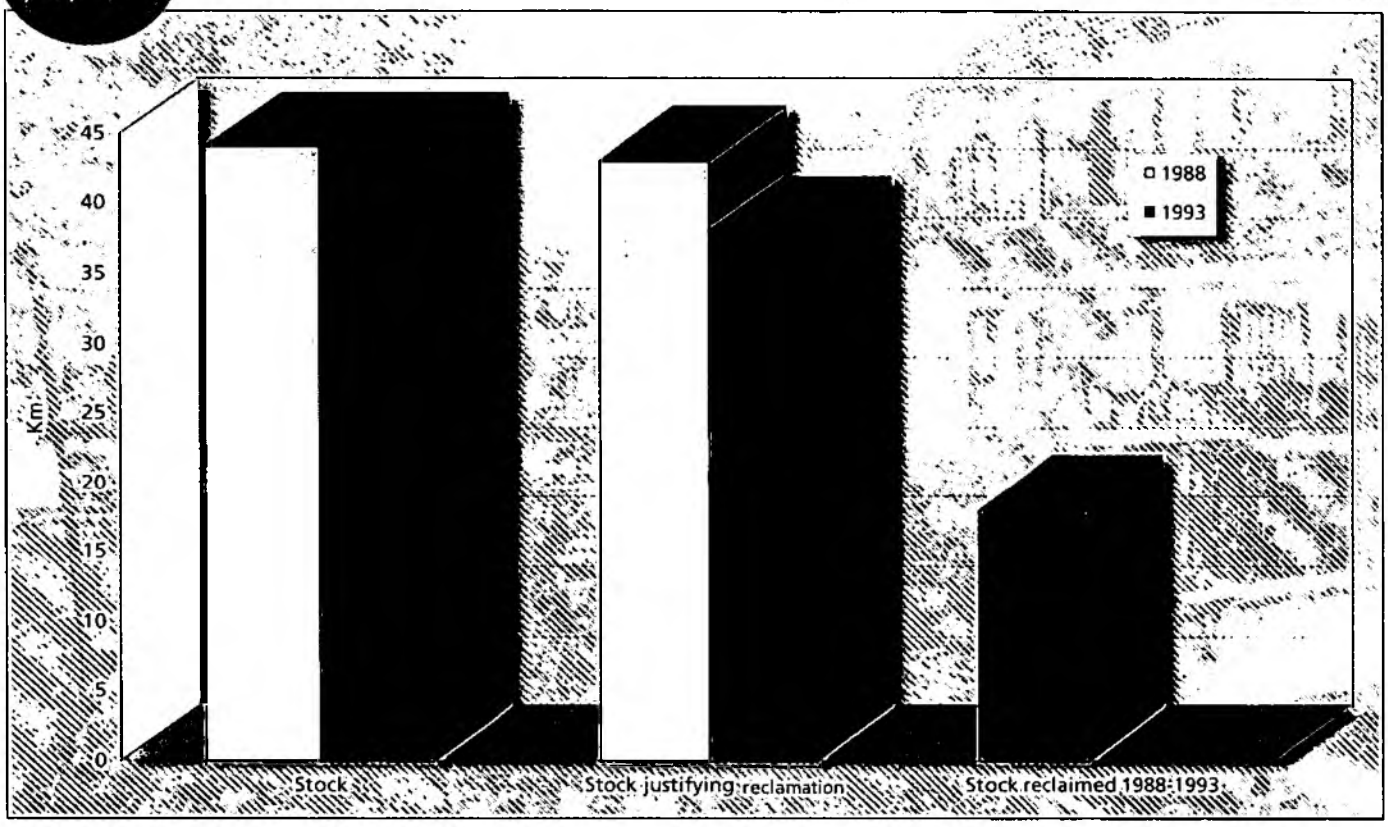
Technical Information

Indicator: Trips into the East Midlands by tourists from both the UK and abroad, 1993-1997.

Source: UK Tourism Survey; International Passenger Survey (via Heart of England Tourist Board).

DERELICT LAND & DEVELOPMENT

7.1 STOCK AND RECLAMATION OF DERELICT LAND



Stock and reclamation of derelict land, East Midlands

Importance of the Issue

Land is a valuable resource and is much in demand for all manner of uses. Allowing areas of disused land to go out of productive or positive use when greenfield sites are under increasing pressure is environmentally unsustainable. At the same time, derelict sites are often unsightly and sometimes dangerous. In 1993 over 40% of derelict land in the East Midlands region was situated on rural sites, potentially affecting the beauty and character of the region's countryside. Nevertheless, the East Midlands has a good record for ensuring the best use is made of these sites - between 1988 and 1993 the region reclaimed more of its derelict land than any other English region. The existence of some derelict sites does make a positive contribution to the conservation of urban biodiversity.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the stock of derelict land in the East Midlands in 1988 and in 1993 and the amount of derelict stock justifying reclamation in each of those years. It also shows the total area of derelict land reclaimed between 1988 and 1993.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The chart shows that progress has been made with the restoration of derelict land in the region, with over one third of land identified in 1998 as justifying reclamation being reclaimed between 1988 and 1993. Although this information has only been collected twice in the last ten years, making trends difficult to determine, it seems that at least some progress towards sustainability is being made on this indicator. Nevertheless, there are still large areas of derelict land in the region that are waiting to be reclaimed. The data have been rounded to the nearest square km.

Technical Information

Data gathered in the April of each year shown.

Indicator: Area of stock and reclamation of derelict land in the East Midlands and area of stock justifying reclamation, 1988 and 1993.

Source: Derelict Land Surveys 1988 and 1993, Department of the Environment (now the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions).

DERELICT LAND & DEVELOPMENT

7.2 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON BROWNFIELD SITES

Importance of the Issue

Sustainable development means locating development on previously used, 'brownfield' sites, rather than allowing it to encroach into the countryside. Across England almost 55% of new homes are now built on previously developed land. The draft revision of Planning Policy Guidance Note 3 on housing, sets a national target for 60% of additional housing to be provided on previously developed land or through conversion. This national target should result in regional targets. This means reuse of derelict land, protection of the countryside and revitalisation of urban centres. Locating residential areas close to the places where people shop and work also reduces the need to travel.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the proportion of new residential development in the region, and across England, that has occurred on land that was previously developed for urban use.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The data show that the proportion of homes built on previously developed land in the East Midlands has generally increased for the period where data are available. Although the East Midlands rate is below the rate for England as a whole, this could be at least partly due to the relative proportions of urban and rural land in the two areas. Where there is a higher proportion of urban land there is likely to be a greater level of reuse of this land for all types of development.

Technical Information

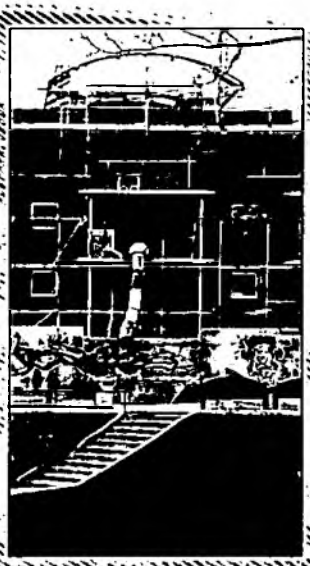
The data shown do not include conversions of existing buildings to housing use. Data shown for 1994 are based on provisional figures calculated in 1998.

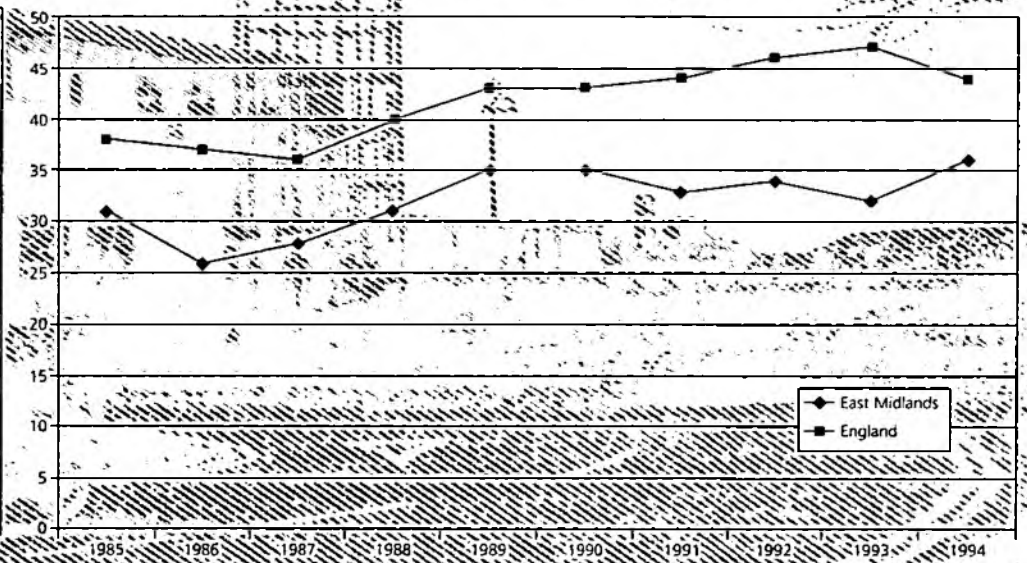
This measure is one of the draft national headline indicators of sustainable development.

Indicator: Percentage of change to residential use that is on land previously developed for urban uses, East Midlands and England 1985-1994.

Source: Land Use Change in England (annually), Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

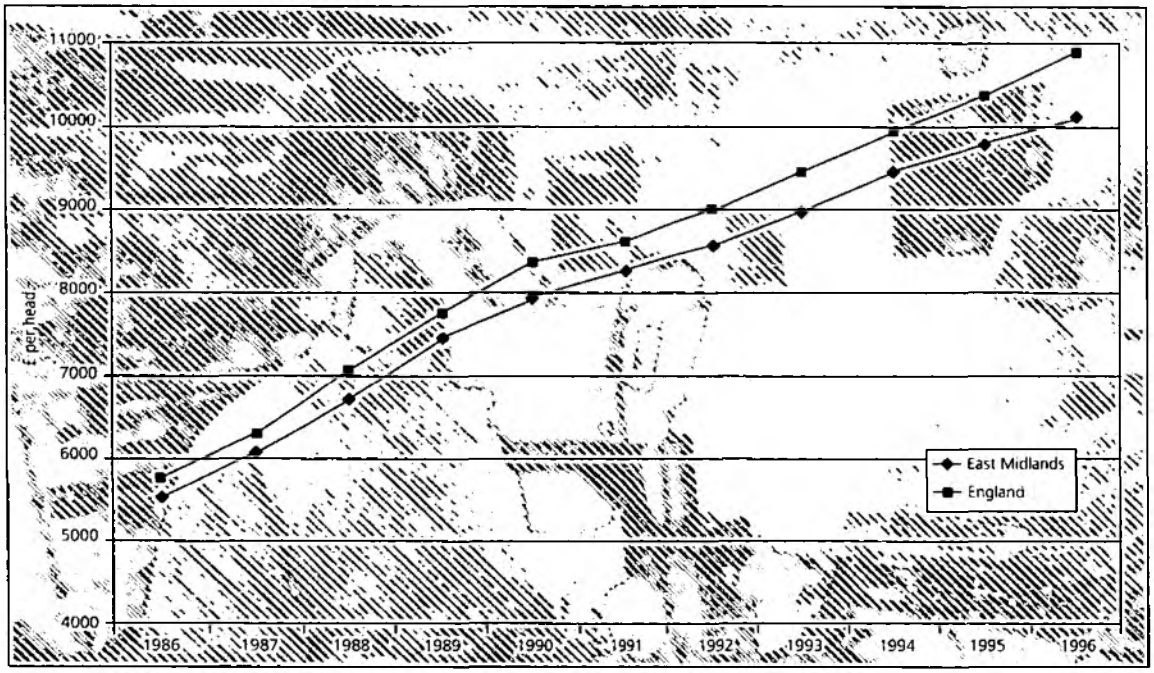
Percent of change to residential use that is on land previously developed for urban uses, East Midlands and England, 1985-1994





ECONOMY & BUSINESS

8.1 GDP PER HEAD RELATIVE TO THE UK AVERAGE



GDP per head in the East Midlands and England, 1986-1996

Importance of the Issue

A healthy economy is crucial for the well being of the region, and business has a key role to play in building a thriving and competitive East Midlands. Whilst economic growth alone would bring benefits to the region, in a sustainable society wealth created at the regional level would be made available for improving quality of life for all, through environmental and social, as well as economic investment. There have been various arguments about the compatibility of economic growth and environmental sustainability, but economic growth can be seen as a positive indicator for the region as long as the links with environmental and social protection and improvement are maintained.

Description of the Indicator

The indicator shows changes in the amount of money available and circulating in the economy, representing levels of economic activity in the region. It does not though provide any insight into the impact the economy has on people's quality of life - economic activity does not always create well being. There are also areas of economic activity that this measure fails to incorporate. Unpaid household work and voluntary agencies for example are not valued in GDP calculations. At the same time economic activity associated with cleaning up pollution or repairing vandalism is counted - incidents which a truly sustainable society would seek to prevent in the first place.

What the Indicator Tells Us

Over the monitoring period GDP per head in the region grew. However, economic growth in the East Midlands has remained below the national average and the gap between the two seems to be getting wider.

Technical Information

This measure is one of the draft national headline indicators of sustainable development.

Indicator: GDP per head in the East Midlands and England based on 1998 prices, 1986-1996.

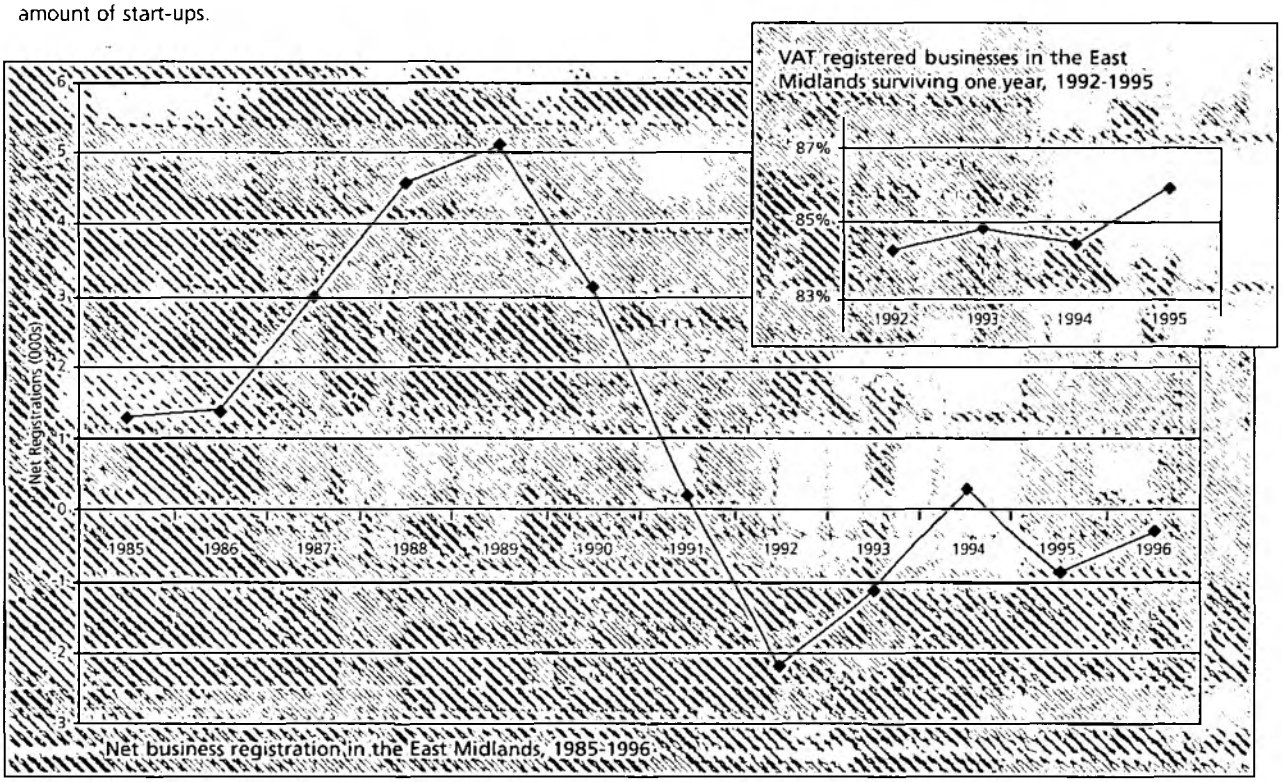
Source: ONS (Via Regional Trends).

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

8.2 BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS AND SURVIVAL

Importance of the Issue

When looking at a region's ability to adapt and thrive in a changing economic environment we need an indicator of vibrancy. In this case we have used the number of new businesses starting up and their ability to survive. The indicator is dualistic - while a high level of start-ups can be interpreted as a sign of a thriving region, it can also be interpreted as an indication that there are no other ways of finding employment. Even if a region benefits from a high level of start-ups, survival of new businesses is a crucial issue. From a regional perspective a high level of survival is perhaps more important than a large amount of start-ups.



Net business registration in the East Midlands, 1985-1996

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the number of new businesses registering in the East Midlands and the percent of those surviving one year. The indicator does not highlight what types of businesses are being established in the region, whether they are labour intensive nor the quality of resulting jobs.

What the Indicator Tells Us

Business registrations last peaked during the economic boom of the late 1980's. Between the low of 1992 and 1996, there was a slight increase. This slight increase was mirrored by the percent of VAT registered businesses surviving 1 year. The data do not include businesses outside the VAT sector nor businesses that are not registered on a voluntary basis with a turnover below £ 47,000.

Technical Information

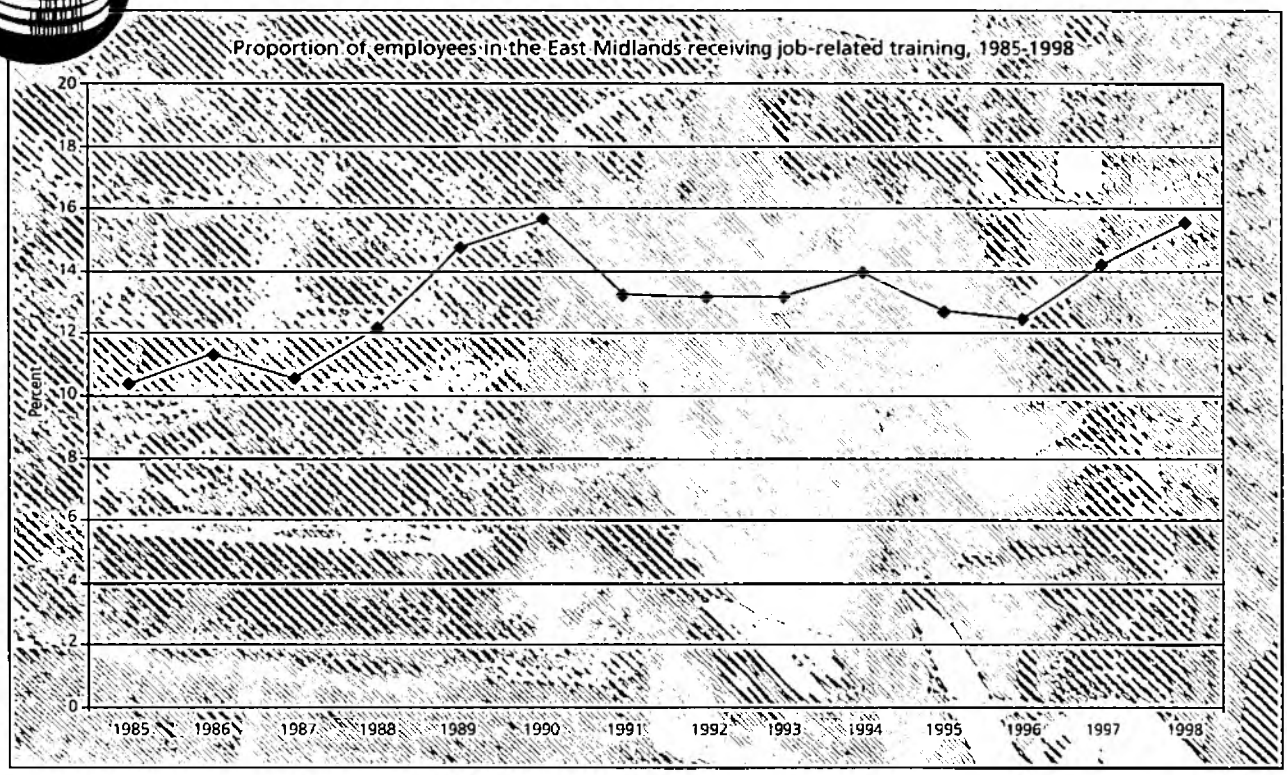
'Net registrations' refers to the number of registrations minus deregistrations in each year. Figures for 1990 - 1994 include adjustments to allow for changes introduced in the 1990, 1991 and 1993 budgets.

Indicator: 1. Net change in the number of businesses registering for VAT in the East Midlands, 1985 - 1996.
2. Percent of VAT registered businesses in the East Midland surviving 1 year from the date of VAT registration, 1992 - 1995.

Source: DTI.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

8.3 NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES RECEIVING JOB-RELATED TRAINING



Importance of the Issue

From a regional perspective, the development of staff and the expansion of the skills base makes the workforce more competitive and thereby helps the region to attract more investments and businesses. A level of job-related training which increases long term productivity is a desirable goal.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the percentage of employees receiving job-related training across the East Midlands. The indicator excludes the programmes of job-related training for the unemployed and therefore only considers part of the potential workforce.

What the Indicator Tells Us

There has been an increase in job-related training during the last 3 years and it is now at the same peak level as in 1990. It should be noted that the way the figures are recorded changed in 1995, meaning that data from this date onwards are not directly comparable with those from earlier years.

Technical Information

The data show those employees sampled who had received on- or off-the-job training in the last four weeks. Data are from the Spring quarter of each year shown, but due to changes in data collection, data from 1995 onwards are not directly comparable with earlier years.

Indicator: Proportion of employees in the East Midlands receiving job-related training during the last four weeks, 1985 - 1998.

Source: Labour Force Survey.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

8.4 NUMBER OF COMPANIES WITH EMAS AND ISO14001 CERTIFICATION

Importance of the Issue

Businesses can have a significant environmental impact, using resources and generating waste and pollution. The environmental management standards ISO14001 and EMAS have been developed to allow businesses to better manage their environmental impacts. Obtaining ISO14001 and EMAS certification is at present voluntary and reflects a degree of commitment by businesses to environmental protection.

Description of the Indicator

The indicator shows the number of organisations who have ISO14001 or EMAS. This indicates the number of organisations who have a recognised management system for controlling and reducing their environmental impacts. EMAS also requires registered organisations to make a commitment to continually improving their environmental performance and ISO14001 requires continual improvement of systems, with a view to achieving the same outcome. The indicator does not give an indication of the size of the organisations.

What the Indicator Tells Us

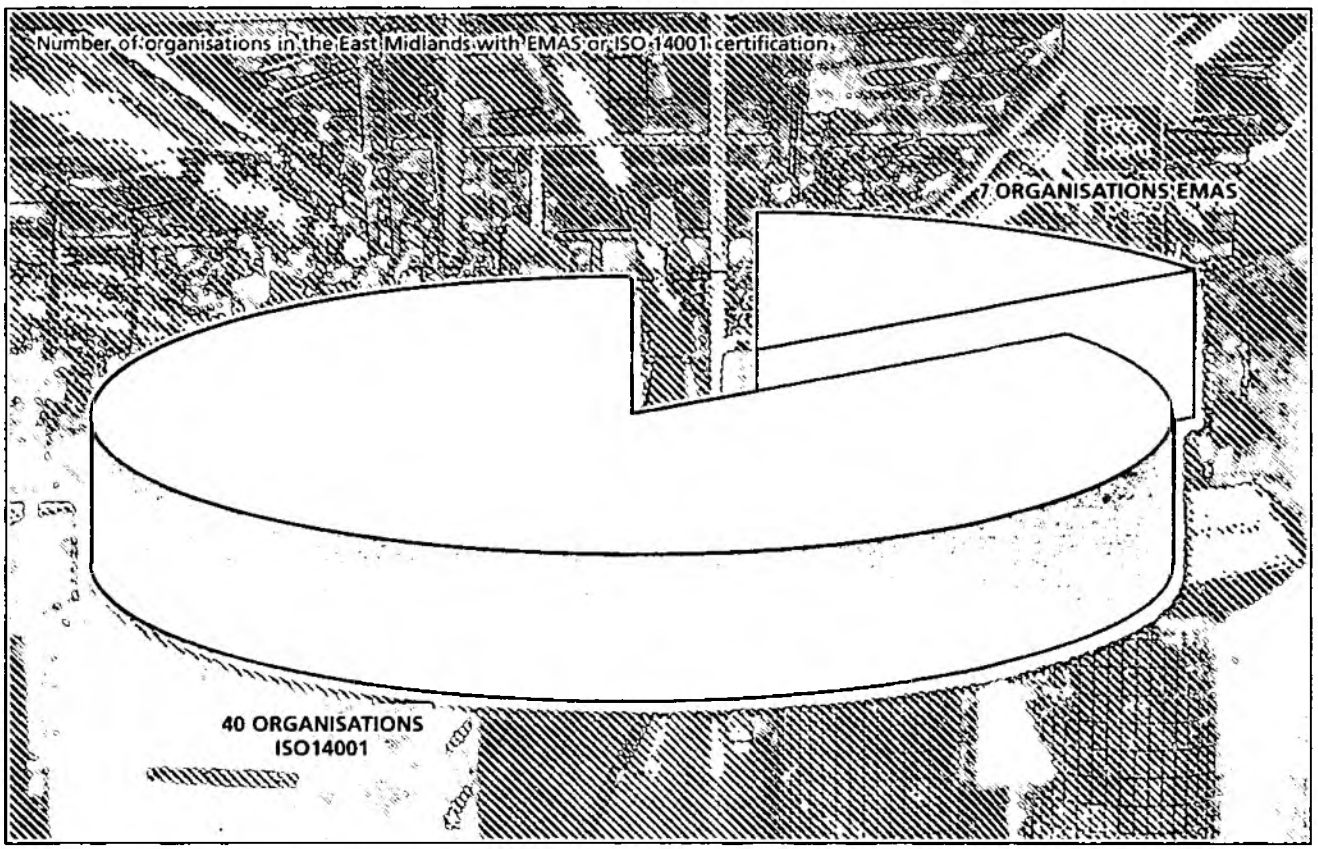
Unfortunately, a trend over time cannot be established at the moment.

Technical Information

Some sites may have both EMAS and ISO14001 certification, meaning they may be represented twice here. Some may be ISO14001 certified through organisations not registered with the UK Accreditation Service (UKAS), and so will not appear in this measurement.

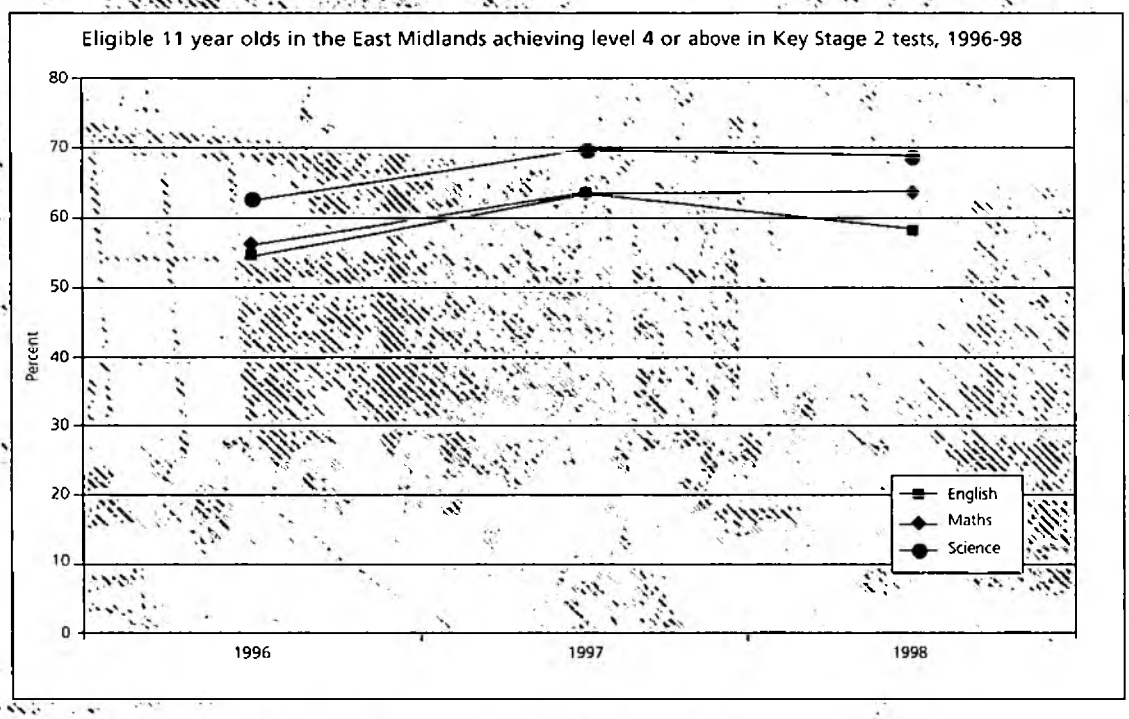
Indicator: Number of organisations in the East Midlands at March 1999 registered with IEA as EMAS certified and with UKAS registered bodies as ISO14001 certified.

Source: IEA; EAG Environ; BSI.



EDUCATION

PERFORMANCE OF ELEVEN-YEAR-OLDS IN NATIONAL 'KEY STAGE' TESTS



Importance of the Issue

Education is fundamental to enabling individuals to make an appropriate and meaningful contribution to today's society. An educated society is the basis for achieving a successful economy, a clean and accessible environment, democracy and social well being.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator presents the percentage of children in the East Midlands achieving 'level 4' or above in each of three core subject areas assessed through national 'Key Stage 2' tests: English, maths and science.

What the Indicator Tells Us

'Key Stages' were introduced into the National Curriculum in 1995, and the Government recently introduced national learning targets setting out attainment goals for a number of age groups. For Key Stage 2 the target is that 75% of 11-year-olds will reach at least level 4 in maths and 80% will achieve at least level 4 in English. We can see though that in all subjects the initial upward trend in the percentage of children in the East Midlands reaching level 4 levelled off between 1997 and 1998.

Technical Information

The data have been aggregated from information provided by each of the Local Education Authorities in the East Midlands Government Office region. All pupils, including those with special needs, are eligible for assessment when they reach the end of Key Stage 2, usually at the age of eleven.

Indicator: Percentage of eligible 11 year olds in the East Midlands achieving level 4 or above in Key Stage 2 tests in English, maths and science, 1996-1998.

Source: Department for Education and Employment; Government Office for the East Midlands.

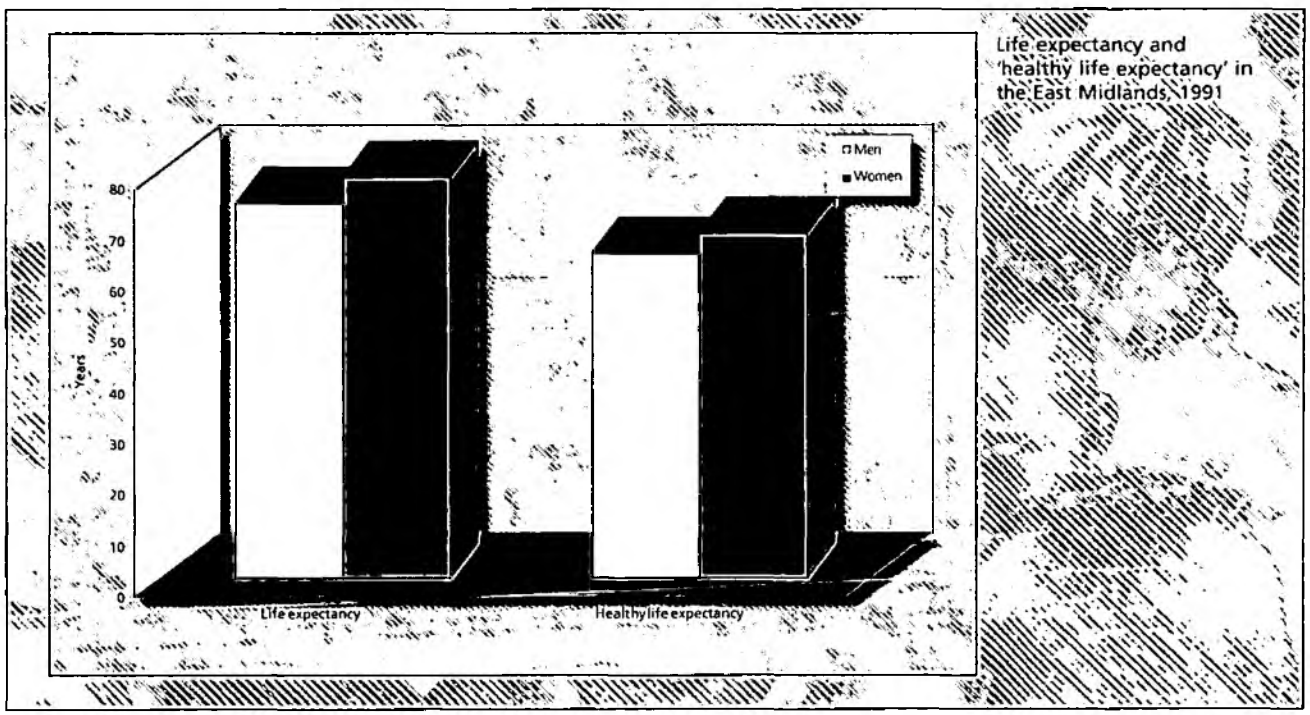
HEALTH

10.1 HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY

Importance of the Issue

Our enjoyment of life can be severely affected by a lack of physical or mental well being. Poor health has the capacity to intrude into all areas of life, affecting more than just personal well being. Where ill-health is prevalent in a community, economic productivity and social well being may also be reduced.

As life expectancy increases, the number of years of debilitating illness or general poor health experienced in old age also grows. Life expectancy in the East Midlands was 74 years for men and 79 years for women at the last Census, suggesting that finding ways to increase the number of healthy years of life for residents of the region is already an important issue.



Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the average number of years of healthy life that residents of the East Midlands can expect to enjoy, compared to the region's average life expectancy - healthy or otherwise. The data are presented separately for men and women.

Whilst it may be likely that the 'unhealthy years' will be experienced in old age, this indicator tells us nothing about at what point in the lifespan ill-health occurs.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The indicator shows that at present the gap between life expectancy and healthy life expectancy in the East Midlands is ten years for men and twelve for women, suggesting that a woman in the region can expect to experience an average of twelve 'unhealthy years' during her lifetime. When data for future years are available, evidence of increasing sustainability would be a trend showing an increasing proportion of life spent in good health by both men and women.

Technical Information

These data have been calculated using Census information. Answering 'yes' to the Census question on whether the respondent had a limiting long-standing illness was the indicator used to define 'lack of health'. The figures correspond to life and healthy life expectancies at birth.

This measure is one of the draft national headline indicators of sustainable development.

Indicator: Average life expectancy and average healthy life expectancy for men and women in the East Midlands region, 1991.

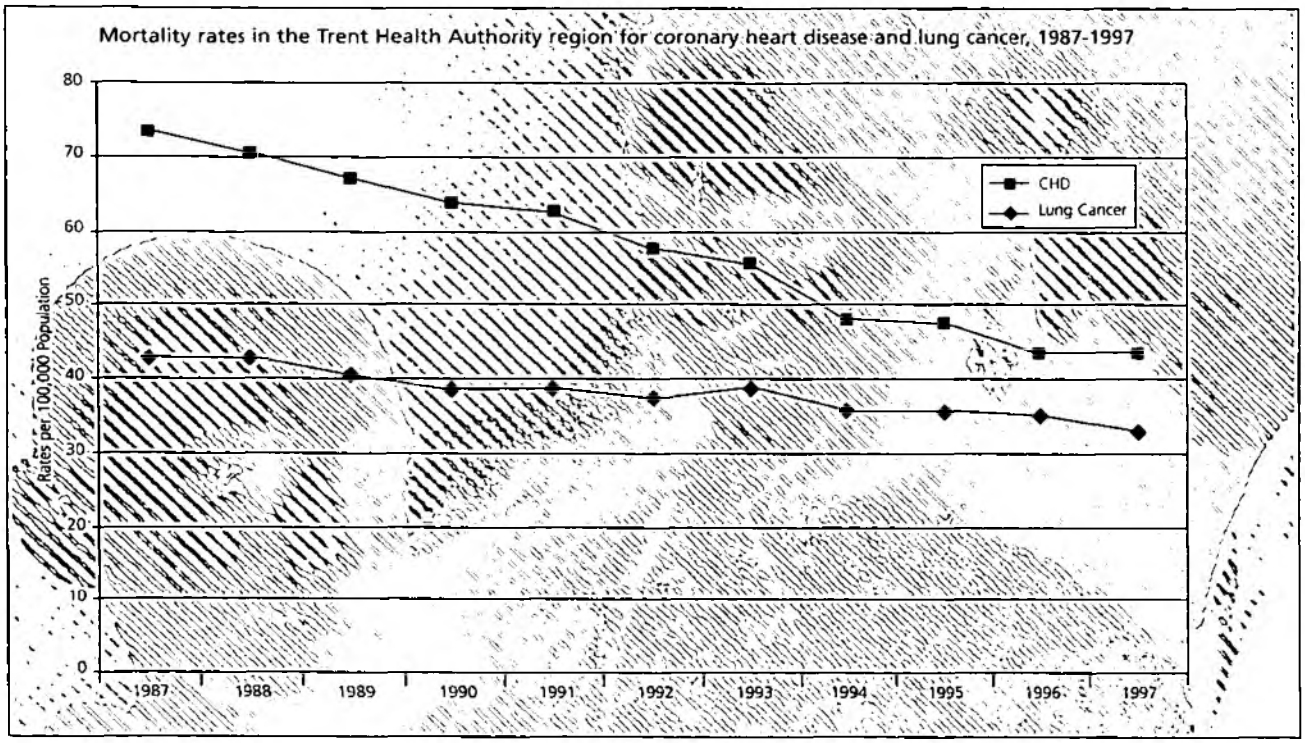
Source: Bone, M., Bebbington, A., Jagger, C., Morgan, K. and Nicolaas, G. (1995), Health Expectancy and its Uses, London: HMSO.

HEALTH

10.2 MORTALITY RATES FOR CORONARY HEART DISEASE & LUNG CANCER

Importance of the Issue

Coronary heart disease (CHD) and lung cancer are both major killers in the UK, CHD being the number one cause of death for people over the age of 20 and lung cancer being one of the most common causes of cancer death. Both of these illnesses can severely reduce the quality of life of the sufferer, and yet both are to some extent preventable. Lifestyle choices such as how much exercise to take, the type of food we eat and whether or not to smoke and drink alcohol can dramatically alter our chances of getting both CHD and lung cancer. The effects of stress are also linked to CHD in particular, which is of increasing relevance in the current climate of longer working hours, less job security and increasing pace of life. Air pollution may be a factor in increasing lung cancer deaths.



Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the number of people per hundred thousand in the Trent Health Authority region dying from CHD and lung cancer each year since 1987. The indicator does not show a gender breakdown for the mortality rates for these illnesses. It should be noted that the Trent Health Authority region does not correspond exactly to the standard East Midlands Region.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The data for CHD relates only to those dying from this illness before the age of 65. For lung cancer the data shows deaths before the age of 75. We can see that for both illnesses there has been a steady decline in mortality rates over the last decade, with a steeper decline for CHD - from nearly 74 people per hundred thousand dying of CHD in 1987 to fewer than 44 per hundred thousand in 1997. This indicates a move towards sustainability for this indicator. The growth in our understanding of the links between lifestyle and CHD and lung cancer could be responsible for these falling mortality rates.

Technical Information

Indicator: Mortality rates per 100,000 population in the Trent Health Authority region for coronary heart disease (under 65s) and lung cancer (under 75s), 1987-1997.

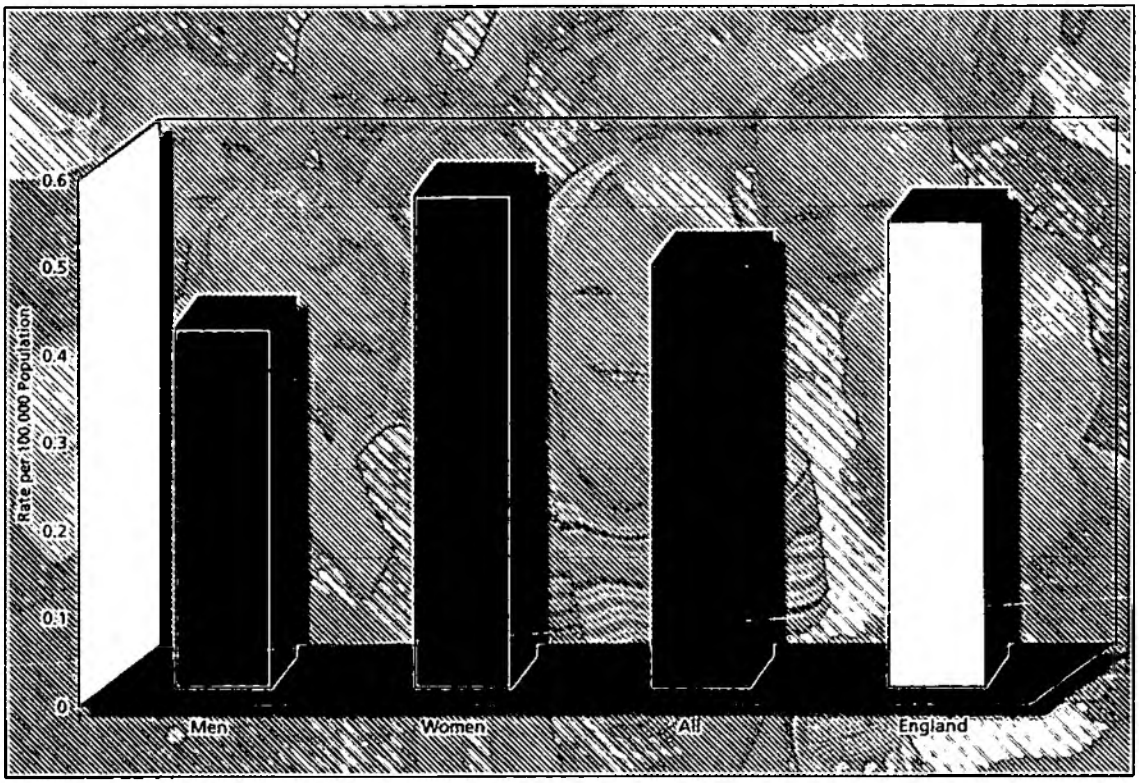
Source: Public Health Common Data Set (annually), National Centre for Health Outcomes Development.

HEALTH

10.3 MORTALITY RATES FOR ASTHMA

Importance of the Issue

Concern about asthma has risen sharply in recent years due to a sudden increase in the number of cases being diagnosed, particularly amongst the young and old. Whilst some recognise that this could be due in part to an increasing willingness in doctors to label symptoms as asthma, there are also genuine concerns about the effects of household dust and deteriorating air quality in urban areas on asthma sufferers.



Mortality rates from asthma in the Trent Health Authority region and England, 1995-1997

Description of the Indicator

The graph shows the rate of deaths per hundred thousand people both in the Trent Health Authority region and in England as a whole for those aged between 5 and 44 years. The regional data are also presented as rates for men and women separately. No historical data are available for this indicator. Again, it should be noted that the Trent Health Authority region does not correspond exactly to the standard East Midlands Region.

What the Indicator Tells Us

We can see from the data in the graph that mortality rates for asthma in this age group are lower in the Trent region than they are across England as a whole. There is a large disparity between the rates within the Trent region for men and women, with women having a higher rate.

Technical Information

Indicator: Age standardised mortality rates for asthma for 5-44 year-olds in the Trent Health Authority region by gender and in England, 1995/7.

Source: Public Health Common Data Set (annually), National Centre for Health Outcomes Development.

HOMELESSNESS

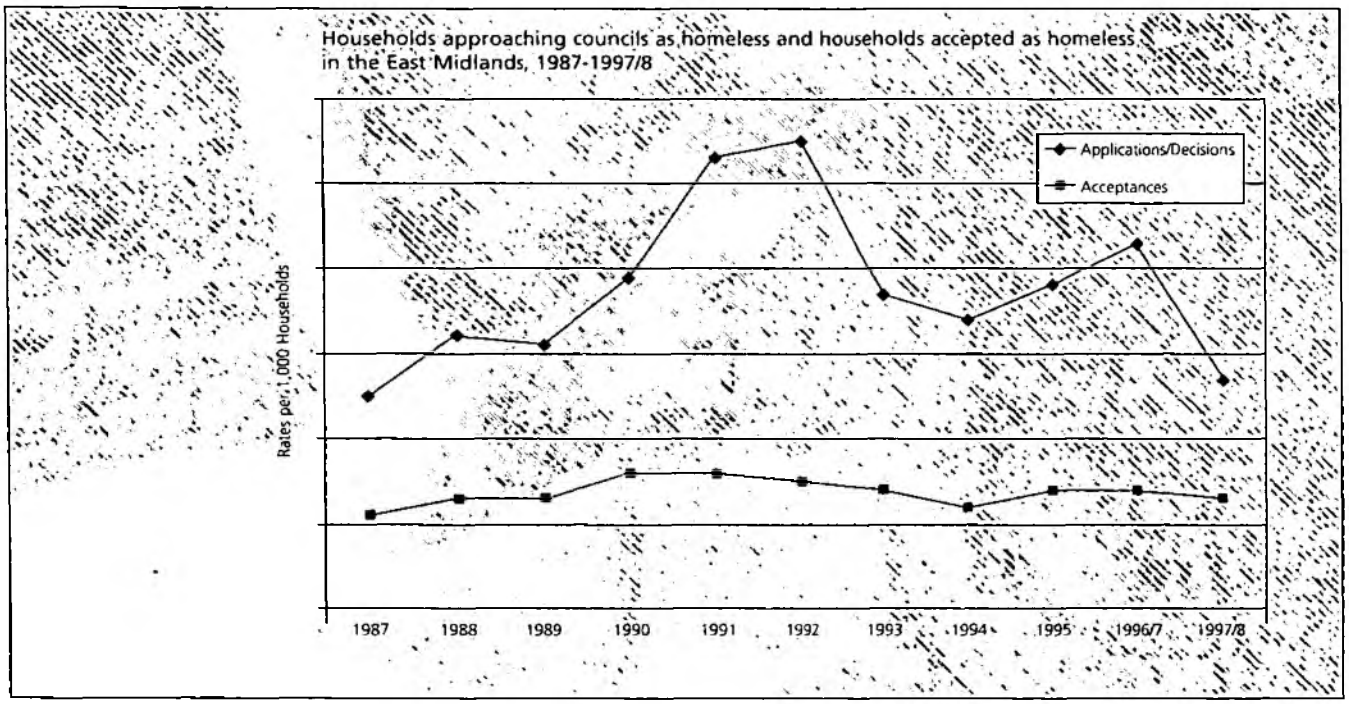
HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS ACCEPTED FOR PERMANENT ACCOMMODATION

Importance of the Issue

A number of factors, for example long term unemployment, can lead to homelessness. Homelessness can in turn lead to greater poverty, health problems, stress, alienation and crime, and is a major barrier to participation in society. A sustainable society would strive to ensure that everybody that wants one has a home to live in.

Description of the Indicator

The indicator shows both the number of households in the East Midlands approaching their Council for help in finding permanent accommodation, and the number of these applications that have resulted in permanent accommodation being found by the Council, between 1987 and 1997/8. Some of the households represented here may be living in temporary accommodation or lodging with friends or relatives. As such the indicator does not represent the number of people actually living on the streets.



What the Indicator Tells Us

This indicator shows fluctuations in the number of households in the region applying to their Council for housing, and a fairly consistent number of Council acceptances. The first trend is difficult to interpret because up until 1996 these data included households applying for access to social housing, and many of these households were not actually homeless. The fall in applications after 1996/7 may owe as much to the introduction of the 1996 Housing Act as it does to any reduction in the number of households without a home. New legislation re-establishing the link between social housing applications and this particular measure of homelessness may produce an upward trend in future.

Although presented as lines on the graph, for both sets of data the information recorded from year to year may not be directly comparable due to changes in practice.

Technical Information

Data are for the autumn quarter of each year and show:

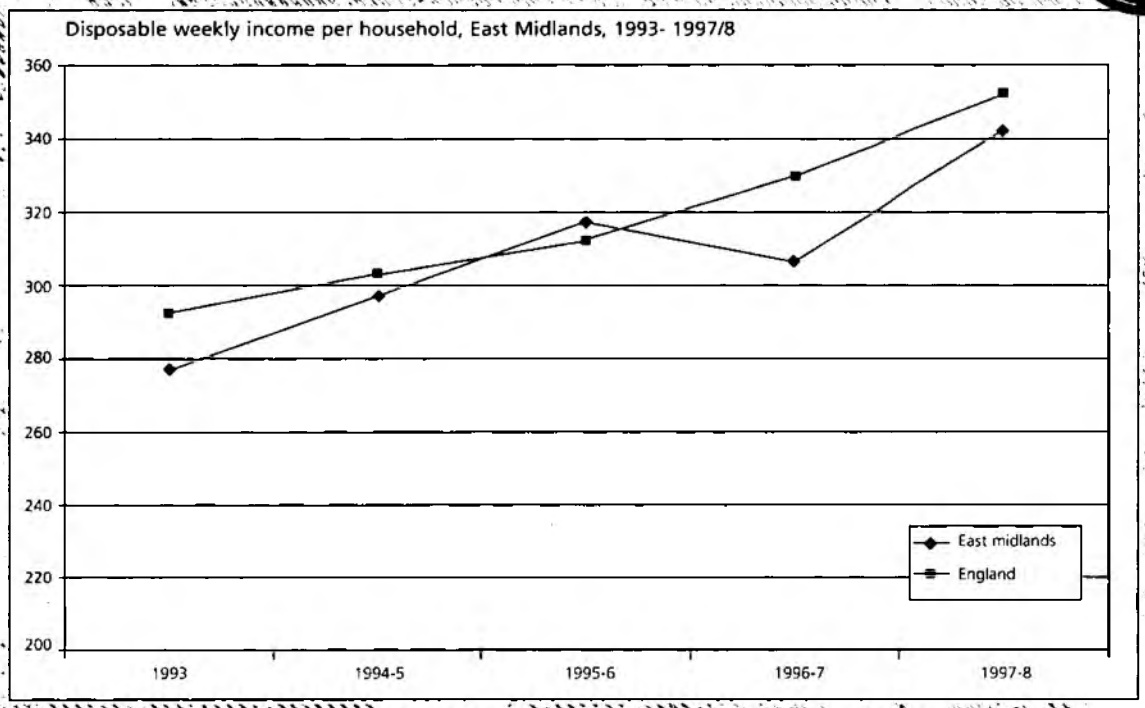
1. the aggregated number of 'enquiries', 'applications' or 'decisions' on homelessness per thousand households recorded by each district council in the region;
2. the aggregated number of 'acceptances' made per thousand households recorded by each district council in the region. This refers to the number of households for which the authority has secured, or is committed to securing permanent accommodation in line with legislation.

Indicator: Number of applications and acceptances as homeless per thousand households recorded by local authorities in the East Midlands, 1987 - 1997/8.

Source: Local Housing Statistics (annually), DETR and the Welsh Office.

INCOME, UNEMPLOYMENT & POVERTY

12.1 TOTAL HOUSEHOLD DISPOSABLE INCOME PER HEAD



Importance of the Issue

Central Government is currently emphasising the issue of 'social exclusion', focusing attention on the social implications of poverty and deprivation. It is now widely recognised that lack of employment opportunities and a growing gap between rich and poor has created pockets of deprivation and social exclusion across the country which reduce quality of life significantly for the communities involved. In the East Midlands alone there are eight EU defined 'assisted areas' of unusually high deprivation, making this a key issue for the development of the region.

Low levels of income reduce people's ability to provide for themselves and their families and to play a full part in society. Sustainable development should strive to maintain a reasonable standard of living for everybody whilst ensuring the wise use of resources and protection of the environment.

Description of the Indicator

The indicator shows the average disposable income of households in the East Midlands. The indicator does not show how the disposable income is distributed between households or between different social groups.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The sample size for this indicator is very small, with just 485 East Midlands and 5,852 English households responding to the survey. For this reason the data should be interpreted with caution. The available data show that over the monitoring period disposable income per household rose from just under £280 to just over £340. Disposable income in the East Midlands has kept pace with the national average, but has tended to be lower.

Technical Information

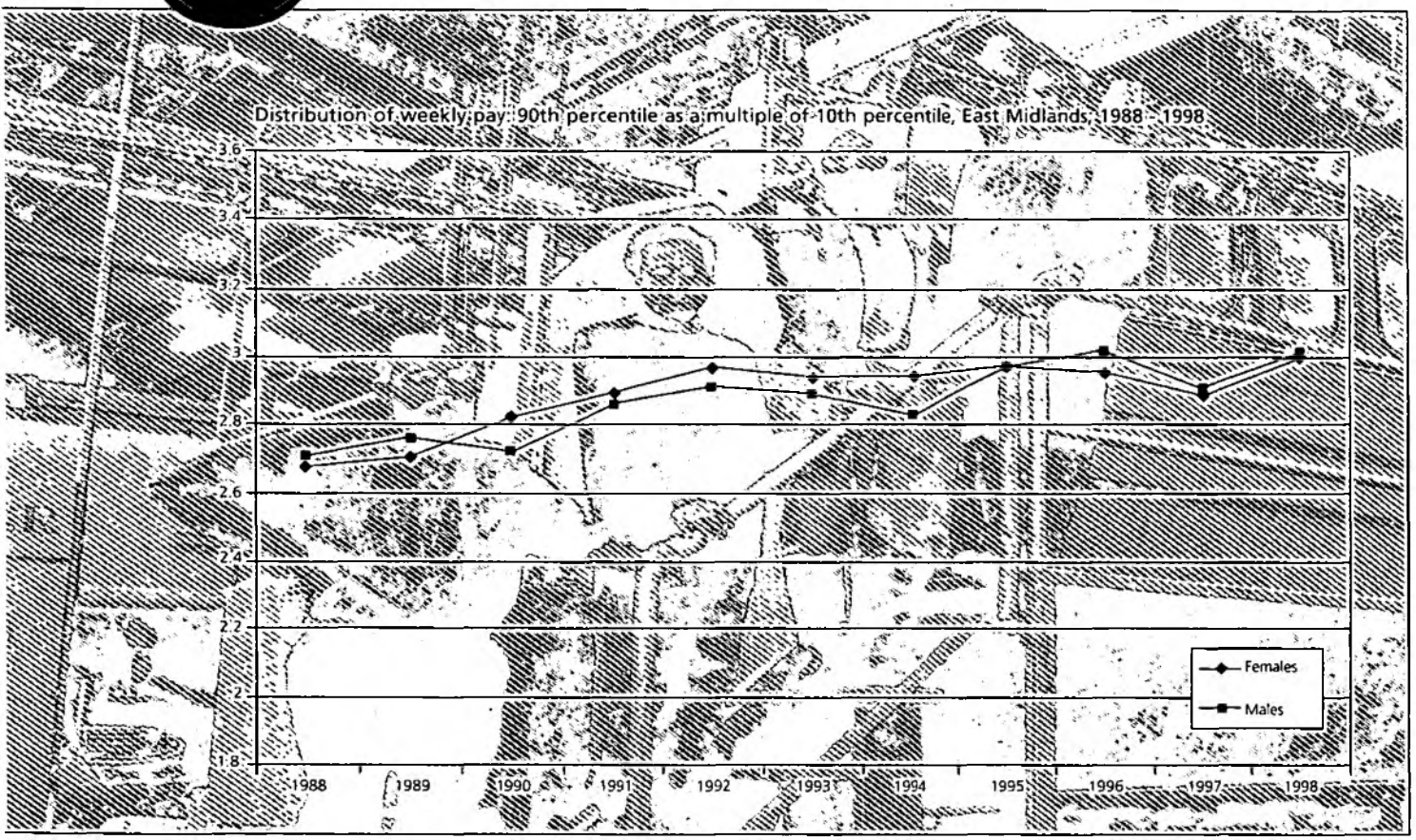
Please note that the information presented shows financial year data for all years except the first data point, which shows information for the calendar year 1993.

Indicator: Disposable weekly income per household in the East Midlands and England, 1993-1997/8.

Source: Family Spending, ONS.

INCOME, UNEMPLOYMENT & POVERTY

12.2 INCOME DISTRIBUTION



Importance of the Issue

The expanding gap between the lowest paid and the highest paid will perpetuate extremes of poverty and wealth, and create wider social divisions. Sustainable development is development in which the distribution of income is more equitable and the gap between the rich and poor is smaller.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator focuses on the equitability of earned income distribution and shows the gross weekly earnings of those full-time employees at the 90th percentile of earnings in the region as a multiple of the earnings of those at the 10th percentile. As such a climbing curve represents a growing gap between high and low earners. Statistics have only recently been made available unsplit by gender so in order to present a reasonable trend the split has been retained.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The gap between the highest paid and lowest paid widened over the monitoring period for both men and women, even though the size of the gap is now gender neutral. This situation represents a movement away from sustainability.

Technical Information

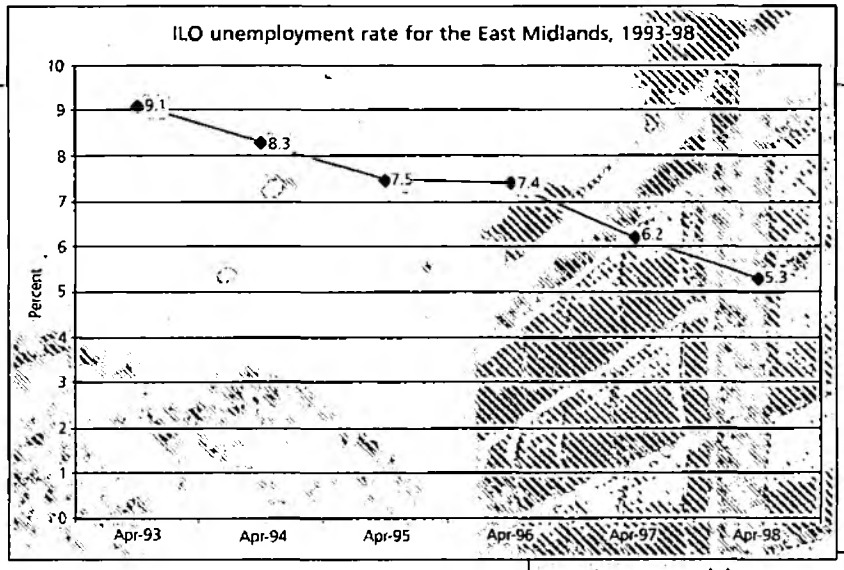
The data are based on figures for the average gross weekly earnings of all full-time male and female employees in the region whose earnings were not affected by absence at April of each year shown.

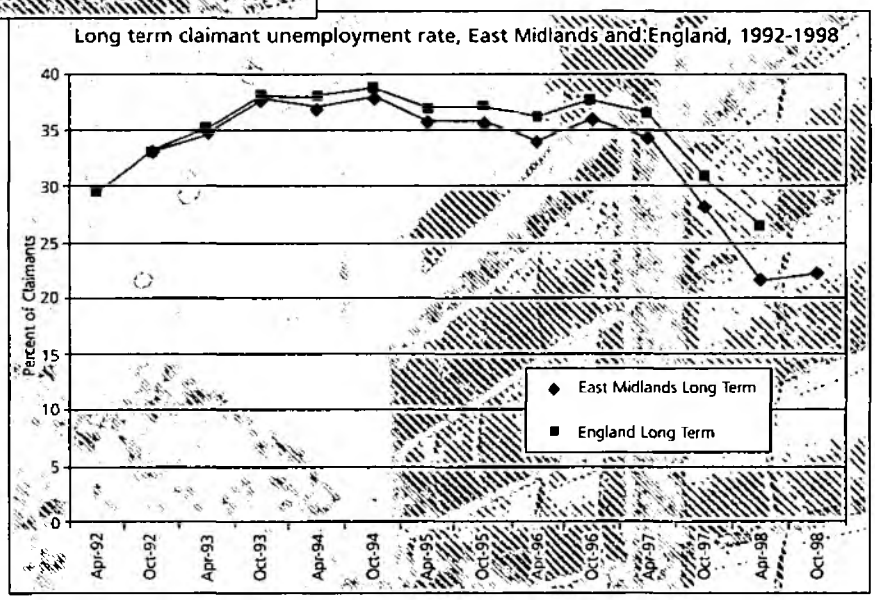
Indicator: Distribution of weekly pay: 90th percentile as a multiple of 10th percentile for full time employees.

Source: Department of Employment (annually), New Earnings Survey. HMSO, London.

INCOME, UNEMPLOYMENT & POVERTY

12.3 UNEMPLOYMENT





Importance of the Issue

Unemployment has consequences for individuals and communities, both economically and socially. An area consistently experiencing high levels of unemployment may suffer from poverty and a sense of hopelessness and alienation. Social problems such as crime, homelessness and poor health can sometimes result. For the individual, long term unemployment can lead to stress and low self-esteem. In a sustainable society, meaningful work would be available for all and unpaid work would be recognised and valued for the contribution it makes to society.

Description of the Indicator

Two different measures for this indicator are presented. The first shows the number of people seeking work in the East Midlands. The second shows the number of those claiming unemployment benefit who have been claiming for one year or more.

Unfortunately, some of the variation may be due to changes in the way unemployment rates are calculated. The indicator also fails to show any variations in unemployment rates between different groups in society. As the long term unemployment data are based on benefits claimed, the degree of hidden unemployment, those people who decide not to come forward and claim, is not included.

What the Indicator Tells Us

As may be expected given recent economic growth across the country, the trend in each of the graphs shows a decline in unemployment in the region. However, the graphs only show recent trends, meaning longer term cycles of change in unemployment are not shown.

Technical Information

International Labour Organisation (ILO) figures refer to people without a job but available to start work in the two weeks following the Labour Force Survey interview and who had either looked for work in the past four weeks or were waiting to start a job already obtained.

Indicator: 1. ILO unemployment rate for the East Midlands, 1993-98.
2. Percentage of claimants of any unemployment related benefit in the East Midlands who have been out of work for over a year, 1992-1998.

Source: Labour Force Survey, ONS; Claimant Count, ONS.

INCOME, UNEMPLOYMENT & POVERTY

12.4 BENEFITS RECIPIENTS

Importance of the Issue

Dependence on benefits can create a downward spiral of alienation and lack of self esteem, leading to lower prospects for changing the situation. When large numbers of people in a society are claiming benefit this indicates a problem in the way social and economic systems are functioning. At the same time, the existence of benefits provides a social safety-net. In a sustainable society, resources would be channelled into preventing the ill-health, lack of opportunity and other factors which lead to benefits dependency whilst maintaining a fair benefits system to support people in their time of need.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the percentage of households in the region that are in receipt of any government benefit. The indicator does not show the value of the benefits, nor any indication of the type of benefits being claimed.

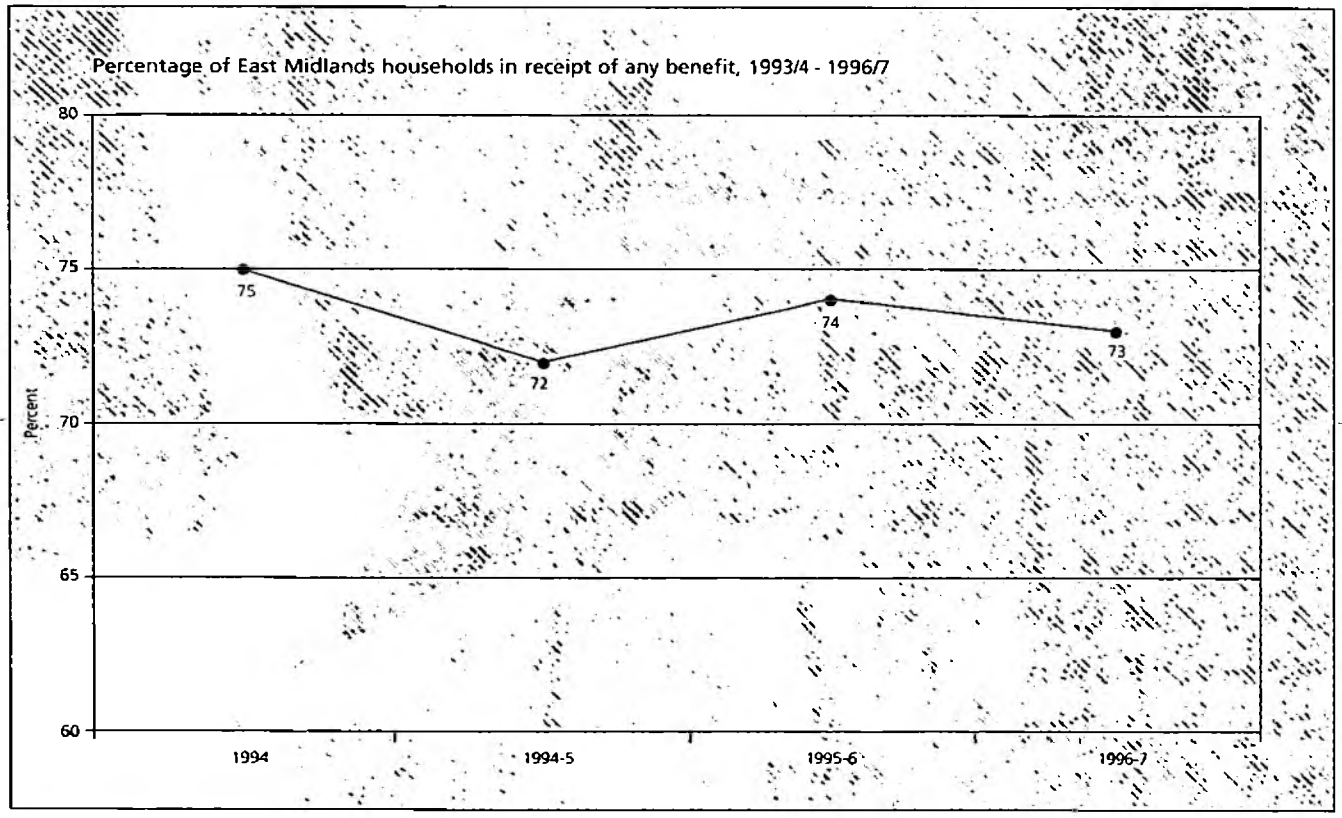
What the Indicator Tells Us

Data shows that there has been a stable share of about 72-75% of households in the region receiving some form of governmental benefit over the last 4-5 years. It should be noted however that only a few data points are presented here, meaning long term trends are difficult to identify. A falling proportion of benefit receipts would reflect greater sustainability, as long as this fall was generated by greater self-reliance and well being, and a fair benefits system remained in place.

Technical Information

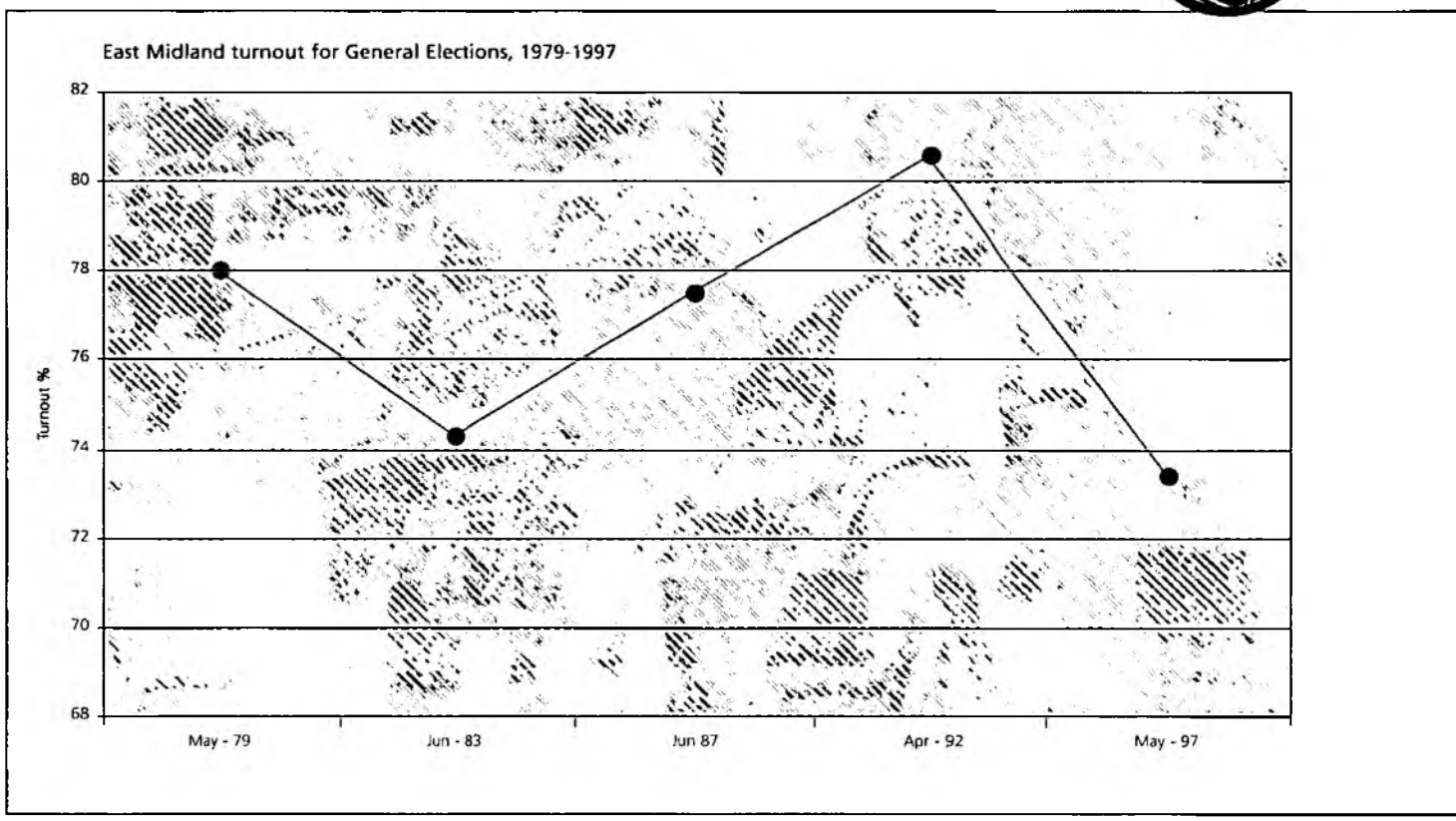
Indicator: Percentage of households in the East Midlands in which at least one member is currently in receipt of any government benefit, 1993/4-1996/7.

Source: Family Resource Survey, ONS.



PARTICIPATION & DEMOCRACY

13.1 REGIONAL TURNOUT AT NATIONAL ELECTIONS



Importance of the Issue

It is widely felt that to achieve meaningful improvements in the quality of people's lives, communities must be involved in the decisions and actions that affect them. Here, the extent to which people turn out to cast their vote is used as a measure of how empowered society feels and of how healthy our democracy is.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the percentage of voters in the region who voted at the last five General Elections. This is not an indicator of the extent to which people in the East Midlands are involved in local politics.

What the Indicator Tells Us

Whilst the trend in the graph fluctuates a great deal, it does show that regional turnout for national elections was at its lowest for twenty years at the last General Election. Whilst this implies a negative trend this is not an easy indicator to interpret. Turnout for national elections is affected by a number of factors, many of which would be difficult to influence at the regional level. These factors include the timing of the election, the popularity of the current Government, major issues of concern at the time and even the vagaries of the weather on election day.

Technical Information

Indicator: Percentage of East Midlands voters on the electoral register who turned out to vote in national elections, 1979-1997.

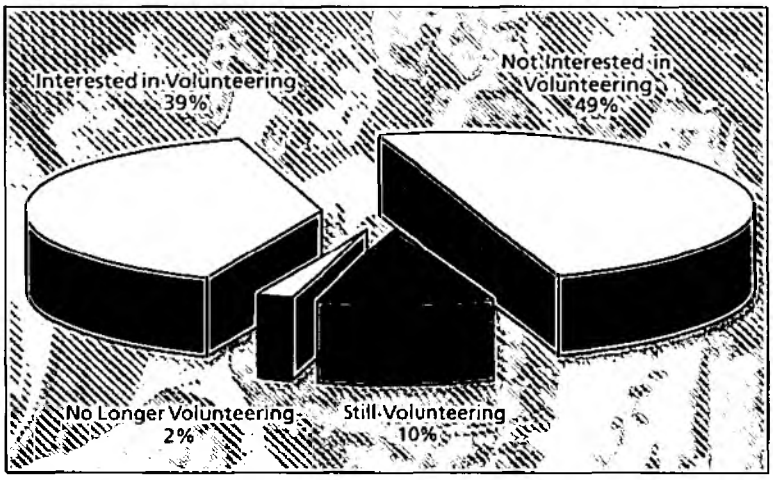
Source: The Times Guide to the House of Commons.

PARTICIPATION & DEMOCRACY

13.2 PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL VOLUNTARY WORK

Importance of the Issue

Empowering local people to work towards creating the future they want to see for their communities is integral to the concept of sustainability - a point borne out by the vast number of Local Agenda 21 processes taking place across the UK. Taking part in voluntary work to benefit the local area is one contribution that citizens can make to improving local quality of life. It can also have the effect of increasing community spirit, expanding the local skills base and creating a sense of empowerment.



Participation in local voluntary work by East Midlands households, 1996/7

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the percent of householders in the East Midlands participating in voluntary work to benefit their local area in 1996/7. It also gives an indication of the proportion of people uninterested in this type of work.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The graph shows that almost 50% of East Midlands householders have no current interest in taking part in local voluntary work, whilst 10% are currently involved in volunteering and a further 2% had participated in the last year. The lack of historical data means that we cannot see whether the trend is towards more or less voluntary activity in the region.

Technical Information

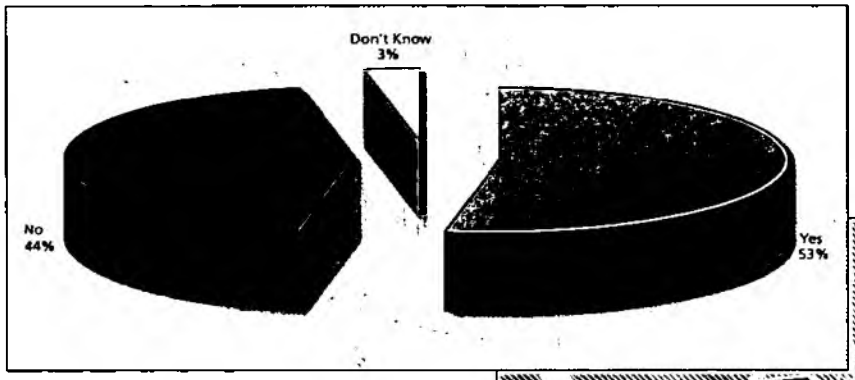
The data refers only to the head of the household or his or her partner. Householders were asked whether they had taken part in local voluntary work to benefit their local area in the twelve months before the interview. Types of voluntary activity considered eligible included efforts to promote or increase access to cultural, sporting and health related activities; voluntary work with children; work to improve or protect the local environment; activities to reduce crime or increase community safety; work on employment initiatives; action to improve the quality of local housing; and educational work.

Indicator: Participation by East Midlands householders in voluntary work to benefit their local community in the 12 months before the interview, 1996/7.

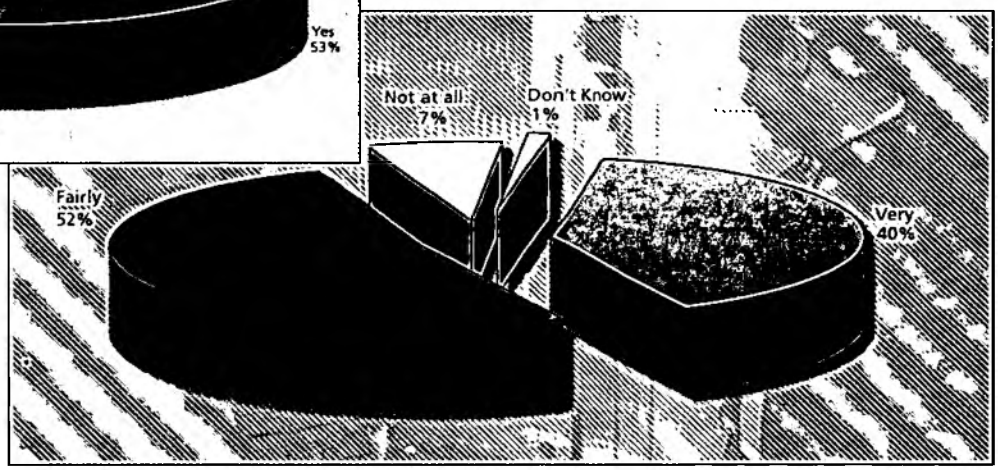
Source: Survey of English Housing, Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

SOCIAL COHESION

COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND FRIENDLINESS



Whether the area has lots of community spirit, East Midlands 1995/6



Whether people in the area are friendly, East Midlands 1994/5

Importance of the Issue

Social cohesion is a difficult thing to define. It is something that people sense in their daily lives and refers vaguely to people's relationships with each other and their surroundings. Our increasing focus in society on economic well being has led in many cases to neglect for social well being. More and more people are locating themselves miles from their roots in order to take up jobs. The growing instability in the job market makes remaining in one place and retaining relationships increasingly difficult. Yet there are costs involved in all these moves towards a 'better' standard of living. People are becoming more isolated and alienated and lack of community spirit is leading to increasing social problems such as crime, racial tensions, neglect of the vulnerable and of the local environment. There are also indications that growing rates of depression and suicide in certain groups are at least in part related to the feeling that individuals are no longer part of a wider community which 'looks out' for them.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows two related sets of data which tell us something about levels of social cohesion in the region. The first is a measure of the percentage of householders in the East Midlands who feel the area in which they live has lots of community spirit (1995/6). The second is a measure of the percentage who feel that the people in their area are friendly (1994/5).

These data sets are based on multi-choice responses, meaning that answers must fit into pre-determined categories, and respondents are unable to qualify their responses. It is unclear how useful this type of question is for gathering qualitative information such as people's perceptions, as here. It should also be noted that these data relate to information gathered three to four years ago, although 1997/8 data will soon be available.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The data in the two graphs are based on relatively small samples (1,637 and 1,546 respectively). Historical data allowing interpretation of trends are not available for this indicator.

The available data show that within the East Midlands the majority of people - 53% - feel that the area in which they live has lots of community spirit. The equivalent national figure is 49%. More strikingly, 92% of residents feel that the people in their area are fairly or very friendly. This does tend to suggest that a relatively high degree of social cohesion is enjoyed across the region, although there may be some danger of people answering these questions with what they feel is the socially acceptable response.

Technical Information

Only responses from the head of the household or his / her partner are included in the data.

Indicator: Percentage of householders in the East Midlands saying their area had lots of community spirit (1995/6) and percentage saying people in the area are friendly (1994/5).

Source: Housing in England (annually), Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

TRANQUILITY

TRANQUIL AREAS

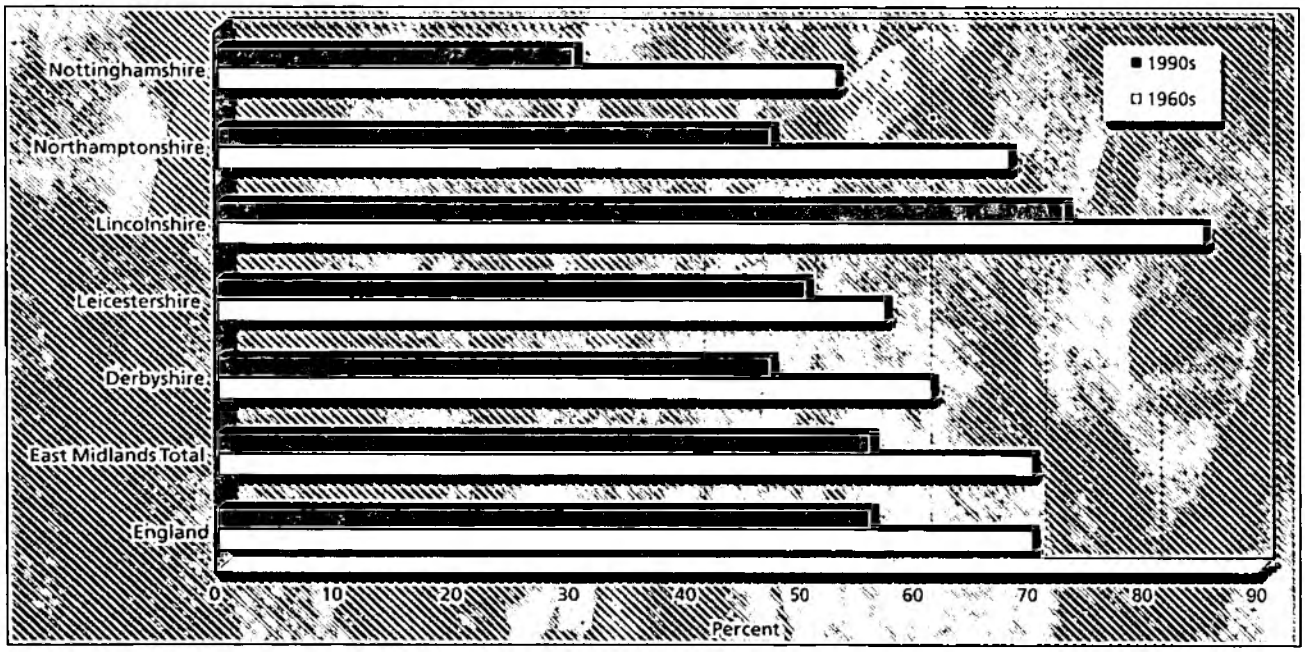
Importance of the Issue

The growth of developed areas and the constant extension of the roads network makes rural tranquility increasingly scarce. Areas untouched by the sight or sound of development, traffic and other urban influences are widely valued, and form part of many people's experience of the countryside as relaxing and special.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows those areas within the East Midlands which are considered unspoilt by urban influences such as large roads, power stations and air traffic corridors. The data are presented for c1960 and c1990.

Proportion of land area that is tranquil, East Midlands by county, c1960 and c1990



What the Indicator Tells Us

The chart shows that in the space of thirty years there has been quite substantial loss of tranquil and semi-tranquil space in the East Midlands. In particular, the effect of the M1 motorway, the A1 trunk road and the growing urban areas around the major cities have reduced the area of tranquility in the region. Over the longer term a continuation of this trend would not be sustainable. A sustainable East Midlands would be one in which urban development was tempered by environmental and social concerns, retaining areas of tranquility across the region. Nevertheless, it should be noted that developments such as windpower and railway lines - which are often considered socially and/or environmentally more acceptable than their alternatives - are classed as reducing 'tranquility' to 'semi-tranquility'.

Technical Information

A 'tranquil area' is defined as one that lies: 4 km from the nearest power station; 3 km from the most highly trafficked roads, large towns and major industrial areas; 2 km from most other motorways and major trunk roads and from the edge of smaller towns; 1 km from medium disturbance roads (roughly equivalent to greater than 10,000 vehicles per day) and some main line railways; and beyond military and civilian airfield/airport noise areas and extensive opencast mining. Within tranquil areas, linear elements such as low disturbance roads, power lines and some railways are considered to create a lower level of disturbance 1 km wide.

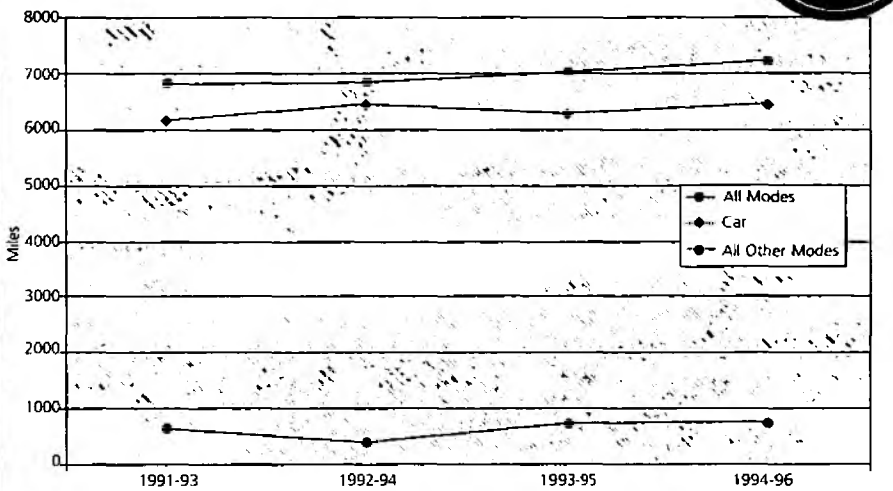
Indicator: Extent of tranquil and semi-tranquil areas in the East Midlands, and proportion of land area in the East Midlands that is tranquil by county, early 1960s and early 1990s.

Source: Council for the Protection of Rural England; The Countryside Commission (now the Countryside Agency).

TRANSPORT

MILES TRAVELLED PER HEAD BY MODE OF TRANSPORT

Miles travelled per person per year by mode of transport, 1991/3 - 1994/6



Importance of the Issue

Affordable, reliable transport systems are becoming more and more essential to economic productivity. Yet the increasing amount of traffic on the roads is actually contributing to longer journey times so reducing productivity. The major contributor to this situation is the rise in ownership and use of the private car, and the reluctance of the car-owning public to use other modes of transport. The effect of this reluctance is to make these forms of transport increasingly less viable, heightening car dependency and reducing mobility options for non-car owners. At the same time, road traffic contributes to air pollution, which may be linked to health issues such as cancer and asthma, and traffic accidents are responsible for thousands of deaths each year in the East Midlands. Particular hotspots such as the cities of Derby, Leicester and Nottingham as well as the M1 motorway that cuts right through the region, are of particular concern with traffic queues forming on key routes on a regular basis.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the number of miles travelled per person in the East Midlands and the number of miles travelled by car as opposed to by other modes of transport such as walking, cycling or taking the bus or train. The figures shown relate to journeys made by residents of the region, rather than journeys made within the region. This means that a proportion of the journeys measured may have occurred outside of the East Midlands. The indicator does not show the proportion of miles that are travelled by the different modes of transport.

What the Indicator Tells Us

Data points each cover a three year span, which has the effect of smoothing any fluctuations in the annual data. It should also be noted that the sample size for this data set is 3,400 nationally, potentially making interpretations at the regional level unreliable. The 'all other modes' category only includes data on cycling for the last two data points.

The available data show a slight but steady growth in the distances travelled by people in the East Midlands. The number of miles travelled by car (including other private road vehicles) is also increasing, from an average of 6,144 per person each year in 1991-3 to 6,452 in 1994-6. An equivalent rise in the distances travelled by other forms of transport suggests that proportionately, car use is remaining relatively stable.

Technical Information

Modes of transport other than the car for which data were recorded are: walking (all years); buses, coaches, rail transport and other forms of public transport (all years except 1991-1993 when data on buses, coaches and rail only were collected); and cycling (1993-5 and 1994-6 only). These have not been presented separately due to gaps in the data.

This measure is one of the draft national headline indicators of sustainable development.

Indicator: Distance travelled per resident of the East Midlands per year by mode of transport, 1991-3 to 1994-6.

Source: National Travel Survey (annually), Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

WASTE

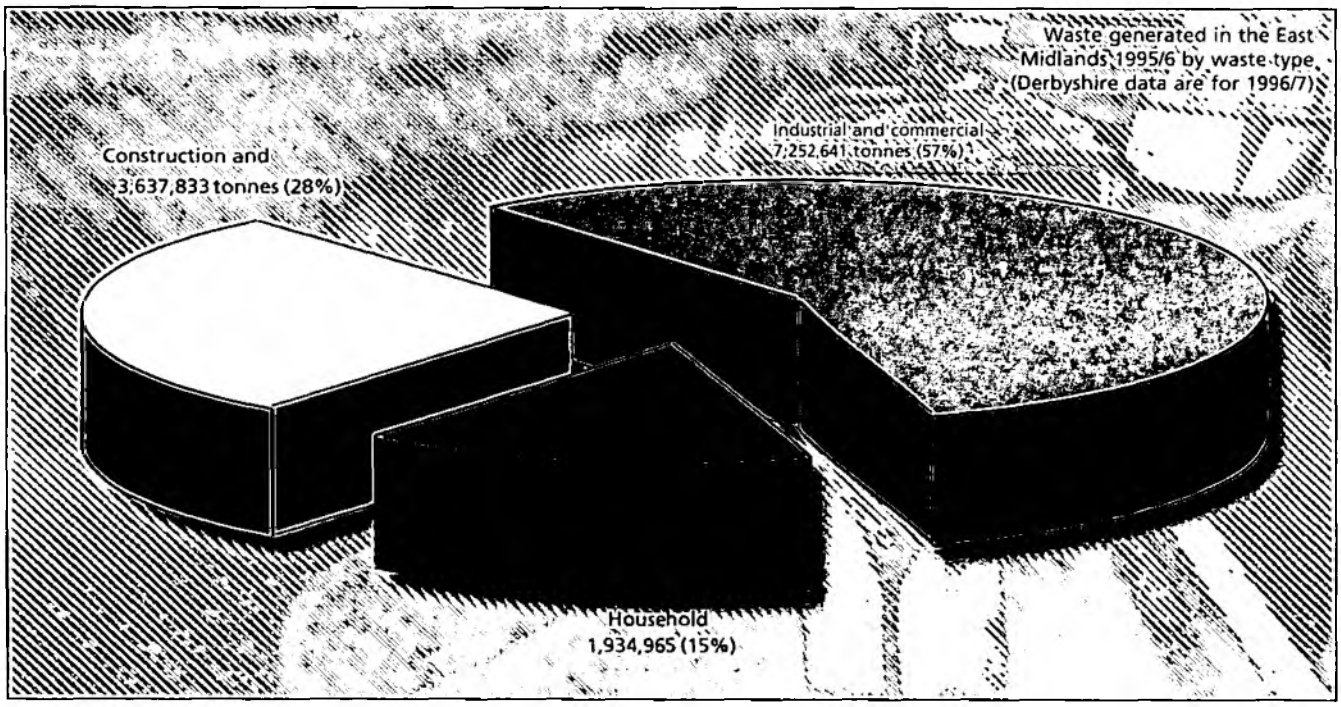
17.1 TOTAL WASTE GENERATED BY TYPE OF WASTE

Importance of the Issue

The amount of waste generated each year in the UK continues to rise. This means more waste going into landfill sites and more waste being incinerated, with its consequent impact on air quality. The amount of waste we produce is also an indicator of the volume of resources we are consuming and increasing resource use is not a sustainable trend. Whilst recycling is a more rational means of dealing with waste once it has been generated, a more fundamental step towards increasing the sustainability of the East Midlands would be to reduce the volume of waste created in the first place.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the total amount of waste (in tonnes) generated by each major waste type in the East Midlands region. It also presents the volume of each waste type generated as a percentage of the total tonnage created in the region.



What the Indicator Tells Us

The chart shows waste generated in the financial year 1995/6, except in Derbyshire for which 1996/7 data had to be used. There are immense difficulties involved in collating data on waste volumes for an area such as the East Midlands, as it requires collecting returns from each district authority. Until now this was made harder by a lack of standard recording procedures. As a result this indicator cannot show any historical trend in the amount of waste generated. However, it does demonstrate the disproportionate contribution of the industrial and commercial sector to the volume of waste generated in the East Midlands.

Technical Information

The data were collated from licensed site return data collected by the former waste regulation authorities during a twelve month period between January 1995 and April 1996 (except for Derbyshire where comparable 1996/7 data were used).

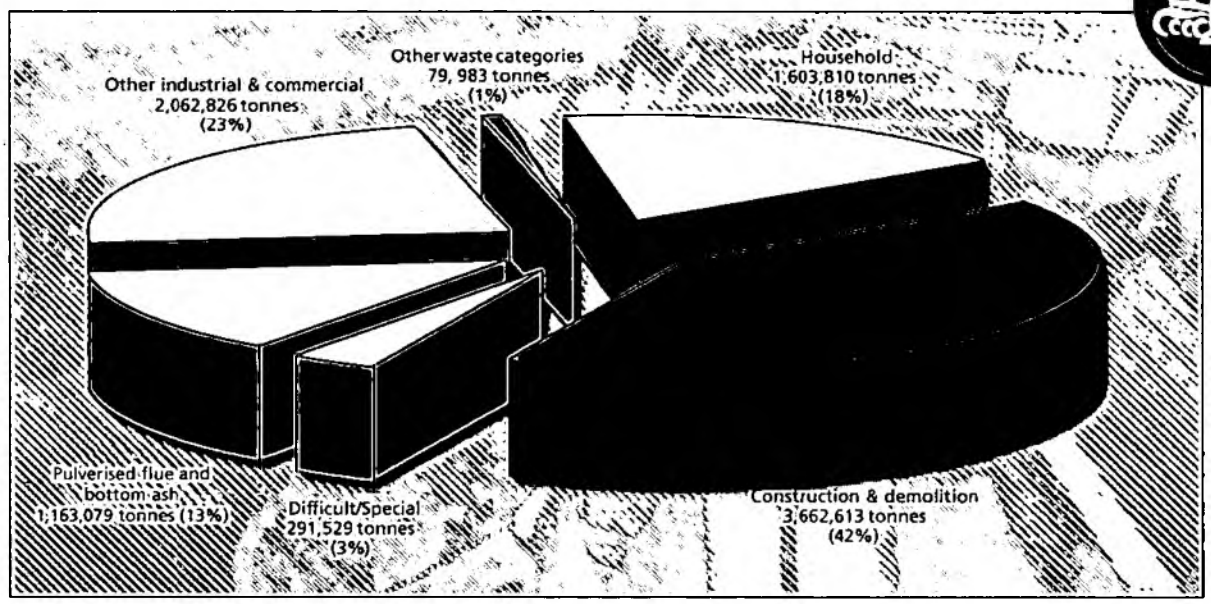
This measure is one of the draft national headline indicators of sustainable development.

Indicator: Tonnes of waste generated in the East Midlands during a twelve month period (1995-1996) by type of waste.

Source: Environment Agency (1998) Strategic Waste Management Survey: Landfill within the East Midlands Planning Region.

WASTE

17.2 VOLUME OF WASTE LANDFILLED BY TYPE OF WASTE



Volume of waste landfilled in the East Midlands 1995/6 (Derbyshire data are for 1996/7)

Importance of the Issue

Landfill sites can have significant environmental impacts. They can be dangerous and unsightly, and may sometimes, despite strict controls, contribute to air and water pollution, yet large quantities of waste are currently disposed of in landfill sites across the East Midlands region and demand for sites continues to grow. At the same time the availability of sites away from residential and agricultural areas is diminishing, and collecting and moving large amounts of waste increases the amount of heavy traffic on the region's roads. This too may lead to reduced air quality and road safety. A sustainable East Midlands region would be one which reduced the need for these sites by generating less waste and finding alternative, less damaging ways of disposing of any waste produced.

Description of the Indicator

The indicator shows how many tonnes of waste of different types were disposed of in landfill sites during twelve months in 1995/6 and shows the volume of each type of waste as a percentage of the total waste landfilled in the region. Taken alone, the indicator does not tell us what proportion of the total waste generated in the region is disposed of in landfill sites.

What the Indicator Tells Us

For the reasons outlined earlier there are no reliable data available to enable us to look at the trends over time in landfill volumes in the region. The data presented provide a snapshot of the volume of landfilled waste in the mid-1990s, and show that construction and demolition, industrial and commercial, and household wastes are the major contributors to landfill sites. Again, data for Derbyshire represents 1996/7 figures.

Technical Information

The data were collated from licensed site return data collected by the former waste regulation authorities during a twelve month period between January 1995 and April 1996 (except for Derbyshire where comparable 1996/7 data was used).

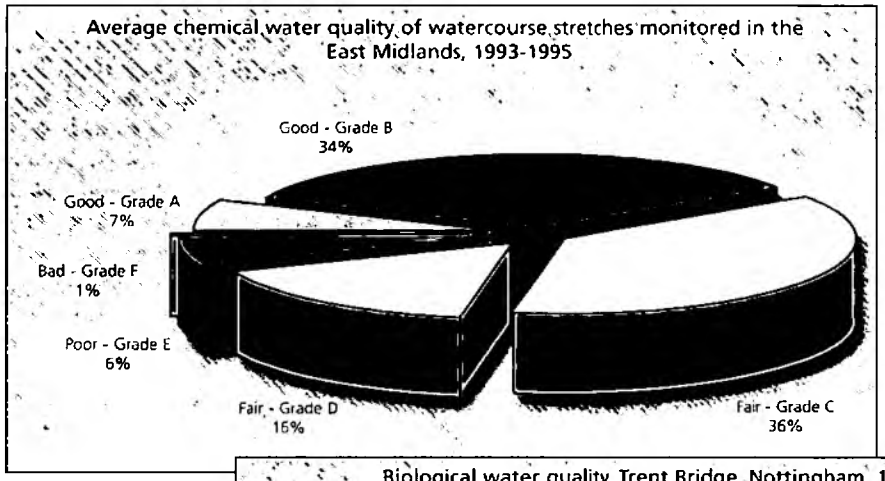
This measure is one of the draft national headline indicators of sustainable development.

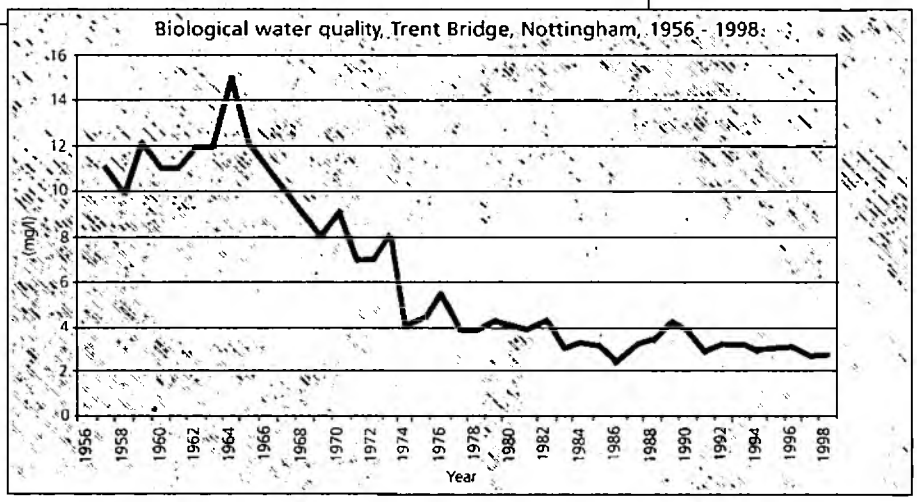
Indicator: Tonnes of waste disposed of in landfill sites in the East Midlands region in a twelve month period (1995-1996) by type of waste.

Source: Environment Agency (1998) Strategic Waste Management Survey: Landfill within the East Midlands Planning Region.

WATER

18.1 RIVERS AND CANALS OF GOOD OR FAIR QUALITY





Importance of the Issue

There has been a 20-30% improvement in river water quality in the East Midlands since 1990. Nevertheless, the quality and extent of the region's water resources remains an important issue, and one with direct links to human and environmental welfare and to local economic activity. The pollution of rivers and canals, caused in part by industrial and agricultural pollutants entering the water cycle, can harm resident wildlife, reduce the amenity value of our waterways, and sources of drinking water. Impacts caused by changing climate, changing lifestyles and increasing urbanisation are also potential threats to the region's water resource. The more water we abstract from our watercourses and groundwater supplies for domestic and industrial uses the more pressure we place on the aquatic environment.

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows the percentage length of watercourse stretches monitored in the East Midlands that have been classified as being of 'good', 'fair', 'poor' and 'bad' chemical water quality according to the Environment Agency's classification system. The second graph presents data for an aspect of biological water quality, expressed as the Biological Oxygen Demand of a major East Midlands river, showing trends since 1956.

What the Indicator Tells Us

The indicator shows that on average, across the East Midlands region over 90% of rivers and canals monitored contained water of 'good' or 'fair' chemical quality during the period 1993-5. Only 1% of watercourses were classed as being of 'bad' quality and 6% as 'poor'. In future trend data will be available to allow a clearer assessment of the changes in this indicator and in biological water quality over time. The trend presented for an aspect of biological water quality at Trent Bridge in Nottingham shows a fairly steady decline in Biological Oxygen Demand, indicating an almost continuous improvement in the biological quality of the river.

Technical Information

The regional chemical quality data are based on information gathered annually by the Environment Agency which have been presented as a three year rolling average to reduce the effects of unusual weather conditions on the data.

This measure is one of the draft national headline indicators of sustainable development.

Indicator: 1. Average chemical water quality rating of river stretches monitored in the East Midlands, 1993-1995.
2. Biological Oxygen Demand recorded at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, 1956-1998.

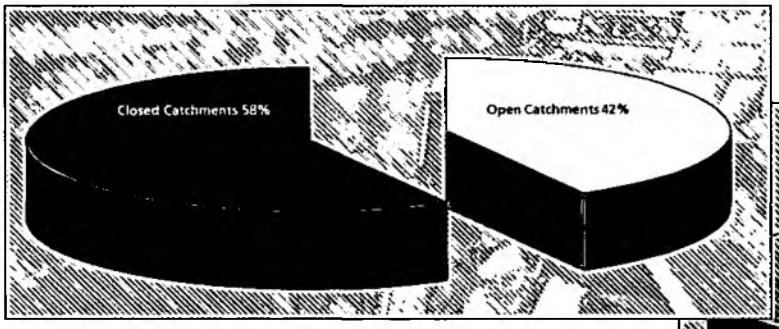
Source: Environment Agency.

WATER

18.2 WATER RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

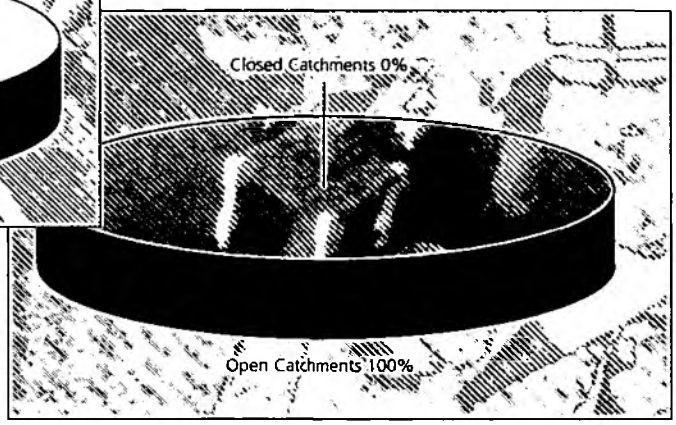
Importance of the Issue

The possibility of an adverse impact on available water resources as a result of climatic change, coupled with increasing demands through activities such as spray irrigation, means that the burden on water resources could well increase significantly in the future. Development will need to be sustainable, promoting winter abstraction and storage of water and encouraging conservation measures.



Surface water assessment for the summer period: percent of surface water catchments open and closed to further abstraction licences, 1999

Surface water assessment for the winter period: percent of surface water catchments open and closed to further abstraction licences, 1999

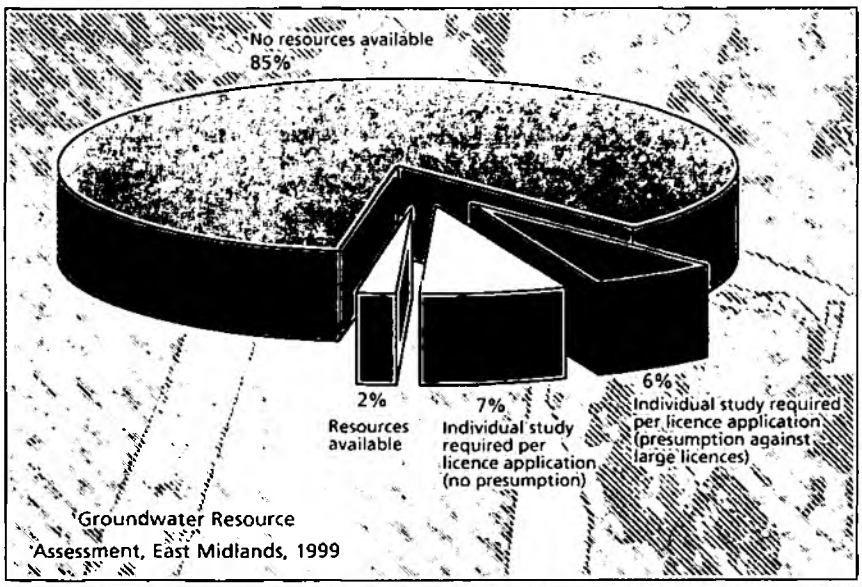


Description of the Indicator

The charts for this indicator show:

The percentage of 'closed' and 'open' surface water catchments, calculated as a percentage of the total area of surface water. 'Closed' catchments are those from which no further surface water abstraction licences will be granted, due to the water resource being fully committed to existing abstractors and to environmental requirements. The data are split into abstractions occurring during the winter period (November to March) and those in the summer period (April to October).

Groundwater resource availability described as a percentage of aquifer surface area. The resource availability has been calculated from the assessed recharge rate, using average rainfall minus existing licensed abstractions and minus resources preserved for environmental requirements.



Groundwater Resource Assessment, East Midlands, 1999

What the Indicator Tells Us

An increase in 'closed' surface water catchments would indicate a move away from sustainability. This is also true of increasing areas of groundwater aquifers where no additional resources are available. In these catchments abstraction would have to be reduced to achieve a sustainable level of resource extraction, through promotion of water conservation measures and reducing licenced quantities. Unfortunately no historical data is available for this indicator.

Technical Information

An 'open' catchment is no guarantee that an abstraction licence application will be successful. All licences granted are subject to conditions such as time limits and prescribed flows.

Indicator:
1. Percent of surface water catchment area in the East Midlands which is 'closed' to further abstraction during the summer and winter periods, 1999.
2. Percent of groundwater aquifer surface area in the East Midlands which is available for licences, 1999.

Source: Environment Agency.

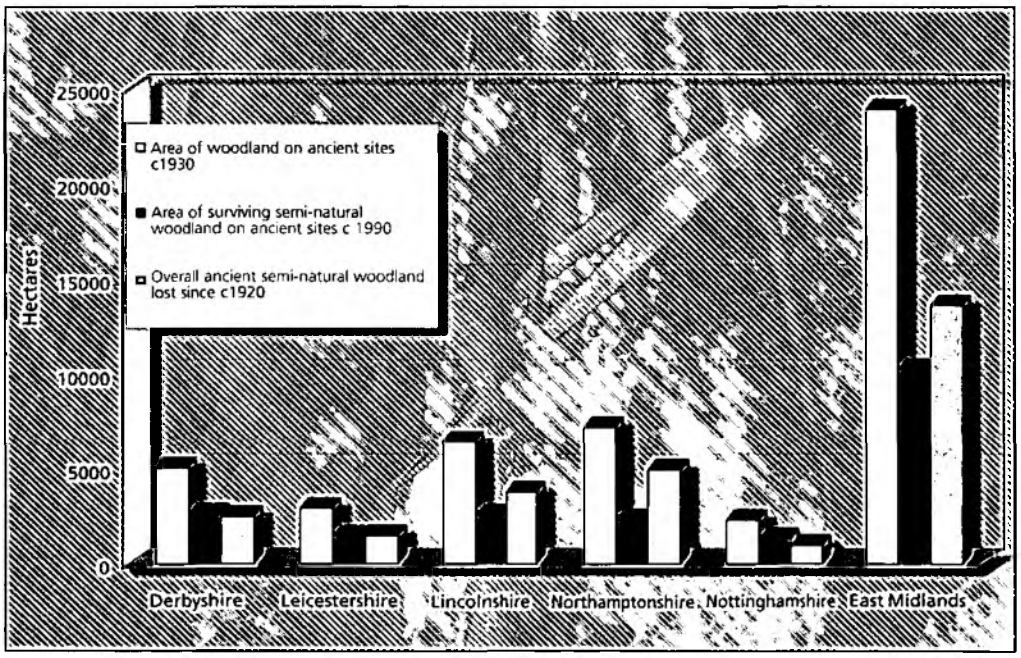
WILDLIFE, HABITATS & LANDSCAPE

CHANGES IN THE AREA OF ANCIENT SEMI-NATURAL WOODLAND

Importance of the Issue

The biodiversity and landscape of the East Midlands are vital to the character of the region and their status and condition reflect the value we place on protecting our natural areas and resident wildlife. Sustainable development ensures that increased economic and social well-being is not at the expense of our natural environment.

The East Midlands is noted for its forests, the most famous of which - Sherwood Forest - plays a significant role in our national cultural history. There are still thousands of hectares of woodland in the region which provide regional and national benefits through their value as habitats for wildlife and as recreational resources. The majority of the forests standing in the East Midlands today are plantations, and there have been substantial losses of ancient semi-natural woodlands over the years. The pressure for development - for industry, agriculture and residential settlements - seems to have been stronger than the pressure for conservation. The impact of these losses is felt by the indigenous species of the area - both the trees themselves and the plants and animals that live among them. There are also potentially large aesthetic and cultural implications of any trend towards continued loss of our indigenous forests.



Areas of woodland on ancient sites in c1920 and c1990 and overall loss of semi-natural woodland since 1920

Description of the Indicator

This indicator shows changes over the last 60 to 70 years in the amount of ancient semi-natural woodland standing in the region, although it tells us nothing about the reasons for any loss of woodland. There is no indication either of the amount of plantation that has taken place on ancient sites since 1930. Particularly with the new National Forest located in the East Midlands.

What the Indicator Tells Us

Ancient woodland is that which has been in continuous existence since before AD 1600.

The figures for circa 1930 are not exact and have been extrapolated from Ordinance Survey maps of the region from that era. Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire data were gathered from earlier maps, circa 1920. This means that the data show a near, rather than an accurate representation of the issue.

The indicator shows significant losses in ancient woodlands across the region since the 1920s and 1930s. The smaller counties seem to have been most susceptible to forest loss. Sustainability in the East Midlands will require careful planning in order to find the optimum balance between development and conservation.

Technical Information

Indicator: Area of surviving semi-natural woodland on ancient sites and overall loss since circa 1920.

Source: Nature Conservancy Council (now English Nature).

KEY ISSUES WITHOUT DATA SOURCES

A number of key issues/indicators were identified during the consultation for which data were not available or could not be obtained within the time constraints of the project. These are listed below and should be reviewed as part of the on-going development of the SDIs.

1. Access

With more time available it may be possible to collect data on the percentage of rural parishes in the Region with 0/50/100% of key services.

2. Energy

Energy use expressed as CO2 emissions is a key indicator, but at the moment it cannot be obtained at regional level.

3. Groundwater Quality

Groundwater quality is another key regional issue which is problematic for regional indicator development at the moment.

4. Housing

The affordability of housing was identified as an important regional issue during the consultation, but again it proved impossible to obtain region wide data. The definition of 'affordability' proved problematic.

5. Minerals

Time and funding were not available within the constraints of the project to obtain data on the extent of mineral resources in the region and their rate of use.

6. Publicly Accessible Open Space

In order to obtain comprehensive data on publicly accessible open space it would be necessary to contact every local authority in the region.

7. Waste Recycled

A figure for the amount of waste recycled in the region could not be obtained. Data are only available for the waste collection authorities.

8. Wildlife, Habitats and Landscape

Data could not be obtained on changes in the population of selected characteristic species found in the region. The RSPB are currently working on regional bird data and soon hope to pilot the national headline indicator in the South East region

APPENDIX I

INDICATOR DEVELOPMENT METHODOLOGY

STEP 1
A 'WISH LIST'

The first step was to draw up a 'wish list' comprising of approximately 165 indicators. The indicators were taken from a number of sources:

- *The East Midlands SDIs feasibility study*
- *The national headline indicators*
- *The regional competitiveness indicators*
- *The draft DETR local level indicators (the CLIP indicators)*
- *The north west region SDIs*
- *The SERPLAN Sustainable Development Strategy*
- *The original national SDIs (1996)*
- *The south west region SDIs*

STEP 2
A CONSULTATION EVENT

A consultation event took place at the Government Office for the East Midlands in Nottingham on the 28th of January 1999. The seminar was attended by representatives from approximately forty organisations working in the social, economic and environmental sectors. The group was split into six workshops - two economic issues, two social and two environmental. Each workshop was given a portion of the 'wish list' and proceeded, with the help of a facilitator, to prioritise key indicators with respect to the following criteria:

- *How significant is the indicator for monitoring progress towards some aspect of social, economic or environmental well-being?*
- *How regionally significant is the issue that the indicator is attempting to describe?*
- *Is the indicator suitable for informing decisions about regional policy ie. can it be influenced at the regional level?*
- *Is the indicator understandable?*
- *Are the necessary data available now and in the future, at a suitable frequency and a consistent, acceptable quality to allow effective monitoring?*

STEP 3
A WIDER POSTAL CONSULTATION ON THE REFINED 'WISH LIST'

The refined 'wish list' was then distributed to a further 100 organisations as part of a wider postal consultation questionnaire. The questionnaire was also sent back to those organisations who had attended the event. Respondents were asked to choose 30 preferred indicators from the "refined" list of 65 and add any comments. The same criteria were applied as with the workshops. Approximately fifty organisations returned a questionnaire.

STEP 4
A DATA AVAILABILITY APPRAISAL EXERCISE

Following the results of the consultation, an appraisal of possible data sources was undertaken. The 'Viewpoints on the East Midlands Environment' project was the key signpost for sources of environmental data.

The following indicator areas are related to the components developed by the 'Viewpoints project': Agriculture, Countryside Access, Derelicy Land and Development, Built Heritage, Tranquility and Transport. In addition Air Quality, Waste, Water and Wildlife, Habitats and Landscape indicators also relate to the 10 Environment Agency Strategic Themes in *An Environmental Strategy for the Millennium and beyond,* Environment Agency, 1998. Other key signposts included Regional Trends, The Central Statistical Office Focus on the East Midlands, The Digest of Environmental Statistics and the Survey of English Housing. The original data source for each indicator is given in the main body of the text.

STEP 5 - A SCREENING EXERCISE TO SELECT THE FINAL INDICATOR SET

The indicators on the refined 'wish list' were then screened according to the following criteria:

- *The importance placed on the indicator during the consultation*
- *The availability of data within the constraints of the project*
- *Coverage of a regional land use strategy appraisal resource objective*
- *Whether or not they were a draft Regional Spatial Guidance indicator*
- *Coverage of a 'Viewpoints' regional resource*
- *Whether or not they were a national headline indicator*

The results of the screening exercise were used by the consultants to categorise the indicators as either 'definites, possibles or unsuitables'.

STEP 6
STEERING GROUP ENDORSEMENT OF THE FINAL INDICATOR SET

At the final meeting of the project steering group, the group discussed the indicator categorisation and then selected the final indicator set.

STEP 7
DRAFT WRITE-UP OF THE FINAL INDICATOR SET

Once agreed, the indicators were written up into indicator sheets.

STEP 8
PROOFING BY DATA PROVIDERS AND EXPERTS

Where possible, the indicator sheets were sent to data providers and/or recognised experts for comment.

STEP 9
PUBLICATION

When the comments from the data providers and experts were incorporated the final report was published.

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Please Note: The views expressed in this report may not necessarily be shared by all project partners and contributors. Whilst the issues and indicators presented were chosen through extensive consultation with regional stakeholders it was not possible to incorporate every suggestion that was made as part of the consultation. The specific text associated with the individual indicators reflects the views of the consultants or recognised experts who commented on the draft text.

The East Midlands Region SDIs project is a collaborative project under the direction of a steering group chaired by Councillor John Bull.

Steering Group: Councillor John Bull (Chair of The EMRLGA Environment Committee), Dr Simon Slater (The Environment Agency), Dave Slinger (Derby City Council), Yvette Dearden (Leicestershire County Council), Phil Keynes (Nottinghamshire County Council), Clare Brooke (The RSPB), Claire Elsley (Northants County Council), Diana Chapman (Leicester City Council).

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