

**A report on behalf of Transport Scotland
and in association with Natural Capital**

Forth Replacement Crossing

**Sustainability Appraisal and Carbon
Management Report**

Appendix 1:

Sustainable Development Policy

November 2009





**TRANSPORT
SCOTLAND**

JE **JACOBS** ARUP

Forth Replacement Crossing Sustainable Development Policy

January 2009

FORTHREPLACEMENTCROSSING
www.forthreplacementcrossing.info

FORTH REPLACEMENT CROSSING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Our vision:

‘To deliver an iconic project that respects the environment, contributes to sustainable economic growth at both regional and Scottish levels and facilitates efficient public transport whilst minimising disruption to the community and reducing the use of non-renewable resources during its construction and throughout its life.’

Policy Statement:

The Forth Replacement Crossing project will place Sustainable Development (SD) principles – that embrace sustainable economic growth, equality and social inclusion, environmental quality, climate change and protection of the natural and cultural heritage – at the centre of its management, planning and delivery.

The project’s sustainability objectives will define our priorities for the use of resources, carbon management, sustainable communities and environmental management and will focus our efforts to embed sustainability in the key aspects of the project.

Policy Objectives:

In the delivery of this vision and policy we aim to:

Economic

- Support sustainable economic growth in Scotland
- Promote innovation and adopt a pragmatic approach to sustainability, centred on the concept of whole life costing, and targeting effort on priority issues which have meaningful benefits for the environment, community and economy

Social

- Embrace equality and social inclusion principles
- Engage key stakeholders during the design, build and operational phases to support the integration of sustainability principles (economic, social and environmental) into the project
- Maintain the high priority we give to health and safety management in terms of all those involved with or affected by the design, construction, operation and use of the crossing

Environmental

- Identify and evaluate opportunities to reduce environmental impact in the delivery of the project and take opportunities to enhance the environment including biodiversity, where practicable
- Ensure that project construction and operation will be managed in accordance with accredited quality and environmental management systems to include sustainability priorities

Resources

- Seek to minimise the carbon footprint of the crossing and associated roads by consideration of the impact of its design, procurement, construction, maintenance, operation and decommissioning
- Apply best practice in sustainability in the design, construction and implementation of the project where practicable
- Encourage contractors to adopt sustainability best practice for the construction industry

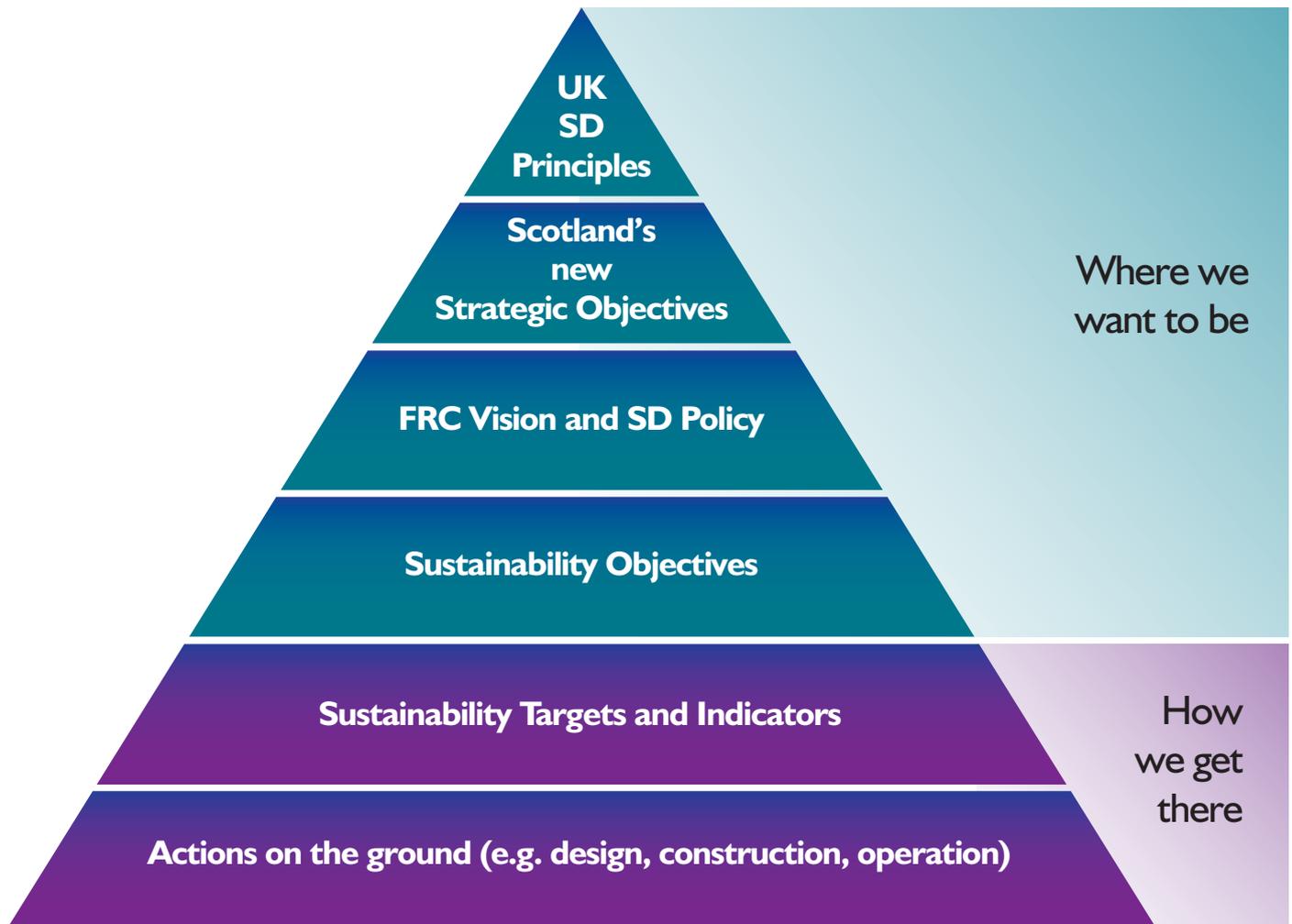
We will ensure that these policy objectives are delivered and that we continually improve our sustainability performance through a cycle of internal audit and review together with effective communication.

EXPLANATORY NOTE:

1. Scotland signed up to the UK shared framework for Sustainable Development and this framework sets out five key principles for delivering sustainable development - living within environmental limits, ensuring a strong healthy and just society, achieving a sustainable economy, promoting good governance and using sound science responsibly. These five principles form the basis of all sustainable development policy in the UK.
2. The Forth Replacement Crossing's Sustainable Development policy has been developed to harmonise with these five key principles that underpin Scotland's National sustainable development policy.
3. This policy will help us to deliver not only the Strategic Project Objectives for the Forth Replacement Crossing but also the Scottish Government's 'New Purpose and Strategic Objectives'.
4. Sustainability should form a core thread throughout all the activities of the project team and stages in the project life cycle:
 - Project design and appraisal;
 - Preparation of contract documents, and hence tenderers' designs (dependent on procurement method);
 - Tender evaluation;
 - Construction;
 - Maintenance;
 - Operation (and decommissioning).
5. In order to assist us with testing out the sustainability of the various stages in the project we have produced a sustainability framework that underpins the policy. This framework consists of a matrix of sustainability objectives with associated targets and indicators. This framework is issued as a separate document.

Targets and indicators

The relationship that the Forth Replacement Crossing vision has with higher level policy on the one hand and how it will influence actions on the ground on the other (through targets and indicators) is illustrated below



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