

Department of the Environment

April 2007



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Department of the
Environment
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Departmental Vision

Building a better and
safer environment



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Mission Statement

Working in partnership to improve the natural and built environment, plan and manage development in a sustainable way, increase road safety and support local government.



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Strategic Objectives

- To protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment and built heritage, and promote the adoption of the principles of sustainable development.
- To plan and manage development in a sustainable way which will contribute to a better environment and which is modern and responsive to the community.
- To work with statutory and voluntary partners to reduce road deaths and serious injuries.
- To support a system of effective local government which meets the needs of residents and ratepayers.



Key Issues - Environment

- Water Quality
- Waste Management
- Air Quality and Noise Pollution
- Protection of important habitats and species
- Protection of built heritage 'at risk'
- Climate change
- Environmental Governance



Key Issues - Planning

- Workload Pressures
- Modernisation and Reform
 - e planning
 - Modernising Planning Processes (MPP)
 - UK Planning Policy Reform Agenda
- Area Plan & Planning Policy Statement Programmes
- Major Applications
- Impact of the RPA



Key Issues – Local Government

- Local government modernisation & restructuring
 - Community planning/Governance
 - Central/local govt relationships/performance management
 - Finance/shared services/estates
 - Capacity building/HR
 - Transfer of functions



Key Issues – Road Safety & Drivers/Vehicles

- NI Road Safety Strategy 2002-2012
- Mutual Recognition of Driving Disqualifications between UK and ROI
- Waiting times for vehicle tests and practical driving tests
- Vehicle System Integration with DVLA
- VED Evasion (clamping and continuous registration)
- Replacement Driver Licensing System
- Closure of DVA Local Offices

