

Appendices

B Review of Policy, Plans and Programmes

The findings of the review of policy, plans and programmes are set out in **Table B1**. The purpose of the review and a summary of the key findings are set out in Section **Error! Reference source not found.** of this Environmental Report. This table sets out the purpose and objectives of the policy, plans and programmes, their potential relationship with Bristol Water’s Drought Plan and the potential implications of the plan objectives for the objectives of the SEA.

Table B1 - Summary of the Policy, Plans and Programmes reviewed and their link to the Strategic Environmental Assessment

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
International	
Ramsar Convention (1971) <i>The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance</i>	
The Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) (the "Ramsar Convention") is an intergovernmental treaty that embodies the commitments of its member countries to maintain the ecological character of their Wetlands of International Importance and to plan for the "wise use", or sustainable use, of all of the wetlands in their territories.	The impacts of the Drought Plan options on important wetland habitats must be considered as part of the SEA.
The World Heritage Convention (UNESCO) 1972 – a global instrument for the protection of cultural and natural heritage.	
A global instrument for the protection of cultural and natural heritage. Signatories commit themselves to refraining from 'any deliberate measures which might damage, directly or indirectly, the cultural and natural heritage' of their World Heritage Sites. The city of Bath is the closest UNESCO designated site.	The Drought Plan and SEA should take account of the need to protect scheduled monuments and archaeological areas.
The Bern Convention (1979) <i>The Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats</i>	
International convention which aims to ensure conservation of wild flora and fauna species and their habitats. Special attention is given to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species specified in appendices. Enforced in European legislation through the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Birds Directive (79/409/EEC).	The implementation of the Drought Plan may influence biodiversity in the north west and as such the SEA should seek to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity.
The Bonn Convention (1983) <i>The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals</i>	
Aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species by protecting endangered, conserving or restoring the places where they live, mitigating obstacles to migration and controlling other factors that might endanger such species. Enforced in European legislation through the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Birds Directive (79/409/EEC).	The implementation of the Drought Plan may influence biodiversity in the north west and as such the SEA should seek to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity.
Granada Convention (1985) <i>Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe</i>	
To reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe’s heritage.	The SEA should take into account the need to conserve heritage.
European Commission (1991), <i>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (1991/271/EC)</i>	

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<p>The Directive's objective is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water discharges and discharges from certain industrial sectors and concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of domestic waste water, mixture of waste water and waste water from certain industrial sectors.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to maintain, protect and improve water quality across the region.</p>
<p>European Commission (1991) <i>The Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)</i></p>	
<p>The Nitrates Directive is designed to reduce water pollution caused by nitrate from agriculture. The directive requires Defra and the Welsh Assembly Government to identify surface or groundwaters that are, or could be, high in nitrate from agricultural sources.</p> <p>Once a water body is identified as being high in nitrate all land draining to that water is designated a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone. Within these zones, farmers must observe an action programme of measures which include restricting the timing and application of fertilisers and manure and keeping accurate records.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should be consistent with the aim to reduce water pollution caused by nitrate from agriculture.</p> <p>The SEA assessment framework should include water quality.</p>
<p>Valetta Convention (1992) <i>Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage of Europe (revised)</i></p>	
<p>The Valetta Convention is one of a series of Conventions for the protection of the cultural heritage produced by the Council of Europe over the last fifty years.</p>	<p>The SEA should take into account the need to conserve heritage.</p>
<p>European Commission (1992) <i>Habitats Directive (1992/43/EC)</i></p>	
<p>The aim of the Directive is to promote the maintenance of biodiversity by requiring Member States to take measures to maintain or restore natural habitats and wild species listed on the Annexes to the Directive at a favourable conservation status, introducing robust protection for those habitats and species of European importance.</p>	<p>The impacts of the Drought Plan options on internationally designated sites and species must be considered as part of the SEA.</p>
<p>United Nations (1992), <i>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</i></p>	
<p>The main objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation of biological diversity • Sustainable use of its components • Fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources 	<p>The commitment to conserving biological diversity must be considered in any Drought Plan options and the SEA should seek to promote the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.</p>
<p>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (1998) <i>Aarhus Convention - Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters</i></p>	
<p>The Aarhus Convention grants the public rights regarding access to information, public participation and access to justice, in governmental decision-making processes on matters concerning the local, national and transboundary environment. It focuses on interactions between the public and public authorities.</p> <p>The Aarhus Convention has been ratified by the European Community, which has begun applying Aarhus-type principles in its legislation, notably the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC).</p>	<p>The Convention is designed to improve the way ordinary people engage with government and decision-makers on environmental matters. It helps to ensure that environmental information is easy to get hold of and easy to understand.</p> <p>The SEA should seek to provide easily understood information to the public on the environmental implications of the Drought Plan and its constituent options.</p>
<p>European Commission (1998), <i>Drinking Water Directive (1998/83/EC)</i></p>	

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<p>The objective of the Drinking Water Directive is to protect the health of the consumers in the European Union and to make sure the water is clean and of good quality.</p> <p>To make sure drinking water everywhere in the EU is healthy, clean and tasty, the Drinking Water Directive sets standards for the most common substances (so-called parameters) that can be found in drinking water. A total of 48 microbiological and chemical parameters must be monitored and tested regularly.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that objectives address water quality in the region, particularly drinking water quality.</p>
<p>European Commission (2000), <i>The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</i></p>	
<p>This Directive establishes a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal water and groundwater. It also encourages the sustainable use of water resources.</p> <p>Key objectives are general protection of the aquatic ecology, specific protection of unique and valuable habitats, protection of drinking water resources, and protection of bathing water.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to promote the protection and enhancement of all water resources.</p>
<p>Council of Europe (2000) <i>European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention)</i></p>	
<p>The European Landscape Convention is an international convention focusing specifically on landscape. The UK Government signed the European Landscape Convention in 2006 and it became binding from March 2007.</p>	<p>The SEA should take landscape quality into account and include water quality in the assessment framework.</p>
<p>United Nations (2002), <i>Commitments arising from the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg</i></p>	
<p>The World Summit on Sustainable Development proposed broad-scale principles which should underpin sustainable development and growth.</p> <p>It included objectives such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater resource efficiency • Work on waste and producer responsibility • New technology development • Push on energy efficiency • Integrated water management plans needed <p>Minimise significant adverse effects on human health and the environment from chemicals by 2020.</p>	<p>These commitments are the highest level definitions of sustainable development. The Drought Plan should be influenced strongly by all of these themes and should seek to take its aims into account.</p> <p>The SEA should seek to promote the achievement of the sustainable development objectives outlined in this plan.</p>
<p>Council of Europe (2003) <i>European Soils Charter</i></p>	
<p>Sets out common principles for protecting soils across the EU and will help.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that the quality of the regions land, including soils, is protected or enhanced.</p>
<p>European Commission (2006) <i>Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection</i></p>	
<p>The Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection consists of a Communication from the Commission to the other European Institutions, a proposal for a framework Directive (a European law), and an Impact Assessment.</p>	<p>The SEA assessment framework should include soils.</p>
<p>European Commission (2007), <i>Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)</i></p>	
<p>The Directive's aim is to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that flood risk in the region is not adversely</p>

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economic activity. The Directive shall be carried out in coordination with the Water Framework Directive, notably by flood risk management plans and river basin management plans being coordinated, and through coordination of the public participation procedures in the preparation of these plans.	affected by the implementation of the Drought Plan.
European Commission (2008) <i>Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)</i>	
The 2008 directive sets legally binding limits for concentrations in outdoor air of major air pollutants that impact public health such as particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2). There are also indirect effects as these pollutants can combine in the atmosphere and contribute to greenhouse gases which can be transported great distances by weather systems.	The implementation of the Drought Plan may have some influence on air quality, either directly or indirectly, through construction or operational activities. The SEA should take account of the need to ensure that the region's air quality is maintained or enhanced, and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum. seek to help meet regional air quality targets.
European Commission (2009), <i>Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)</i>	
The Directive provides a framework for the conservation and management of, and human interactions with, wild birds in Europe. It sets broad objectives for a wide range of activities, although the precise legal mechanisms for their achievement are at the discretion of each Member State (in the UK delivery is via several different statutes).	The SEA should seek to protect and conserve important bird habitats.
European Commission (2009), <i>Promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources Directive (2009/28/EC)</i>	
This promotes the use of energy from renewable sources.	The SEA should take account of the need to seek to promote the use of renewable energy.
European Commission (2020), <i>The EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030</i>	
The strategy aims to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU and help stop global biodiversity loss by 2020. It reflects the commitments taken by the EU in 2010, within the international Convention on Biological Diversity.	The implementation of the Drought Plan may influence biodiversity in the Bristol Water area and as such the SEA should take account of the need to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity.
The Paris Agreement (2016), Cancun Agreement (2011) and Kyoto Agreement (1997)	
These agreements represent key steps forward in capturing plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to help developing nations protect themselves from climate impacts and build their own sustainable futures. It includes a shared vision to control the global rise in temperature.	The SEA should consider the need for water companies to seek to promote a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in carrying out its service activities.
European Commission (1999) <i>Landfill of Waste Directive (99/31/EC)</i>	
<p>The Directive aims at reducing the amount of waste landfilled; promoting recycling and recovery; establishing high standards of landfill practice across the EU and preventing the shipping of waste from one Country to another.</p> <p>The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment (in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health) from the landfilling of waste, by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.</p>	<p>The Drought Pan should take the effects on waste to landfill into account.</p> <p>The SEA assessment should consider the effects on water, soil, air, human health and waste.</p>
National	

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act, 1975	
<p>The Act lays down the present basic legal framework within which salmon and freshwater fisheries in England are regulated.</p> <p>Proposals have been made to extend the legislation to apply to more fish species e.g. coarse fish, eel and lamprey species. These proposals are currently under review.</p> <p>The Act covers legislation on fishing methods and related offences, obstructions to fish passage, salmon and freshwater fisheries administration and law enforcement. Proposed extensions to the legislation (under review) include the provision of fish passes and screening of water abstraction and discharge points for coarse fish, eel and lamprey species.</p>	<p>The Act Provides statutory requirements for maintaining fish passage. The SEA will cover fish passage as an element of at least one sustainability objective. The SEA should seek to address any potential issues or effects on existing measures to address fish passage.</p>
Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) (1981)	
<p>The Act is the principle mechanism for providing legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.</p> <p>Species listed in Schedule 5 of the Act are protected from disturbance, injury, intentional destruction or sale. Other provisions outlaw certain methods of taking or killing listed species. This Act is brought up to date regularly to ensure the most endangered animals are on the schedule.</p> <p>The Act also improved protection for the most important wildlife habitats.</p>	<p>Some aspects of the Drought Plan may have effects on habitats and species. The SEA should seek to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity and take regard of protected species and habitats.</p>
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	
<p>This Act addresses listed buildings including the prevention of deterioration and damage and preservation and enhancement of conservation areas.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan and SEA should take account of the need to protect listed buildings and conservation areas.</p>
Water Resources Act, 1991 (Amendment) Regulations 2009 SI3104	
<p>Amends Water Resources Act 1991 by extending the use of Water Protection Zones and Works Notices, in particular to deal with harm to aquatic ecosystems caused by the physical characteristics of a water course or lake, such as quantity, structure and substrate of river/lake bed.</p> <p>Aligns the Water Resources Act with the hydromorphological requirements of the WFD.</p>	<p>The SEA should include objectives that cover hydromorphological aspects and seek to ensure that hydromorphological features within the plan are maintained or enhanced.</p>
Water Industry Act 1991 was amended by the commencement of Section 36 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010	
<p>This makes provision for general duties of water undertakers including those associated with water resources management plans and sets out supply duties.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan must take into account this legislation.</p>
The Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act, 2000	
<p>The Act provides for increased public access to the countryside and strengthens protection for wildlife.</p> <p>The main provisions of the Act are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst also providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers • Creates new statutory right of access to open country and registered common Land Use Consultants 	<p>The SEA should include objectives that take into account public access, protection of SSSIs and the management of relevant landscape designations.</p>

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modernises Right of Way system • Gives greater protection to SSSIs • Provides better management arrangements for AONBs <p>Strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation.</p>	
Department for Culture, Media and Sport (2001) <i>The Historic Environment – A Force for the Future</i>	
<p>This strategy outlines the Government's policy regarding the historic environment. The strategy has key aims and objectives that demonstrate the contribution the historic environment makes to the country's economic and social well-being.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Drought Plan may have an influence on the heritage of the region, in particular if options affect surface water levels. The SEA should seek to ensure any adverse effects on heritage assets are minimised or avoided.</p>
The Water Act (2003) (as amended)	
<p>The Water Act 2003 is in three Parts, relating to water resources, regulation of the water industry and other provisions. The four broad aims of the Act are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sustainable use of water resources • Strengthening the voice of consumers • A measured increase in competition • The promotion of water conservation. 	<p>The implementation of the Drought Plan may have an effect through its role in maintaining supplies of water. The SEA should seek to promote sustainable use of water resources.</p>
The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) Regulations (England and Wales) 2017	
<p>These Regulations implement the Water Framework Directive and set out a range of statutory actions to secure and maintain Good Ecological Status or Potential for all water bodies designated under WFD.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should seek to maintain, protect and improve ecological status across the region and prevent any deterioration of WFD status. The SEA will be informed by the parallel WFD compliance assessment of the Drought Plan.</p>
Defra (2004) Rural Strategy	
<p>The strategy sets out rural and countryside policy and draws upon lessons learnt following the rural white paper. Objectives include supporting economic and social regeneration across rural England and enhance the value of the countryside and protect the natural environment for this and future generations.</p>	<p>The implementation of certain Drought Plan options may have an effect upon rural communities and the countryside. The SEA should also seek to ensure that the quality of the region's landscapes, natural resources and biodiversity are maintained or enhanced.</p>
Defra (2004) The First Soil Action Plan for England	
<p>This plan is a comprehensive statement on the state of the UK's soils and how Government and other partners were working together to improve them. It aims to ensure that England's soils will be protected and managed to optimise the varied functions that soils perform for society (e.g. supporting agriculture and forestry, protecting cultural heritage, supporting biodiversity, as a platform for construction), in keeping with the principles of sustainable development.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that the quality of the region's land, including soils, is protected or enhanced.</p>
Defra (2005) Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy	

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<p>The strategy for sustainable development aims to enable all people to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations. The strategy places a focus on protecting natural resources and enhancing the environment.</p>	<p>The SEA must seek to ensure that objectives relating to sustainable development, sustainable resource use and protecting the natural environment, are considered when assessing the potential impacts of the Drought Plan.</p>
<p>Defra (2005) Making space for water: taking forward a new government strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England</p>	
<p>The strategy outlines how to manage the risks from flooding and coastal erosion in the UK. The strategy aims to reduce the threat of flooding to people and their property, and to deliver the greatest environmental, social and economic benefit, consistent with the Government's sustainable development principles.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that flood risk in the region is not adversely affected by the implementation of the Drought Plan.</p>
<p>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)</p>	
<p>This Act makes provision about bodies concerned with the natural environment and rural communities in connection with wildlife, sites of special scientific interest, National Parks and the Broads.</p> <p>The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act is designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity. The impacts of the Drought Plan on any designated features, as highlighted in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, should be addressed.</p>
<p>Environment Agency (2007) Soil: A Precious Resource</p>	
<p>The soil strategy identifies the Environment Agency's priorities, sets out their role and says what action is to be taken to protect, manage and restore soil. Damaged soil structure can lead to flooding, water pollution and can affect the landscape and archaeological features. The strategy also outlines the part managing soils can play in mitigating climate change.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should ensure the sustainable management of soil resources. SEA objectives should reflect and consider relevant priorities from the Soil: A Precious Resource publication.</p>
<p>Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (2020) Energy White Paper</p>	
<p>The Energy White Paper provides puts in place a strategy for the wider energy system that:</p> <p>Transforms energy, building a cleaner and greener future. Supports a green recovery, supporting thousands of green jobs across the country in new green industries and leveraging new green export opportunities. Creates a fair deal for consumers, protecting the fuel poor. It includes the goal that by 2050, emissions from industry will need to fall by around 90 per cent from today's levels.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Drought Plan may have an influence upon Bristol Water's total energy use. The SEA should seek to promote energy efficiency, as well as seeking to reduce the effects of climate change through greenhouse gas emissions. The SEA should also promote the use of renewable energy, where relevant.</p>
<p>Defra (2007), Conserving Biodiversity in a Changing Climate: Guidance on Building Capacity to Adapt</p>	
<p>The guiding principles described in this document summarise current thinking on how to reduce the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and how to adapt existing plans and projects in the light of climate change. The guidance is intended to inform implementation of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, taking account of climate change is relevant to the fulfilment of many international agreements and obligations affecting the UK.</p>	<p>The SEA must consider the impacts on biodiversity whilst also taking into account the potential for future climate change.</p>
<p>Defra (2011) Future Water: The Government's water strategy for England</p>	

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<p>This strategy is the high level Government document which outlines how the Government wants the water sector to look by 2030, considering issues of water demand, water supply, water quality in the natural environment, surface water drainage, river and coastal flooding, greenhouse gas emissions and charging.</p> <p>It states that "by 2030 at the latest, we have:</p> <p>Improved the quality of our water environment and the ecology which it supports, and continued to provide high levels of drinking water quality from our taps</p> <p>Sustainably managed risks from flooding and coastal erosion, with greater understanding and more effective management of surface water</p> <p>Ensured a sustainable use of water resources, and implemented fair, affordable and cost-reflective charges.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that the themes included in the strategy objectives are also reflected in the SEA objectives, particularly around water quality in the region, the quality of aquatic ecology, drinking water quality, resource use, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, and adaptation to climate change.</p>
The Climate Change Act 2008	
<p>This act sets carbon targets for 2050. Originally the target was for net carbon account for 2050 at least 80% lower than 1990 baseline, however, this was revised in 2019 to be at least 100% lower in line with the net zero ambition.</p>	<p>This target needs to be taken into account by the SEA.</p>
Defra (2008) England Biodiversity Strategy –climate change adaptation principles	
<p>Government strategy presenting five principles that are fundamental to conserving biodiversity during climate change. The precautionary principle underlies all the principles.</p>	<p>The SEA must consider the impacts on biodiversity whilst also taking into account the potential for future climate change.</p>
The Eels Regulations 2009	
<p>Implement European Council Regulations 1100/2007 establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of European eel. The Regulations will help implement delivery Eel Management Plans. They address eel records and re-stocking, close season and reduction of fishing effort, passage of eels and entrainment.</p> <p>The key objective is to ensure that at least 40% of the potential production of silver eels returns to the sea to spawn. This will be achieved by reducing exploitation of all life-stages of the eel and restoration of their habitats.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to maintain the safe passage of eels through waterbodies managed by Bristol Water, and prevent eels becoming entrained, due to riverine obstacles.</p>
Defra (2009) Safeguarding our soils – A Strategy for England	
<p>The new Soil Strategy for England – Safeguarding our Soils – outlines the Government's approach to safeguarding our soils for the long term. It provides a clear vision to guide future policy development across a range of areas and sets out the practical steps that we need to take to prevent further degradation of our soils, enhance, restore and ensure their resilience, and improve our understanding of the threats to soil and best practice in responding to them.</p> <p>The Governments vision is that: By 2030, all England's soils will be managed sustainably, and degradation threats tackled successfully. This will improve the quality of England's soils and safeguard their ability to provide essential services for future generations.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that the quality of the regions soils and their management is protected or enhanced.</p>

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Environment Agency (2009), <i>Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales</i>	
<p>Launched on 30 March 2009, covering the actions that the Environment Agency believes need to be taken to ensure that there is enough water for people and wildlife in the face of future pressures. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate change • population growth • diffuse pollution • water for wildlife and wetlands 	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that strategy objectives are also reflected in the SEA objectives, particularly around water resource use and availability in the region.</p>
Defra (2010) Making Space for Nature: A Review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network	
<p>This independent review of England's wildlife sites and the connections between them sets objectives and recommendations to help achieve a healthy natural environment that will allow our plants and animals to thrive.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity.</p>
Environment Agency (2010), <i>Water Resources Action Plan for England and Wales</i>	
<p>The strategy has four main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation to and mitigation of climate change; • A better water environment; • Sustainable planning and management of water resources; • People valuing water and the water environment. 	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that strategy objectives are also reflected in the SEA objectives particularly regarding the sustainable management of water resources and protecting the environment.</p>
Flood and Water Management Act (2010) as amended	
<p>The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 aims to provide better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses. It aims improve efficiency in the water industry, improve the affordability of water bills for certain groups and individuals, and help ensure continuity of water supplies to the consumer.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure that flood risk in the region is not adversely affected by the implementation of the Drought Plan and that water supplies across the region are maintained.</p>
Defra and the Environment Agency (2019) How to write and publish a drought plan	
<p>If you are a water company that is wholly or mainly in England, you should follow this guideline when preparing a drought plan. Water companies should also consider the English Government's expectations for water companies when you produce drought plans which are published separately to this guideline.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan and SEA should seek to ensure that the drought plan adopts the information presented in this guidance document.</p>
The Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales and Ofwat (2020) Water Resources Planning Guideline	
<p>Previous to this release, the latest iteration to WRMP guidelines was an update in 2017. The most significant changes during that time are that water companies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should use natural capital in their decision making and provide environmental net gain through their WRMPs • Should plan to provide a long-term destination for the environment by reducing abstraction where it is causing the most environmental damage. 	<p>The Drought Plan and SEA should seek to ensure that the information within the WRMP guidelines are considered when authoring the Drought Plan and determine to what extent they might affect its contents.</p>

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Historic England (2020) Heritage at Risk	
<p>Heritage at risk is a national programme that aims to identify the endangered sites (historic buildings and places with increased risks of neglect and decay) and then help secure them for the future. Regional Heritage at Risk Registers were most recently published in 2019.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to protect and enhance and landscape.</p>
<p>Defra (2011) UK National Ecosystem Assessment Defra (2014) UK National Ecosystems Assessment Follow on, Synthesis of Key Findings</p>	
<p>Ecosystems services from natural capital contribute to the economic performance of the nation.</p> <p>Information and tools to enable decision makers to understand the wider value of ecosystems and their associated services.</p>	<p>For the purposes of the readership integrating an ecosystems services approach into the SEA is not being undertaken. However, it is realised that through the 'Objective-led' approach, many of the services relevant to the Drought Plan can be considered through the objectives and key questions for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisioning Services: Freshwater • Provisioning Services: Biodiversity • Regulating Services: Water Regulation • Cultural services: Recreation and ecotourism • Cultural services: Cultural heritage values • Cultural services: Aesthetic <p>The SEA should ensure the Drought Plan effects the related provisioning services in the least damaging way through informing the Drought Plan formulation and selection of Drought Plan options during times of Drought.</p> <p>In the event of further guidance being issued on incorporating ESA into SEA, the anticipated approach is sufficiently flexible that it should be able to accommodate this (subject to timing).</p>
Defra (2011) Water for Life – Water White Paper	
<p>This sets out market reform in the water sector.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should take into account the contents of this paper.</p>
Defra (2011) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature, The Natural Environment White Paper	
<p>Addresses the Government's approach to valuing economic and social benefits of a healthy natural environment while continuing to recognise nature's intrinsic value. It describes the vision of the Government for this to be the first generation to leave the natural environment of England in a better state than it inherited, requiring placing the value of nature at the heart of decision-making – in Government, local communities and businesses. Approaches to mainstream the value of nature across society include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilitating greater local action to protect and improve nature; 	<p>The Drought Plan supports the provisioning service of freshwater through ensuring security of supply during times of drought. The media campaigns that form part of the Demand side Drought Plan options may contribute towards increasing the awareness of the population to the value the provisioning services of water. Other related ecosystem services may include:</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creating a green economy, in which economic growth and the health of our natural resources sustain each other, and markets, business and Government better reflect the value of nature; strengthening the connections between people and nature to the benefit of both; and <p>showing leadership in the European Union and internationally, to protect and enhance natural assets globally</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisioning Services: Biodiversity Regulating Services: Water Regulation Cultural services: Recreation and ecotourism Cultural services: Cultural heritage values Cultural services: Aesthetic <p>The SEA should ensure the Drought Plan effects the related provisioning services in the least damaging way through informing the Drought Plan formulation and selection of Drought Plan options during times of Drought.</p>
Defra (2011) Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services	
<p>The objective for the next decade is: 'to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.' Four action areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea Putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy Reducing environmental pressures Improving our knowledge. 	<p>The SEA must consider impacts on biodiversity. The implementation of the Drought Plan may influence biodiversity in the area and as such the SEA should seek to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity and take regards of priority species.</p>
Defra (2011) Government Review of Waste Policy in England 2011	
<p>The review is guided by the "waste hierarchy", EU obligations and targets on waste management, carbon impacts, environmental objectives and the costs and benefits of different policy options.</p> <p>The Governments vision include a move beyond the current throwaway society to a "zero waste economy" in which material resources are re-used, recycled or recovered wherever possible, and only disposed of as the option of very last resort.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan may involve options that involve the generation of waste (e.g. either through construction requirements or operation of supply side options). The SEA should seek to enhance recycling and minimise the amount of waste going to landfill.</p>
Department of Energy and Climate Change (2011) National Policy Statements for Energy Infrastructure	
<p>The energy National Policy Statements (NPSs) set out national policy against which proposals for major energy projects will be assessed and decided on by the Infrastructure Planning Commission. The purpose of the NPSs is to develop a clear, long-term policy framework which facilitates investment in the necessary new infrastructure (by the private sector) and in energy efficiency. It highlights that the construction, operation and decommissioning of infrastructure can lead to increased demand for water, involve discharges to water and cause adverse ecological effects resulting from physical modifications to the water environment.</p>	<p>The SEA should consider the cumulative effects of the Drought Plan and any major energy proposals which may affect the availability of water in the Bristol Water supply area.</p>
Environment Agency (2011) National Flood and Coastal Risk Management Strategy for England	
<p>This strategy provides the overarching framework for future action by all risk management authorities to tackle flooding and coastal erosion in England, building on existing approaches. Risk should be managed in a co-ordinated way within catchments and along the coast and balance the needs of communities, the economy and the environment. This strategy will form the framework within which</p>	<p>The SEA should consider how the Drought Plan may affect flood and coastal risk across the region.</p>

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<p>communities have a greater role in local risk management decisions and sets out the Environment Agency's strategic overview role in flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM).</p>	
<p>Natural England (2011) <i>UK Geodiversity Action Plan</i></p>	
<p>The UKGAP sets out of framework for geodiversity action across the UK. It provides a shared context and direction for the protection and enhancement of geodiversity through a common aim, themes, objectives and targets which link national, regional and local activities. The UKGAP consists of six broad themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Furthering our understanding of geodiversity 2. Influencing planning policy, legislation and development design 3. Gathering and maintaining information on our geodiversity 4. Conserving and managing our geodiversity 5. Inspiring people to value and care for our geodiversity 6. Sustaining resources for our geodiversity 	<p>The Drought Plan should have regard to the aims and objectives of the UKGAP.</p> <p>The SEA framework should consider effects of options on geodiversity and outline enhancement and mitigation opportunities where these are identified.</p>
<p>Defra (2012) The UK Evidence Report</p>	
<p>Five themes are identified that form the priorities for adaptation in the UK.</p>	<p>The SEA should take into account the need for climate change adaptation.</p>
<p>Defra (2012) National Policy Statement for Waste Water</p>	
<p>National Policy Statement (NPS) sets out Government policy for the provision of major waste water infrastructure. It will be used by the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) to guide its decision making on development consent applications for waste water developments that fall within the definition of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) as defined in the Planning Act 2008.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to ensure the Drought Plan considers any unforeseen NSIP proposals that come forward prior to adoption which may affect water resources in the Bristol Water area.</p>
<p>Environment Agency (2013), <i>Managing Water Abstraction</i></p>	
<p>This sets out how the EA manages water resources in England.</p>	<p>The SEA should consider the range of impacts that changes to abstractions could have on the environment, including water bodies, biodiversity, and water users.</p>
<p>Historic England (2013) Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal and the Historic Environment</p>	
<p>Guidance for addressing the historic environment in Strategic Environmental Assessment or river bas. It identifies the recommended list of plans, programmes and policies for review, approach to baseline review, potential sustainability issues.</p>	<p>The SEA should consider the potential effects of the Drought Plan on the historic environment, particularly designated assets and their settings, and to important wetland areas with potential for palaeo-environmental deposits. Historic characterisation can supplement information about designations. Sustainability issues, objectives and indicators identified in this document should be taken into account in the SEA.</p>
<p>Defra and Welsh Government (2014) River Basin Planning Guidance</p>	

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<p>Aims to give guidance on practical implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD).</p> <p>The river basin planning process involves setting environmental objectives for all groundwater and surface waters (including estuaries and coastal waters) within the river basin district, and devising programmes of measures to meet those objectives.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should take into account the contents of this statutory guidance</p>
<p>Defra (2015) The Great Britain Invasive Non-native Species Strategy</p>	
<p>The Strategy is intended to provide a strategic framework, updated from the 2008 framework, within which the actions of government departments, their related bodies and key stakeholders can be better co-ordinated. Its overall aim is to minimise the risks posed, and reduce the negative impacts caused, by invasive non-native species in Great Britain.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Drought Plan may influence the ability of invasive species to spread, and establish themselves, in the south west, and as such the SEA should seek to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity.</p>
<p>Historic England (2015) Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3</p>	
<p>This provides guidance on managing change within settings of heritage assets. This includes archaeological remains, historic buildings, sites, areas and landscapes.</p>	<p>The SEA should take into account effects on settings of heritage assets.</p>
<p>Environment Agency (2017) Drought response: our framework for England</p>	
<p>This framework describes how drought affects England and how the EA works closely with the government, water companies and others to manage the effects of drought on people, business and the environment. Specifically, the framework sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How drought affects different parts of England • Who is involved in managing drought and how they work together • How the agency and others take action to manage drought • How we monitor and measure the impacts of drought to advise senior management and government on the prospects and possible action <p>How we report on drought and communicate with others</p>	<p>The supply of water resources in the region may be affected by future drought, therefore this framework is linked closely with the Drought Plan.</p> <p>The Drought Plan and SEA need to take account of the guidance provided by the Environment Agency.</p>
<p>Defra, Environment Agency, Natural England, Forestry Commission England (2016) Creating a great place for living</p>	
<p>Sets out a number of objectives linked to creating a great place for living. The objectives are related to the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment – a cleaner, healthier environment, benefiting people and the economy; • Food and farming – a world-leading food and farming industry; • Rural – a thriving rural economy, contributing to national prosperity and wellbeing; • Protection – a nation better protected against floods, animal and plant diseases and other hazards, with strong response and recovery capabilities; • Excellent Delivery – Excellent delivery, on time and to budget with outstanding value for money; <p>An outstanding organisation – an organisation striving to be the best, focused on outcomes and constantly challenging itself.</p>	<p>The SEA must take into account impacts of the drought options (construction and operation) on the environment, as well as the population and human health and land use (which will impact on the food and farming and rural objectives).</p>

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
HM Government (2016) National Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016-2021	
<p>This plan updates and replaces the previous National Infrastructure Plan and takes a targeted approach to infrastructure investment and delivery across different sectors over five years. These are all critical to support economic growth through the expansion of private sector businesses across all regions and industries, to enable competitiveness and to improve the quality of life of everyone in the UK. The plan recognises the pressure on future water and waste services from population growth and climate change.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan could result in the production of additional waste. The SEA should seek to reduce the production of waste and ensure it is treated in line with the widely adopted 'waste hierarchy' and not sent to landfill. The Drought Plan can contribute to the providing resilient water services.</p>
Historic England (2016) Climate Change and the Historic Environment	
<p>Sets out the current thinking on the implications of climate change for the historic environment. It is intended both for the heritage sector and also for those involved in the wider scientific and technical aspects of climate change; in the development of strategies and plans relating to the impact of climate change; or in projects relating to risk assessment, adaptation and mitigation.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to assess the implications of the Drought Plan in combination with climate change and the potential impacts on heritage and the historic environment.</p>
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (as amended) 2017	
<p>These regulations consolidate all the various amendments made to the Conservation (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1994 in England .</p> <p>The regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites. They are the principal means by which the Habitats Directive is transposed in England as such its main objective is to promote the maintenance of biodiversity.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan must fully comply with the Regulations.</p> <p>The impacts of the Drought Plan options on biodiversity and protected species and sites must be considered as part of the SEA.</p>
HM Government (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment	
<p>This plan sets out government action to help the natural world regain and retain good health. It aims to deliver cleaner air and water in cities and rural landscapes, protect threatened species and provide richer wildlife habitats – using a natural capital approach to better-inform policy.</p> <p>By adopting the plan, the government aims to achieve clean air; clean and plentiful water; thriving plants and wildlife; a reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards such as flooding and drought, using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently; and, enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment. In addition, the plan will set out to manage pressures on the environment through; mitigating and adapting to climate change, minimising waste, managing exposure to chemicals and enhancing biosecurity.</p> <p>The six key areas for action are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using and managing land sustainably, which includes embedding an 'environmental net gain' principle for development (including housing and infrastructure) • Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes • Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing • Increasing resource efficiency, and reducing pollution and waste 	<p>The Drought Plan may influence the environmental benefits and pressures identified in the Environment Plan, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean air • Clean and plentiful water • Thriving plants and wildlife • Reducing risks of harm from environmental hazards • Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently • Enhancing beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment • mitigating and adapting to climate change • minimising waste • managing exposure to chemicals • enhancing biosecurity <p>The SEA should ensure that the impacts of any drought options on the 25-year goals set out in the Environment Plan are fully considered, whilst taking into account environmental net gain and natural capital approach, which the</p>

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans Protecting and improving the global environment	government have identified as principle themes.
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2019) National Planning Policy Framework	
<p>The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England. The revision to the NPPF published in February 2019 broadly continues the guidance set out in the 2012 NPPF, with more emphases on housing, design, efficient use of land and continued reference to an objective of achieving net gains. It constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers both in drawing up plans and as a material consideration in determining applications. At the heart of the NPPF is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. However, the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' is not applicable where any adverse impacts would significantly outweigh the benefits, when assessed against all policies in the NPPF or where specific policies indicate development should be restricted. This includes proposed developments that affect European designated sites, Green Belt or AONB land.</p> <p>It presents guidance under broad themes which include: Promoting healthy and safe communities; Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change; Conserving and enhancing the natural environment; and Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.</p>	<p>Any permanent construction activities in the Drought Plan should take account of the key components of the NPPF to ensure sustainable development and seek to promote biodiversity net gain.</p>
Environment Agency (2020) Meeting our future water needs: a national framework for water resources	
<p>The organisations responsible for England's water supplies have understood the long-term needs of sectors that depend on a secure supply of water – public water supply, agriculture, power generation, industry and the environment. These needs will be met through the development of regional water resources plans. Agreed what the regional plans should deliver and how, so they drive a step-change in water resources planning. The national framework identifies strategic water needs for England and its regions across all sectors up to and beyond 2050.</p> <p>Sets out a strategic direction for the work being carried out by regional water resources groups by exploring the range of approaches available to meet the likely pressures.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should consider the water resource framework and what it states should be included in a plan.</p>
Environment Agency (2020): EA2025 – Creating a Better Place	
<p>EA2025 sets out the Environment Agency's priorities from 2020 to 2025. The plan sets out 3 long term goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A nation resilient to climate change • Health air, land and water • Green growth and a sustainable future. <p>By 2025 we will have created more climate resilient places and infrastructure, by ensuring the nation is prepared for flooding, coastal change and drought.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should consider whether the EA's aims to 2025 could impact upon the measures that are to be included in Bristol Water's strategy.</p>
Defra (2020) Policy Paper: Water abstraction plan	
<p>Sets out how the government will reform water abstraction management over the coming years and how this will protect the environment and improve access to water.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should consider whether the actions in this guideline could impact upon the actions Bristol</p>

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
	Water could/should take in times of drought,
Environment Agency (various dates) Abstraction Licensing Strategies	
Sets out how much water is available for abstraction within each key river catchment, taking into account the needs of the environment and existing abstractors.	The Drought Plan should consider relevant catchment strategies and any environmental protection measures of relevance to the Drought Plan options.
Defra (2020) Enabling a Natural Capital Approach (ENCA)	
<p>ENCA resources are a mixture of data, guidance and tools that enable individuals/organisations to understand natural capital and know how to take it into account. The aims of ENCA are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build capacity among users to assess and value the natural environment by providing comprehensive information and resources • Reduce search costs for analysts and decision makers • Provide a platform to update tools and guidance as knowledge develops • Identify new evidence and areas for development <p>The guidance is a comprehensive document providing information and resources for Natural Capital, covering the natural capital framework, economic valuation of the environment, how project or policy appraisal can incorporate natural capital, natural capital accounting principles and methods, benefits and challenges and applying natural capital at a local level.</p>	The SEA will help to inform future development by TWUL and therefore should consider the effect of the drought options on opportunities for natural capital.
Environment Agency (undated) Hydroecology: Integration for modern regulation	
This paper describes clear way forward in terms of hydroecology and a strategic direction to its development and application.	The Drought Plan and SEA should ensure relevant ecological considerations are integral to water resource evaluation and management decisions across the range of temporal and spatial scales.
Environment Agency (undated), <i>WFD River Basin Characterisation Project: Technical Assessment Method - River abstraction and flow regulation</i>	
This paper describes the method used to assess the likelihood of river water bodies achieving the relevant WFD objectives as a result of artificial influences on low river flows.	Implementation of the Drought Plan may impact river water quality. The SEA should seek to promote the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and river water quality across the region.
Defra (2007) The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland and Wales	
This strategy identifies air quality objectives and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK from into the long term. The options are intended to provide important benefits to quality of life and help protect the environment as well as the direct benefits to public health.	The implementation of the Drought Plan may have some influence on air quality, either directly or indirectly through construction or operation activities. The SEA should seek to ensure that the region's air quality is maintained or enhanced, and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum.
Department of Energy and Climate Change (2011) Planning our electric future: a White Paper for secure, affordable and low carbon electricity	

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<p>This white paper outlines a package of reforms so that by 2030 there will be a flexible, smart and responsive electricity system, powered by a range of low carbon sources of electricity. This includes engaging with consumers on energy use. Decarbonisation is important in meeting the 2050 targets.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Drought Plan may have an influence upon Bristol Water's total energy use. The SEA should seek to promote energy efficiency, as well as seeking to reduce the effects of climate change through greenhouse gas emissions. The SEA should also promote the use of renewable energy, where relevant.</p>
Regional and Local	
Bristol Water (2019) Business Plan 2020-2025: Bristol Water For All	
<p>The business plan sets out proposals from Bristol Water for customers, stakeholders and for Ofwat. It includes proposals for price controls for 2020-25, set in a longer-term context for the future of water services for all the communities Bristol Water serves. The plan outcomes were developed with customers' priorities in mind:</p> <p>Outcome 1: Excellent Customer Experiences</p> <p>Outcome 2: Local Community and Environmental Resilience (which includes initiatives to deliver on the promise of building biodiversity and protecting the environment such as the performance commitment regarding Bristol Water's biodiversity index and compliance with the Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP).</p> <p>Outcome 3: Safe and Reliable Supply of Water</p> <p>Outcome 4: Corporate and Financial Resilience</p>	<p>The Drought Plan should seek to support the Business Plan and the SEA framework should consider and echo the priorities set out in the Business Plan.</p>
Bristol Water (2019) Final Water Resources Management Plan 2019	
<p>The Water Resources Management Plan 2019 (WRMP19) presents Bristol Water's approach to the management of water resources for the benefit of customers, the wider community and the environment in the period 2020 to 2045. The WRMP19 is closely linked with the findings of the process to develop the existing Bristol Water Drought Plan (2018).</p>	<p>The Drought Plan will take into account the objectives of Bristol Water's WRMP.</p>
Natural England Site Improvement Plans (2014-15): South West (SIPs)	
<p>SIPs have been developed as part of the Improvement plan for England's Natura 2000 sites. These plans outline the current and predicted issues affecting the sites and the measures required to improve their condition. These are live documents intended to reflect changes in the evidence base. Objectives of site improvement plans include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of Invasive species • Management of public access and land use • Monitoring and action against diseases that affect trees. <p>Monitoring of species distribution and identifying any necessary action.</p>	<p>The SEA should seek to maintain or enhance the quality of habitats and biodiversity. The impacts of the Drought Plan on Natura 2000 sites should be addressed.</p>
Environment Agency and Defra, (2015) River Basin Management Plan for Severn and South West River Basin Districts	
<p>River basin management plans provide a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. Water and land resources are closely linked and so the plans also inform decisions on land-use planning. Environmental objectives include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of deterioration to the status of surface waters and groundwater. 	<p>The Drought Plan will need to ensure that it is consistent with the principles of the River Basin Management Plan and that it does not adversely affect the issues identified as significant water management issues.</p>

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To achieve objectives and standards for protected areas. To aim to achieve good status for all water bodies or, for heavily modified water bodies and artificial water bodies, good ecological potential and good surface water chemical status. Reversal of any significant and sustained upward trends in pollutant concentrations in Groundwater. The cessation of discharges, emissions and losses of priority hazardous substances into surface waters. To progressively reduce the pollution of groundwater and prevent or limit the entry of Pollutants. 	
Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership (2016) Catchment Plan	
<p>The Bristol Avon Catchment Management Plan is the product of consultation with a range of stakeholders. The Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership have formulated a strategy to deliver a healthy river with high quality environment for both people and wildlife. It is also intended as a route to achieve Water Framework Directive Objectives. It summarises key issues in the catchment and outlines a shared vision for how assets can be maintained and enhanced. The Partnership Actions are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve public understanding about the value and services provided by the catchment. To improve water and flood risk management. Improve land management and sustainable agriculture. To improve wastewater management. To improve river management. To Improve recreation management. <p>To Increase and better coordinate investment opportunities.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan operation may have the potential to affect several of the Catchment Management Plans objectives. The SEA will include objectives that take into account the objectives of the Plan where relevant.</p>
Local Plans and Core Strategy for impacted local authorities – Bristol, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and Bath and North East Somerset	
<p>Local plan forms part of each local authority's statutory Development Plan. In their local plans each local authority identifies the main social, physical and economic characteristics and issues present. The plans then outline strategic objectives for future developments and a delivery strategy to accompany these. Strategic Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring a sustainable future and developing green capital. Enabling ambitious and sustainable economic growth. Appropriate housing provision and a high-quality built environment. Fostering a pattern of development that improves health and wellbeing. Effective waste management and minimisation of waste in new development. <p>Adapting to climate change and promotion of renewable energy.</p>	<p>Options in the Drought Plan have potential to cause social, economic and environmental effects.</p> <p>The SEA assessment framework should consider the effects of the Drought Plan on the achievement of the strategy's key priorities and the effects on water management, natural capital, landscape and biodiversity.</p>
Bristol Health and Wellbeing Policy 2020-2025	
<p>This strategy seeks to reduce the disparity in health outcomes between deprived and affluent areas of Bristol. It aims for citizens to thrive in a city that support mental and physical health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan and SEA should take account of the aims of the strategy to promote health outcomes.</p>
Environment Agency (2009 and 2012) Catchment Flood Management Plans; Bristol Avon, Severn Tidal Tributaries, North and Mid Somerset	
<p>Catchment flood management plans (CFMPs) explore all forms of inland flooding including fluvial groundwater, surface water and tidal flooding.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan links to this plan where it affects flood risk or land management, for example through</p>

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<p>In addition, CFMPs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impacts of climate change • The effects of current land use and land management. • Sustainable management of flood risk areas and the preservation of vital assets. <p>CFMPs also help to establish effective management for future flood risk.</p>	<p>changes in abstraction or water storage. The SEA should consider how the Drought Plan may affect flood risk across the region.</p>
<p>Environment Agency (2016) South West and Severn River Basin Districts, Flood risk management plans 2015-2021</p>	
<p>Over the 6-year period of implementation the Flood Risk Management Plan has sought to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce flood risk to people, property, infrastructure and services. • Enable regeneration of existing communities and businesses. • Increase resilience of South West transport infrastructure. • Promote understanding of flood risk. • Align the priorities of different River Management Authorities. • Protect and work with natural river processes and restore watercourses to their natural state. • Promote environmental benefits and achieve WFD objectives through Flood Risk Management activities. • Improve understanding of the influence of land use changes and support land use managers to deliver beneficial practices. 	<p>The Drought Plan links to these plans where it affects flood risk or land management, for example through changes in abstraction or water storage. The SEA should consider how the Drought Plan may affect flood risk across the region.</p>
<p>National Character Area (NCA) profiles for areas impacted by the Drought Plan</p>	
<p>NCA profiles are guidance documents intended to inform community decision making regarding each of the NCAs. They support the planning of conservation initiatives, inform the delivery of Nature Improvement Areas and encourage collaborative working through Local Nature Partnerships.</p> <p>Each profile contains Statements of Environmental Opportunity (SEOs) that offer guidance on critical issues within the area and promote sustainable growth.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan may have an effect on NCAs. The SEA should include objectives that take into account the objectives of the NCAs where relevant (e.g. manage and enhance existing habitats).</p>
<p>Air Quality Annual Status Reports for Bristol City Council, South Gloucestershire District Council and North Somerset Council (2019)</p>	
<p>These reports provide an overview of air quality in each of the local authorities. They review the current standard of air quality in their areas and compare them to national statutory air quality objectives.</p> <p>The Annual Status Reports demonstrate the strategies employed by the council and any progress that has been made towards improving air quality.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Drought Plan may have some influence on air quality, either directly or indirectly, through construction or operational activities. The SEA should take account of the need to ensure that the region's air quality is maintained or enhanced, and that emissions of air pollutants are kept to a minimum. Seek to help meet regional air quality targets.</p>
<p>Bristol City Council Mayor's Climate Emergency Action Plan (2019), South Gloucestershire Council: Local Greenhouse Gas Report (2019/2020), North Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy 2019</p>	
<p>This plan outlines Bristol City Council's approach to management of the historic environment of the city. The objectives of the plan are to safeguard heritage for future generations, promote a sustainable urban environment and to ensure the effective use of limited council resources and community input.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Drought Plan may have an influence on the heritage of the region, in particular if options affect surface water levels. The SEA should seek to ensure any adverse effects on heritage assets are minimised or avoided.</p>
<p>Individual Conservation Area Appraisals</p>	

Objectives identified in the Policy, Plan or Programme	Influences on the Drought Plan and the SEA objectives
<p>Conservation Area Appraisals support the management of change in a way that conserves and enhances the character and appearance of historic areas. They interact with local and neighbourhood plans. Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of new conservation areas or extensions to existing assets. • Appraisal of conservation areas. • Designation of sites. • Managing proposals in conservation areas. <p>Review of current conservation areas.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan and SEA should consider the need to protect conservation areas.</p>
Bristol City Council: Our Inherited City: Heritage Statement Guidance: 2020	
<p>This plan outlines Bristol City Council's approach to management of the historic environment of the city. The objectives of the plan are to safeguard heritage for future generations, promote a sustainable urban environment and to ensure the effective use of limited council resources and community input.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Drought Plan may have an influence on the heritage of the region, in particular if options affect surface water levels. The SEA should seek to ensure any adverse effects on heritage assets are minimised or avoided.</p>
South Gloucestershire Local Plan: Policies, Sites and Policies Plan Adopted November 2017	
<p>The objectives of the South Gloucestershire Local Plan: Policies, Sites and Places Plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to Climate Change and high-quality design. • Managing Future Development. • Tackling congestion and improving accessibility • Managing the Environment and Heritage. • Maintaining Economic Prosperity. • Providing Housing and Community Infrastructure. 	<p>The Drought Plan may influence local plan objectives. The SEA should include objectives that consider the objectives of the South Gloucestershire Plan where relevant.</p>
Thames Water (2017) Drought Plan and Thames Water (2020) Addendum to 2017 Drought Plan	
<p>This plan describes the timely actions Thames Water will take to protect water supplies and the environment during drought events that take place within the Thames Water supply area.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan and SEA should consider whether the activities of neighbouring water companies could influence decision making at Bristol Water, and whether the activities of neighbouring drought plans could create cumulative impacts.</p>
Severn Trent Water (2014) Drought Plan 2014-2019	
<p>This plan aims to:</p> <p>Describe how Severn Trent Water will effectively manage both supplies and demand for water during a drought in their supply catchment.</p> <p>Reconcile the competing interests of customers, the environment and the wider economy.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan and SEA should consider whether the activities of neighbouring water companies could influence decision making at Bristol Water, and whether the activities of neighbouring drought plans could create cumulative impacts.</p>
Wessex Water (2018) Drought Plan	
<p>This plan sets out Wessex Water's strategic and operational response to extended periods of dry weather. The plan identifies the options Wessex Water will take before, during and after a drought to maintain a secure supply of water and outlines how they will assess and mitigate the environmental impacts of their actions.</p>	<p>The Drought Plan and SEA should consider whether the activities of neighbouring water companies could influence decision making at Bristol Water, and whether the activities of neighbouring drought plans could create cumulative impacts.</p>