

PLANNING FOR HYDROPOWER

**Bill Bloxsome
Conservation Manager**

PLANNING FRAMEWORK

- **Planning Policies**

- Regional
- Local

- **Development Control**

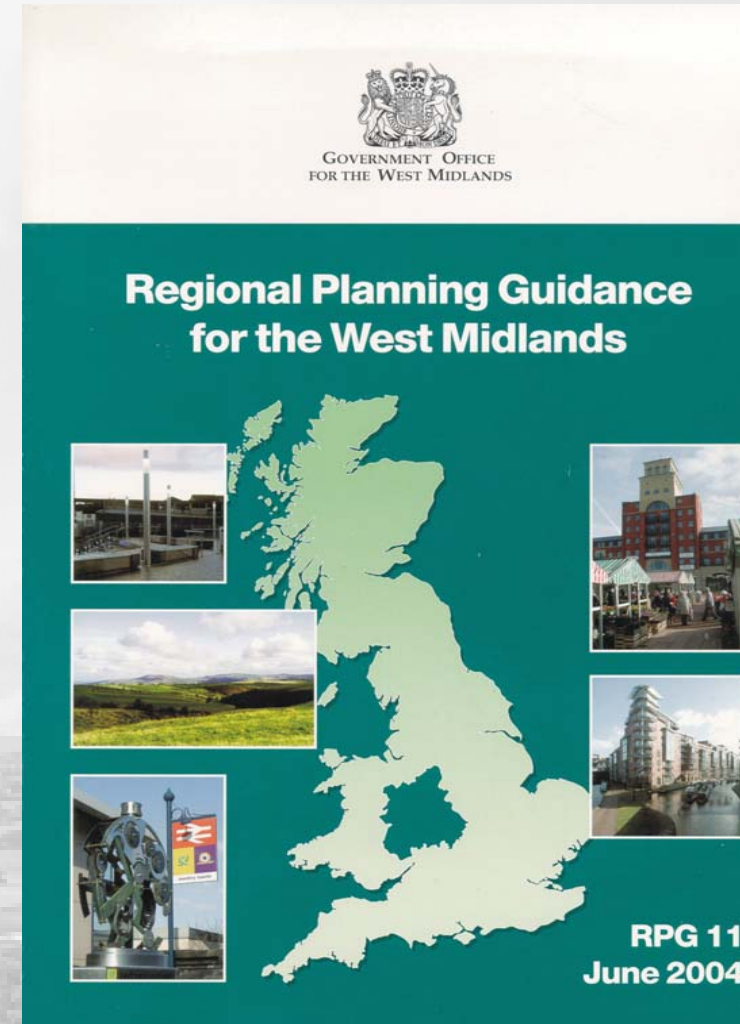
- Planning applications



REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY

Policy EN1: Energy Generation

- Encourages proposals
- Local guidance
- Environmental criteria



REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY

Environmental Criteria

- Landscape impact
- Impact on neighbours
- Traffic implications
- Transmission requirements

REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY

Environmental Criteria

- Achieve wider environmental benefits
- Contribution to achieving national targets
- Extent of community involvement in developing proposal
- Support to other policies in plan

HEREFORDSHIRE UDP

Policy CF4

“Development proposals for the production of renewable energy will be permitted providing that:

- 1. They would not affect the integrity of sites of international importance for nature conservation, except where there is no alternative solution and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature***



HEREFORDSHIRE UDP

Policy CF4

“Development proposals for the production of renewable energy will be permitted providing that:

- 2. The objectives of the designation of national important sites and areas will not be compromised and any significant adverse effects on the qualities of the site are clearly outweighed by the environmental, social and economic benefits”*



HEREFORDSHIRE UDP

Policy CF4

“Development proposals for the production of renewable energy will be permitted providing that:

- 3. Outside of nationally designated sites and areas, there would be no significant detrimental effect upon the character of the particular landscape qualities of that location***
- 4. They would not significantly impact upon the amenity of neighbouring residents, including through noise, odour or electro magnetic interference”***

Dealing with planning applications

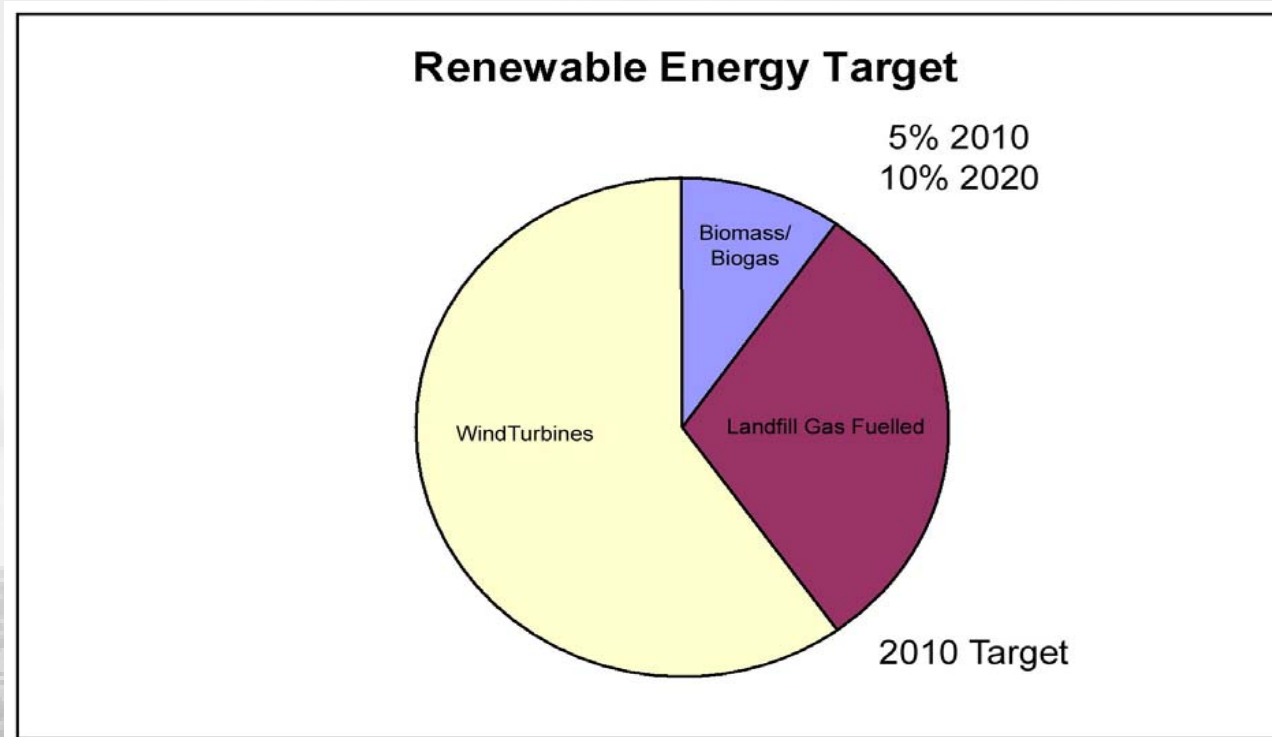
Experience

?

- **Wind Turbines**
- **Biomass**
- **Small Scale Hydro**

REGIONAL TARGETS

- **Targets for capacity in the region**
- **Derived from an assessment of renewable energy resource potential**
- **Will be a MINIMUM**



LAUNCHING PPS22.....

“In the past some local authorities have ruled out almost any development of this sort. We want to see a more considered approach, so the planning system is used positively rather than negatively.”

Yvette Cooper, Planning Minister

IMPETUS FOR CHANGE

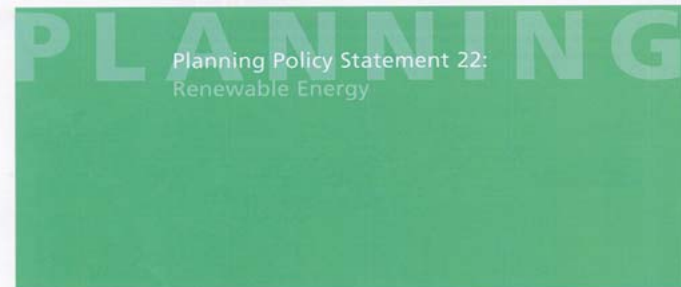
“Local planning authorities need to take account of the wider and long term environmental considerations as well as the immediate impact on the local environment”

PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT 22 RENEWABLE ENERGY

“Renewable energy developments should be capable of being accommodated throughout England in locations where the technology is viable and environmental, economic, and social impacts can be addressed satisfactorily”



Planning shapes the places where people live and work and the country we live in. It plays a key role in supporting the Government's wider economic, social and environmental objectives and for sustainable communities.



PPS 22- ELEMENTS

- Regional Targets
- **Policies in Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks**
- **Location Considerations**
- Other Considerations
- **Companion Guide**

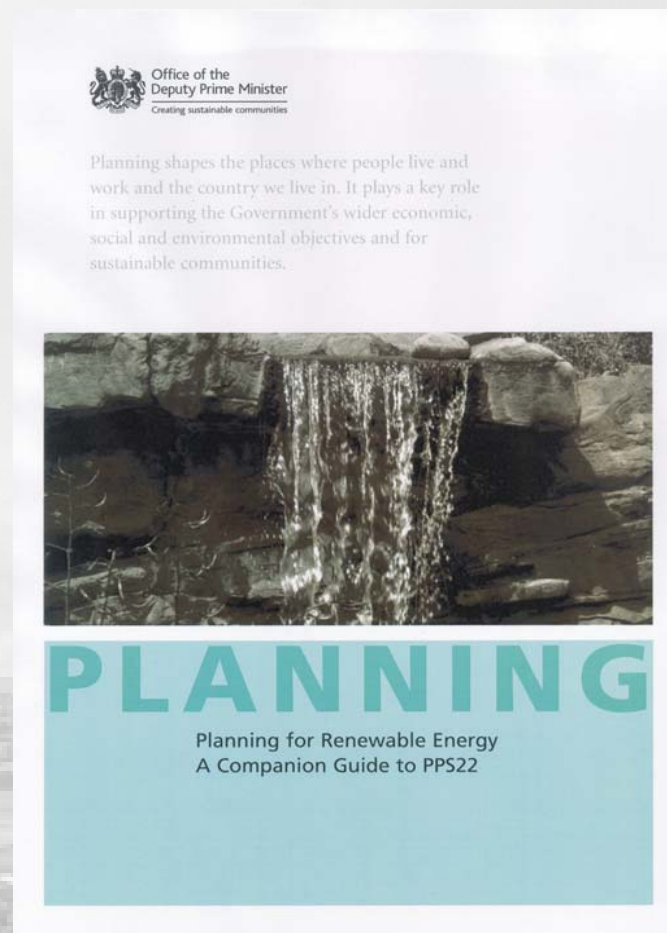
REGIONAL AND LOCAL POLICIES

- **Set out specific criteria to assess proposals**
- **Identify broad areas for particular types of RE**
- **Local policies may reflect more local circumstances**
- **More detailed issues may be appropriate to SPD**

COMPANION GUIDE

Small Scale Hydro

- **Site and landscape**
- **Design**
- **Hydrology**
- **Ecology**
- **Fisheries**
- **Noise**
- **Construction disturbance**
- **Operational disturbance**
- **Recreation and public access**



POLICY STATEMENT ON THE USE OF THE RIVERS WYE AND LUGG

“The Rivers Wye and Lugg, and their tributaries, may offer opportunities for developing small scale renewable energy schemes.

We will support feasibility studies and other investigations into exemplary schemes, including monitoring of impacts on the wider use of the rivers and their environments, in order to inform a longer-term policy that may be pursued with relevant partners”

