

Operation Selection Policy OSP 50

Records of the Regional Development Agencies 1999 - 2012

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Document Authority

The National Archives Acquisition and Disposition policy statements published in 2000 (revised and updated in 2007 as the [Acquisition and Disposition Strategy](#)) announced the intention of developing, in consultation with departments, operational selection policies (OSPs) across government. These policies would apply the collection themes described in the policy to the records of individual departments and agencies. OSPs are intended to be working tools for those involved in the selection of public records. Therefore this policy may be reviewed and revised in the light of comments received from the users of records or from archive professionals, the department's experience of using the policy, or as a result of newly discovered information.

This policy is a presentation version of an Appraisal Report. Appraisal Reports have been developed to implement The National Archives' Appraisal Policy published in August 2004. They are designed to provide structured information about the responsibilities, work and records of an organisation so that appraisers can identify records of potential historical value. They provide a transparent record of decisions on the selection of records, in whatever format, for permanent preservation. Selection decisions are based on the requirement to document the work of the organisation and to provide information about specific topics of potential long-term interest.

If you have any comments on this policy please email

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Executive summary

The work of the Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) has a significant impact on the economic growth and condition of England. The RDAs strengthen regional economies to create prosperity in the regions.

They do this in two ways: firstly, through strategic leadership, bringing together the views of the people who live and work in the regions and combining these with a unique set of business and economic insights to make sure that each region is able to make the most of the opportunities which are available; and secondly, through distributing the massive UK budget (over £2 billion) and European funds (£2.5 billion). Both of these activities support their Regional Economic Strategies. They also seek to influence national policies which have a relevance to regional development.

Their records have a historical value because the RDAs handle very large sums of public money and it is important that The National Archives captures documentation on its expenditure. Also, as the lead regional bodies for coordinating activities around inward investment, improving the skills of the workforce and improving business competition, they are shaping the face of the regions. Through the social, physical and economic regeneration of the regions the RDAs are driving economic growth, employment and productivity to bring increased prosperity. The National Archives will record these changes and their impact on the regions.

The work of the RDAs falls within the following Acquisition Criteria themes in the Acquisition and Disposition Strategy.

3.1.4 Regulation and support of economic activity by government, including industry, services, agriculture, transport, energy, trade and employment and productivity

3.2 Interaction of the state with its citizens and its impact on and documentation of the physical environment

3.2.1 The economic, social and demographic condition of the UK, as documented by the state's dealings with individuals, communities and organisations outside its own formal boundaries

Select records to reflect the RDAs role in developing the Regional Economic Strategies. The discussions on them and their consideration will be captured through the papers of the statutory Boards and Executive Committees for each of the RDAs.

Select records of the decisions made on investment proposals so that there is a record of how and why these decisions are made.

Select records of the meetings of the RDA Chairs and RDA Chief Executives managed by the RDA Co-ordination Unit (Secretariat). These are top-level meetings considering policy issues which impact on all the RDAs and also reflect the RDAs relationship and interaction with Ministers.

The Sub-National Review (2007) and the Single Integrated Regional Strategy reinforce the position of RDAs as the strategic leads for economic development and planning in their regions but will require changes to the way in which the Agency works. Records of the RDAs' consideration and implementation of the Review and the Strategy will be selected.

In 2010 the Government announced its commitment to building a new economic model for sub-national regional development resulting in the abolition of the RDAs and the creation of Local Enterprise Partnerships. Select records of any Board created to manage the transition.

The RDAs have no involvement in developing policy on or drafting legislation. However, each RDA has a responsibility for advising government on particular aspects of national policy as it impacts on regional development, for example, on transport. Select records of this policy advice.

At an operational level the RDAs work through a series of programmes and projects in order to deliver the Regional Economic Strategy. The records which will be selected are those projects/programmes funded either by UK government or the EU which have a national impact or have a financial value of more than £50 million. They are likely to have been highlighted in the Annual Report. Select records relating to projects/programmes which are either preventative or are in response to a particular crisis for example, closure of MG Rover, foot and mouth disease, flooding. The British Library will hold RDA publications: Regional Economic Strategies, Corporate and Business Plans and Annual Reports and policy documents.

Section 1: Background information

1.1 Name of Agency/NDPB/Department/Division

Regional Development Agencies – this is a generic Appraisal Report.

1.2 Type of agency

Executive agency	Non-Departmental Public Body	Trading Fund	Next Steps Agency	Non-Ministerial bodies	Libraries, Museums, Galleries	Research Councils

1.3 Annual budget (if an Agency)

Since April 2002 the RDAs have been financed through a single programme budget (the 'Single Pot'). This replaced the funding programme that existed previously through which each contributing government department's allocation was made.

Money from the contributing departments, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), Communities and Local Government (CLG), Department for Innovation, Universities and Science (DIUS) (merged with BIS in June 2009), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and UKTI (UK Trade and Investment) is pooled into one single budget. Most of the money is provided by CLG and to a much lesser degree by the other departments. Once the money is allocated it is available to the RDAs to spend as they see fit to achieve their targets.

The total contribution made in 2007-8 was £2,310 million.

From 2007 the RDAs took on responsibility for managing the Competitiveness and Employment programmes of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) with CLG as the designated Management Authority for all ERDF structural funds programmes. The programmes for 2000-2006 had been delivered through the Government Offices (GOs).

The fund has a budget of £2.5 billion and aims to stimulate economic development in less prosperous regions of the EU.

The RDAs are also responsible for the deployment of the Rural Development Programme for England (2007-2013) under delegation from Defra. The total budget for this programme is £3.9 billion.

In addition the RDAs act as conduits for funding schemes such as the Selective Finance for Investment in England (from October 2008 the Grants for Business Investment) (Assisted Areas only) and grants for research and development.

1.4 Number of employees

The number of staff employed by each RDA is between 300 and 400.

1.5 Hybrid Records

Possible.

1.6 Background, functions and activities

The (then) Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, announced the new programme for the regions in December 1997, launching the paper, Building partnerships for prosperity.

The eight Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) were subsequently established under the [Regional Development Agencies Act 1998](#), and were formally launched in eight English regions on 1 April 1999. The ninth, in London, was formed in July 2000 following the establishment of the Greater London Authority (GLA).

The RDAs took over the regional activities of English Partnerships, the Rural Development Commission and the Single Regeneration Budget Challenge and Skills Development Fund formerly administered by the Government Offices for the region.

1.7 The RDAs

The nine agencies are:

- Advantage West Midlands
- Northwest Regional Development Agency
- Yorkshire Forward
- One North East
- East Midlands Development Agency
- East of England Development Agency
- South West of England Regional Development Agency
- South East England Development Agency
- London Development Agency

The RDAs are bodies corporate whose constitution and purposes are laid down in the Act. Under section 4 (1) of the Act each Agency has five statutory purposes, which are to:

- further the economic development and the regeneration of its area
- promote business efficiency, investment and competitiveness in its area
- promote employment in its area
- enhance the development and application of skills relevant to employment
- contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom where it is relevant to its area to do so

Their primary role is as strategic drivers of regional economic development in their region. The RDAs aim to co-ordinate regional economic development and regeneration, enable the regions to improve their relative competitiveness and reduce the imbalance that exists within and between regions. They support business development and competitiveness by encouraging public and private investment, and by connecting people to economic opportunity. They work to improve levels of education, learning and skills, and to enhance the region's environment and infrastructure.

The Act also requires the RDAs to develop a new strategic vision: the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) for each of their regions using statutory guidance issued for their formulation. The first strategies were presented to the Government in 1999 and are reviewed every three years. The strategies are implemented through a Corporate Plan which provides details of how the RDAs will allocate their budgets to deliver progress in meeting the objectives and targets in the RES.

Activities typical of an RDA are:

- the launch of a Science Strategy, which aims to position the region as an international centre of excellence
- the development of a Business Link - a new business support service for the region, designed to increase the number of businesses and individuals accessing business support
- helping to safeguard the future of a car plant
- supporting the development of Regeneration Zones intended to transform the economy by supporting large-scale physical renewal and coordinating other elements of socio-economic regeneration activity
- supporting major developments in the region's Higher Education infrastructure, including a new University
- increasing the number of people with graduate level skills

In 2010 the Government announced its commitment to building a new economic model by reforming the system of sub-national economic development. Councils and businesses working together in Local Enterprise Partnerships will replace the RDAs. Some RDA functions will be carried out by BIS while others will cease. The [Public Bodies Act 2011](#) confers on Ministers the power to make provision by order to abolish the RDAs. It is proposed that the London Development Agency will be folded into the Greater London Assembly.

An RDA Co-ordination Unit (Secretariat) supports the activities of the RDA Chairs and Chief Executives when dealing with cross-RDA issues and issues which impact on the

national agenda by coordinating the arrangements for the Chairs and Chief Executives to meet collectively.

1.8 Name of the parent or sponsoring department (if an Agency). If none, Minister who lays an annual report before Parliament

RDAs are currently sponsored by BIS. Up to 2001 responsibility for the sponsorship of the RDAs lay with the former Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions. The Secretary of State for BIS lays an annual report before Parliament.

1.9 Relationship with parent department (if an Agency)

The Secretary of State for BIS is accountable to Parliament for the RDAs' activities and performance.

- Board members are appointed by the Secretary of State who also approves the appointment of the Chief Executive, the terms and conditions of the Board members and staff
- Six monthly monitoring reports on progress made on the priorities identified in the Regional Economic Strategy are made to Government and laid before Parliament
- BIS assesses how effectively the RDAs are performing their functions
- BIS provides guidance on the development of Regional Economic Strategies
- BIS approves the RDAs' strategic objectives and the policy and performance framework within which the Agency will operate (as set out in the Management Statement and Financial Memorandum and associated documents)
- BIS approves the amount of grant-in aid/grant/other funds to be paid to the RDAs and secures Parliamentary approval
- BIS monitors propriety in the expenditure of public money

BIS's relationship with the RDAs is conducted through the RDA Sponsorship and Finance Directorate.

Projects which exceed the RDAs' financial delegation or are novel or contentious must be submitted for review by the Central Policy Review Group (CPRG). The CPRG is an inter-departmental group chaired by BIS responsible for ensuring quality assurance and value-for-money for all EP projects as well as all Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) projects resourced from the single pot. It assesses/appraises all projects above the RDAs delegation level (currently £10m). It acts alone on projects up to £20m, but Treasury approval is also required for those above £20m or those judged to be novel, contentious or repercussive.

1.10 Relationship with other organisations (agencies /NDPBs /departments /other statutory bodies)

The RDAs work with many partners to achieve the priorities in the RES for example, the former English Partnerships, the new Housing and Communities Agency and in rural areas National Park Authorities and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty Conservation Boards, local authorities, other RDAs, higher education sector and the Learning and Skills Council and community and volunteer groups.

- **Government Offices**

The GOs are inter-departmental bodies representing 11 Whitehall departments. They are headed by the Regional Co-ordination Unit of CLG. There is a GO in each region which is the primary point of contact for the RDAs particularly providing advice in a national policy context. It also monitors its performance and receives six monthly reports on progress from the RDAs. The GOs also support and work with the RDAs and other stakeholders to achieve regional and national policy objectives. It was announced in the Comprehensive Spending Review 2010 that the GOs will be closed by the end of March 2011

- **Regional assemblies**

The regional assemblies were designated to provide regional accountability for the work of the RDAs. They were abolished in March 2010 and were replaced by Local Authority Leaders' Boards. They too have been abolished (June 2010) but may be replaced by voluntary associations of council leaders

- **Regional Economic Council**

The Council (October 2008-May 2010) was established to ensure that the issues and concerns of each region were heard and acted upon across Government. It brought together Regional Ministers, RDA chairs, representatives of business and trade unions and was chaired by the Chancellor and BIS's Secretary of State. It was closely linked to the National Economic Council, providing a quarterly update on economic activity in the regions and sharing concerns from the regions with Government so that it could inform national policy responses.

Section 2: Material transferred to The National Archives in the past

No records have been transferred to The National Archives.

Section 3: Analysis of records produced

3.1 Committee structure within the agency or parent department, including statutory committees directing the work of the organisation

Table 3. 1: Key committees

Name of committee	Terms of reference	Select? Yes/No	Reasons for selection/ non-selection, including comments on the quality of information
Board	Sets strategic direction of RDAs and high level objectives (statutory board established by RDA Act 1998)	Yes	Sets overall direction and policy of RDAs

Audit Committee	Ensures adequate financial and non-financial internal control systems are in place and receives assurance on RDAs' systems of corporate governance, risk management and internal control	No	
Remuneration Committee	Ensures that adequate arrangements are in place for the performance and remuneration of the Directors and the Chief Executive	No	
Executive Management Board/ Corporate Management Team	Makes key decisions, agrees actions and specific initiatives, and reviews financial performance, monitors corporate risks' approves policies and procedures. Make recommendations to the Board on strategy, policy and resources	Yes	
Investment Decision Group	Considers and decides on all investment proposals and projects	Yes	Select as provides record of all decisions made Projects over £1million are submitted to the Board
Chief Executives meetings - managed by the RDA Co-ordination Unit	Discussion of strategic and operational issues which apply to all RDAs	Yes	Select as provides a record of xRDA discussions at a strategic level

Board Chairs - managed by the RDA Co- ordination Unit	Discussion on ways to advise Government on moving forward policy that will benefit all the regions and with Ministers to raise policy issues that impact on economic regeneration	Yes	High level discussion of cross-RDA policy issues and interaction with Government
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3.2 Areas of policy work undertaken in the Agency

Type of policy	Yes/No	Selection and notes
RDAs play major consultative role in the development of primary legislation directly associated with its role	No	
RDAs develop secondary legislation	No	
RDAs provide advice on carrying out primary or secondary legislation provisions	No	
RDAs provide advice to help government understand the needs and priorities of England's regions, for the Budget and regional funding and spending priorities. Each RDA has a lead role for a national policy area for example, skills and employment, energy	Yes	Select policy development and interaction with Government for each RDA's lead policy area for example, transport for Advantage West Midlands

3.3 Operational work undertaken by the agency

Table 3.3: Operational work of the agency and records created

1. Operational activity	2. Detail of activity	3. Information recorded in case work files	4. Is the information captured through or replicated in a database? Yes or No and enter details under 3.4	5. Is the information captured through or replicated in publications including the Annual Report? Give details	6. Selection? Yes/No	7. Reasons for selection/non-selection
Providing part or full funding for projects in order to deliver the Regional Economic Strategy	Appraisal of projects in line with Single Programme Appraisal Guidance (SPAG)	Project files with common structure	No	Case studies on websites and brief details of key developments in Annual Report	Yes – select projects where the RDA’s contribution is more than £50 million and those with a national impact. Examples are assistance to car industry following Rover closure and the Eden Project	Most significant projects in financial terms and likely impact on region will be selected as well as those with a national importance
Developing programmes, partnerships, collaboration with eg higher education sector, support systems, support, PPP and PFI, providing guidance and information, securing locations, inward	Programme files	Programme files with common structure	No	Case studies on websites and brief details of key developments in Annual Report	Yes - select programmes where the RDA’s contribution is more than £50 million eg development of regeneration zones, Science City and high technology corridors	Most significant projects in financial terms and likely impact on region will be selected

1. Operational activity	2. Detail of activity	3. Information recorded in case work files	4. Is the information captured through or replicated in a database? Yes or No and enter details under 3.4	5. Is the information captured through or replicated in publications including the Annual Report? Give details	6. Selection? Yes/No	7. Reasons for selection/non-selection
investment and skills for new business, monitoring outcomes in order to deliver the Regional Economic Strategy						
Making payments/loans in response to applications	Acting as managing agent and in administration of European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) and European Social Funds (ESF) and Selective	Payments and projects files	No	Case studies on websites and brief details of key developments in Annual Report	Yes - Select programmes with a financial value of more than £50 million – some regions were designated Objective 1 for EU funding and subsequently are part of the Convergence Programme (ERDF and ESF)	The records of the Industrial Development Advisory Board which considers Selective Finance Investment scheme applications above £2 million (previously Regional Selective Assistance scheme) will be selected by BIS. The

1. Operational activity	2. Detail of activity	3. Information recorded in case work files	4. Is the information captured through or replicated in a database? Yes or No and enter details under 3.4	5. Is the information captured through or replicated in publications including the Annual Report? Give details	6. Selection? Yes/No	7. Reasons for selection/non-selection
	Finance for Investment in England (below £2 million)					most significant projects in financial terms and likely impact on region will be selected for those regions targeted by the EU
Managing property (other than its own administrative sites)	Buying properties for sale or demolition as part of regeneration work	Property file	No	No	No	Part of projects above
Preventative or remedial work	Development of regeneration	On project files	No	Case studies on websites and brief details of key work	Yes, select those of national importance, or example MG Rover closure, foot and mouth,	RDAs response to slow and immediate changes in the

1. Operational activity	2. Detail of activity	3. Information recorded in case work files	4. Is the information captured through or replicated in a database? Yes or No and enter details under 3.4	5. Is the information captured through or replicated in publications including the Annual Report? Give details	6. Selection? Yes/No	7. Reasons for selection/non-selection
	zones, establishment of Task Forces to help workforce, economy etc in cases of sudden closure or slow decline of industries			in Annual Report	flooding	regional economy and workforce should be captured
Commissioning research	Yes see 3.5 below					

3.4 Electronic systems

System	Yes/No
Electronic Document and Records Management System	At various stages of implementation in the RDAs
Enterprise Content Management System	See above
Shared Drives	Yes used where EDRM not implemented
Personal drives	Yes
Collaboration systems	Workflow with EDRMs where implemented
Email systems	Yes
Datasets including GIS	Not known but unlikely
CAD systems	No
Wikis	No
Blogs	No
Case management systems	Yes - see below
Portable media (such as laptops, blackberries, memory sticks)	Yes
HR and Finance systems	Yes - see below
Digital audio, film and photograph collections	Photograph and image libraries used for publicity and publications
Other	

Datasets

Name of database	Information contained of historical value	Selection Yes/ No	Reasons for selection/ non-selection
FOR AWM only PMS T	To manage project expenditure	No	Routine administration
Sales Logix	CRM database - Replaced by Tractivity	No	Routine administration
Resource	Manages agency finances	No	Routine administration
Contracts database	Manages funding projects a Recfind database for registration only	No	Routine administration

Image Library

On websites for use of partners, businesses to use for marketing and PR purposes. Not to be selected.

Website(s)

<http://www.advantagewm.co.uk/>
<http://www.nwda.co.uk/>
<http://www.yorkshire-forward.com/>
<http://www.onenortheast.co.uk/>
<http://www.emda.org.uk/main/>
<http://www.eeda.org.uk/>
<http://www.southwestrda.org.uk/>
<http://www.seeda.co.uk/>
<http://www.lida.gov.uk/>

The websites for the RDAs will be crawled as part of the three-monthly archiving of government websites.

3.5 Publications produced by the organisation

Table 3.5: Types of publications and preservation strategies

1. Types of publications	2. Important to preserve? Yes / No	3. Reasons for answer in column 2	4. Preservation at The National Archives or British Library
Standards	N/A		
Inspections	N/A		
Guidance/ codes of practice	N/A		
Training manuals, curricula	N/A		
Annual reports	Yes		At British Library
Regional economic strategies, corporate plans and policy documents	Yes	These set out the RDAs' strategies and work plans and are used to measure their success. Contain very detailed description of plans and performance and give an overall view of the economic situation in the region	At British Library

Main output is public information, for example museums, archives	N/A		
Trade journals	N/A		
Newsletters	No		

3.6 Scientific records

None

3.7 Significant policy issues for the period of appraisal

The Sub-National Review

The Government's Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration (SNR), published in July 2007, and its subsequent consultation document, Prosperous Places (published 31 March 2008), set out proposals for boosting economic performance through a series of reforms aimed at improving the articulation of plans and actions at regional, sub-regional and local levels. It reinforced the position of RDAs as the strategic leads for economic development in their regions and for developing an integrated regional strategy – the Single Regional Strategy (SRS). It required changes to the way in which RDAs would work in the future with a broader, strategic role envisaged by the SNR in cooperation with local authorities, taking on regional responsibility for spatial planning and delegating responsibility for funding to local authorities and sub-regions. The agency would also be taking on Regional Planning Body status. Activity would increasingly be developed at a programme rather than a project level. These proposed changes were significant for the RDAs and their responsibilities. Some RDAs established a joint board with local authorities (for example, The Joint Strategy and Investment Board at Advantage West Midlands) to oversee all aspects of SNR development and delivery, for other RDAs governance remained with Strategy Board and Executive Committee.

Select the records of Boards (where established) to steer the implementation of the SNR and SRS.

Reform of the system of sub-national economic development

In 2010 the Government announced the abolition of the RDAs and their replacement with newly created Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) as part of the building of a new economic model for the regions.

LEPs are joint local-authority-business bodies brought forward by local authorities to promote local economic development. Local businesses and councils are being encouraged to develop their proposals for LEPs which will provide the strategic leadership in their areas in setting out local economic priorities. The London Development Agency may be folded into the Greater London Assembly.

Select the records of the board (where established) to manage the transition from the RDAs to LEPs or the GLA.

The 2012 Olympic Games

Under the umbrella Nations and Regions Group the RDAs are planning for the 2012 Games aims to ensure that the Games will deliver benefits to all in the regions, promote the UK through the business, sporting and cultural assets of the regions and to leave a lasting legacy.

Some RDAs are more advanced than others in developing structures to make the most of the opportunities. For example, Advantage West Midlands has established a Leadership and an Advisory Group.

The National Archives is currently engaged in the development of a National Collections Strategy for the records of the 2012 Olympics but it is likely that some records relating to the RDAs' contribution will be selected.

The selection policy for records created by the RDAs in delivering the 2012 Games will be the subject of a separate Operational Selection Policy.

3.8 Internal administration records

The principles outlined in the [Operational Selection Policy on Records of Internal Administration](#) (OSP38) are that records relating to this subject will be selected from the 'lead' department. However, 'non-lead' departments continue to have the discretion to select records.

Major structural change in the RDAs will be recorded in the records of the RDA Board and Executive Management Board which will be selected as will the records of any Boards established to manage the abolition of the RDAs.

Section 4: Proposals for the selection of records

Strategic

- agendas, minutes and papers of the RDA Board
- agendas, minutes and papers of the RDA Executive Committee
- minutes/decisions of the Investment Decision Group or equivalent
- agendas, minutes and papers of the meetings of the Chairs of the RDA Boards
- agendas, minutes and papers of the meetings of the Chief Executives of the RDAs

Strategic/Policy

Select records of the Board (where established) which oversaw all aspects of the SNR development and delivery.

Select records of the Board (where established) to manage the transition from the RDAs to LEPs.

Policy

Records of policy development for each RDA's lead policy area.

Operational

- project files created in the delivery of the Regional Economic Strategy: those where the RDA's contribution is more than £50 million and those with a national impact
- programme files created in the delivery of the Regional Economic Strategy: those with a value of more than £50 million
- project files created in the course of remedial or preventative work to help the economy, its workforce and skills
- project/programme files created in the management of the European Regional Development Fund: those with a value of more than £50 million

Websites

Will be crawled for all the RDAs.

Publications

The British Library will hold published documents such as the Regional Economic Strategy, Regional Transport Strategy, Economic Indicators, Designing our environment.

Section 5: Additional information and follow-up

5.1 Additional Checks

[The Operational Selection Policy for English Partnerships](#) (OSP 45) recommended that papers of the highest level Boards and committees should be selected. The Board papers detail discussion of and decisions made on the strategic direction of EP while the Committees consider both policy direction and programmes and projects. EP functions through a series of national programmes and the selection of records from the file series created for them together with the committee papers will ensure that policy decisions and the related case files on the expenditure of massive public funds are captured. This OSP mirrors the selection policy for EP.

5.2 Implications of this report for the selection of records held in related departments/agencies

BIS has the lead responsibility for regional economic development and monitors the work of the RDAs. Policy records relating to the former and records concerned with government's relationship, monitoring and support for the RDAs will be selected from BIS.

The Secretariat for the Regional Economic Council is provided jointly by BIS and HM Treasury. As BIS has responsibility for regional economic policy and works in close partnership with regional bodies to increase sustainable economic development the agendas, minutes and papers of the meetings of the Regional Economic Council will be selected from BIS.

The Central Policy Review Group, chaired by BIS, evaluates all projects above the RDAs delegation level. Records of this process will be selected from BIS.

5.3 Implications of the report for the review and selection of paper records relating to the functions covered here

Covers both paper and electronic records.

5.4 Follow-up

The RDAs will be abolished by March 2012.

5.5 Disposition

In line with the deposit of the records of other regional organisations at local places of deposit, the selected records of the Regional Development Agencies will be held in the regions to which they relate. They can be used in conjunction with other local material and will form an important locally held source for historians studying regional and sub-regional economies.

Selected records of the RDA Coordination Unit which operated on behalf of all the RDAs and fulfilled a national role will be held at The National Archives.

Table of the RDAs and the receiving record offices

Regional Development Agency	Local Record Office
London Development Agency	London Metropolitan Archives
South West of England Regional Development Agency	Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre
One North East	Tyne and Wear Archive Service
Yorkshire Forward	West Yorkshire Archive Service
East Midlands Development Agency	Nottinghamshire Archives
Advantage West Midlands	Birmingham Archives and Heritage Service
Northwest Regional Development Agency	Cheshire Record Office
South East England Development Agency	Surrey History Centre
East of England Development Agency	Norfolk Record Office