A NORMATIVE PLANNING FRAMEWORK: TERMS AND RELATIONSHIPS

TERM	DESCRIPTION	CHARACTERISTICS
GOAL	What is being aimed for	Statements setting an aim or direction to focus on
(or anticipated environmental outcome)		 Values sought after (sometimes described as a vision or mission statement)
		Not necessarily measurable
		 Something to aspire to but not necessarily attainable
		 More universal and also more abstract or nebulous than objectives
		Necessary to put objectives into perspective
		Is a statement of the purpose(s) behind, or reason for, the objectives
OBJECTIVES	What is to be achieved	Statements of resource management matters to be achieved
		 Statements giving decision-makers a well defined point to be reached
		 Have a shorter timeframe and are more specific than goals
		Capable of being attained
		 Capable of being measured
		Not always necessary to state why the environmental outcome (or resource management end) should be reached (which is why explanations should accompany objectives)
		Subject to change as circumstances change
POLICIES	How objectives are to be achieved	Statements of means required to achieve the resource management end(s) via showing how it is intended to achieve the objectives
		Capable of being attained, measured and reviewed
METHODS	How policies are to be implemented (eg by rules)	Statements indicating the instruments to be used to implement policies
(or means of implementation)		■ Includes any rules (in the case of a Regional Plan)
		 Includes non-regulatory methods such as providing information, providing a service or using economic instruments

