

Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks 2008-2011

Profiles

Devon is fortunate in containing two National Parks, reflecting the exceptional quality of its landscapes. Approximately 80 sq miles, (nearly a third) of Exmoor National Park lies within North Devon whilst the 368 sq miles of Dartmoor are divided between West Devon, South Hams and Teignbridge with a small area extending into Mid Devon. Both National Parks were designated for their extensive areas of moorland, with Dartmoor representing the largest area of open land in Southern England. Exmoor also encompasses a spectacular 55km Heritage Coast containing the highest sea cliffs in England. They both contain a wide variety of landscapes and wildlife habitats which are nationally and internationally important and represent national resources that contribute significantly to the quality of life of Devon's residents and the attraction of the County for economic investment.

People

The National Parks are not 'wilderness' areas but working landscapes which are home to several thousand people. The population of the Devon part of Exmoor (2800) lives mainly in the twin settlements of Lynton and Lynmouth with a few small villages and scattered hamlets in the rural hinterland. About half of the 34000 residents of Dartmoor live in eight larger towns and villages located around the edge of the high moor, the largest of which is Ashburton with a population of 3500. The remaining 50% is contained within numerous smaller villages and hamlets across the area with a reducing population density towards the western part of Dartmoor.

Economic and Social Wellbeing

The deeply rural nature of both National Parks present challenges for both businesses and residents and economic performance is significantly below regional and national averages reflecting a high proportion of lower added value sectors such as agriculture and tourism as well as a high proportion of smaller and micro businesses. Tourism employs the largest number of people on Dartmoor at more than 16%, much of which is part-time and seasonal. Farming and forestry are fundamental to the maintenance of the traditional upland landscape and social coherence of the National Park yet employ only around 6% of the workforce reflecting the changes in the structure of upland farming.

The economy of Exmoor shows similar characteristics and shares with Dartmoor lower than average unemployment rates and relatively low average household incomes. There is a higher dependency on traditional employment sectors with 14% of jobs in agriculture and 29% tourism related industries. The economies of both Dartmoor and Exmoor are closely linked with businesses and people in the surrounding towns and this interrelationship is important to recognise so that actions to achieve LAA priorities are joined up and achieved through close partnership working across the National Park boundaries.

Access to services, facilities, jobs and training opportunities present specific challenges for the residents of both National Parks with rural businesses serving small communities being particularly vulnerable to economic conditions and changing circumstances. This is exacerbated by the lack of public transport and for many local people the car is the only practical means of transport. Access to affordable housing presents significant problems and the shortage of such housing is resulting in ongoing social and population change in both National Parks. On Exmoor the proportion of second and holiday homes, which is at 10% of total households, is adding to this problem, though the key issue in both National Parks is the differential between average

household incomes and average house prices which on Exmoor is 14 times and on Dartmoor 10 times local household incomes.

National Park Authorities involvement in the LAA

Exmoor and Dartmoor National Parks are administered by their respective National Park Authorities with responsibilities for implementing the two statutory National Park purposes relating to landscape conservation/enhancement and public understanding/enjoyment. Whilst pursuing these purposes the Authorities also seek to foster the economic and social well being of the local communities within the Parks by working in partnership with those agencies and bodies with direct responsibility for economic development.

National Park Authorities are 'free-standing', special purpose authorities within the local government framework and are the local planning authorities for their areas. Planning apart, all other local government responsibilities remain with the relevant district and county councils within the National Parks. Both National Park Authorities are key partners in each Local Strategic Partnership of the local authorities within each Park (one in the Devon part of Exmoor, 4 in Dartmoor) and are responsible, through their Local Development Frameworks for delivering the spatial elements of each Sustainable Community Strategy within the respective National Park area.

The National Park Authorities are also represented on the Devon Strategic Partnership and will play an important role in the delivery of the priorities most relevant to their roles in the Local Area Agreement. Delivery mechanisms will be through the implementation of the planning role of the National Park Authorities and actions included in each National Park Management Plan. This is the single most important strategic plan for the future management of each National Park and will guide decisions over a five year period working towards a twenty year vision. Actions and goals in each Management Plan which are complementary to the Local Area Agreement priorities have been identified and cover the following key issues:

- Actions to adapt to and mitigate against the potential impacts of climate change on principal vulnerabilities in Dartmoor, Exmoor and wider areas;
- Reduction in carbon emissions through support for public sector supply chains and through leading by example in their corporate working;
- Improved soil management and promotion of flood management approaches to reduce erosion, run off and ensure the conditions of the blanket bogs on Exmoor and Dartmoor are improved to maximize their role in storing and absorbing atmospheric carbon dioxide;
- Active management to conserve and enhance the National Parks' biodiversity and geology;
- Improved access to services and facilities for local communities through support for funding programmes and implementation of planning role;
- Increased levels of physical activity and improved health by promoting opportunities for active recreation and enjoyment of the Parks' special qualities;
- Working with partners to address problems associated with rural deprivation and social isolation;
- Improved economic performance and skills base of rural businesses, developing the economy in ways that benefit from and contribute to a high quality environment;
- Support provision of rural employment workspace through implementation of planning role;
- Increased delivery of sustainable affordable housing for the needs of the National Parks' communities.

East Devon District 2008-11 (DRAFT)

A profile of the District

East Devon District covers 314 square miles between Exeter, Somerset (inland) and Dorset (east). We have 8 main settlements of over 3000 people the largest, Exmouth, is Devon's biggest town (33,000 population). A new settlement, Cranbrook, is planned.

Our coastline forms part of England's first and only World Heritage site designated for its natural environment. The large East Devon Area of outstanding Natural Beauty lies wholly within the District, together with the greater part of the Blackdown Hills AONB. Our estuaries are important wildlife sites. There is therefore a strong and outstanding rural character to the District.

People

East Devon is one of the largest English Districts by population (129,800 in 2006). The average household size is 2.22 persons per dwelling (below regional and English averages). 29.5% of the East Devon population are retired (compared to 20.3% in the SouthWest) it having one of the most elderly profiles in England.

Economy

East Devon is characterised by low unemployment but also low wages with a disproportionate number of low pay/low skill jobs. Most employment (60%) within East Devon is either in the district hotel or restaurant sector, or in public administration, education and health. Agriculture and fishing are only about 3.1% of jobs. East Devon residents with jobs outside the area have higher income levels on average.

Housing

There are around 63,000 householders in East Devon and Regional Spatial Strategy pressure to create another 17,000. There is a strong need for affordable housing as East Devon is recognised as having one of the largest gaps between house prices and household income in England. 70% of new affordable housing needs to be social rented housing according to a recent independent survey.

Crime

East Devon has one of the lowest rates of crime and disorder in the South West, and the country as a whole. Nonetheless the fear of crime remains high.

Health & Wellbeing

The residents of East Devon have a good level of overall health being below average in almost all areas of disease or mortality. Nonetheless 20% of households include people with 'long term limiting illness' and our age profile must be borne in mind.

Transport

Whilst many of our communities are well served by road access, and public road and rail transport, links (and Exeter Airport is in East Devon) the inland rural areas especially suffer from 'access deprivation'. Many parts fall into the worse 25% nationally for this problem. We have an active community transport sector who can assist certain of the most vulnerable sectors of our community. Around one fifth of East Devon households do not own a car.

	Priority	In what way	Measures
LAA1	Reduce quantities of municipal waste arising and landfilled.	Increasing opportunity for household recycling/kitchen waste composting.	Household recycling rate
LAA2	Improve the quality of public spaces and accessibility of green (including play and leisure) infrastructure as part of new developments.	Play, public space and nature reserve initiatives. Planning gain.	Delivery of projects
LAA5	Reduce carbon dioxide emissions.	Carbon Trust review of EDDC.	Level of CO ₂ emissions from EDDC activities.
LAA8	Targeted conservation and enhancement of Devon's biodiversity and geology	Axe Wetlands, Jurassic Coast, and Exe Estuary initiatives.	Delivery of projects
LAA9	Improve access to services and facilities through co-ordination of transport services and access to information technology, ensuring dignity and respect for all.	Transport services for Cranbrook. IT linkages between EDDC and local communities.	Delivery of projects.
LAA13	Maintain and increase levels of physical activity and sport	ED contract, Play initiatives, Active East Devon.	Numbers participating?
LAA16	Promote active, empowered and influential communities	Consultation, Town and Parish Council support, asset transfer, Planning obligations.	Number of initiatives
LAA19	Develop an innovation strategy and delivery network across Devon to achieve an economic uplift and increased GVA.	Partnership work on Science Park.	Delivery of Science Park units to innovation industries.
LAA22	Ensure that Devon has an appropriate range of employment space	Seaton and Exmouth regeneration schemes and West End of district development.	Square metres of employment space
LAA23	Increased housing delivery at strategically significant cities and towns, and their associated new communities	Cranbrook housing delivery.	Units delivered NI 154
LAA26	Increase the delivery of affordable housing	Stimulating building and land release through Planning Policy.	Units delivered NI 155
LAA27	Improve housing options for the homeless and vulnerable clients	Foyer scheme, sanctuary scheme, mediation for people excluded from home, special housing support exceed government's target for temporary accommodation and other items in Council's Homelessness Strategy.	Government's PIE return N156
LAA33	Improve energy performance of housing stock and reduce fuel poverty	Warm zones initiatives, Council homes insulation.	Reduced CO ₂
LAA34	Reduce antisocial behaviour	Proactive work using REACT team, community wardens and new powers, intergenerational work.	Number of complaints resolved.

Exeter (Draft)

Profile of Exeter

The City of Exeter is a compact urban area of 4,719 hectares and is a major centre for business and tourism, culture, education and business administration within the South West region. It is the regional centre for a large area, providing amenities and services normally found in much larger cities. It also faces many of the challenges affecting larger urban areas, experiencing relative concentrations of social problems and has two Lower Super Output Areas within the 10% most deprived areas in the country.

People

Exeter has a population of 119,600, which represents an increase of around 2.6% between mid 2005 and mid 2006. The proportion of those aged below 16 (15.3%) and those of retirement age (17.3%) are lower than local, regional and national averages, due in part to the number of young adults studying at the University. Recent research suggests that the Black and Minority Ethnic community now represents 4.4% of the population compared to 2.6% within Devon overall.

The Economy

Exeter has a buoyant and growing economy, and is the predominant centre for the service sector in the western half of the region. The proportion of employment in knowledge driven sectors is also higher than in Devon and the South West as a whole. It has a skilled workforce, with higher levels of employees with further and higher education qualifications than the national average. Unemployment is low (1.7% May 08), however, the average annual income for residents is below national, regional and local levels, and it has the lowest employment rate within Devon, reflecting the fact that a large number of Exeter's workforce live outside the city.

Skills

There is a below average share of residents with high skills, with 21.8% of the working population qualified to below level NVQ2. The low level of qualifications at school level compared with the high levels of skills within the workforce means there is a mismatch between locally generated skills and jobs in Exeter, and this needs to be considered in terms of future opportunities for young residents. Fourteen percent of 16-24 year olds are unemployed, which is higher than the regional and national average.

Housing

Exeter has a high standard of housing, with about 49,000 properties, 5093 of which are council owned. Unfortunately as the population grows increasing demand is driving up house prices (average price £204,058) and private sector rents. There are 5,000 eligible households on the Housing Register, 203 homeless households in temporary accommodation, and over a quarter of households in Exeter (27.1%) have at least one health problem affecting their housing needs.

Crime

Exeter is a safe place to live, work and visit, with levels of residents who feel safe in the city above the national average. However, the perception of anti-social behaviour is well above the national average, particularly the share of residents perceiving alcohol problems in public places as a problem. There is evidence to suggest that some prolific offenders are responsible for the majority of crime in Exeter.

Health and Wellbeing

Average life expectancy in Exeter is above the national average at 80.6 years, but below the average for Devon. The gap in life expectancy between those living in the most deprived and the least deprived areas of Exeter is about 4 years. A quarter of all adults in Exeter are estimated to smoke, and early deaths from cancer and heart disease are above national, regional and Devon-wide levels.

Transport

Exeter is at the centre of the communications network in the South West, with key rail links to two mainline London stations and to the north, the M5/A30/A303 trunk road network and Exeter Airport. Within Exeter there is an established public transport network, park and ride facilities, cycle and walking routes, a range of radial and local roads and city centre parking. Accessibility, both to and from and within the city is a major local issue, as are pollution and congestion.

The Environment

Exeter has a well-developed base of amenities for residents, visitors, workers and businesses. For a city, it has a high quality natural environment, with 37% of the city's area designated as 'green areas' protected from inappropriate development. The river Exe has a high proportion of wildlife sites within the city boundary. However, pollution levels have increased in some areas of the city due to traffic levels and congestion and air quality is below national, regional and local levels.

Children and Young People

The relative underperformance of children in Exeter's high schools remains of concern, despite some improvement following changes to the middle school system and investment in school buildings. GCSE results at 5A*-C (49.3%) are far behind the regional (58.28%) and national (51.6%) averages, which as detailed in the skills section, has implications for future employment opportunities for young people. Teenage pregnancy rates are higher than regional and national averages.

Exeter Vision Priorities	LAA links	Local Delivery	Partners
A World Class Environment			
<p>Maintaining a clean and pleasant built and natural environment.</p> <p>Enhancing and promoting enjoyment of the city's natural assets</p>	<p>LAA 2 - Improve the quality, quantity (clean green and safe) and accessibility of public spaces and green infrastructure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement management plans and strategies for maintenance and improvement of public/green spaces. Develop activities through the Exeter Wild City project. 	<p>ECC Devon Wildlife Trust Exeter Vision Partners</p>
<p>Promoting the efficient use of natural resources, minimal waste production and high levels of recycling</p>	<p>LAA1 - Reduce quantities of municipal waste arising and landfilled.</p> <p>LAA3 - Identification and prioritisation of, OR improved understanding of the principal vulnerabilities in Devon to potential climate change impacts projected during the period covered by the Sustainable Community Strategy.</p> <p>LAA5 - Reduce carbon dioxide emissions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue work with residents and businesses to promote recycling and composting and reduce waste going to landfill. Identify the risks and vulnerabilities of Exeter to Climate Change and identify/develop appropriate adaptation measures. Formalise the Exeter Vision Partnership Climate Change and Environment Delivery Group Implement Actions in the Exeter Climate Change Strategy 	<p>DCC University of Exeter Centre for Energy and Environment Met Office Environment Agency Devon Wildlife Trust Exeter Vision Partners</p>
Strong and Inclusive Communities			
<p>Promoting participation of local people in decisions affecting their lives and in the voluntary and community sector</p> <p>Promoting equality of opportunity through support for disadvantaged groups.</p>	<p>LAA 16 - Promote active, empowered and influential communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on the Exeter Neighbourhood Engagement Pilot to develop resident participation and decision-making processes. 	<p>Voluntary and Community Sector (ECC and CVS).</p>
A Growing Economy			
<p>Encouraging cutting-edge businesses in the science, technology, and research sectors</p> <p>A centre for excellence in the</p>	<p>LAA 19 - Develop an innovation strategy and delivery network across Devon to achieve an economic uplift and increased GVA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work to develop innovation support facilities linked to a mentoring network and draw on the strengths of the Innovation Centre in Exeter. Co-ordination of the Science Park Steering Group, and preparation of the business plan. 	<p>Exeter City Council The University of Exeter Innovation Centre</p>

fields of environmental science, medical research and health			
Reducing income inequalities through increased access to better paid employment	<p>LAA 14 - Provide co-ordinated support to unlock the economic potential of Devon's most disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>LAA 15a - Work towards the economic inclusion and social integration of vulnerable populations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve co-ordination of activity to raise aspiration and attainment through the Positive Steps panel. • Social Health and Inclusion Partnership (SHIP) to review potential actions for most deprived neighbourhoods within Exeter. • At least 25% of households in St David's, Priory and Whipton Barton wards have an income of £15K or less*. 	<p>Exeter City Council Business Partnerships SHIP Exeter Vision Partners</p>
A learning city with continuing opportunities for all people to access training and skills development and with high levels of participation and achievement	LAA 17 - Develop and harness skills to achieve a more competitive economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordinate activity through the Employment and Skills board for Exeter, with a focused approach aimed at improving the match between local skills supply and demand. 	<p>Employment and Skills Board for Exeter Exeter Vision Partners</p>
Tackling the problem of car congestion with significant investment in integrated transport both within Exeter and the links to and from the city	<p>LAA 20 - To improve level of use of sustainable modes of travel and ensure expeditious movement by all transport modes, through awareness raising coupled with the adequate provision and management of transport infrastructure.</p> <p>LAA 21- Deliver major infrastructure improvement schemes which form part of the Regional Transport Strategy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase sustainable transport through implementation of ECC Park & Ride, Cycling and Walking strategies. • Continue to move forward through initiatives such as Major Schemes Bid and Regional Infrastructure Fund. 	<p>ECC DCC</p>
Homes and Housing			
Ensuring housing needs are met, especially encouraging more affordable housing both in the city and surrounding areas	<p>LAA 23 - Increasing housing delivery, especially at strategically significant cities and towns and their associated new communities.</p> <p>LAA 26 - Increase the delivery of affordable housing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue housing delivery through the LDF and New Growth Point work. • ECC will continue to work with partners in the wider Housing Market Area. • ECC will implement new sub-regional choice based lettings scheme, improving joint working with local housing associations and giving benefits and employment advice. 	<p>ECC DSHG Housing Associations</p>

	LAA27 - Improve housing options for the homeless and vulnerable clients.		
Inspiring Young People			
A learning city with continuing opportunities for all people to access training and skills development and with high levels of participation and achievement	LAA29 - Narrow the gap between the lowest attaining 20% of children 0-19 and the achievements of all young people in Devon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help raise aspirations of local people to achieve through learning and progress through work • Work through SHIP to address social factors affecting low attainment. • Twenty SOA locations within Exeter fall into the worst 25% nationally for Education Skills and Training*. • Teenage pregnancy rates (15-17) are high in St David's, Exwick, St James and Priory. 	Exeter College Exeter University Employment and Skills Board for Exeter Exeter Vision Partnerships SHIP Exeter 4 Learning
Health and Wellbeing			
Reducing health inequalities in the city, targeting areas of greatest need and least access	<p>LAA30 - Promote Health and reduce health inequalities.</p> <p>LAA33 - Improve the energy performance of the housing stock and reduce fuel poverty.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHIP to review potential actions to assist the most deprived neighbourhoods within Exeter. • SOAs within St David's, Newtown, Priory and St James fall into the 10 to 20% of worst deprived areas for Health and Disability. • Implement Actions in the Exeter Climate Change Strategy 	SHIP Devon PCT
A Safer Devon			
The safest city in the south west, particularly minimising drug abuse	<p>LAA32 - Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs</p> <p>LAA34 - Reduce antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>LAA37 - Tackle the most harmful offending behaviour.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using Police Operation Deter, Three Strikes campaign, CCTV monitoring, Alcohol Arrest Referral scheme, licensing activity against illegal alcohol sales and a focus on underage drinking. Measured through NI20. 	Exeter Community Safety Partnership

Mid Devon District 2008-2011

A Profile of the District

Mid Devon is a rural district lying in the heart of Devon. Just under half of the population of 76,500 live in three market towns of Tiverton, Cullompton and Crediton while over half live in the scattered villages of the rural hinterland. The population is expected to increase by 20% in the next 15 years, mainly due to inward migration, with the highest increase in those of retirement age. The Black and Minority Ethnic population is small but there is a significant number of migrant workers, mostly from Eastern Europe.

The Economy: Jobs in Mid Devon tend to be low skilled and low waged, with average earnings 13% lower than the national average, but there is low unemployment. The proportion of people of working age who lack any qualifications is higher than the Devon average. The economy is dominated by low waged industries in the manufacturing and retail sectors with a high dependence on agriculture and agriculturally based industries such as food processing.

The Environment: The natural environment of Mid Devon is of a high quality. The district borders Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks and extends well into the Blackdown Hills AONB. The quality of the natural environment is matched by the richness of its cultural heritage with many listed buildings, Conservation Areas and Scheduled Monuments. However, there are areas of Crediton and Cullompton where air quality has been identified as poor.

Housing: The high rate of inward migration has led to house price inflation. House prices have increased by 263% since 1998, far outstripping local average wages. The average house price are currently over 10 times the average full time wage. This situation is considerably worse in the rural areas of the District.

Crime: Mid Devon is an area of low crime with the incidence of all major crime (theft, burglary, violent crime) well below national averages. Nevertheless residents have concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour.

Children & Young People: Mid Devon schools generally perform well against national averages, but there are pockets of low educational attainment in Tiverton. There are few recreational facilities for children and young people, especially in rural areas, and a general lack of opportunities for training and employment. A significant proportion of young people move out of the area for education and work.

Rurality: Some 62% of the District falls into the bottom quartile of deprivation for 'Access to Housing and Services'. Access to vital services can be a significant problem for some people, particularly those on low income. Many rural communities are continuing to lose vital services. Over half of rural parishes do not have a Post Office, and access to scheduled public transport is also a problem.

Health & Wellbeing: The residents of Mid Devon are generally healthier than the rest of the population in the UK. Life expectancy is higher than the national average both for men and women, and mortality rates for all major diseases are lower. However the growing proportion of over 75s will put increasing demands on health and social care services.

Although the Mid Devon fares well in national statistics, small parts of Tiverton, Cullompton and Crediton do disproportionately badly for income, education, skills and training when compared to other areas nationally.

Challenges facing Mid Devon

- Meeting the needs of an increasing and ageing population
- Providing targeted support for pockets of deprivation and areas in need
- Providing access to services and information particularly for those on low incomes, or who are sick or disabled
- Providing sufficient housing that is affordable for residents and key workers
- Providing good quality health services and tackling preventable diseases
- Overcoming residents' concerns about crime and Anti Social Behaviour
- Encouraging investment and attracting higher waged industries
- Increasing skills and aspirations of the workforce
- Increasing average incomes
- Maintaining the high quality of the natural and built environment while meeting the economic and social needs of the residents
- Responding to climate change
- Increasing opportunities for children and young people, so that more children keep positively engaged with their communities and eventually stay to live and work in the district.

Delivering the Local Area Agreement

Mid Devon Priorities	Links to LAA	Local Delivery Targets	Local Partners
Cross-cutting themes			
Improving access to services by improving travel options and making better use of community facilities such as village halls	LAA 9 - Improve access to services and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide and update transport guides for 3 market towns Research effectiveness and impact of Tiverton Parkway Station and connection transport options Provide service access assessment and support to VCS and Public Sector service providers 	MDTG Involve MDDC DCC
Improve fair access to services and facilities ensuring dignity and respect for all		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement MDDC Customer First Increase access to Out of Hours services through joint working between MDDC & DCC 	MDDC MDDC / DCC
A World Class Environment			
Reducing the amount of waste	LAA 1 - Reduce waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycle 46% of our household waste by 2009 (MDDC) Reduce the amount of waste going to landfill to 20,000 tonnes by 2013 (MDDC) 	MDDC Mid Devon Community Recycling
Improving the quality of our public spaces	LAA 2 - Improve Public space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Air Quality Schemes for Cullompton and Crediton (MDDC) 	MDDC / DCC
Responding to the challenges of climate change	LAA 3 - Climate Change LAA 5 - Reduce Carbon Dioxide emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the carbon footprint of the Council's building by 2% every year to 2013 (MDDC) 	Devon PCT, MDDC
Strong and Inclusive Communities			
Providing targeted support for vulnerable communities	LAA 14 - increase economic inclusion LAA 17 - Active, empowered and influential communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Community Development support in targeted neighbourhoods: St. Andrew's / Uffculme/ Cowley Moor Maintaining vital services in rural communities 	Devon PCT MDDC DCC Involve
Working with voluntary sector to increase community activity, community planning / support for frontline voluntary and community	LAA 17 - Active, empowered and influential communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing 7 units of low cost supported office space for VCOs Development of organisational health check and training service 	LSP

groups		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of funding advice, project and organisational development support 	
Promoting active, empowered and influential communities	LAA 16 - Empowered and influential communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support parishes undertaking community planning 	LSP CCD
A Growing Economy			
Improving workforce skills and aspirations	LAA 17 - develop skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Inclusion and training re-engagement project Development of CPD training programme for salaried VCO employees 	Involve Involve
Encouraging investment to bring better quality jobs in the area	LAA 14 - support for priority communities LAA 22 - employment space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the availability of employment land by 14,700 sq m per year 	MDDC
Promote rural regeneration through support for the agricultural sector, diversification and rural industries and regeneration of our market towns, tourism	LAA 25 - Support for land-based industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote use of Tiverton Pannier Market - Crate to Plate project - Tiverton Implement town centre improvements in Cullompton 	EVE MDDC
Homes & Housing			
There will be more units of affordable housing	LAA 26 - Increasing affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve 500 affordable housing by 2013 (MDDC) 	MDDC
Improving housing options for the vulnerable	LAA 27 - Improving housing options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased specialist housing advice Prevention of youth homelessness through mediation and counselling 	CHAT
Inspiring Young People			
Raising Aspirations in areas of low educational attainment	LAA 29 - Reducing the gap in attainment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the Tiverton Family Festival 	EVE, Involve, Tiverton Schools,
Providing young people with better facilities for leisure time activities	LAA 13 - Increasing physical activity LAA 38 - Reduce youth offending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment in youth facilities - CREDITON & CULLOMPTON skateboard park, Tiverton BMX track (MDDC & Community Groups) 	MDDC / Community groups
Promoting Children's Play	LAA 13 - Increasing physical activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Play Strategy for Mid Devon 	CTLF

Health & Wellbeing			
Reducing health inequalities by working in vulnerable communities	LAA 30 - Reduce health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Community Development support in targeted neighbourhoods: St. Andrew's / Uffculme/ Cowley Moor 	Devon PCT , MDDC DCC Involve
Reducing health inequalities by working with vulnerable individuals to reduce fuel poverty and economic exclusion	LAA 30 - Reduce health inequalities LAA 33 - Reduce fuel poverty LAA 15 - Economic Inclusion LAA 24 - Reducing gap in benefits rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the 'Devon Warm Zone' in Crediton • Provide support to vulnerable individuals through CAB rural outreach worker & debt councillor 	MDDC MDCAB
Supporting programmes which lead to people being more physically active	LAA 13 - Increasing participation in sporting activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for extension of 5X30 project • Support for Community Sports networks 	Devon PCT, MDDC
A Safer Devon			
Reducing levels of anti-social behaviour and fear of crime	LAA 28 - ensure people are safe from harm LAA 32 - reduce harm caused by alcohol and drugs LAA 34 - reduce anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support neighbourhood projects where anti-social behaviour has been a problem: St. Andrew's Project; Uffculme Project • Support for development of Youth facilities • Reduce by 5% incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour; (M&ED CDRP) • Reduce by 3% offences of criminal damage (M&ED CDRP) 	Community Safety Partnership
Reducing Violent Crime	LAA 32 - reduce harm caused by alcohol and drugs LAA 37 - Tackle harmful offending behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce by 5% offences of violence in public spaces (M&ED CDRP) • Reduce by 5% minor assault offences (M&ED CDRP) 	Community Safety Partnership
Reducing Acquisitive crime	LAA 37 - Tackle harmful offending behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce by 3% offences of burglary (M&ED CDRP) • Reduce by 5% offences of theft from motor vehicles (M&ED CDRP) 	Community Safety Partnership

North Devon and Torrington (DRAFT)

Profile

Partners in North Devon and Torrington have established a joint Local Strategic Partnership because of the similarity of the challenges and opportunities facing the area. It covers a mainly rural area of just over 800 square miles, which includes 297 square miles of protected landscapes including the AONB, Biosphere Reserve and 77 square miles of Exmoor National Park.

People 155,700 people live in the area (2006 figure). This is expected to increase by more than 10% by 2021. One of the main issues for the area is that population growth will further increase the average age. The age balance of the population already differs from the UK average. A higher proportion is aged 50 and over, with fewer under 50. This is partly due to young people leaving the area for educational and work opportunities elsewhere, and partly to the attractiveness of the area to older people due to the high quality of life. However, the area sparsely populated with only 194 people per square mile on average (Devon average 299, Southwest 557, England 1,009). A small but growing proportion of the population is BME or economic migrants.

Economy Unemployment rates are below the UK average, partly because of the relatively high proportion of self-employment. However, income levels are very low (around 80% of the UK average). This has a severe impact on the ability of the people to find homes in the area and to enjoy the high quality environment. Increasing numbers of people are experiencing debt and fuel poverty.

Housing The area covers most of a housing market area (a housing market is the area within which most people who are looking to move home will search for a new property in which to live). There are a number of significant challenges. Due to low income levels the area has one of the highest ratios of house prices to incomes in the country, so it is very difficult to become a new owner-occupier. The low proportion of social rented housing makes it difficult to rent an affordable property. There are also pockets where the housing stock has a large proportion of "non-decent" housing.

Crime *Although we have a high fear of crime from residents, we have relatively low crime rates. For example, the British Crime Survey in 2006/7 (which asks about people's experiences and perceptions of crime) showed we had 42 offences per 1,000 people compared to a national average of 61.*

Health and wellbeing The health population is generally good but the area has 7 out of 95 super output areas in the most deprived fifth of the country. At 76.7 years for men and 81.5 for women life expectancy is higher than averages for England and Wales, which are 76.1 and 80.7 respectively. However, there is a difference of 13.3 years between the most and least deprived wards.

Transport The area has 2,303 miles of road, but only 3 miles of it is dual carriageway, and that has a 50mph speed limit. The rurality of the area requires high levels of car ownership, an average of more than one for each household. Low incomes means older cars, further adding to the strain on household budgets. This led to transport CO2 emissions of just over 3 tonnes per person in 2005.

Key themes for the area

Seven main issues were identified:

- 1) **A World Class Environment.** Supporting our world class natural environment, our built environment and cultural heritage to improve the look and feel of the places where we live
- 2) **Strong and Inclusive Communities.** Working to ensure strong, prosperous and inclusive communities with a sustainable and vibrant future
- 3) **A Growing Economy.** Creating the conditions to enable North Devon and Torrington to have a strong and growing economy, and ensuring maximum opportunities are available for everyone to contribute to and benefit from it
- 4) **Homes and Housing.** Ensuring the availability and balance of appropriate housing
- 5) **Inspiring Young People.** Inspiring our young people to achieve their best and supporting them in tackling the issues that concern them most
- 6) **Health and Wellbeing.** Promoting health and personal wellbeing for all so that people are as healthy as possible

- 7) A **Safer northern Devon**. Tackling behaviour that intimidates or hurts people in North Devon and Torridge

Our priority	Links to the Local Area Agreement	Performance indicator	Local lead partners
1) A World Class Environment	LAA1 Reduce quantities of municipal waste arising and landfilled.	NI 193 "Municipal waste landfilled"	District and County Councils
1) A World Class Environment	LAA2 Improve the Quantity, Quality (Clean, Green and Safe) and Accessibility of Public Spaces and Green Infrastructure.	Percentage increase in satisfaction of parks and open spaces. Net loss or gain in the area of public open space.	District Councils
1) A World Class Environment	LAA3 Identification and prioritisation of, or improved understanding of the principal vulnerabilities in northern Devon to potential climate change impacts projected during the period covered by the Sustainable Community Strategy.	NI 188 "Adaption to Climate Change"	To be determined by LSP
1) A World Class Environment	LAA4 Improve business productivity of the renewable energy sector in northern Devon.	Growth in business productivity (GVA). Tonnes of CO2	North Devon and Torridge Joint Local Strategic Partnership
1) A World Class Environment	LAA8 Targeted conservation and enhancement of northern Devon's biodiversity and geology.	NI 197 "Improved local biodiversity – proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented"	To be determined by LSP
1) A World Class Environment	LAA12 Increase participation in cultural activities	Local indicators to be established.	To be determined by LSP
1) A World Class Environment	LAA33 Improve the energy performance of the housing stock and reduce fuel poverty	NI 187 "Tackling fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating" Tonnes of CO2 saved.	District Councils

Our priority	Links to the Local Area Agreement	Performance indicator	Local lead partners
2) Strong and Inclusive Communities	LAA16 Promote active, empowered and influential communities	NI 7 “Environment for a thriving third sector”. NI 4 “% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality”.	To be determined by LSP
2) Strong and Inclusive Communities 3) A Growing Economy	LAA15 Work towards the economic inclusion and social integration of vulnerable populations	Local indicators to be established.	To be determined by LSP
3) A Growing Economy	LAA14 Provide coordinated support to unlock the economic potential of northern Devon's most disadvantaged communities	Percentage of employment development in priority neighbourhoods.	To be determined by LSP
3) A Growing Economy	LAA17 Develop and harness skills to achieve a competitive economy	NI 164 "Working age population qualified to at least level 3 or higher"	To be determined by LSP
3) A Growing Economy	LAA19 Develop an innovation strategy and delivery network to achieve an economic uplift and increased GVA.	Growth in business productivity (GVA).	To be determined by LSP
3) A Growing Economy	LAA22 Ensure that northern Devon has an appropriate range of employment space.	Amount of development land available by location. Amount of floorspace by type of development.	To be determined by LSP
3) A Growing Economy	LAA24 Reduce the gap in benefit claims rates and employments rates between priority communities and the average for northern Devon	NI 146 “Adults with learning disabilities in employment” NI 153 "Working age people claiming out of work benefits” in the worst performing neighbourhoods.	Job Centre+

Our priority	Links to the Local Area Agreement	Performance indicator	Local lead partners
4) Homes and Housing	LAA23 Increasing housing delivery, especially at strategically significant cities and towns and their associated new communities.	NI 154 "Net additional homes provided"	To be determined by LSP
4) Homes and Housing	LAA26 Increasing the delivery of affordable housing	NI 155 "Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)". Delivery of affordable housing in settlements under 3,000 population.	District Councils
4) Homes and Housing	LAA27 Improve housing options for the homeless and vulnerable clients.	Number of vulnerable households living in temporary accommodation.	District Councils
5) Inspiring Young People	LAA29 Narrow the gap between the lowest attaining 20% and the rest by improving their rate of progress and raising their levels of achievement (LAA29).	NI 50 "Emotional health of children"*	To be determined by LSP
6) Health and Wellbeing	LAA13 Maintain and increase levels of physical activity and sport	NI 8 "Adult participation in sport and active recreation"	To be determined by LSP
7) A Safer northern Devon	LAA32 Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs	NI 20 "Assault with injury crime rate" NI 39 "Rate of hospital admissions per 100,000 for alcohol related harm"	To be determined by LSP
7) A Safer northern Devon	LAA34 Reduce antisocial behaviour	NI 27 "Understanding of local concerns about anti social behaviour and crime by the local council and police".	The joint LSP acting as the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.
7) A Safer northern Devon	LAA36 Reduce the social, emotional and costs impacts on victims and the wider society by tackling domestic violence and abuse	NI 32 "Repeat incidents of domestic violence"	Against Domestic Violence and Abuse Partnership (ADVA)
7) A Safer northern Devon	LAA38 Reduce youth offending	NI 111 "First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17"	Youth Offending Team

Teignbridge

Profile

The Teignbridge District covers 260 square miles, which includes 98 square miles of Dartmoor National Park. The district is 22 miles long and 21 miles wide, with 22 miles of coastline including the Exe and Teign estuaries. There is a diverse geography within the district, ranging from coastal resorts to rural countryside, with the main market town of Newton Abbot. This also creates a range of different communities, all with differing needs.

People The mid-year 2006 Teignbridge population estimate is 125,500 and Teignbridge's population is increasing year on year by between 0.5% and 1.1%, compared with the UK average growth of 0.5% per year since 2001. Teignbridge's population is projected to increase by 22%, from 123,900 in 2004 to 151,400 by 2029. The population is ageing with number of people of retirement age projected to increase from 22% of the total population of Teignbridge in 2004 to 31% by 2029. The numbers of all ethnic minority groups are increasing and have risen from 1.0% of the Teignbridge population in 2001 to 2.1% in 2004.

Economy The employment rate in Teignbridge has increased by 9.2% from March 1999 to December 2006 and is now 83.6% which is above the rates for the South West. Wage rates have increased to an average of £393.50 per week but are still below the average for the South West (£423.50) and Great Britain (£449.60).

Housing There are currently 56,497 households in Teignbridge. This has increased since 2001 when there were a total of 117,958 people living in 51,417 households. There are currently 3,389 households on the register of housing need. Single person households account for 29% of the total households and over half (59%) of these consist of one adult of pensionable age. This is significantly above levels for both Devon (52%) and England & Wales (48%).

Crime Although we have a high fear of crime from residents in Teignbridge, we have low crime rates and in early 2006 the number in Teignbridge was just over half of the average national figure, being 13.4, compared with 24.9 offences per 1000 population in England and Wales.

Health & wellbeing Life expectancy for the district is longer than that in the South West and England as a whole for both males and females. The number of hip fractures in older people aged 65 or over, however, is significantly more than the England average.

Transport In 2004 road transport CO2 emissions in Teignbridge were the highest in Devon, accounting for 17% of total CO2 emissions by road. Car ownership in Teignbridge is far higher than the national average, mainly due to the rural nature of the district and lack of suitable alternative transport, and the number of households with 2 or more cars has increased from 29% in 1991 to 35.5% in 2001.

Key themes for Teignbridge

After considerable consultation, seven key themes were identified as main issues:

- Looking after the environment
- Housing
- Access to services, including transport
- Healthy living and leisure
- Communications
- Developing safer and stronger communities
- Business, learning and employment opportunities

Teignbridge Priorities	Links to LAA	Local Delivery Actions/Targets	District NI's	Local Partners
A World Class Environment				
Reducing the amount of waste	LAA 1 - Reduce quantities of household, commercial and industrial waste arising and landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce residual domestic waste going to landfill through enforcement and education Work with local businesses to support recycling and waste minimisation 	NI 191 NI 192	TDC
Improving the quality of our public spaces	LAA 2 – Improve the quality of public spaces and secure clean, green and safe infrastructure as part of new developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Green Space Plan for Newton Abbot in light of emerging development proposals and Master Planning exercise Complete a Green Space strategy for Teignbridge 	NI 195 NI 196	TDC
Responding to the challenges of climate change	LAA 3 – Identification and prioritisation of, or improved understanding of the principal vulnerabilities in Devon to potential climate change impacts projected during the period covered by the Sustainable Community Strategy. LAA 5 - Reduce carbon dioxide emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint an Energy Efficiency & Climate Change Officer Development of 'Ashburton Futures' joint strategy & action plan Increase awareness/ resilience of residents/ businesses at risk of flooding. 	NI 185 NI 186 NI 188	TDC TSP
Targeted conservation	LAA 8 - Targeted conservation and enhancement of Devon's biodiversity and geology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement actions to protect and enhance priority habitat and species as identified in TDC Biodiversity Action Plan. 		TDC
Reduce traffic congestion	LAA 20 -To improve level of use of sustainable modes of travel and ensure expeditious movement by all transport modes, through awareness raising coupled with the adequate provision and management of transport infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Teignbridge Transport Strategy to tackle, congestion, sustainable and transport alternatives, improved safety and reduced noise and pollution 		TDC/ DCC
Strong and Inclusive Communities				
Improving access to services	LAA 9 - Improve access to services and facilities through coordination of transport services and access to information technology, ensuring dignity and respect for all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend the range of information & services available on internet & other routes to ensure access of services for residents & continue to ensure that local communities have access to public IT facilities 		TDC
Providing targeted support for vulnerable communities	LAA 14 - Provide coordinated support to unlock the economic potential of Devon's most disadvantaged communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Neighbourhood Regeneration Plans for the two most deprived areas in the District (March 09) 		TSP
Teignbridge Priorities	Links to LAA	Local Delivery Actions/Targets	District	Local

			NI's	Partners
Working with voluntary sector to increase community activity, community planning / support for frontline voluntary and community groups	LAA 16 - Promote active, empowered and influential communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of 3 year rolling service level agreements with all Third Sector organisations receiving Council grant funding Support and encourage the development of 2 parish plans per annum Develop/ implement a Community Engagement Strategy for District (July 08) 	NI 4	TDC
A Growing Economy				
Improving workforce skills and aspirations	LAA 17 - Develop and harness skills to achieve a competitive economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish partnerships to assist the business sector to improve the skills levels of employees 		TDC
Encouraging investment to bring better quality jobs in the area	<p>LAA 14 - Provide coordinated support to unlock the economic potential of Devon's most disadvantaged communities</p> <p>LAA 22 - Ensure that Devon has an appropriate range of employment space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support development of Community Enterprise Centre in West Teignmouth to provide work based training opportunities Develop industrial land across the District Develop a Business Park in Newton Abbot area Build managed workspaces in Newton Abbot, Dawlish and Teignmouth to support local entrepreneurship 	NI 172	TSP TDC
Homes & Housing				
There will be more units of affordable housing	LAA 26 - Increasing the delivery of affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support local people in housing need to find homes through the provision of increased affordable housing in the rural areas 	NI 155	TDC
Improving housing options for the vulnerable	LAA 27 - Improve housing options for the homeless and vulnerable clients.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a choice based lettings scheme throughout the District Provision of 24 hour a day advice & information service for homeless people Prepare a Homelessness Strategy by July 2008 		TDC
Health & Wellbeing				
Reducing health inequalities by working in vulnerable communities	LAA 30 - Promote health and reduce health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement an action plan to improve Air Quality for the residents of Teignbridge in the identified air quality management areas Develop Neighbourhood Regeneration Plans for the two most deprived areas in the District 	NI 119	TDC TSP

Teignbridge Priorities	Links to LAA	Local Delivery Actions/Targets	District NI's	Local Partners
Reducing health inequalities by working with vulnerable individuals to reduce fuel poverty and economic exclusion	LAA 33 - Improve the energy performance of the housing stock and reduce fuel poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further develop uptake in Teignbridge of Credit Union services and opportunities 	NI 187	TDC/ Credit Union
Supporting programmes which lead to people being more physically active	LAA 13 - Maintain and increase levels of physical activity and sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver programme of activity/ exercise taster sessions to rural and isolated communities Maintain and develop existing 'Walk this Way' programme across the District Develop annual work programme for Teignbridge Community Sports & Physical Activity Network 	NI 8	TSP TDC
A Safer Devon				
Reducing levels of anti-social behaviour and fear of crime	<p>LAA 28 - Ensure that the people of Devon feel and are safe from harm</p> <p>LAA 32 - Reduce harm caused by alcohol and drugs</p> <p>LAA 34 - Reduce antisocial behaviour</p> <p>LAA – 35 - Reduce the social, emotional and cost impacts on victims and on wider society by tackling the causes, and ameliorating the effects, of prejudice and hate crime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the operation and activities of South Devon & Dartmoor Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership Continue employment of ASB Officer for Teignbridge Deliver a minimum of 2 Community Action Days in priority areas Develop multi agency model for early intervention in key localities 	NI 17	CDRP TDC CDRP
Reducing Crime	<p>LAA 32 - Reduce harm caused by alcohol and drugs</p> <p>LAA 36 - Reduce the social, emotional and costs impacts on victims and the wider society by tackling domestic violence and abuse</p> <p>LAA 37 - Tackle the most harmful offending behaviour</p> <p>LAA 38 – Reduce Youth Offending</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission alcohol treatment service for those within CJS Development of 'safe house' facility for victims of domestic violence within Teignbridge Implement Making Amends Project in Newton Abbot Investigate the development of a Youth Intervention Project 		CDRP TSP CDRP

DEVON LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-2011 DISTRICT CHAPTER

SOUTH HAMS

1. Introduction

The South Hams covers an area of some 350 square miles, with 60 miles of coastline recognised nationally through the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and 64 square miles in the Dartmoor National Park. Approximately 82,000 people live in the district, with two-thirds of the population living outside the larger towns of Dartmouth, Ivybridge, Kingsbridge, and Totnes. The population is expected to grow to nearly 90,000 by 2010 with particular pressure in the western part of the district.

Perceptions of the South Hams as an area of social and economic advantage disguise problems for our communities such as lower than average wages, decline in some traditional industries, above average house prices compounded by a high proportion of second home ownership, social isolation, and difficulty accessing services, information and transport.

The sparsely populated nature of much of the district results in services being more costly to provide and leads to an over-reliance on private transport. Deprivation exists within areas of affluence and many small villages lack facilities such as schools, shops, and post offices, resulting in significant issues of rural isolation. Many employers have trouble in recruiting and retaining essential and skilled workers due to the lack of affordable housing. For example, with average house prices in 2006 at more than £280,000 and average income at less than £18,000, the house price affordability ratio is about 16 to 1 compared to the South West affordability ratio of around 12 to 1.

Although there is a net gain in population due to inward migration, there is a loss of young adults as many leave the area for higher education or due to lack of job opportunities, low wages, and inability to access affordable housing. This means that the age structure of the District is weighted heavily towards older people, a trend that is predicted to increase. This has significant implications for the delivery of health and social services.

South Hams District Council (SHDC) has six key priorities aimed to improve the well-being of its residents; these are:

- (CP1) Affordable Homes
- (CP2) Good Jobs
- (CP3) Retain the District's Character
- (CP4) A Clean District
- (CP5) An Accessible Council
- (CP6) Value for Money

The Council's cross-cutting themes are climate change, meeting the needs of young people, and promoting a healthier community.

2. Local Area Agreement Priorities

The following LAA Priority Actions are those most aligned to SHDC and its partners existing and emerging priorities. Details of each of the outcomes are contained within the LAA main document and the titles are shown under West Devon's chapter.

LAA1; LAA2; LAA3; LAA4; LAA5; LAA6; LAA8; LAA16; LAA17; LAA18; LAA19; LAA22; LAA23; LAA26; LAA27; LAA33

3. Delivering the Local Area Agreement

Based on the South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy and other key Strategies developed following extensive consultation and agreement, some of the activities that partners will undertake that will contribute to the achievement of the targets set against each of the LAA priorities identified are set out below..

South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2011

The new South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy has a series of aims across four priority theme areas, which the South Hams Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) will work towards over the next five years. Key members of the LSP Steering Group include: SHDC, Devon County Council, Devon Primary Care Trust, South Hams Community and Voluntary Services, South Hams Voluntary Sector Forum, South Devon College, Devon & Cornwall Police, Environment Agency, Tor Homes, and the Dartmoor National Park Authority. The LSP has endorsed this district chapter. The South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy can be accessed at

http://www.southhams.gov.uk/index/residents_index/ksp-community-support/sp-council-strat_community.htm.

Priority Theme One - Affordable Homes

The Sustainable Community Strategy seeks to contribute to the viability of communities in the South Hams through the provision of affordable and well-designed housing that meets the needs of local people. The South Hams Local Development Framework 2006-2016 contains a requirement to provide 6,000 new dwellings on allocated sites by 2016 which will be largely developer led. Of strategic significance is the major Sherford New Community development (4,000 dwellings by 2016 and 5,500 by 2026). The strategic target is that 50% of all new homes will be affordable from all sources.

South Hams Affordable Housing Development Programme is anticipating an upward trend in affordable housing completions, as follows 2008/2009 (71), 2009/2010 (121). In subsequent years, projected completions are expected to be 2010/2011 (150), 2011/2012 (200).

Priority Theme Two - Competitive Local Economy

The Sustainable Community Strategy seeks to support sustainable local businesses and employment opportunities, promote the continued use of external funding streams, and address issues surrounding rural poverty, low wages, natural resource protection, and environmental pollution. The South Hams Local Development Framework 2006-2016 contains a requirement to provide 62 hectares of employment land by 2016. 18 hectares of this provision will be at Sherford New Community and 20 hectares at Langage Strategic Employment Site.

The South Hams Prosperity Strategy 2006 - 2011 Vision is that – “by 2011, the South Hams economy will have become increasingly competitive, with less reliance on low wage sectors and a greater emphasis on a knowledge-based economy with low environmental impact.”

Priority Theme Three - Community Vibrancy

The Sustainable Community Strategy seeks to improve physical and electronic access to key services and advice for all groups in society, particularly in isolated areas. It aims to ensure that communities develop in such a way that people are proud of where they live and want to help others by supporting opportunities for increasing community activity and volunteering, particularly amongst young people. It also recognises the importance of developing ways to engage effectively with all sections of our communities about concerns and successes.

Priority Theme Four - Quality Natural and Built Environment

The Sustainable Community Strategy seeks to ensure that the environment of the South Hams continues to make it a haven for wildlife, a highly desirable place to live, work and enjoy, and a key driver behind income sources for local businesses.

The South Hams Public Space Strategy 2008-2012 contains the Vision for Public Space as – “Spaces for all to enjoy, locally and district wide.” In order to achieve this vision, a number of objectives have been identified to which resources and effort will be concentrated: 1. Increasing accessibility and use of public space; 2. Improving quality and public benefit; 3. Accessing funding and delivering value for money; 4. Working in partnership; 5. Community involvement; 6. Places for activity and exercise; 7. Spaces for children and young people; 8. Sustainable design and management.

South Hams District Council has been involved in the development of the *LAA2 Public Space Delivery Plan*. Delivery partners include district authorities, Devon County Council, Natural England, and English Heritage.

The Council’s Climate Change Policy and Strategy 2007 *“aims to improve the well-being of the community by looking at the needs of customers and the services we provide, and working in partnership to reduce the causes of climate change with a particular emphasis on reducing CO₂ emissions, adapting to climate change, promoting sustainable development, encouraging the development of appropriate business opportunities, raising community awareness.”*

The South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2011 is supported by the following Strategies and Policies:

South Hams Local Development Framework 2006-2016; Dartmoor National Park Local Development Framework 2006-2026; South Hams Housing Strategy 2005-2010; South Hams Prosperity Strategy 2006-2011; South Hams Public Space Strategy 2008-2012; South Devon AONB Management Plan 2004–2009; Dartmoor National Park Management Plan 2007 – 2012; Dartmoor Biodiversity Action Plan; South Hams Play Strategy 2006-2011; South Hams Tourism Strategy 2007-2012; South Hams Air Quality Strategy 2007; South Hams Licensing Policy 2008 – 2011; South Hams Climate Change Policy & Strategy 2007, South Hams Social Inclusion Policy & Strategy 2006-2011.

Devon Local Area Agreement 2008-2011 District Chapters

West Devon

1) Introduction

West Devon is one of the largest and most sparsely populated districts in England covering some 458 square miles (1160 sq Km). It is the largest district in Devon and 45% of the district is within the Dartmoor National Park. 32 square miles (88 sq km) of the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty lies within West Devon. Part of the Tamar Valley and Tavistock has also been included within the Cornwall & West Devon Mining Heritage World Heritage Site.

West Devon's population is increasing and is forecast to grow by nearly 9,000 on the 2001 census population figure of 48,855 to just under 58,000 by 2026. The current population is around 51,200. A third of the population lives in the main towns of Tavistock and Okehampton. The population density is currently around 0.17 persons per acre.

Business productivity is low, reflecting the high percentage of businesses remaining engaged in the traditional sectors of agriculture and tourism. The district contains over 2,500 businesses but 90% of businesses employ fewer than 10 people. West Devon has lower average earnings compared to the rest of the county and is significantly below the national average for earnings. The average annual pay of those working within the Borough (£16,759) falls within the lowest 3% nationally. In common with many rural areas, deprivation and genuine need are less easy to identify and tackle. Affordable housing is a particular challenge due to continuing inward migration and the difficulty that people on local average earnings face in affording local property.

The district is poorly served by public transport and there is heavy reliance on private transport in order for people to get to work, access education, leisure and social activities as well as the normal range of services. Public services are more costly to provide due to the sparsity of the population and the significant distances between communities.

West Devon Borough Council's corporate priorities are now fully integrated with our main strategic partners through the West Devon Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) that has been adopted by our Local Strategic Partnership as well as the Council as a single corporate and community plan. The following themes have been agreed in our SCS:

Housing

- Meet affordable housing needs
- Improve housing options and advice service
- Increase the number of decent homes

Economy

- Support the creation of a greater range of employment and higher value work
- To assist agriculture and related businesses adjust to structural change
- Develop tourism infrastructure and promote the area in ways that are based on its inherent qualities
- Promote the regeneration of market towns and the retention of village services
- Secure eligibility for economic development funding programmes and to maximise the local take up of grant from such programmes

Environment

To lead the West Devon community towards mitigating the consequences of climate change
Conserve and enhance the special characteristics and diversity of the natural, historic, and built environment of West Devon

To maximise waste minimisation, the re-use of materials, and to promote top performance in recycling

Lead and influence appropriate strategies for adapting to climate change in West Devon.

Community Health and Well-being

Work towards inclusive health and support services

Improve Community Safety

Renew and regenerate communities

Access to Services

Increased partnership working in order to provide a joined up approach to services

Improved access to service through better use of technology

Improved transport links

There are detailed multi-agency delivery plans that now set out the milestones and specific actions that will provide these outcomes over the next three years - see

www.westdevon.gov.uk/lsp . As a consequence of this full integration of our Local Strategic Partnership's and the Borough's corporate priorities, there is a strong common purpose between our statutory partners and the voluntary sector in making West Devon a better place in which to live, work and play. This focus of local activity is also well placed in relation to the emerging priorities for the Devon Local Area Agreement.

2) Local Area Agreement Priorities

The Borough Council has concluded that the following Devon LAA priorities will be the main focus within the locality over the lifetime of the agreement due to the close association and relationship with our existing SCS themes.

LAA1	Reduce quantities of household, commercial and industrial waste arising and land filled
LAA2	Improve the quantity, quality (clean, green & safe) and accessibility of public spaces and green infrastructure
LAA3	Identification and prioritisation of, or improved understanding of, the principal vulnerabilities in Devon to potential climate change impacts projected during the period covered by the Sustainable Community Strategy
LAA4	Improve business productivity in the renewable energy sector in Devon
LAA5	Reduce carbon dioxide emissions through carbon management in local authorities and DSP partners
LAA6	Improve business resource efficiency: carbon, energy, water, and waste
LAA 8	Targeted conservation and enhancement of Devon's biodiversity and geology
LAA9	Improve access to services and facilities through coordination of transport services and access to information technology, ensuring dignity and respect for all

LAA16	Improve active, empowered and influential communities
LAA17	Develop and harness skills to achieve a competitive economy
LAA18	Encourage the adoption and use of ICT by priority business sectors for growth
LAA19	Develop an innovation strategy and delivery network across Devon to achieve an economic uplift and increased GVA
LAA22	Ensure that Devon has an appropriate range of employment space
LAA23	Increasing housing delivery, especially at strategically significant cities and towns and their associated new communities
LAA26	Increasing the delivery of affordable housing
LAA27	Improve housing options for the homeless and vulnerable clients
LAA33	Reduce fuel poverty

There are a range of other related strategic documents that will also contribute to the achievement of the SCS and the LAA over the lifetime of the agreement. Perhaps the most important are the Local Development Frameworks for West Devon and Dartmoor National Park that set out the forward planning arrangements for the next decade. In addition to spatial planning considerations - such as housing and employment space allocations, the LDFs will also influence how West Devon will function as a locality in relation to the rest of the county and the south west region.

3) Delivering the Local Area Agreement

The five SCS priority themes have already anticipated the relationship of their stated objectives to the overriding nature of the emerging Devon LAA. The theme leads are ensuring wherever relevant that the LAA priorities are properly dovetailed with the existing actions and outcomes of our local SCS. As such, we envisage that there will be no significant impediment in incorporating the LAA within our existing programmes and with our existing partnership activities.

SOUTH HAMS AND WEST DEVON COMBINED STATEMENT

Shared Services

Our Councils have been working with Teignbridge District Council for the last twelve months or so on a variety of shared service initiatives. To date, these have been largely focused on back office services such as human resources, IT, legal, property, performance improvement, etc; the intention is to improve operational efficiency to enable further resources to be targeted to the front line. We are also working with the County Council in this regard and have recently commenced a joint civil parking enforcement service. These initiatives will continue to be rolled out and will facilitate the delivery of a range of LAA Priorities over the lifetime of the LAA agreement. Opportunities for shared frontline services have arisen between South Hams, West Devon, and Teignbridge with the building control partnership that has been operating successfully for eighteen months. South Hams and West Devon also have recently begun a shared environmental health service. An emerging area of work is the

possibility of sharing waste and recycling services across the authorities and this is the subject of a specialist piece of work as the LAA is being published.

South Hams, West Devon, and Teignbridge Councils are statutory partners of the South Devon & Dartmoor Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership that aims to reduce crime and the fear of crime. The priorities of the Partnership in 2008/9 are alcohol abuse, anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, fear of crime, and speeding traffic.

Priority Actions

It is acknowledged that the other LAA Priority Actions not included in the lists above are important and that both Councils and their partners will no doubt be involved to a greater or lesser extent in their delivery.

Strategies & Policies

The most important documents driving both South Hams' and West Devon's priorities and actions are their Sustainable Community Strategies, which are supported by other local strategies and policies. Additional documents to be considered would include county or region-wide strategies that have specific relevance to those Priority Actions identified in the LAA as aligning to both districts' existing and emerging priorities.

Delivery

It needs to be stressed that successful delivery of the activities outlined above will depend on a number of external factors. These include the prevailing economic conditions, availability of external funding, and the continuing commitment of key partners.