



Exmouth Community Association

Planning Policy
East Devon District Council
Knowle,
Sidmouth
Devon EX10 8HL

16th January 2019

Dear Planning Policy Team

Response to Consultation on the East Devon Draft Landscape Assessment

The Exmouth Community Association (ECA) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Draft Landscape Assessment for East Devon.

Clearly the assessment has benefitted from extensive and exhaustive survey and analysis resulting in an excellent document providing a sound basis for future planning decision-making and countryside management. We are fortunate to be living in an area of outstanding landscape. We all have a duty to ensure its protection and enhancement. This assessment provides a sound basis for achieving precisely that and it is important that all relevant interests sign up to that “duty”.

The Exmouth Neighbourhood Plan is approaching its referendum stage. An initial town-wide public consultation put the protection of the town’s environmental setting as its top priority. The Draft Landscape Assessment identifies three Landscape Types surrounding our town – LCT 1B Open Coastal Plateau, LCT 1C Pebble Bed Heathland and LCT 4A Estuaries. We welcome and agree the suggested strategies for all three Landscape Types as well as the recommended planning and land management actions that follow. Particularly welcome is the intention to avoid/reduce the visual impact of existing coastal camp sites, with particular relevance to the Devon Cliffs Park at Sandy Bay. As with all things, it’s one thing to set out, even agree a programme for future policy and action. It is another thing to ensure they are actually pursued and implemented. To achieve the latter it is essential that adequate resources in terms of staff and funding are specifically earmarked and maintained. In this way, hopefully, through a mix of direct action, influence and partnership working, our wonderful environment will in fact be protected and enhanced in the way this Assessment recommends.

Kind regards


ECA Secretary