

**EAST DEVON CORE STRATEGY
Preferred Approaches Consultation
Sustainability Appraisal
Non-Technical Summary**

**Prepared for East Devon District Council
by
Land Use Consultants**

September 2010



www.landuse.co.uk

LUC SERVICES

Environmental Planning
Landscape Design
Landscape Management
Masterplanning
Landscape Planning
Ecology
Environmental Assessment
Rural Futures
Digital Design
Urban Regeneration
Urban Design

43 Chalton Street
London NW1 1JD
Tel: 020 7383 5784
Fax: 020 7383 4798
london@landuse.co.uk

14 Great George Street
Bristol BS1 5RH
Tel: 0117 929 1997
Fax: 0117 929 1998
bristol@landuse.co.uk

37 Otago Street
Glasgow G12 8JJ
Tel: 0141 334 9595
Fax: 0141 334 7789
glasgow@landuse.co.uk

28 Stafford Street
Edinburgh EH3 7BD
Tel: 0131 202 1616
edinburgh@landuse.co.uk

CONTENTS

Introduction	5
The Core Strategy	5
Sustainability Appraisal	6
Policy Context	8
Characterisation of East Devon District	9
Healthy and Prosperous Communities.....	9
Environmental Protection and Enhancement	10
Resource Consumption and Climate Change	11
Economic Growth, Education and Employment.....	12
East Devon District's Sustainability Appraisal Framework	12
Alternative Options	14
The Influence of Sustainability Appraisal on the Development of the Core Strategy ...	14
Significant Effects of the Preferred Approaches version of the Core Strategy.....	15
Cumulative Effects	16
Conclusions	16

INTRODUCTION

1. This Sustainability Appraisal Report (Non-Technical Summary) relates to the Core Strategy for East Devon District, which is being produced by East Devon District Council (EDDC).
2. The Core Strategy sets out the long term spatial vision and objectives for the District, and the policies and principles that are required to deliver that vision over the period up to 2026. It sets out broad locations for delivering housing and other development needs such as employment, retail, leisure, community, essential public services and transport development.
3. Plans and strategies such as the Core Strategy are subject to a process called Sustainability Appraisal (SA), which assesses the likely impacts of a plan on social, economic, and environmental issues. Following the production of a Generic Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Core Strategy and other Local Development Framework (LDF) documents in 2008, East Devon District Council appointed Land Use Consultants to review the work undertaken to date and to carry out the subsequent stages of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy. This has so far resulted in the publication of an Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Issues and Options version of the Core Strategy (August 2010). Following the consultation on the Issues and Options Report, EDDC has now produced the Preferred Approaches document, and this Non-Technical Summary relates to the SA Report for that version of the Core Strategy.

THE CORE STRATEGY

4. The Preferred Approaches version of the Core Strategy sets out the Preferred Approaches to planning for development in the District up until 2026. It includes Preferred Approaches for policies within the following themes:
 - Spatial Strategy
 - Development at East Devon's West End
 - Strategies for Axminster, Exmouth, Honiton, Ottery St Mary, Seaton and Sidmouth
 - Smaller Towns, Villages and Countryside
 - Ensuring We Have Thriving Communities
 - Climate Change and the Environment
 - Delivery and Infrastructure Provision
5. The Core Strategy originally sought to implement and be in general conformity with the spatial and transport policies of the Regional Spatial Strategy¹ as well as incorporating its housing requirements. As in all regions, the South West RSS was abolished in July 2010 by the new coalition

¹ South West Regional Assembly (2008) The Draft Revised Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West Incorporating the Secretary of State's Proposed Changes – For Public Consultation July 2008

government prior to being fully adopted; however it continues to provide a broad framework and evidence base for the development of the Core Strategy.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

6. Plans such as the Core Strategy are subject to a process called Sustainability Appraisal, which assesses the likely impacts of a plan on social, economic, and environmental issues. EDDC is therefore required by law to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Core Strategy, and has appointed Land Use Consultants to undertake this process on its behalf. The Government recommends that these two requirements are met through one integrated process, which has been termed Sustainability Appraisal (or SA), with the aim of achieving the goal of sustainable development. The Sustainability Appraisal of the Preferred Approaches version of the East Devon Core Strategy is the subject of this report.
7. The purpose of Sustainability Appraisal is to promote sustainable development through the better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans. It should be viewed as an integral part of good plan making involving ongoing iterations to identify and report on the likely significant effects of the plan and the extent to which sustainable development is expected to be achieved.
8. This Non-Technical Summary is part of the Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Preferred Approaches version of the East Devon Core Strategy. The SA Report has been produced alongside the emerging Core Strategy in order to provide sustainability guidance during its development. It is being published for consultation at the same time as the Preferred Approaches version of the Core Strategy, to provide the public and statutory bodies with an opportunity to express their opinions on the SA Report and to use it as a reference point when commenting on the emerging Core Strategy. The Non-Technical Summary presents the key findings of the Sustainability Appraisal to date.
9. Sustainability Appraisal must be conducted in accordance with Government guidance, and must meet the requirements of the European Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive. An overview of the method used in carrying out the Sustainability Appraisal of East Devon Core Strategy is set out below.

Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on scope

10. The Sustainability Appraisal process started in 2008 with EDDC producing a Generic SA Scoping Report for the Core Strategy and other Local Development Framework (LDF) documents. This Scoping Report decided what the SA should cover by reviewing a wide range of policy documents (including Government policies) and other plans and programmes (such as the emerging South West Regional Spatial Strategy), and by examining data and information to help identify what the key sustainability issues are in East Devon District.

11. The Scoping Report was issued in December 2008 for consultation with various stakeholders including the following statutory consultees: English Nature, Countryside Agency, the Environment Agency and English Heritage. Comments received from the consultations were analysed by EDDC and any necessary amendments were made to the scoping report.
12. LUC was commissioned in September 2009 by EDDC to undertake an evaluation of the LDF scoping report that the Council had produced and to complete the remainder of the SA process. The evaluation process was documented in an Evaluation Report (October 2009). No major issues were identified in relation to the scoping report that could not be addressed later in the SA process, aside from the need to ensure that there is a clear link between the baseline information and the SA Objectives. Some additional work was carried out in order to strengthen the key sustainability issues and to help demonstrate this link, and this work was undertaken prior to commencing the SA of the Issues and Options version of the Core Strategy, in order to ensure that the assessment was fully informed by a robust scoping report.

Stage B: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing their effects, and Stage C: Assessing the effects of the Core Strategy and preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report

SA of the Issues and Options for the Core Strategy

13. East Devon District Council began to look at alternative ways to address issues in the District in 2008 and produced an Issues and Options version of the Core Strategy in 2008. These alternative options were subject to the Sustainability Appraisal process and the results of the SA were fed back to the team developing the Core Strategy to help improve its sustainability effects.
14. LUS conducted a workshop in December 2009 with EDDC officers and members, in order to discuss the SA process and the findings to date. The outcomes of the workshop then fed into the finalised SA report for the Issues and Options version of the Core Strategy.

Phase 3: SA of the Preferred Approaches of the Core Strategy

15. This is the current phase of work. Having taken on board the consultation responses received in relation to the Issues and Options version of the Core Strategy, and the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal carried out, EDDC has now prepared the “Preferred Approaches” for the Core Strategy, which were those options that EDDC considers to be the right ones to help deliver the Core Strategy. The Preferred Approaches have now undergone Sustainability Appraisal, and the findings will be taken into account when developing the finalised policies of the Core Strategy. This non-technical summary accompanies the full SA Report.

Phase 4: SA of the Submission Version of the Core Strategy

16. Following the consultation on the Preferred Approaches and the accompanying SA Report, EDDC will develop the Preferred Approaches into

a set of policies which will comprise the next iteration of the Core Strategy. These policies will also be subject to the SA process and a further SA report will be produced to accompany the Submission Version of the Core Strategy when it is published for consultation.

Stage D: Consultation on the Core Strategy and on the Sustainability Appraisal Report

17. The Initial SA Report has been updated to reflect the ongoing development of the Core Strategy and to fully document all stages of the SA process that have been undertaken to date. The likely significant effects of the Core Strategy (both positive and negative) are clearly laid out within the SA report and recommendations about the implementation of the plan are made. Details of any potential mitigation measures that may be necessary are also set out. This non-technical summary accompanies the report.
18. The full SA Report (including this Non-Technical Summary) will accompany the Core Strategy Preferred Approaches Consultation Document as it undergoes a formal consultation period, during which the statutory consultees and members of the public will again be invited to make comment on the emerging plan.
19. Following the Preferred Approaches consultation, the comments received in relation to the SA will be reviewed and the appraisal and report will be updated and amended where appropriate. Following the development of a draft Submission version of the Core Strategy, the finalised policies will be appraised and the SA report will be updated to reflect any changes made. The SA Report will then accompany the Pre-Submission Core Strategy during a final consultation, which will refer only to its soundness.

Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Core Strategy

20. The next iteration of the Sustainability Appraisal Report will make recommendations for how the sustainability effects of the Core Strategy should be monitored.

POLICY CONTEXT

21. There are potentially a large number of plans and programmes that are relevant to the preparation of the East Devon Core Strategy. For example, the Core Strategy is required to take into account national Planning Policy Statements.
22. The Core Strategy should also provide a spatial expression of other plans and programmes where relevant, to assist in their implementation. Relevant international, national, regional, sub-regional and local plans have been reviewed in detail in relation to their objectives, targets and indicators and their implications for the Core Strategy and Sustainability Appraisal. Examples include the South West Regional Housing Strategy, the Regional Economic Strategy, the Devon Structure Plan and the East Devon Economic Development Strategy. The full review can be seen in Appendix I of the full SA Report.

CHARACTERISATION OF EAST DEVON DISTRICT

23. The review of policies, plans and programmes and the baseline information were reviewed and key sustainability issues were identified, in order to help characterise East Devon District and to develop a locally appropriate SA framework for appraising the emerging Core Strategy proposals. The key sustainability issues are presented within the themes below.

HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

Key Issues

Housing

- House prices in East Devon are very high in relation to wages, which are lower than the national average. This issue is compounded by a limited supply of affordable housing in the District - there was predicted to be a shortfall of 736 affordable dwellings per year in East Devon for the five years from 2005².
- The average household size in East Devon is smaller than the national average at 2.22 persons per dwelling and is continuing to fall.
- There are high levels of home ownership in the District (79.4%) and only 11.9% of the population lives in social rented dwellings.

Social Inclusiveness

- In the more remote rural areas and small towns of East Devon, geographical isolation and dependence on low value and seasonal work are key contributing factors to deprivation. However, in those rural areas with easy commuting and access to centres of employment, deprivation levels tend to be far lower.
- Market and coastal towns are of particular importance in East Devon in terms of serving their resident communities and the wider surrounding areas.

Population and Health

- The East Devon population is predicted to rise at a rate of around 1% per year up to 2029. This would indicate a District-wide population of around 160,000 people by 2029, in comparison to 129,800 in 2005³.
- East Devon is characterised by an elderly population profile, particularly in the coastal towns. Around 29.5% of the population is retired, compared to 17.3% across England overall.
- The District has a generally low population density; however there is significant variation between the rural and urban areas of East Devon in this sense.

² Fordham Research Study for East Devon District Council (2001, updated 2005).

³ ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2005

- The vast majority of people in East Devon are white British (97.5% compared with 87% across Britain overall).

Settlement 'Liveability'

- East Devon experiences low crime rates but despite this there is a high fear of crime, particularly threats such as drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence and anti-social behaviour.
- Index of multiple deprivation data shows East Devon to have generally low levels of deprivation compared to the UK as a whole, although employment and income deprivation scores for the District are comparatively poor.
- Relatively low overall deprivation levels for East Devon hide pockets of deprivation, for example at Exmouth in the south west of the District.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT

Key Issues

Built Heritage and Landscape

- Around 66% of the District is covered by two AONB designations – East Devon and the Blackdown Hills.
- The Devon Redlands Joint Character Area has been described as 'neglected' and the Blackdown Hills as 'maintained'⁴.
- There is significant archaeological heritage within East Devon, both land and shore-based. There are 188 Scheduled Ancient Monuments in East Devon and 4,408 listed buildings (this represents 1 for every 28.5 people, which is over four times higher than the national average). Most are privately owned residential buildings and most are in good condition, although a significant minority have defects and show signs of deterioration.
- Recent housing developments have often been unsympathetic to local vernacular styles and materials, for example the bungalows built in coastal towns. In Honiton and Exmouth, where residential growth has been particularly substantial, a large number of newer properties can be seen to pay little respect to traditional local styles.

Biodiversity

- East Devon is a district of significant biodiversity and nature conservation value - there are 25 SSSIs, four SACs and two SPAs, as well as a number of non-designated sites which hold high ecological value, including broadleaved woodland, rivers and streams and maritime cliffs and slopes.
- The District is a nationally important area for winter roosting bird species in areas such as the Axe and Exe Estuaries.

⁴ These judgements are made by Natural England's Countryside Quality Counts programme <http://countryside-quality-counts.org.uk/>

Air, Soil and Water Quality

- A number of potentially significant sources of air pollution exist in and around East Devon, including Exeter International Airport, industrial sites in bordering authorities, petrol stations and road traffic on the M5 motorway and the local road network.
- East Devon has limited pockets of contaminated land as the District has not had a history of intensive urban growth or industrialisation. The percentage of housing built on previously developed land in East Devon has generally increased over recent years, but there was a fall in 2006/7 from the previous year.

Transport

- Car use for travelling to and from work is marginally higher in East Devon than across England as a whole and public transport use is significantly lower.
- Although many residents have good access to transport links, particularly in the western part of the District which lies at a strategic transport node, there are rural parts of East Devon which are accessed by remote lanes and have very poor public transport services.
- Improvements to Junction 29 of the M5 will be required as a result of new developments planned in the western part of East Devon, such as a new community at Cranbrook, a new terminal for Exeter Airport and the expansion of Skypark, in order to accommodate increasing volumes of traffic.

RESOURCE CONSUMPTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Key Issues

Energy Consumption

- Devon currently receives around 1.8% of its energy supply from renewable sources, mainly methane gas from landfill and small hydro schemes.
- East Devon has achieved greater improvements in domestic energy efficiency than the South West region overall – 19.8% compared to 15.3%.
- High renewables targets were set by the now abolished South West RSS. There is significant scope within East Devon for small-scale community based energy production and combined heat and power (CHP) schemes.

Waste

- Household waste levels in East Devon are increasing year on year whilst landfill capacity in the District is becoming depleted.
- There is an ongoing drive to increase levels of recycling and composting.

Climate Change

- The biggest contributors to CO² emissions in East Devon are the road transport and domestic sectors at 36.8% and 35.8% respectively. Across the South West overall, the top two contributors are the industry and commercial sector and domestic sectors, at 36.1% and 32.8% respectively.
- Per capita CO² production is high in the East Devon District (8.4 tonnes) compared with Exeter (5.7 tonnes) but is similar to the regional average of 8.2 tonnes. This is characteristic of a predominantly rural area with a high reliance on road transport.
- Incidences of flooding in East Devon are expected to increase with projected sea level rises and the onset of wetter winters. Areas of land classified as Flood Zones 2 and 3 are identified around all of the main rivers in the District as well as many of their tributaries.

ECONOMIC GROWTH, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Key Issues

Economic Growth

- Although the percentage of people in East Devon with no qualifications is lower than the national average, there are fewer people than average with higher level qualifications, indicating that the East Devon population has lower average qualification levels than the UK as a whole.
 - There is a high demand for development land to serve the sub-regional role of Exeter, affecting planning policy and land allocations in East Devon.
 - East Devon has low unemployment levels – fewer than 2% of the economically active population.
 - A high proportion of jobs in the District are in the tourism sector, which is often poorly paid seasonal work with limited opportunities for training and progression (16% of jobs in Devon overall are related to tourism).
 - Many of the better paid residents of East Devon commute to jobs beyond the District boundary, particularly in Exeter.
24. An outline of the current sustainability issues identified in the Park and their likely evolution without the Core Strategy is provided in **Chapter 3** of the full SA Report.

EAST DEVON DISTRICT'S SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK

25. The review of other policies, plans and programmes and existing data and information helped identify key sustainability issues for East Devon District. These key sustainability issues, and input from stakeholders, provided the basis for a set of sustainability objectives. The sustainability objectives have been the main tool at each stage of the SA for assessing the Issues and

Options and Preferred Approaches within the Core Strategy, and are set out below. The table also illustrates the SEA Directive topics and other key sustainability topics that are addressed by each SA objective.

Sustainability Objectives	SEA Directive and Other Key Topics
1. To ensure everybody has the opportunity to live in a decent home.	Material assets, population
2. To ensure that all groups of the population have access to community services.	Services and facilities
3. To provide for education, skills and lifelong learning to: i. meet the needs of the local population, and ii. meet local employment needs	Economy, population, services and facilities
4. To improve the population's health	Human health, population, services and facilities
5. To reduce crime and fear of crime.	Population
6. To reduce noise levels and minimise exposure of people to unacceptable levels of noise pollution.	Human health
7. To maintain and improve cultural, social and leisure provision.	Material assets, population
8. To maintain and enhance built and historic assets.	Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, built environment
9. To promote the conservation and wise use of land and protect and enhance the landscape character of East Devon.	Landscape
10. To maintain the local amenity, quality and character of the local environment.	Landscape, tranquillity
11. To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of East Devon.	Biodiversity, flora, fauna
12. To promote and encourage non-car based modes of transport and reduce journey lengths.	Climatic factors
13. To maintain and enhance the environment in terms of air, soil and water quality.	Soil, water, air
14. To contribute towards a reduction in local emissions of greenhouse gases.	Air, human health, climatic factors
15. To ensure that there is no increase in the risk of flooding.	Water
16. To ensure energy consumption is as efficient as possible.	Climatic factors
17. To promote wise use of waste resources whilst reducing waste production and disposal.	Material assets
18. To maintain sustainable growth of employment for East Devon, to match levels of jobs with the economically active workforce.	Economy
19. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Towns of East Devon.	Economy, population

20. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.	Economy
---	---------

26. We have used each sustainability objective to help decide whether the Core Strategy would be likely to affect each aspect of sustainability and how, and they proved to be a very useful tool for determining the sustainability strengths and weaknesses of the Preferred Approaches, and when making recommendations for improvements.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

27. National guidance requires Sustainability Appraisal to include an appraisal of the alternative objectives and policy options considered during the preparation of the Core Strategy. The East Devon Core Strategy has been through an Issues and Options stage and a Sustainability Appraisal was conducted alongside this iteration of the plan, as described above.
28. The Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations require East Devon District Council to explain its reasons for choosing the policies within the Core Strategy rather than the alternatives considered. These are summarised below.
29. As already described, East Devon District Council undertook extensive engagement and consultation in developing its Core Strategy, including consultation on the Core Strategy Issues and Options in December 2008. The Preferred Approaches document set out in detail the alternatives and explains why East Devon District Council did not take them forward.
30. The Preferred Approaches version of the Core Strategy has been prepared to take account of the complex issues and challenges facing the District as well as:
- Responses from the Issues and Options consultation
 - On-going dialogue with East Devon District Council
 - Current, newly emerging, and changes to, Government legislation and guidance
 - The findings of the Sustainability Appraisal / Habitats Regulations Assessment from the Issues and Options stage
31. The supporting text within the Core Strategy provides the narrative and justification for each Preferred Approach.

THE INFLUENCE OF SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CORE STRATEGY

32. Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out at each iteration of the Core Strategy - Issues and Options and now the Preferred Approaches. There is clear evidence that the conclusions of this Sustainability Appraisal work have been taken into account in the ongoing refinement of the Core Strategy policies.

33. East Devon District Council took account of the recommendations made in the Scoping Report and meetings with Land Use Consultants when developing and refining options for the Core Strategy. Land Use Consultants also prepared an assessment of the sustainability of the Issues and Options as they were developed in 2008. This was taken into account during the development of the Preferred Approaches. Once the Preferred Approaches were developed, these also underwent a Sustainability Appraisal and the findings and recommendations are expected to feed back into the development of the Submission version of the plan.

SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS OF THE PREFERRED APPROACHES VERSION OF THE CORE STRATEGY

What are the sustainability effects of the Core Strategy likely to be?

34. There is much to welcome in the Core Strategy and it is likely to have a largely positive effect on the sustainability of the District. However there is still a level of uncertainty about the likely effect some of the policies. Therefore, following on from this consultation, adjustments may need to be considered to the policies when drawing up the Submission version of the Core Strategy to try and reduce the amount of uncertainty about the likely effects and to ensure that any negative aspects of the mixed effects identified are reduced.
35. The overall likely effects resulting from the Core Strategy on each of the Sustainability Objectives is given below.

Sustainability Objective	Likely overall effect
1. To ensure everybody has the opportunity to live in a decent home.	++
2. To ensure that all groups of the population have access to community services.	++
3. To provide for education, skills and lifelong learning to: i. meet the needs of the local population, and ii. meet local employment needs	+
4. To improve the population's health	+/-
5. To reduce crime and fear of crime.	+
6. To reduce noise levels and minimise exposure of people to unacceptable levels of noise pollution.	-
7. To maintain and improve cultural, social and leisure provision.	++
8. To maintain and enhance built and historic assets.	+/-
9. To promote the conservation and wise use of land and protect and enhance the landscape character of East Devon.	+/-
10. To maintain the local amenity, quality and character of the local environment.	+/-

11. To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of East Devon.	-
12. To promote and encourage non-car based modes of transport and reduce journey lengths.	+
13. To maintain and enhance the environment in terms of air, soil and water quality.	+/-
14. To contribute towards a reduction in local emissions of greenhouse gases.	+/-
15. To ensure that there is no increase in the risk of flooding.	+/-
16. To ensure energy consumption is as efficient as possible.	+/-
17. To promote wise use of waste resources whilst reducing waste production and disposal.	+/-
18. To maintain sustainable growth of employment for East Devon, to match levels of jobs with the economically active workforce.	++
19. To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Towns of East Devon.	+/-
20. To encourage and accommodate both indigenous and inward investment.	+

Key to symbols:

++	Likely to have a significant positive impact
+	Likely to have a positive impact
0	Likely to have no/neutral impact
-	Likely to have a negative impact
--	Likely to have a significant negative impact
+/-/?	Mixed /uncertain impact

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

36. The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive requires that the assessment of effects should include “secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary effects”. The cumulative effects of the Preferred Approaches within the plan have been shown for each sustainability objective in Chapter 5 of the full SA Report. In many instances, given the strategic level of the Core Strategy, it is difficult to be precise about when and in what form the effects will arise, and how one effect might relate to another.
37. East Devon District does not exist in isolation. There is the potential for cumulative effects arising as a result of the combination of development proposed in the Core Strategy with that of neighbouring districts and boroughs.

CONCLUSIONS

38. The Preferred Approaches version of the Core Strategy is likely to have a generally positive effect on the SA Objectives and the SEA Directive topics. There are relatively few adverse effects expected as a result of the policies,

mainly relating to noise levels and the impacts of development on biodiversity interests within the District. Some caution is needed as there are still a number of policies with mixed or as yet uncertain effects and so the way in which the policies are implemented will be the key determinant of their eventual impacts.

39. A number of recommendations for amendments/additions to the Core Strategy policies have been made during the Sustainability Appraisal. These were mainly suggestions for strengthening the positive effects that may be a result of the Core Strategy and ensuring that East Devon District is an exemplar of sustainability in the UK. Specific recommendations relating to each of the SA Objectives are included in **Chapter 5** of the full SA Report and these should be taken into account during the development of the next iteration of the Core Strategy.

How will the sustainability effects of the Core Strategy be monitored?

40. Monitoring will be conducted as part of an overall approach to monitoring the sustainability effects of the Core Strategy as a whole, and should be incorporated within other monitoring requirements for the Core Strategy (i.e. the Annual Monitoring Report). Suggested indicators will be included within the SA Report for the next iteration of the Core Strategy.
41. Much of the data used for monitoring in many cases will be provided and collected by outside bodies (e.g. the Environment Agency, English Heritage, waste management industry). It is therefore recommended that East Devon District Council works with these outside bodies to agree the relevant sustainability effects to be monitored and to obtain information that is appropriate, up to date and reliable as the Core Strategy is finalised.
42. Monitoring will allow the following questions to be answered:
- Were the predictions made by the assessment of the likely sustainability effects of the Core Strategy accurate?
 - Is the Core Strategy contributing to the achievement of the desired sustainability objectives?
 - Are the mitigation measures identified performing as well as expected?
 - Are there any unforeseen adverse effects? Are these within acceptable limits or is remedial action required?

What are the next steps in the preparation of the Core Strategy and its Sustainability Appraisal?

43. The SA Report will be published for consultation alongside the Preferred Approaches version of the Core Strategy. East Devon District Council is inviting consultation responses on the Core Strategy and the SA Report which this Non-Technical Summary accompanies. The Core Strategy and SA Reports will then be revised, taking into account the consultation responses received.

Where can I find out more about the Sustainability Appraisal?

44. More detailed information about the SA process and its findings can be found in the full SA Report which is available from East Devon District Council.

Land Use Consultants
September 2010