

**EAST DEVON DRAFT LOCAL PLAN 2006 - 2026  
COMMENTS FROM CLYST HYDON PARISH COUNCIL,  
JANUARY 2012**

- The revised overall strategy indicates a growth of some 15,000 dwellings to year 2031 (previously 20,000 dwellings to 2026). A large proportion of which are set to be affordable. This considerable divergence suggests that the scale of growth is a moveable feast and not based on any cost benefit analysis or other financial or practical yardstick.
- There is no mention of public finance in the Council's background to the production of this Plan (chapter 3) and it seems clear from recent government announcements that for at least the next seven years there will be no growth at all in the availability of public finance.
- There is no indication of the public expenditure that will be needed to provide all the essential services to support the still unprecedented rate of growth proposed in the Plan. The notion of affordability does not seem to have been applied to total public sector expenditure.
- Paragraph 3.16 makes it clear that, as yet, no such financial planning has been applied to the public sector liabilities relating to the housing and population increases.
- Even though the District Council has reduced its "target" figures, the rate of growth still appears to be arbitrary and could only be justified if central government is willing to allocate the necessary financial support, bearing in mind that 75% of local government expenditure is provided by central government (100% for NHS).
- The Draft Plan should make it clear whether the planned growth is based on actual forecasts of available public finance or subject to its availability from the government and other public sector organisations. (The earlier New Towns for example were always government supported.)
- The strategy in the Plan for the rural areas, including Clyst Hydon, is supported by the Parish Council.
- It is hoped that the grouping together of several parishes, including Clyst Hydon for the provision of affordable housing, will not exclude local initiatives if these are viable.
- The Parish Council requests that the above be taken into account by the District Council.

For and on behalf of Clyst Hydon Parish Council.

*Mark Hague*      *Chairman*  
30/1/12