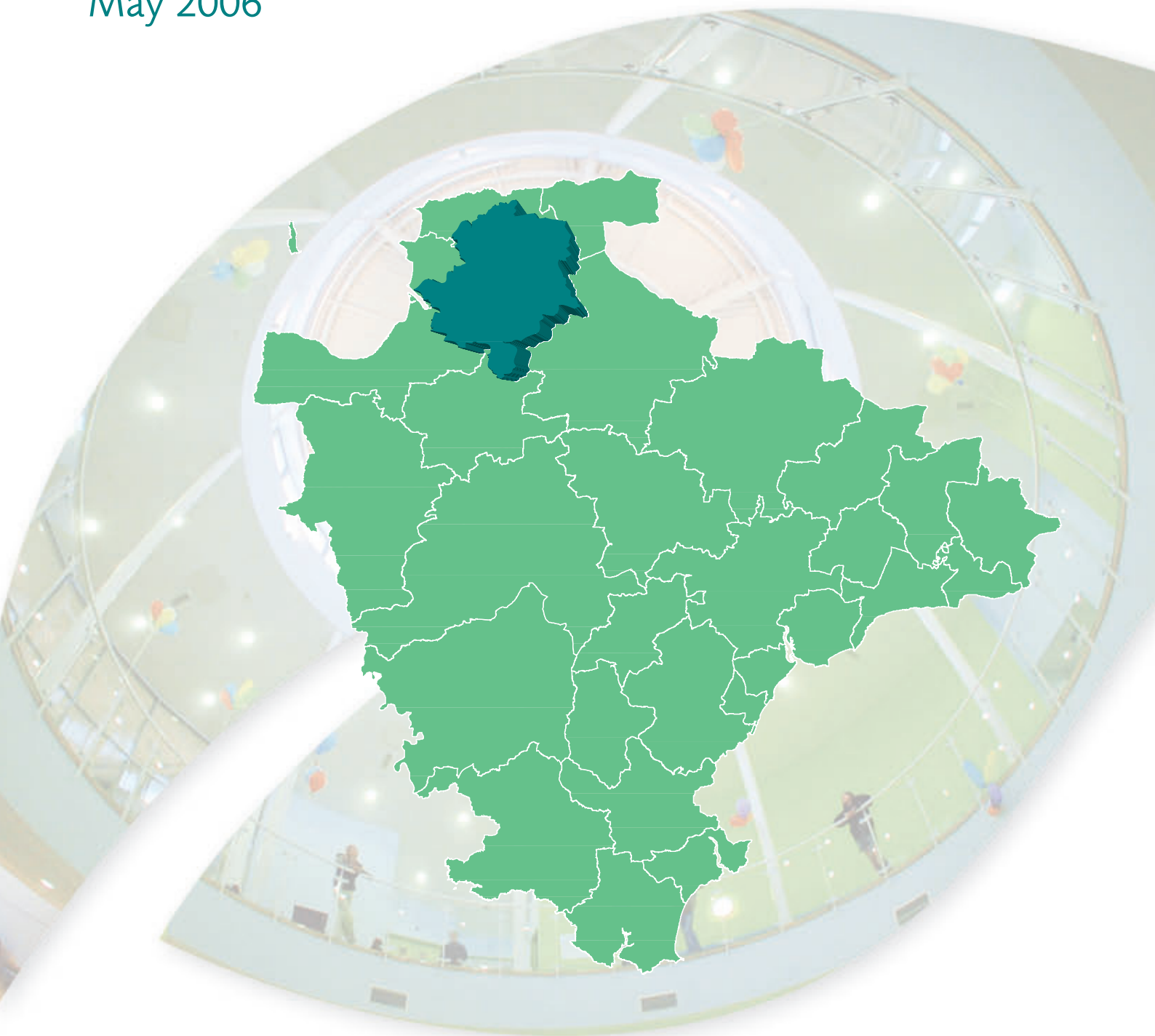


Barnstaple

Devon Town Baseline Profile

May 2006

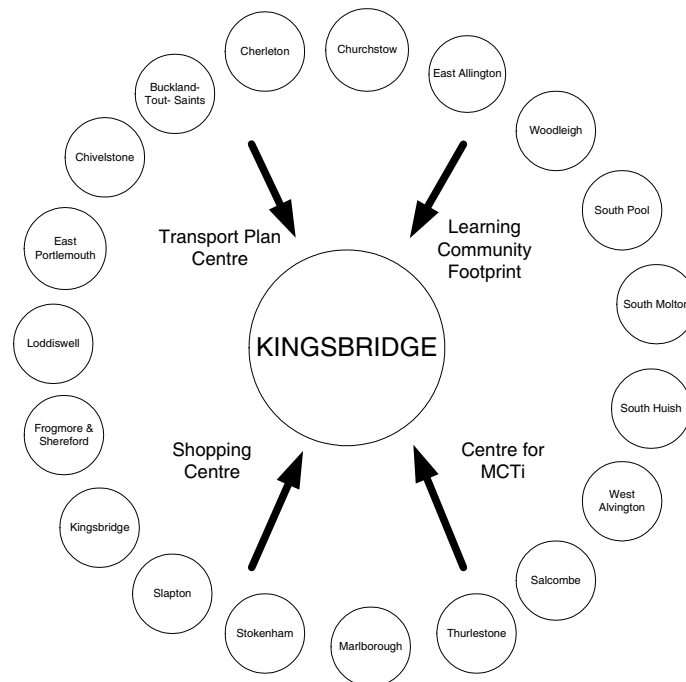


Identifying Devon Towns

The main factor that decides a town's hinterland is provision of services; the place that the hinterland looks to in order to provide the things it needs to survive. In order to identify the 28 Devon Towns, analysis of the following services and other relevant factors have been taken into account:

- Local Travel Plans – which are based on public consultation and map local travel patterns, the majority of which are short ones in and around local communities as part of people's daily lives.
- Shopping catchment areas – which are the service most frequently accessed by people.
- Learning Community catchment areas – which have a major influence on where people look to for services. Learning Community catchments do not always follow district or even county boundaries, but are based on a collection of feeder primary schools.
- Market and Coastal Towns Initiative areas - The Market and Coastal Towns Initiative was started after recognition that the health of a market town is vital to the well being of its hinterland, and that many of Devon's market towns were in need of regeneration. It is a Central Government initiative, administered by the RDAs. Over half of Devon is included in the Market and Coastal Towns Initiative.
- Parishes - The boundary definitions are shown in terms of parishes, as they are traditionally the smallest area used for 'clustering'.

The diagram below is an illustration of how this works for one Devon Town: Kingsbridge.



Exeter also provides a similar or related "market town" function as well as being a sub regional centre with a larger sphere of influence.

Foreword

In Devon, we want a county for everyone.

We want all to share in our economic prosperity, to have access to the best possible public services and to enjoy a good quality of life.

Our county is made up of many small and scattered communities built around larger market and coastal towns and the vibrant city of Exeter.

To make sure that the County Council and other agencies provide a good service to all these diverse communities and can meet their future needs, we need to fully understand and take into account the local situation and any local issues.

We call this initiative “Connecting with Communities” and it is a key part of our Strategic Plan for the future of Devon.

To help, we have produced a local profile of each of the key market and coastal towns in Devon and their surrounding area.

Based on key facts and figures, these profiles are just a starting point for local discussion about the real needs and priorities of each of our communities.

I hope you find this information useful and that it proves an invaluable resource in all future local planning.

Councillor Des Hannon
Executive Support Member for Improvement and Customer Service
Devon County Council



Introduction

This profile, one of 29 covering the area of Devon County Council, has been generated by the County Council's Corporate Information Service and is an important resource contribution to local community planning work.

Each profile provides a statistical overview, based on a series of facts and figures, of what life is like in each "Devon town" area. The profile contains a baseline of information and is intended to provide the basis for further discussion and development within the County Council and with partners.

In light of these discussions the profile can grow into a more rounded picture describing "how things are" for each area, as well as to set out the likely future actions that will be needed to redress any gaps in service or unmet needs.

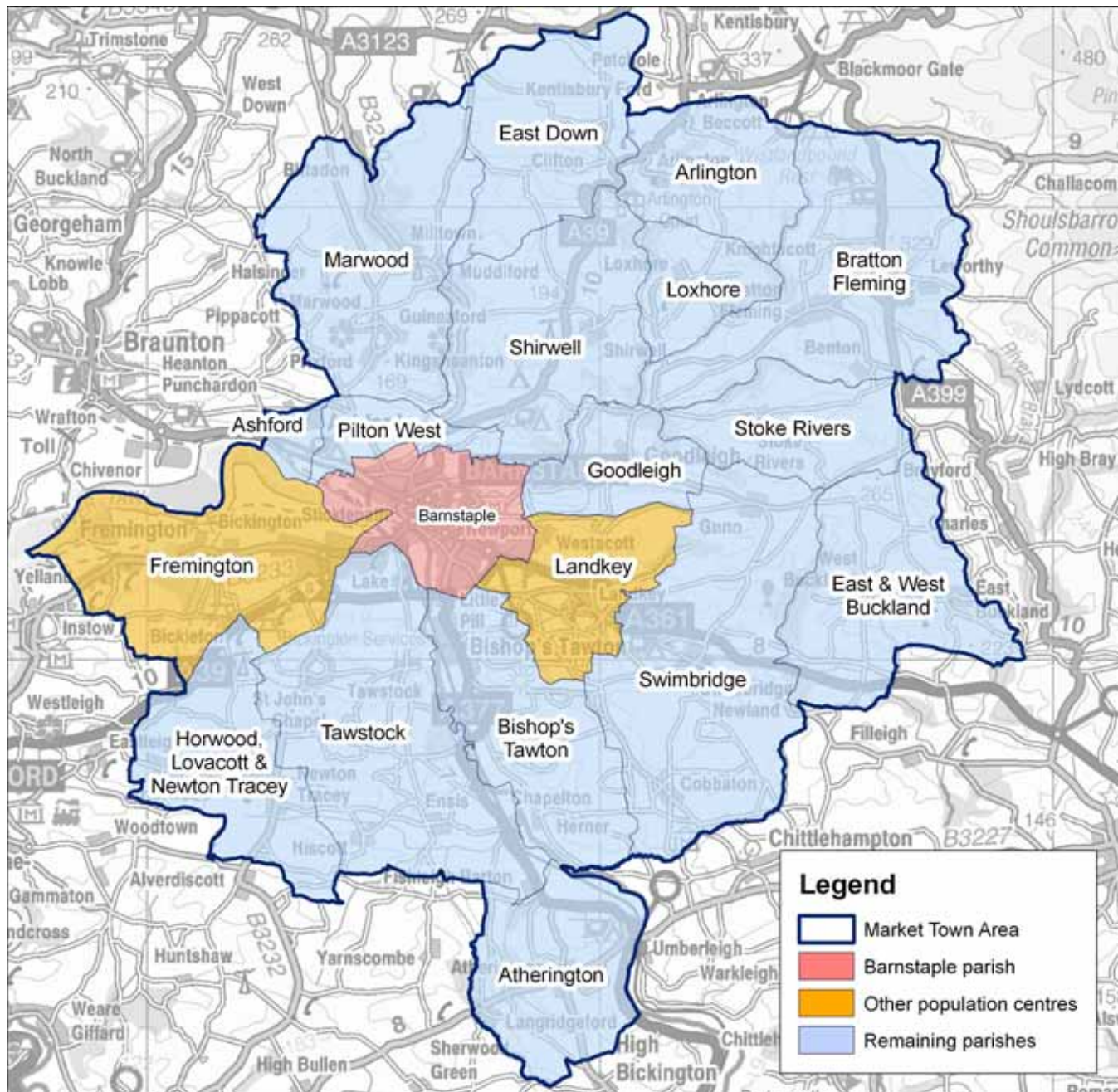
The profile is structured around a series of themes to cover social, economic and environmental well being. This is a starting point in producing profiles about our "Devon town" areas in which considerable effort has been made to provide a comprehensive series of data. Further data will be added to subsequent editions as they become available to provide a more complete picture and monitor trends.

The profiles are available on the County Council website – www.devon.gov.uk

Area definition

Market town areas have been defined as aggregations of parishes. The following 19 parishes make up the Barnstaple market town area:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Arlington | Ashford | Atherington | Barnstaple |
| Bishop's Tawton | Bratton Fleming | East & West Buckland | East Down |
| Fremington | Goodleigh | Horwood, Lovacott & Newton Tracey | Pilton West |
| Landkey | Loxhore | Marwood | Tawstock |
| Shirwell | Stoke Rivers | Swimbridge | |



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As much of the data included in this profile is produced at a ward level a 'best-fit' of wards is also used. Wards are included in one market town area if more than 60% of the population of that ward live within the market town boundary. If between 40% and 60% of a ward's population falls within a market town area it will be included but may also be included in another area.

The wards that comprise the market town area in this profile are as follows:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Bickington & Roundswell | Bratton Fleming | Central Town | Forches & Whiddon |
| Fremington | Landkey Swimbridge & Taw | Longbridge | Marwood |
| Newport | Pilton | Yeo Valley | |

Nine wards fall completely inside the market town boundary, with over 90% of the population of Bratton Fleming and Marwood wards living inside the boundary. As such both these wards are included in the 'best-fit' for the purposes of this profile. The parish of Atherington falls in the ward of Chittlehampton. As only 18% of the population of the ward lives inside the market town boundary it is not included in the profile.

Each market town area is comprised of a centre (coloured red) and its surrounding hinterland (referred to as the "Remaining parishes" throughout this document). The centre for this profile is considered to be the parish of Barnstaple, or the six Barnstaple wards – Central Town, Forches & Whiddon Valley, Longbridge, Newport, Pilton & Yeo Valley – if appropriate.

There are also two additional population centres – Fremington and Landkey – coloured orange. These are parishes where the 2001 Census showed a resident population that exceeded 3,000. The wards of Bickington & Roundswell and Fremington are used as a best-fit for the parish of Fremington, and the ward of Landkey, Swimbridge & Taw as a best fit for the parish of Landkey, where data are only available for wards.

The wards used as a best-fit for Fremington match the parish boundary fairly well. However, the ward of Landkey, Swimbridge & Taw does not match the parish of Landkey at all well as it also includes the parishes of Bishop's Tawton, Swimbridge and Tawstock.

Some national datasets are released using a new geographic hierarchy – Super Output Areas. The lowest level – Lower Super Output Areas (or LSOAs) – is about one third the size of a ward. These are aggregated to form Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs). Where data are only available at Super Output area a best-fit approach has been adopted. There are 33 LSOAs that fall either fully or partially inside the market town area and seven MSOAs. Four MSOAs form an area similar to Barnstaple but it is not possible to produce figures for the other population centres where data are only available at this level.

Additional information has been included to provide some comparisons. All tables have data for the North Devon district and the area administered by Devon County Council – where reference is made to the county of Devon this refers to the area covered by Devon County Council, which does not include Plymouth or Torbay. Where possible data are also included at a national level, either for England or England & Wales.

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This profile makes use of data from the 1991 and 2001 Censuses. All such data is acknowledged as Crown Copyright.

Population

Summary

The structure of the population in the market town area is broadly similar to that across the district and the county. However, there is a higher proportion of the younger working age group (25-44) in Barnstaple and a lower proportion in the rural parishes.

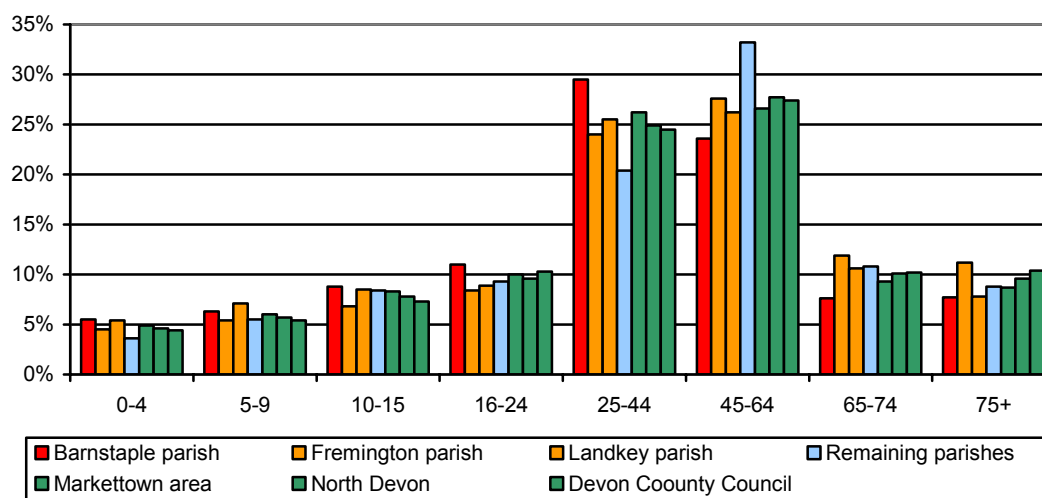
The population of the market town area has risen by around 17% since 1991. The population of Fremington parish saw an increase of almost 40% over the same period.

The proportion of people from minority ethnic groups is slightly higher in Barnstaple than the district and county averages. Fremington has a proportion significantly different from the average.

The level of households occupied by individuals in the market town area is similar to the county and district averages. However, levels outside of Barnstaple are higher.

Percentage of population by age band (2004)

Area	Total population	Age band							
		0-4	5-9	10-15	16-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75 and over
Barnstaple parish	24,478	5.5%	6.3%	8.8%	11.05	29.5%	23.6%	7.6%	7.7%
Fremington parish	10,230	4.5%	5.4%	6.8%	8.4%	24.0%	27.6%	11.9%	11.2%
Landkey parish	2,007	5.4%	7.1%	8.5%	8.9%	25.5%	26.2%	10.6%	7.8%
Remaining parishes	9,696	3.6%	5.5%	8.4%	9.3%	20.4%	33.2%	10.8%	8.8%
Market town area	46,411	4.9%	6.0%	8.3%	10.0%	26.2%	26.6%	9.3%	8.7%
North Devon	95,121	4.6%	5.7%	7.8%	9.6%	24.9%	27.7%	10.1%	9.6%
Devon County Council	742,911	4.4%	5.4%	7.3%	10.3%	24.5%	27.4%	10.2%	10.4%



Source: South Devon Health Informatics Service (FHSA data)

Population change (1991 to 2004)

Area	1991	2001	2004	% change 1991-2004
Barnstaple parish	20,767	23,674	24,478	17.9%
Fremington parish	7,394	10,136	10,230	38.1%
Landkey parish	2,073	1,923	2,007	-3.2%
Remaining parishes	9,418	9,491	9,696	2.7%
Market town area	39,652	45,224	46,411	16.9%
North Devon	84,800	91,716	95,121	12.16%
Devon County Council	646,903	719,775	742,943	14.85%

Source: 1991 Census, 2001 and 2004 South Devon Health Informatics Service (FHSA data)

Barnstaple, Landkey and Swimbridge have been subject to boundary changes. An area of Swimbridge with a population of around 450 has been included in Landkey parish since 2001. The population of Landkey grew steadily through the 1990s reaching a maximum of around 3,500. An area with a population of around 2,000 has

since been included in Barnstaple. The table below shows what the population of these areas would be if the boundaries had remained constant.

Population 2001 and 2004 based on 1991 boundaries

Parish	2001 Estimate	2004 Estimate
Barnstaple parish	21,697	22,319
Landkey parish	3,209	3,694
Swimbridge parish	1,422	1,477

Source: South Devon Health Informatics Service (FHSA data)

Ethnicity (2001)

Area	All people	Ethnic Group			
		White	% White	Black or Minority Ethnic	% Black or Minority Ethnic
Barnstaple parish	20,710	20,429	98.6%	281	1.4%
Fremington parish	9,750	9,625	100.0%	125	0.0%
Landkey parish	3,191	3,170	99.1%	21	0.9%
Remaining parishes	9,411	9,309	98.9%	102	1.1%
Market town area	43,062	42,533	98.8%	529	1.2%
North Devon	87,508	86,674	99.0%	834	1.0%
Devon County Council	704,493	696,590	98.9%	7,903	1.1%
England	49,138,831	44,679,361	90.9%	4,459,470	9.1%

Source: 2001 Census

Household composition (2001)

Area	All households	Single person households		Households comprising more than one person	
		Number	%	Number	%
Barnstaple	8,911	2,904	32.6%	6,007	67.4%
Fremington	4,169	1,034	24.8%	3,135	75.2%
Landkey	1,224	224	18.3%	1,000	81.7%
Remaining parishes	3,736	776	20.8%	2,960	79.2%
Market town Area	18,040	4,938	27.4%	13,102	72.6%
North Devon	36,777	10,252	27.9%	26,525	72.1%
Devon County Council	298,576	86,890	29.1%	211,686	70.9%
England	20,451,427	6,150,264	30.1%	14,301,163	69.9%

Source: 2001 Census

Deprivation

Summary

Six Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) within the market town boundary fall in the most deprived 25% of LSOAs nationally – all of these are in Barnstaple. A further 12 LSOAs fall in the next 25% of deprived areas.

The principal source of deprivation data is currently The Indices of Deprivation 2004. This is a Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level measure of multiple deprivation and is made up of seven domains. A LSOA is an area of about 1,500 people and has been devised to standardise statistical geography across the country. The seven domains are:

- Income deprivation
- Employment deprivation
- Health deprivation and disability
- Education, skills and training deprivation
- Barriers to Housing and Services
- Living environment deprivation
- Crime

There are two supplementary Indices (Income Deprivation Affecting Children and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People).

The model which underpins the index of deprivation 2004 is based on the idea of distinct dimensions of deprivation which can be recognised and measured separately. These are experienced by individuals living in an area. Where possible, the indicators relate to 2001.

The information will help target policies and funding, reinforcing the Government's drive to improve the quality of life in disadvantaged communities'.

There are over 32,000 LSOAs in the 2004 index, replacing the 8,500 wards used to construct the current index of multiple deprivation 2000. The LSOA boundaries were determined nationally with no local input.

The 2004 index was developed from academic research undertaken by Oxford University.

The table below compares the areas in Devon ranked in the most deprived 25% nationally, in terms of the number of wards in 2000 and the number of LSOAs in 2004, together with the population of these areas.

Comparison of IMD 2000 and ID 2004

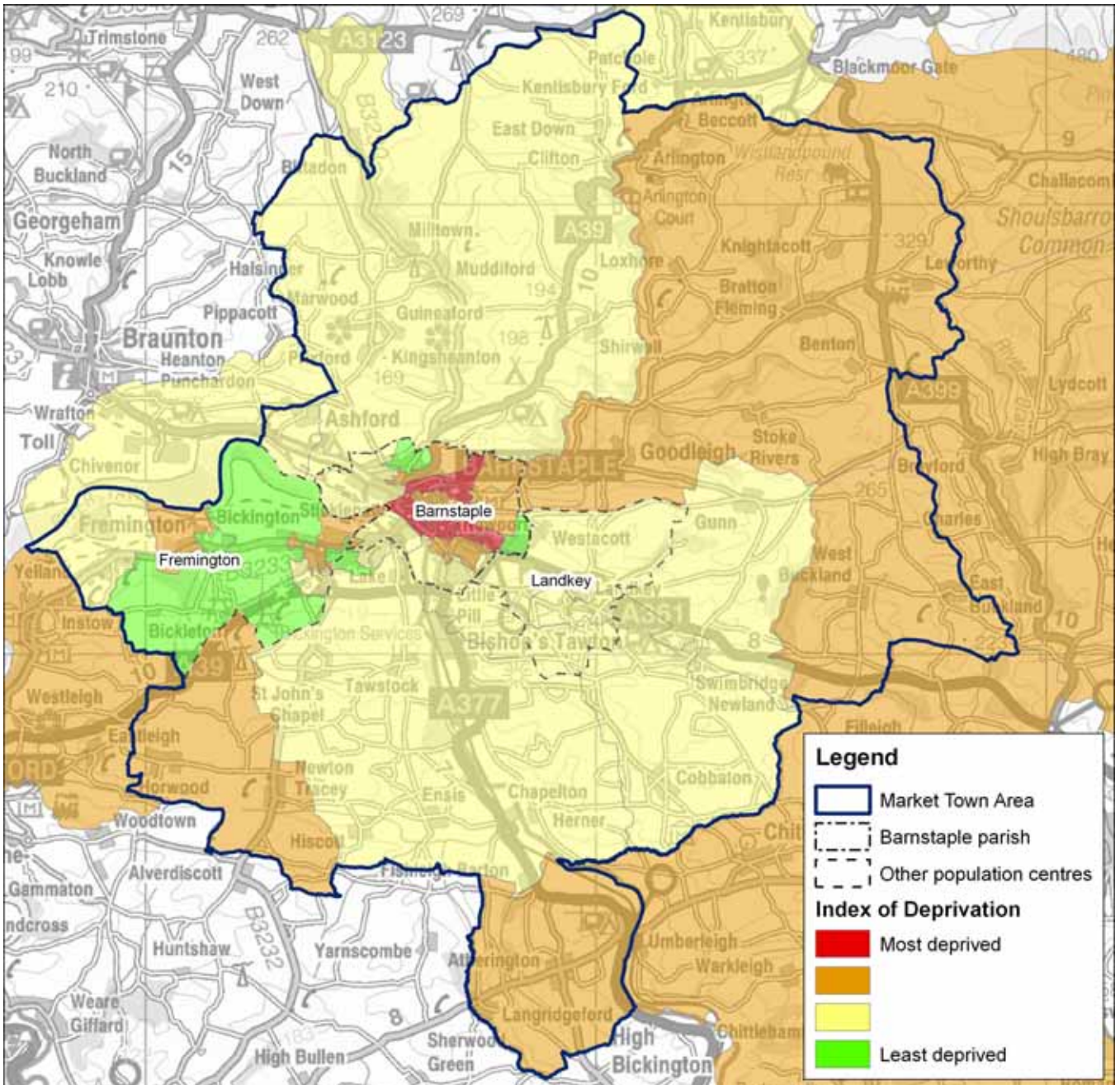
Area	IMD 2000		ID 2004	
	Number of wards	Population	Number of LSOAs	Population
East Devon	1	3,901	0	0
Exeter	3	17,070	14	22,057
Mid Devon	0	0	1	1,652
North Devon	6	21,409	10	14,158
South Hams	1	5,458	0	0
Teignbridge	6	24,408	6	8,918
Torridge	10	22,217	3	5,731
West Devon	1	1,483	0	0
Devon County Council	28	95,946	34	52,516

Source: Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and South Devon Health Informatics Service (FHSA data)

Application of the new index reduces the population in Devon perceived to be living in the most deprived areas by around 45%. This is probably due to the addition of crime and the living environment to the index, which in both cases the area covered by Devon County Council would have scored well compared to the national average. The reduced weighting given to the access to services domain may also be a contributing factor.

There are 33 LSOAs that fall either completely or partially within the area covered by this profile. Six of these are classified as being in the most deprived 25% of LSOAs nationally - all of these are located in Barnstaple. Twelve LSOAs fall into the next 25% with a further 10 LSOAs falling into the 50-75% most deprived areas. The remaining five are classified as being in the least deprived 25% of LSOAs nationally.

Map of Index of Deprivation 2004



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Source: Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

The Local Economy

Summary

Unemployment levels in Barnstaple are above the national average. All other areas experience levels broadly similar to the county average.

The highest level of economic activity is in the parish of Landkey. There is a significant proportion of self employment in the remaining parishes which is above the district, county and national averages.

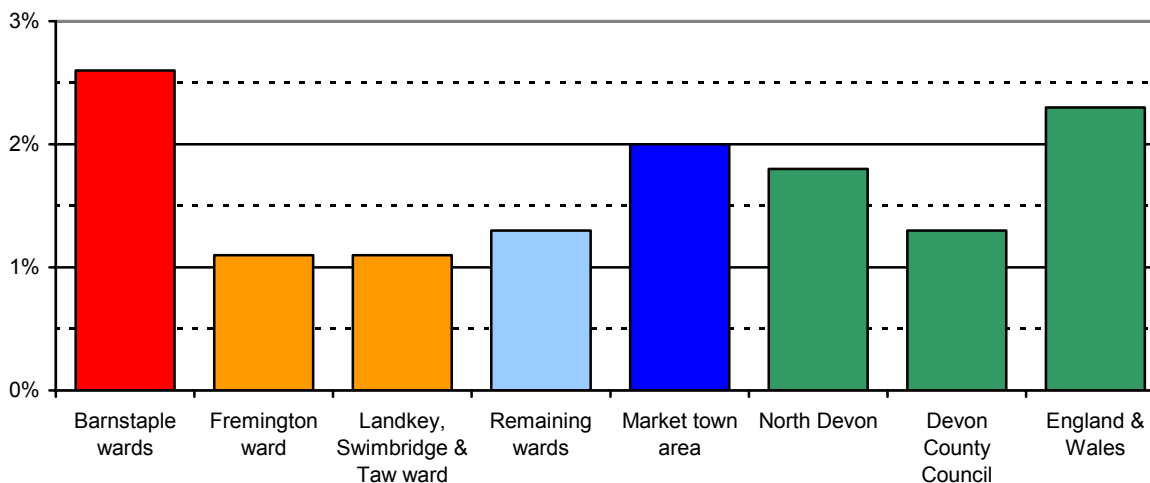
Claim rates for Income Support and Job Seekers Allowance in Barnstaple are twice those for areas outside the town. Barnstaple Income Support rates are above the county and national averages.

The proportion of households with an income of less than £20,000 across the market town area is similar to the district and county averages. Fewer households have an income of less than £20,000 in the remaining parishes.

In all areas, the greatest proportion of businesses are in the wholesale and retail sector.

Unemployment as a proportion of working age resident population (April 2005)

Area	Number unemployed	% working age population
Barnstaple wards	390	2.6%
Fremington ward	23	1.1%
Landkey, Swimbridge & Taw ward	33	1.1%
Remaining wards	59	1.3%
Market town area	505	2.0%
North Devon	923	1.8%
Devon County Council	5,445	1.3%
England & Wales		2.3%



Source: Office for National Statistics

Economic activity (2001)

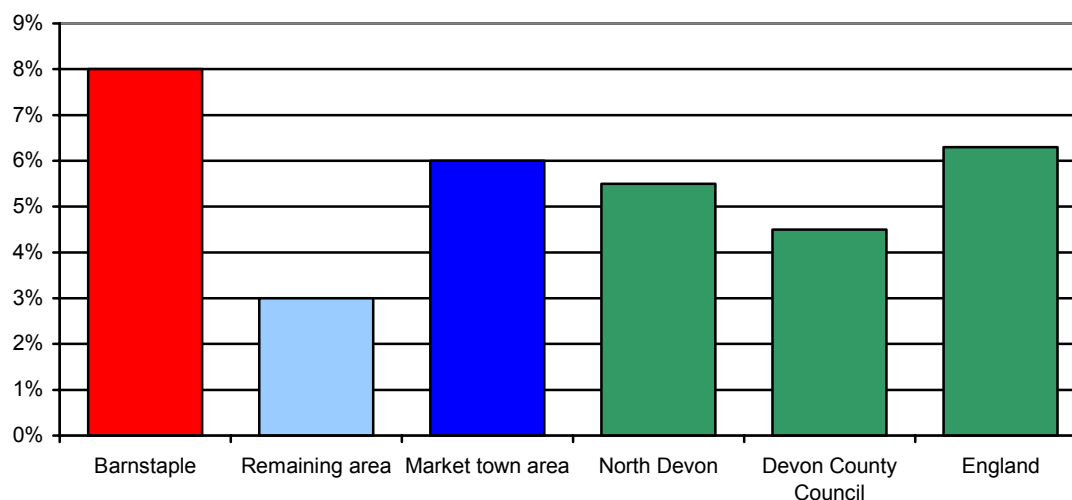
Area	People aged 16 to 74	Economically active population	Economically active	Employed part-time	Employed full-time	Self employed	Unemployed	Students
Barnstaple parish	14,530	9,947	68.5%	21.8%	57.3%	11.0%	6.8%	3.0%
Fremington parish	6,920	4,487	64.8%	23.1%	57.7%	12.4%	3.4%	3.4%
Landkey parish	2,287	1,730	75.6%	22.3%	58.9%	11.7%	3.8%	3.3%
Remaining parishes	6,913	4,588	66.4%	20.2%	44.7%	28.9%	3.4%	2.8%
Market town area	30,650	20,752	67.7%	21.8%	54.7%	15.3%	5.1%	3.1%
North Devon	62,384	41,484	66.5%	20.9%	50.6%	20.7%	5.0%	2.8%
Devon County Council	503,212	328,379	65.3%	20.5%	52.6%	19.3%	3.9%	3.6%
England	35,532,091	23,756,707	66.9%	17.7%	61.0%	12.4%	5.0%	3.9%

Source: 2001 Census

The data below relating to Income Support and Job Seekers Allowance are based on a best fit of Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs). Four MSOAs form an area similar to Barnstaple but it is not possible to produce figures for the other population centres.

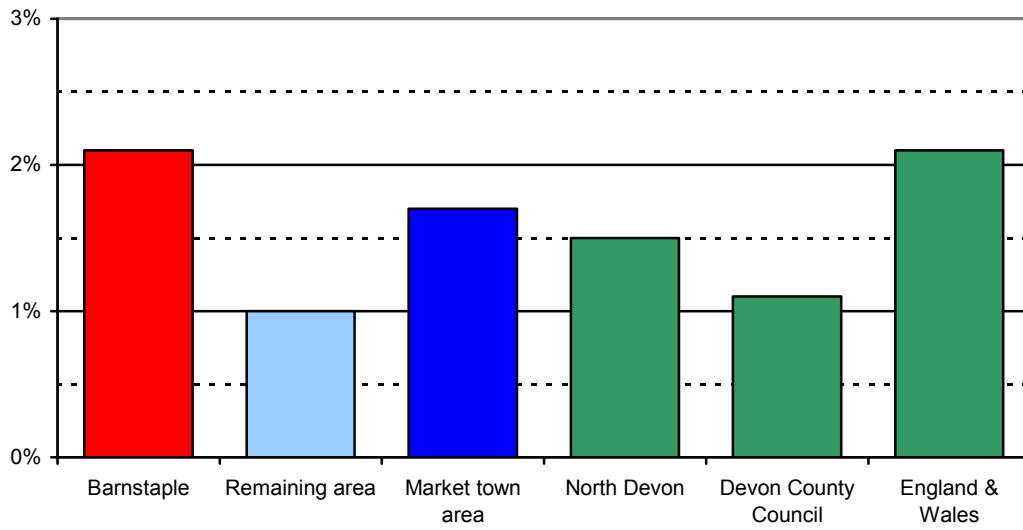
Income Support and Job Seekers Allowance claim rates (2004)

Area	Income Support			Job Seekers Allowance		
	Population aged 16 to 59	All claimants	Claim rate	Population aged 16 to 64	All claimants	Claim rate
Barnstaple area	14,344	1,150	8.0%	15,551	330	2.1%
Remaining area	10,036	305	3.0%	11,232	115	1.0%
Market town area	24,380	1,455	6.0%	26,783	445	1.7%
North Devon	48,072	2,655	5.5%	53,296	815	1.5%
Devon County Council	388,926	17,520	4.5%	429,574	4,785	1.1%
England & Wales	30,694,973	1,946,020	6.3%	33,239,665	689,810	2.1%

Income Support claim rates (2004)

Source: Department for Work and Pension

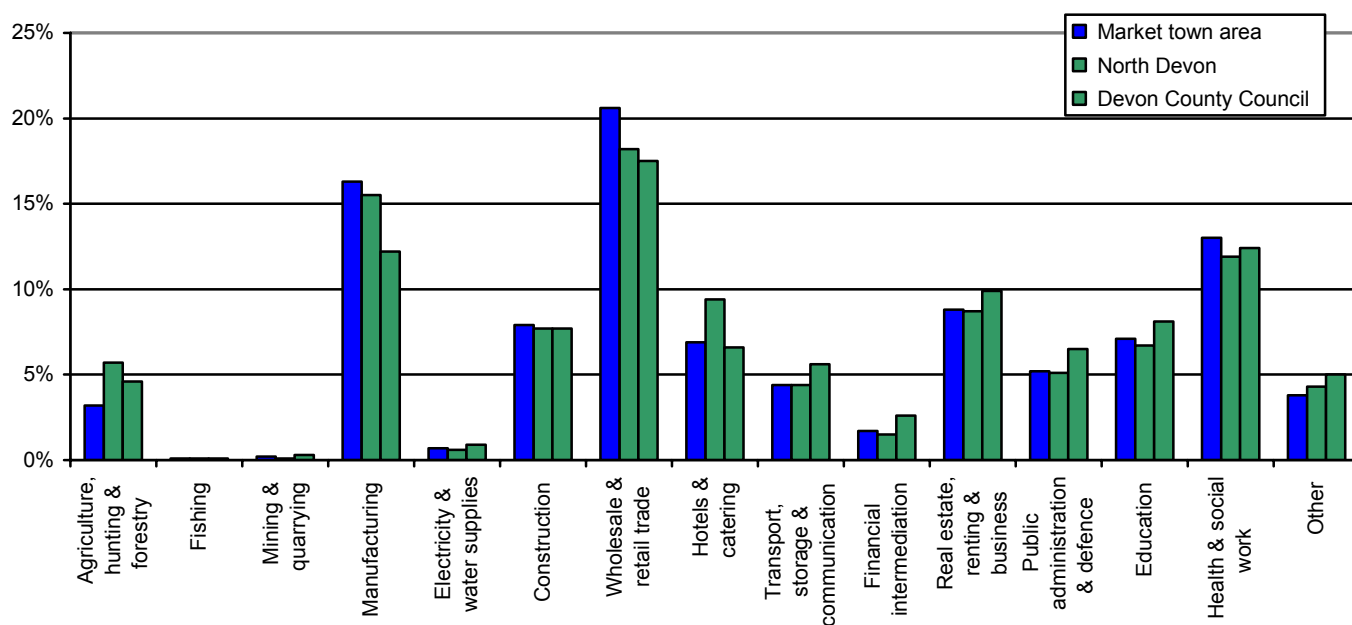
Job Seekers Allowance claim rates (2004)



Source: Department for Work and Pensions

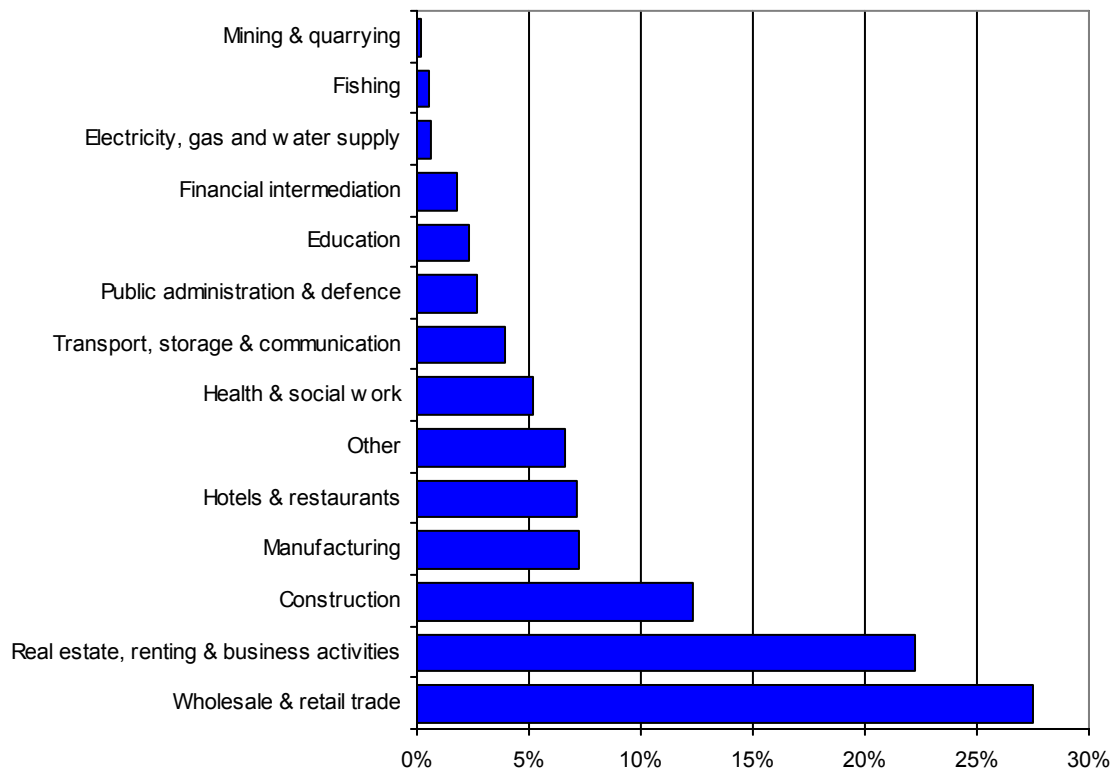
Employment of people living in the area by industry (2001)

Sector	Barnstaple parish	Fremington parish	Landkey parish	Remaining parishes	Market town area	North Devon	Devon County Council
Agriculture, hunting & forestry	1.7%	2.0%	1.2%	9.4%	3.2%	5.7%	4.6%
Fishing	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Mining & quarrying	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
Manufacturing	16.8%	16.8%	17.9%	12.4%	16.3%	15.5%	12.2%
Electricity & water supplies	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.9%
Construction	7.3%	7.0%	7.9%	8.6%	7.9%	7.7%	7.7%
Wholesale & retail trade	20.9%	20.4%	22.0%	17.3%	20.6%	18.2%	17.5%
Hotels & catering	6.3%	5.5%	8.0%	5.6%	6.9%	9.4%	6.6%
Transport, storage & communication	4.8%	4.8%	4.4%	4.1%	4.4%	4.4%	5.6%
Financial intermediation	2.5%	3.6%	1.2%	1.2%	1.7%	1.5%	2.6%
Real estate, renting & business activities	8.6%	7.4%	8.9%	9.6%	8.8%	8.7%	9.9%
Public administration & defence	6.4%	6.6%	4.9%	4.3%	5.2%	5.1%	6.5%
Education	7.2%	7.6%	6.0%	9.3%	7.1%	6.7%	8.1%
Health & social work	12.8%	13.7%	12.9%	13.1%	13.0%	11.9%	12.4%
Other	3.6%	3.7%	3.9%	4.1%	3.8%	4.3%	5.0%



Source: 2001 Census

Percentage of businesses in profile area by Standard Industrial Classification (2004)



Source: Annual Business Inquiry

Skills and Learning

Summary

Generally, the proportion of children achieving at least level 4 at Key Stage 2 is similar to county and national averages. Results for English were slightly lower in Barnstaple and Fremington, while results for Science were better in the remaining rural parishes.

Results for GCSEs follow a similar pattern with students in the "Remaining parishes" achieving the best results.

The overall level of qualification within the market town area is broadly similar to the district and county averages. However, there are lower levels of those qualified to level 4 in Barnstaple and Fremington.

Number and percentage of pupils achieving at least Key Stage 2 Level 4 (2004)

Area	Total pupils	English		Maths		Science	
		Number	% pupils	Number	% pupils	Number	% pupils
Barnstaple parish	352	261	74.1%	254	72.2%	311	88.4%
Fremington parish	113	78	69.0%	83	73.5%	91	80.5%
Landkey parish	26	22	84.6%	19	73.1%	22	84.6%
Remaining parishes	97	79	81.4%	76	78.4%	91	93.8%
Market town area	588	440	74.8%	432	73.5%	515	87.6%
North Devon	1,113	869	78.1%	849	76.3%	987	88.7%
Devon County Council	7,781	6,030	77.5%	5,766	74.1%	6,803	87.4%
England			75.0%		73.0%		86.0%

Source: Children and Young People's, Devon County Council

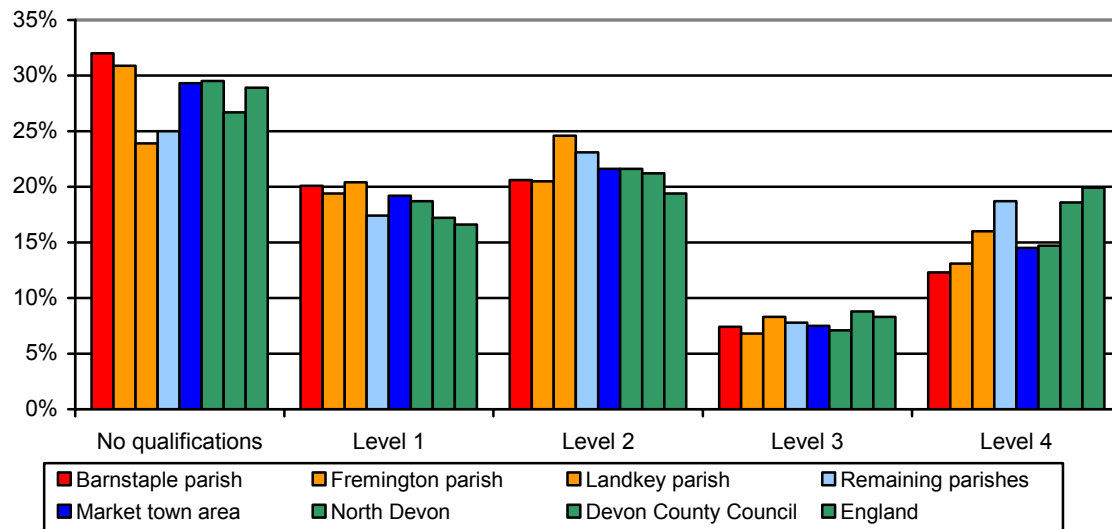
GCSE attainment (2002/03)

Area	Number of students	Students achieving five or more A*-C	% students achieving five or more A*-C	Students achieving five or more A*-G	% students achieving five or more A*-G
Barnstaple wards	314	146	46.5%	293	93.3%
Fremington ward	50	26	52.0%	48	96.0%
Landkey, Swimbridge and Taw ward	59	31	52.5%	55	93.2%
Remaining wards	84	47	56.0%	81	96.4%
Market town area	507	250	49.3%	477	94.1%
North Devon	1,092	571	52.3%	1,025	93.9%
Devon County Council			52.6%		90.6%
England			52.9%		88.8%

Source: Children and Young People's, Devon County Council

Highest level of qualification (2001)

Area	No qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Other
Barnstaple parish	32.0%	20.1%	20.6%	7.4%	12.3%	7.5%
Fremington parish	30.9%	19.4%	20.5%	6.8%	13.1%	9.3%
Landkey parish	23.9%	20.4%	24.6%	8.3%	16.0%	6.8%
Remaining parishes	25.0%	17.4%	23.1%	7.8%	18.7%	8.0%
Market town area	29.3%	19.2%	21.6%	7.5%	14.5%	8.0%
North Devon	29.5%	18.7%	21.6%	7.1%	14.7%	8.4%
Devon County Council	26.7%	17.2%	21.2%	8.8%	18.6%	7.6%
England	28.9%	16.6%	19.4%	8.3%	19.9%	6.9%



Source: 2001 Census

Note:

Level 1: 1+'O' level passes, 1 CSE/GCSE any grades, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ.

Level 2: 5+'O' level passes, 5+CSE's (grade A-C), School Certificate, 1+'A' levels/'AS' levels, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ.

Level 3: 2+ 'A' levels, 4+'AS' levels, Higher School Certificate, NVQ level 3, Advanced GNVQ.

Level 4: First degree, Higher degree, NVQ levels 4 and 5, HNC, HND, Qualified Teacher Status, Qualified, Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife, Health Visitor.

Health, Care and Wellbeing

Summary

Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance claim rates for the market town area are similar the district, county and national averages. This is also the case for claimants of Disability Living Allowance.

The proportion of people living with a limiting long term illness is fairly consistent across the market town area, with the exception of Landkey parish. The same pattern applies to those who described their health as "not good".

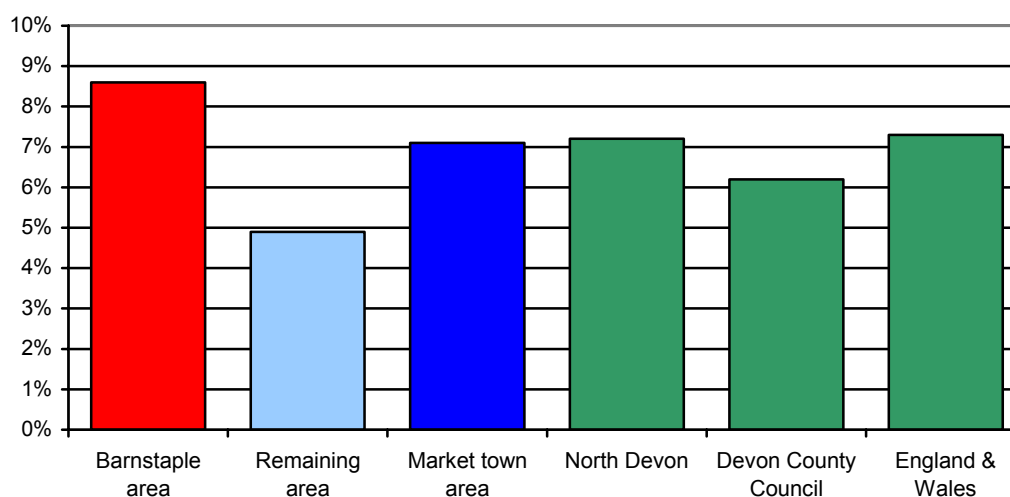
The data below relating to Incapacity Benefit & Severe Disablement Allowance and Disability Living Allowance are based on a best fit of Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs). Four MSOAs form an area similar to Barnstaple but it is not possible to produce figures for the other population centres.

Incapacity Benefit & Severe Disablement Allowance and Disability Living Allowance claim rates (2004)

Area	Incapacity Benefit & Severe Disablement Allowance			Disability Living Allowance		
	Population aged 16 to 64	All claimants	Claim rate	Total population	All claimants	Claim rate
Barnstaple area	15,551	1,340	8.6%	25,123	1,195	4.8%
Remaining area	11,232	550	4.9%	18,364	615	3.3%
Market town area	26,783	1,890	7.1%	43,487	1,810	4.2%
North Devon	53,296	3,815	7.2%	87,525	3,490	4.0%
Devon County Council	429,574	26,670	6.2%	704,510	25,645	3.6%
England & Wales	33,239,665	2,421,940	7.3%	52,042,016	2,341,615	4.5%

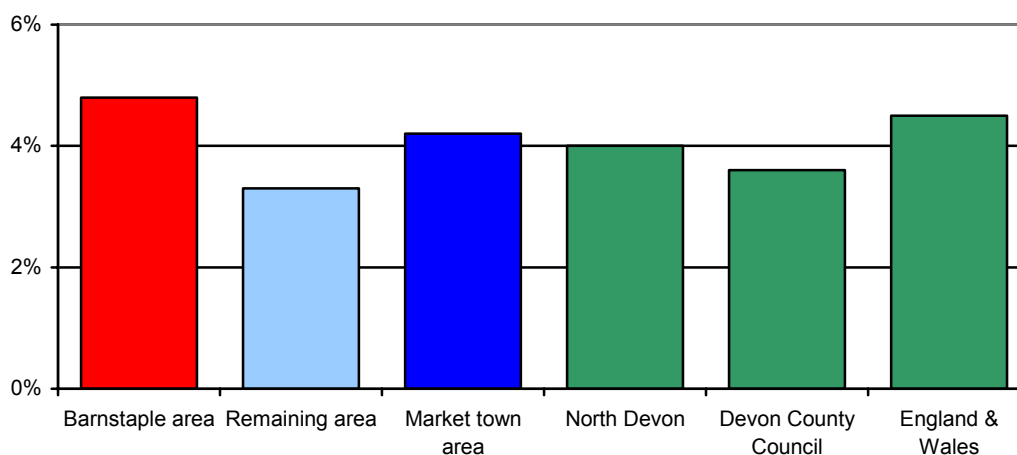
Source: Department for Work and Pensions

Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance claim rates (2004)



Source: Department for Work and Pensions

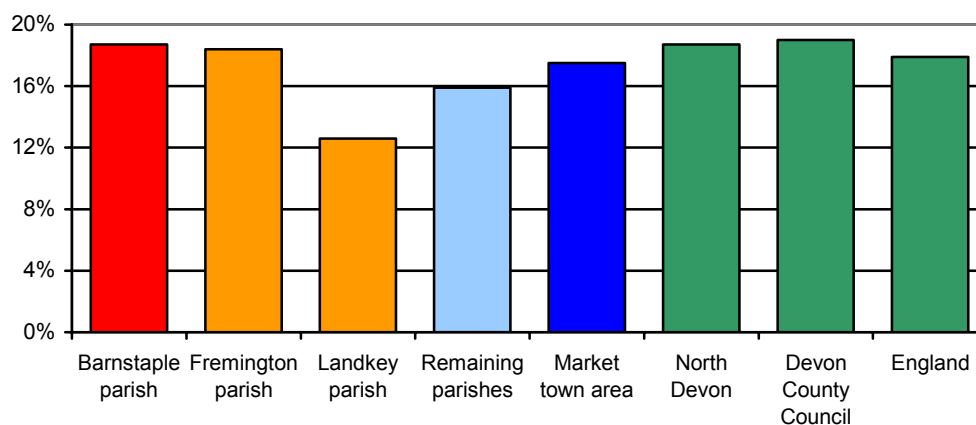
Disability Living Allowance claim rates (2004)



Source: Department for Work and Pensions

Percentage of people living with a limiting long-term illness (2001)

Area	All people	People living with a limiting long-term illness	% people living with a limiting long-term illness
Barnstaple parish	20,724	3,871	18.7%
Fremington parish	9,744	1,789	18.4%
Landkey parish	3,181	400	12.6%
Remaining parishes	9,432	1,496	15.9%
Market town area	43,081	7,556	17.5%
North Devon	87,508	16,377	18.7%
Devon County Council	704,493	133,756	19.0%
England	49,138,831	8,809,194	17.9%



Source: 2001 Census

General health (2001)

Area	All people	People describing their health as good or fairly good		People describing their health as not good	
		Number	%	Number	%
Barnstaple parish	20,724	18,768	90.6%	1,956	9.4%
Fremington parish	9,744	8,842	90.7%	902	9.3%
Landkey parish	3,181	2,994	94.1%	187	5.9%
Remaining parishes	9,432	8,748	92.7%	684	7.3%
Market town area	43,081	39,352	91.3%	3,729	8.7%
North Devon	87,508	79,833	91.2%	7,675	8.8%
Devon County Council	704,493	643,988	91.4%	60,505	8.6%
England	49,138,831	44,702,955	91.0%	4,435,876	9.0%

Source: 2001 Census

Older People

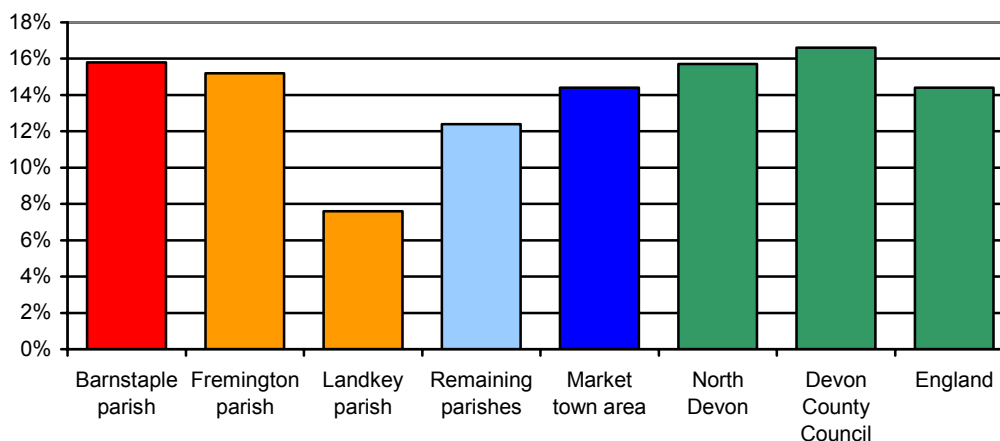
Summary

The level of households occupied by lone pensioners within the market town area is broadly similar to the district, county and national averages, with the exception of Landkey parish which has a significantly lower proportion of lone pensioner households.

Social Services client rates are highest in Barnstaple and lowest in Landkey. Overall the market town area has a rate above the district and county averages.

Percentage of lone pensioner households (2001)

Area	Total households	Households occupied by lone pensioners	% households occupied by lone pensioners
Barnstaple parish	8,918	1,412	15.8%
Fremington parish	4,170	632	15.2%
Landkey parish	1,224	93	7.6%
Remaining parishes	3,768	463	12.4%
Market town area	18,080	2,600	14.4%
North Devon	36,777	5,764	15.7%
Devon County Council	298,576	49,466	16.6%
England	20,451,427	2,939,465	14.4%



Source: 2001 Census

Number of Social Services clients per 1,000 population (2004)

Area	Clients by age group per 1,000 population of the same age group			
	50-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over
Barnstaple parish	30.0	70.0	192.7	628.6
Fremington parish	10.5	38.5	135.0	636.7
Landkey parish	10.2	9.4	130.8	269.2
Remaining parishes	10.9	26.8	126.2	468.3
Market town area	19.5	47.8	159.2	586.6
North Devon	15.3	40.2	150.6	517.7
Devon County Council	14.7	40.3	140.8	454.6

Source: Adult and Community Services, Devon County Council

Children and Young People

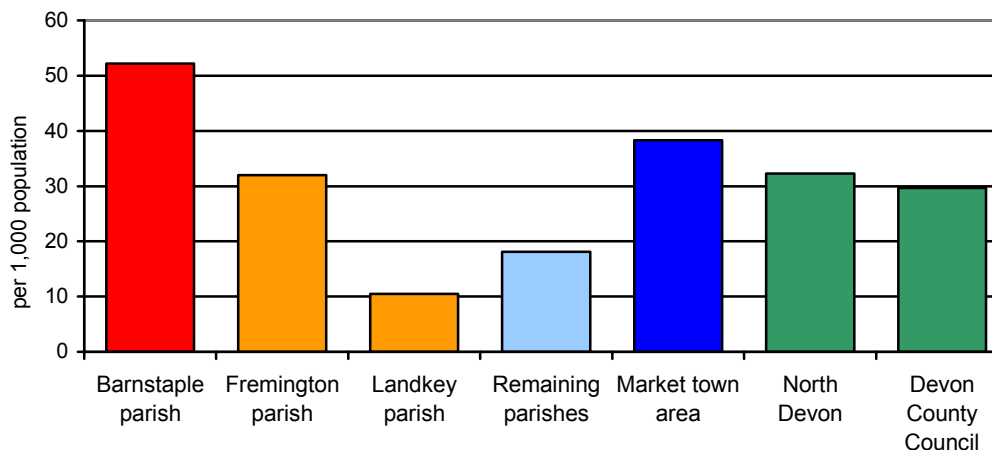
Summary

The proportion of children in need is highest in Barnstaple. Landkey and the remaining rural parishes have much lower rates.

Rates of young offenders in the market town area are broadly similar to the district average; however they are noticeably higher than the county average.

Children in need aged 0 to 17 years per 1,000 population aged 0 to 17 years (2003/04)

Area	Number of children aged 0 - 17	Number of children in need aged 0 - 17	Children in need aged 0 - 17 per 1,000 population aged 0 to 17
Barnstaple parish	5,133	268	52.2
Fremington parish	1,998	64	32.0
Landkey parish	952	10	10.5
Remaining parishes	1,600	29	18.1
Market town area	9,683	371	38.3
North Devon	18,497	598	32.3
Devon County Council	145,390	4,317	29.7



Source: Children and Young People's Services, Devon County Council

Young offenders aged 10 to 17 years per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17 years (2000 to 2002)

Area	2000	2001	2002
Barnstaple wards	26.5	30.4	39.8
Fremington wards	11.9	11.5	15.4
Landkey, Swimbridge & Taw ward	11.0	11.0	10.1
Remaining wards	30.5	27.9	48.5
Market town area	20.7	23.9	30.5
North Devon	19.4	22.7	27.6
Devon County Council	14.2	20.0	19.3

Source: Youth Offending Team

Community Safety

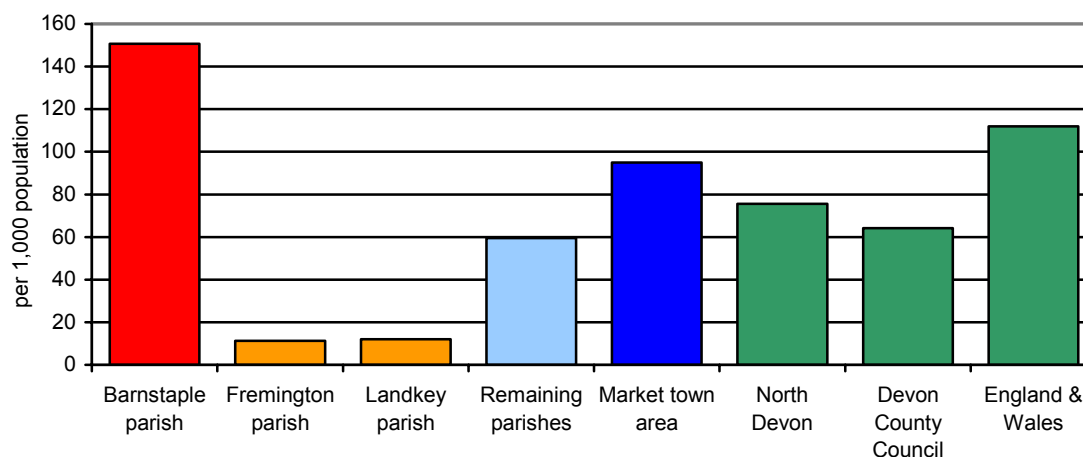
Summary

The rates of crime in all categories is highest in Barnstaple. The overall crime rate for Barnstaple is higher than the national average.

Data comprises addressable data only, and as such rates are based on approximately 92% of all crime.

Total crime per 1,000 population (2004/05)

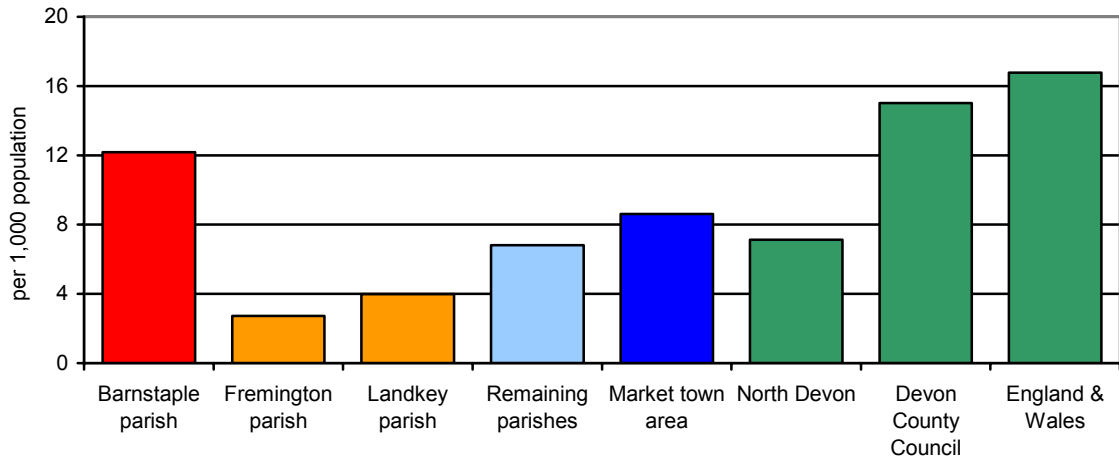
Area/Comparison	Population	Total number of crimes	Crime per 1,000 population
Barnstaple parish	24,476	3,689	150.7
Fremington parish	10,230	116	11.3
Landkey parish	2,007	24	12.0
Remaining parishes	9,696	577	59.5
Market town area	46,409	4,406	94.9
North Devon	95,058	7,185	75.6
Devon County Council	742,940	47,666	64.2
England & Wales	53,045,600	5,562,700	104.9



Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Vehicle crime per 1,000 population (2004/05)

Area/Comparison	Population	Number of vehicle crimes	Vehicle crime per 1,000 population
Barnstaple parish	24,476	298	12.2
Fremington parish	10,230	28	2.7
Landkey parish	2,007	8	4.0
Remaining parishes	9,696	66	6.8
Market town area	46,409	400	8.6
North Devon	95,058	677	7.1
Devon County Council	742,940	11,157	15.0
England & Wales	53,045,600	738,500	13.9

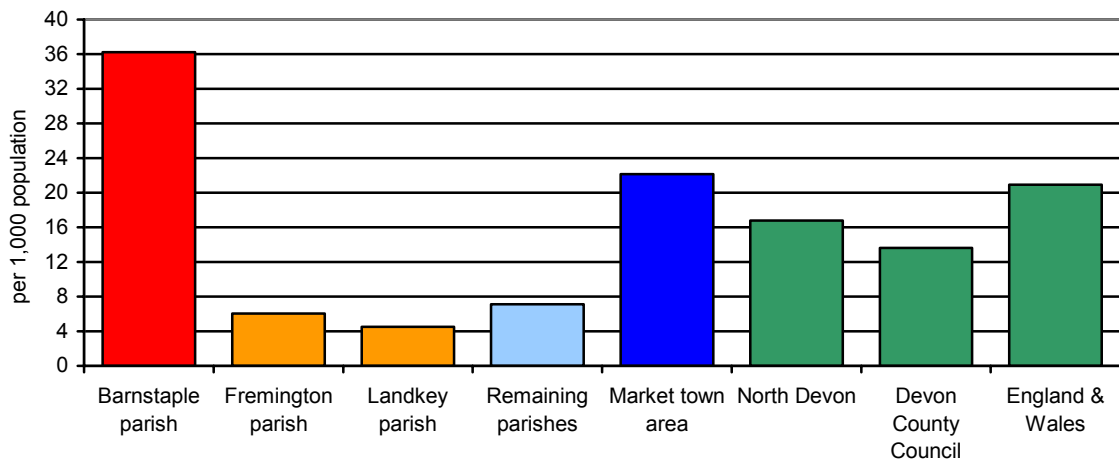


Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Violent crime per 1,000 population (2004/05)

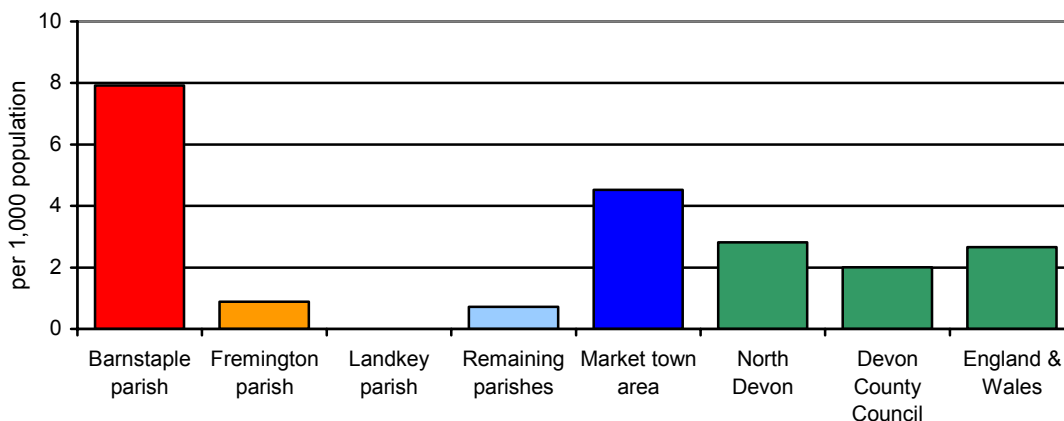
Area/Comparison	Population	Number of violent crimes	Violent crimes per 1,000 population
Barnstaple parish	24,476	887	36.2
Fremington parish	10,230	62	6.1
Landkey parish	2,007	9	4.5
Remaining parishes	9,696	69	7.1
Market town area	46,409	1,027	22.1
North Devon	95,058	1,597	16.8
Devon County Council	742,940	10,138	13.6
England & Wales	53,045,600	1,184,700	22.3

Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)



Drug offences per 1,000 population (2004/05)

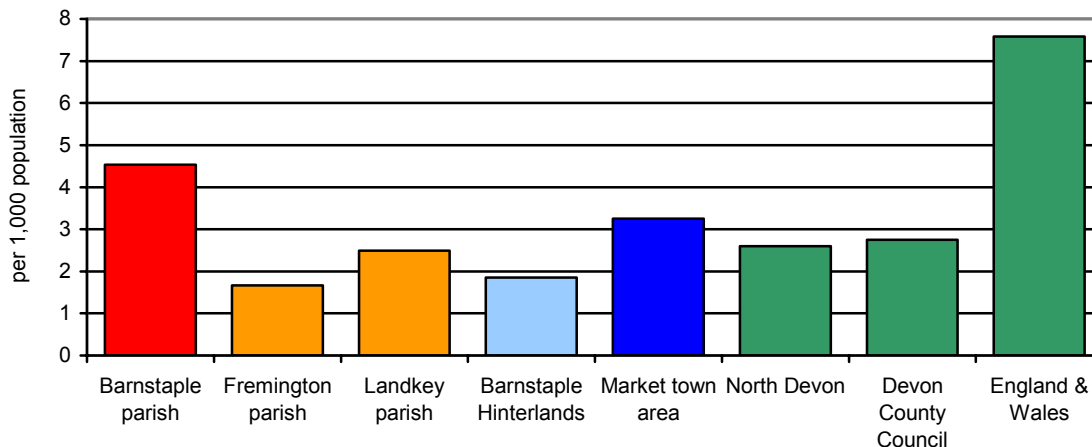
Area/Comparison	Population	Number of drug offences	Drug offences per 1,000 population
Barnstaple parish	24,476	194	7.9
Fremington parish	10,230	9	0.9
Landkey parish	2,007	-	-
Remaining parishes	9,696	7	0.7
Market town area	46,409	210	4.5
North Devon	95,058	268	2.8
Devon County Council	742,940	1,492	2.0
England & Wales	53,045,600	142,300	2.7



Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Dwelling burglaries per 1,000 population (2004/05)

Area/Comparison	Population	Number of dwelling burglaries	Dwelling burglaries per 1,000 population
Barnstaple parish	24,476	111	4.5
Fremington parish	10,230	17	1.7
Landkey parish	2,007	5	2.5
Remaining parishes	9,696	18	1.9
Market town area	46,409	151	3.3
North Devon	95,058	247	2.6
Devon County Council	742,940	2046	2.8
England & Wales	53,045,600	321,500	6.1



Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Housing

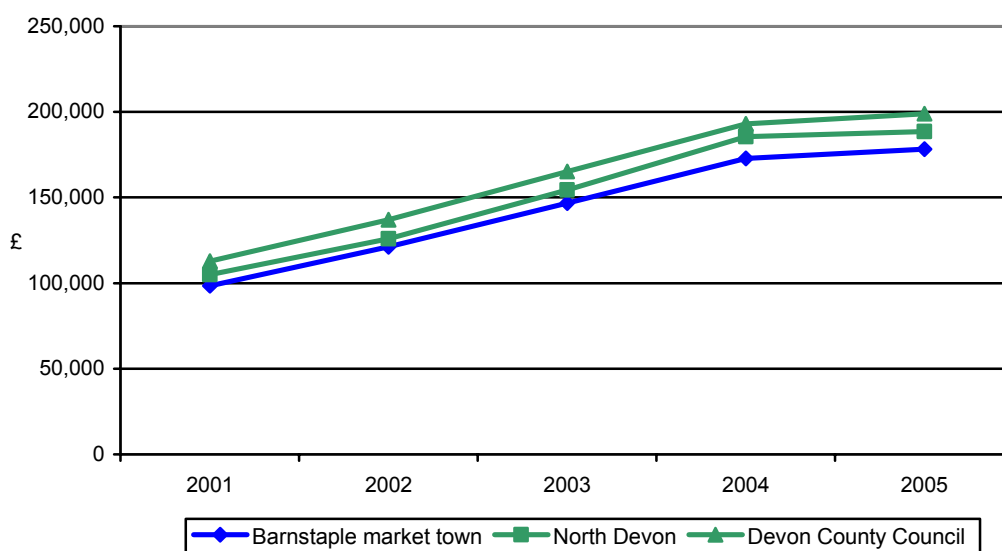
Summary

In 2004 house prices outside Barnstaple were 26% higher than those in the town. Overall, prices have risen by over 80% since 2001.

Tenure rates in the market town area are broadly similar to those in the district, county and nationally. The level of properties rented from a housing association is significantly higher in Barnstaple compared to the remaining parishes.

House price change (2001 to 2005)

Area	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	% change 2001 - 2005
Barnstaple parish	£88,510	£110,311	£135,507	£154,515	£165,746	87.3%
Fremington parish	£106,331	£128,846	£155,869	£182,510	£195,800	84.1%
Landkey parish	£126,209	£147,819	£154,910	£207,180	£226,036	79.1%
Remaining parishes	£131,778	£153,123	£180,944	£222,789	£208,333	58.1%
Market town	£98,520	£121,168	£146,674	£172,857	£178,180	80.9%
North Devon	£104,943	£125,841	£154,310	£185,554	£188,522	79.6%
Devon County Council	£112,771	£136,987	£165,267	£193,010	£199,010	76.5%



Source: Land Registry

Note: Data comprises sales between April and December 2001, all sales in 2002, 2003 and 2004 and from January to March 2005.

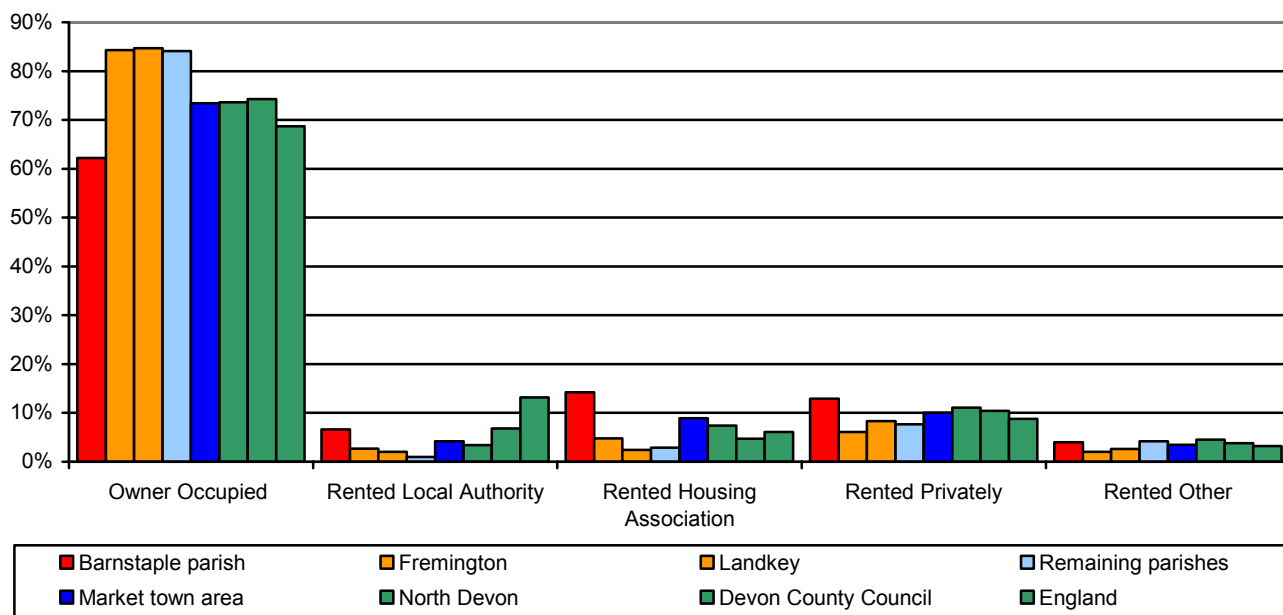
Average house price (2004)

Area	Detached	Terraced	Semi-Detached	Flat/Maisonette	Overall
Barnstaple parish	£227,809	£132,209	£156,123	£99,103	£154,515
Fremington parish	£215,521	£144,039	£158,986	£157,402	£182,510
Landkey parish	£250,815	£159,150	£181,125	N/A	£207,180
Remaining parishes	£267,800	£165,877	£184,230	N/A	£222,789
Market town area	£231,306	£137,784	£161,253	£112,463	£172,857
North Devon	£250,176	£148,058	£175,443	£124,173	£185,554
Devon County Council	£266,940	£157,985	£180,252	£138,260	£193,056
England & Wales	£270,745	£162,379	£136,862	£168,298	£178,504

Source: Land Registry

Percentage of dwellings by tenure (2001)

Area	All households	Owner occupied	Rented accommodation:			
			Local authority	Housing associations	Private	Other
Barnstaple parish	8,911	62.2%	6.6%	14.2%	12.9%	4.0%
Fremington	4,169	84.3%	2.7%	4.8%	6.1%	2.0%
Landkey	1,224	84.7%	2.0%	2.4%	8.3%	2.6%
Remaining parishes	3,749	84.1%	1.0%	2.9%	7.7%	4.2%
Market town area	18,053	73.4%	4.2%	8.9%	10.0%	3.5%
North Devon	36,776	73.6%	3.4%	7.4%	11.1%	4.5%
Devon County Council	298,576	74.3%	6.8%	4.7%	10.4%	3.8%
England	20,451,427	68.7%	13.2%	6.1%	8.8%	3.2%



Source: 2001 Census

Transport

Summary

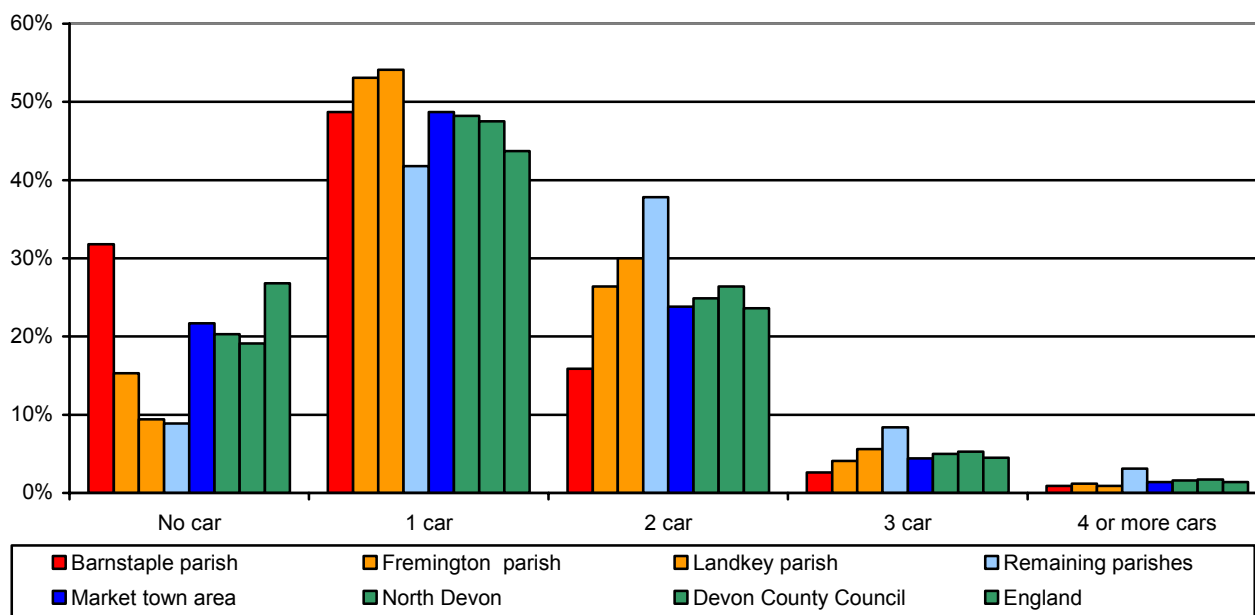
There are higher levels of car ownership outside Barnstaple. Nearly a third of Barnstaple households do not have access to a car.

Mode of travel to work is broadly similar across the market town area, with the exception of a much higher percentage of those travelling to work on foot or by bicycle in Barnstaple compared to other areas.

Overall the area's accessibility by public transport compares well with the county average, but it should be noted that there is significant differences within the market town area.

Car ownership (2001)

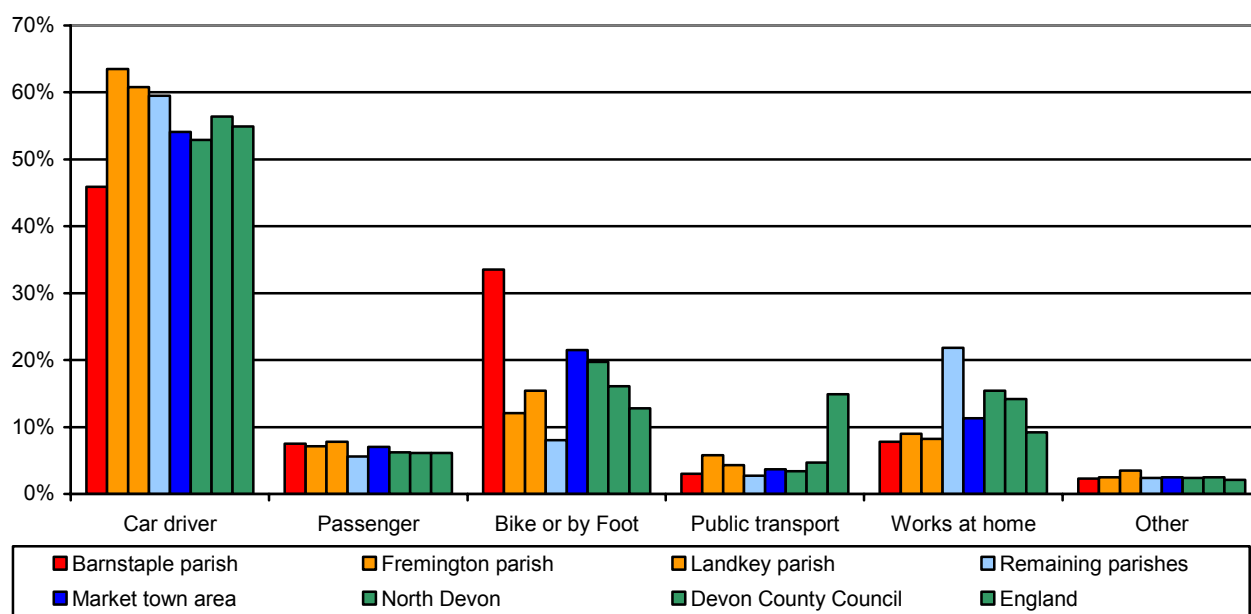
Area	All households	Households with:				
		No car	One car	Two cars	Three cars	Four or more cars
Barnstaple parish	8,911	31.8%	48.7%	15.9%	2.6%	0.9%
Fremington parish	4,169	15.3%	53.1%	26.4%	4.1%	1.2%
Landkey parish	1,224	9.4%	54.1%	30.0%	5.6%	0.9%
Remaining parishes	3,262	8.9%	41.8%	37.8%	8.4%	3.1%
Market town area	18,056	21.7%	48.7%	23.8%	4.4%	1.4%
North Devon	36,776	20.3%	48.2%	24.9%	5.0%	1.6%
Devon County Council	298,576	19.1%	47.5%	26.4%	5.3%	1.7%
England	20,451,427	26.8%	43.7%	23.6%	4.5%	1.4%



Source: 2001 Census.

Mode of travel to work (2001)

Area	All 16-74 year olds in employment	Percentage of population by mode of travel to work					
		By car or van	Passenger in a car	On a bike or by foot	By public transport	Work from home	Other
Barnstaple parish	9,220	45.9%	7.5%	33.5%	3.0%	7.8%	2.3%
Fremington parish	4,312	63.5%	7.1%	12.1%	5.8%	9.0%	2.5%
Landkey parish	1,664	60.8%	7.8%	15.4%	4.3%	8.2%	3.5%
Remaining parishes	4,446	59.5%	5.6%	8.0%	2.7%	21.8%	2.4%
Market town area	19,642	54.1%	7.0%	21.5%	3.7%	11.3%	2.5%
North Devon	39,309	52.9%	6.2%	19.7%	3.4%	15.4%	2.4%
Devon County Council	314,267	56.4%	6.1%	16.1%	4.7%	14.2%	2.5%
England	22,441,498	54.9%	6.1%	12.8%	14.9%	9.2%	2.1%



Source: 2001 Census

The data below relating to accessibility by public transport are based on a best fit of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs).

Accessibility by public transport (2005)

Area	Number of households	Percentage of households that can access		
		Acute hospital within 60 minutes	GP within 30 minutes	Shop within 30 minutes
Barnstaple area	8,918	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Fremington area	4,157	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Landkey area	1,217	81.2%	81.2%	81.2%
Remaining area	3,684	84.7%	85.3%	84.9%
Market town area	17,976	87.9%	88.1%	88.0%
North Devon	36,776	78.9%	85.0%	84.2%
Devon County Council	298,576	66.7%	86.6%	85.2%
England	17,436,116	82.8%	95.2%	94.4%

Source: Department for Transport

Note: Acute hospitals are establishments which provide at least minimal medical, surgical or obstetrical services for inpatient treatment and/or care, and which provide round-the-clock comprehensive qualified nursing service as well as other necessary professional services. Most patients require a relatively short stay.

The Environment – Landscape

Summary

In 2002 Devon County Council undertook and published a landscape appraisal of the county which included a landscape character assessment. The result of this assessment was the division of the County into 32 Landscape Character Zones. The Barnstaple market town area contains five Landscape Character Zones.

Landscape character

Landscape character is defined as a distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occur consistently in a particular type of landscape. Character makes each part of the landscape distinct, and gives each its particular sense of place.

Landscape character has an important role to play in that it informs the Devon County Structure Plan's fundamental landscape policy (CO1), requiring that development should be informed by and sympathetic to the landscape character of the area.

In 2002 Devon County Council undertook and published a landscape appraisal of the county which included a landscape character assessment. The result of this assessment was the division of the county into 32 Landscape Character Zones (LCZs), each with its own description and distinctive key characteristic features. The Barnstaple market town area contains parts of five of these LCZs. For those which are largely within the market town area some of their key characteristics are outlined below.

Exmoor Fringe

Location - Situated in the north eastern part of Devon, as the name suggests the zone wraps around Exmoor from a northern point some 5km/3 miles inland of the Bristol Channel coast south and then east to the county boundary with Somerset at Oldways End. An element of this part of the zone forms the north east part of the market town area. A small addition continues further east, to the north of Morebath, also adjacent to the Somerset border

Designations - The vast majority of this zone has been designated as an Area of Great Landscape Value, reflecting its importance as a landscape in a county context.

Key Characteristic Features

- Foreground landscape to high lands of Exmoor.
- Beech hedges, occasionally grown out.
- Crossed by steep, wooded valleys.
- Drove roads and tracks leading to and from the high moor.
- Patchwork of fields.
- Individual hilltop tree features.

High Culm Ridges

Location - This zone comprises two separate areas in north central Devon, separated by the Torridge Valley. The more easterly occupies an area between the valleys of the Taw and the Torridge, crossing the Taw in its higher course towards the River Dalch. In the north this part of the Zone also crosses the Taw to include the prominent landmark of Codden Hill as well as the valley of the Venn Brook and its headwaters which flow through Swimbridge and Landkey; it is this part of the zone which is within the market town area.

The westerly element of the zone is found immediately to the west of the Torridge Valley in its middle course.

Designations - Most of the zone is uncovered by any landscape designation. However, in the north east an area has been designated as an Area of Great landscape Value (AGLV), indicating its importance as a County landscape. This designation covers the high land on the northern side of the east-west tributary valley in this part of the zone, effectively the "foreland" of the inter-valley high lands east of Barnstaple. It also covers Codden Hill, a prominent landscape feature adjacent to the same valley, and within the market town area.

A very small section of AGLV is also found to the north east of Winkleigh, where it spills over from the Taw Valley.

Key Characteristic Features

- Exposed broad ridges with few trees except for isolated trees and clumps and some conifer plantations.
- Pastoral landscape with regular, rectangular fields and hedges.

- Scattered farmsteads, hamlets and high villages.
- Prominent landmarks of churches and chapels, also aeries, pylons and hilltop farm buildings.
- High concentrations of species-rich grasslands.
- Wide views.

North Devon Downs

Location – The zone meets the sea at Morte Bay and Croyde Bay and runs eastwards towards the edge of Exmoor as far as a line approximately between Kentisbury and East Buckland. Its northern edge is parallel to the north coast but inland, largely following the line of the A3123 road while in the south it keeps north of the Taw Estuary and the A361 road. It forms the northern part of the market town area.

Designations - The coastal area in the west of the zone falls within the North Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a designation reflecting its national landscape importance. The same area has been designated as a Coastal Preservation Area by Devon County Council and defined as Heritage Coast by the Countryside Agency. In addition, areas based on the valley of Bradiford Water and that of the river Yeo which flows into Barnstaple, plus its tributaries, have been designated Areas of Great Landscape Value by the County Council, indicating a county importance.

Key Characteristics Features

- Rounded, open downland, divided by three significant wooded river valleys.
- Large fields, closely trimmed hedgebanks.
- Windtrimmed tree groups and occasional stunted hedgerow trees.
- Parkland scenery, especially in the east.
- Secluded hamlets and farms in valley bottoms.
- Coastal down headlands in the west enclosing broad sandy bays.
- Picturesque cob and thatch coastal villages.

Barnstaple and Bideford Estuary – Taw-Torridge Estuary

Location – The zone occupies the central part of the coast of northern Devon centred on the two towns of Bideford to the west and Barnstaple to the east and encompassing the estuaries of the Taw and Torridge rivers, including their joint outflow to the sea. The centre and west of the market town area lie within this zone.

Designations – The coastal strip of the zone, effectively confined to the marsh and dune systems of Northam Burrows and Branton Burrows, is part of the North Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, indicating the national landscape importance of this area. A rather wider coastal area, stretching inland around Appledore and Instow and including Branton Marsh and Great Field, is within the County Council's designated Coastal Preservation Area. This same area is defined by the Countryside Agency as Heritage Coast. However, none of these designations are within the market town area.

Key Characteristics Features

- Vast estuary of two river systems.
- Extensive flat land including salt marshes, sand and mudflats, dune systems and slacks, historic open field, beaches.
- Urban waterfronts and historic estuary settlements.
- Important ecological habitats.

Taw and Torridge River Systems

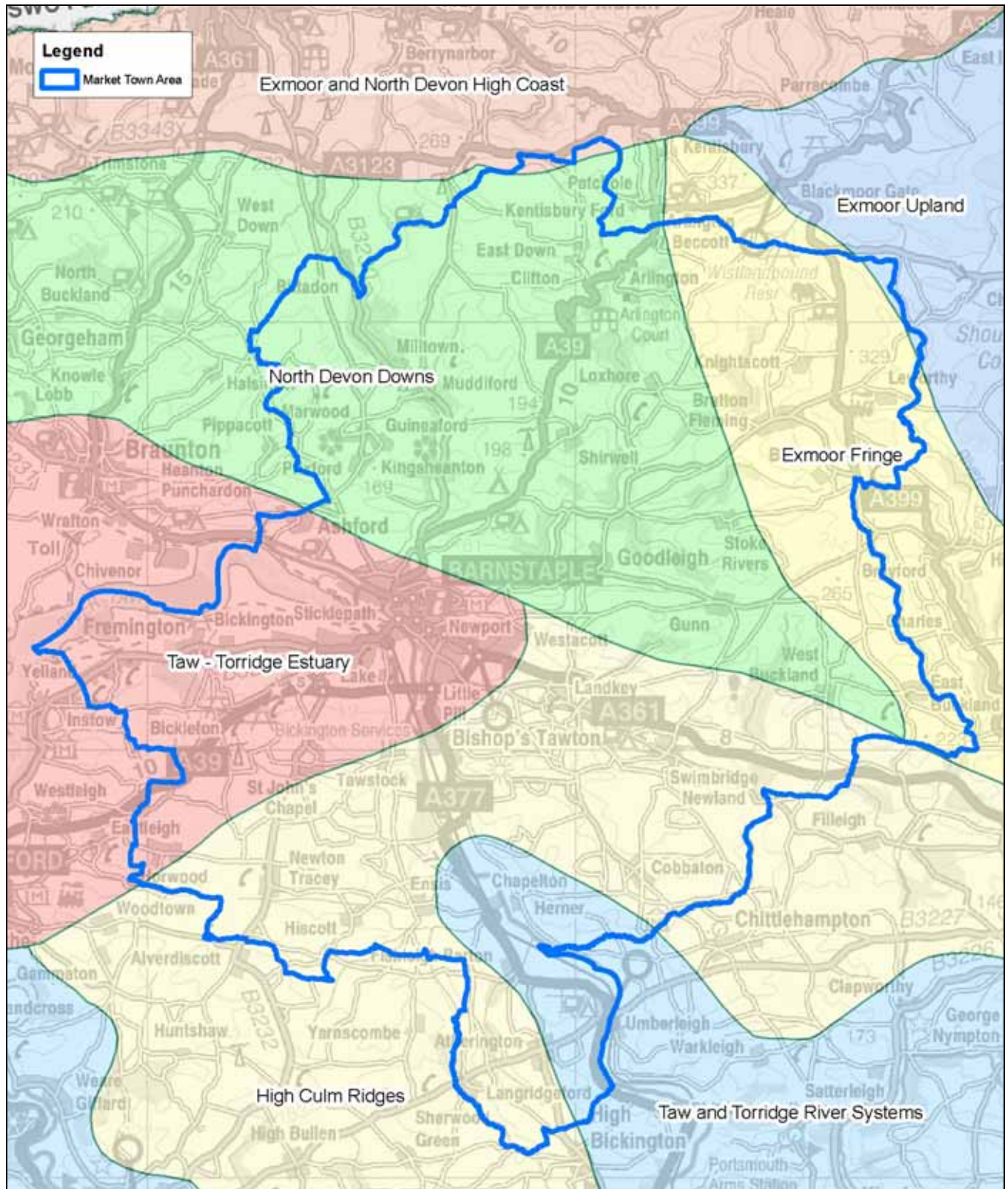
Location – This zone is in the north central part of the County, comprising the middle and lower valleys of the Taw and Torridge rivers and the valleys of some of their most notable tributaries, including the Mole, the lower Little Dart and the Mully Brook (tributaries of the Taw), and the Yeo, Duntz and Langtree Lake (tributaries of the Torridge). The Zone comprises two discrete parts, centred on the two major rivers, separated by an area of High Culm ridges. A relatively small area of the Taw element of the zone occupies the south east corner of the market town area.

Designations - The majority of the zone has been designated as an Area of Great Landscape Value, reflecting its landscape importance in the county context. Some of the peripheral flanking land which has been included in this zone has not been part of the designated area, neither has the highest part of the Torridge Valley which is within this zone, between Huish and Black Torrington nor, indeed, the element of the Taw Valley within the market town area.

Key Characteristics Features

- Natural river form, tree lined banks and associated water features.
- Substantial woodland, broadleaved and coniferous, emphasising the distinctive landform and creating enclosure.
- Open valley floor with pastoral and sometimes parkland character.
- Roads, railways and bridges along the length of the valleys, few routes across the valley floors, steep wooded winding routes out of the valleys.
- High villages and farms overlooking the valleys.

Landscape Character Zones within the market town area.



The Environment – Wildlife and Geology

Summary

The last 60 years have seen many dramatic changes within the English countryside, with increasing urbanisation and shifting patterns of agriculture. Devon has fared better than most, however, being protected by its remoteness and undulating terrain.

There remains much wildlife and geology to enjoy and conserve, and many opportunities exist throughout the County to enhance the natural environment. Landowners, industry and, of course, local communities all have the chance to contribute to the conservation of Devon's rich natural history.

Barnstaple and the surrounding area is rich in wildlife. The landscape is home to many ancient woodlands, farmland with important networks of hedgerows and areas of species-rich grassland, old parkland, the saltmarsh and mudflats of the Taw-Torridge Estuary (part of a world class UNESCO Biosphere Reserve) and the heathland of Codden Hill. The area is also of considerable interest for its geology, including one site at Fremington which provides the only indisputable evidence that glacier ice ever reached the southwest peninsula.

This range of habitats supports a wide variety of species, from populations of woodland birds to distinctive communities of saltmarsh plants. The Taw-Torridge Estuary is of particular note for its birds and regularly supports nationally important numbers of waders such as curlew and redshank. The area also has good populations of mammals, including otters, dormice and a number of different species of bats.

Key sites

The table below contains information on the key features of some of the most important wildlife sites of this part of Devon. A map is also included to illustrate these.

Site name	Interest	Designation
Park Gate Quarry	Acidic Rock outcrop.	gSSSI
Bradiford Valley	Ancient semi-natural woodland and semi-improved neutral grassland.	SSSI
Plaistow Quarry	Upper Devonian Baggy Beds flora.	gSSSI
Fremington Clay Pits	Important Pleistocene site.	gSSSI
Fremington Quay Cliffs	Marine stratigraphical site.	gSSSI
Highdown Quarry	Type locality for wavellite and only known site in Britain for variscite. Conifer plantation.	gSSSI, pCWS
Arlington	Parkland with lake, willow and alder carr. Butterfly and lichen interest.	SSSI
Taw/Torridge Estuary	Estuary with mudflats, beaches and saltmarsh with bird interest.	SSSI
Uppacott Wood	Semi-natural broadleaved woodland.	Devon Wildlife Trust Reserve
Isley Marsh	Nature reserve managed for birds.	RSPB Reserve

Key:

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC): these sites are notified because they contain species and/or habitats of European importance (listed in the Habitats Directive 1994). SAC is a statutory designation with legal implications.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): these sites are notified because of their national importance for wildlife or geological features (gSSSI, above). SSSI is a statutory designation with legal implications. SSSI status does not confer any right of access to the public.

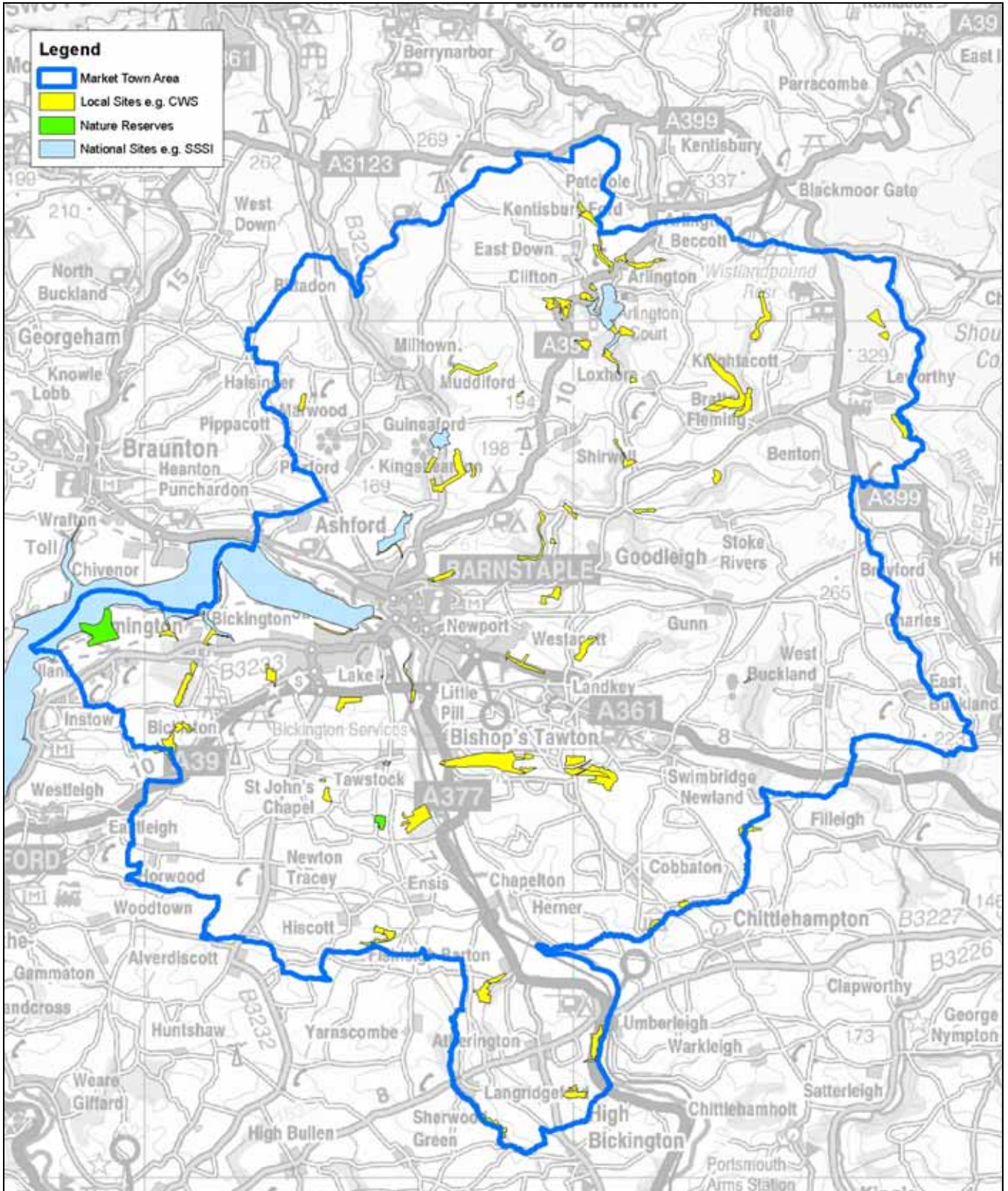
Local Nature Reserves (LNR): these are places with local wildlife or geological interest which offer good opportunities for learning about nature or simply enjoying it. LNR is a statutory designation made by local authorities.

County Wildlife Sites (CWS): these are sites of county importance for wildlife. CWS is not a statutory designation and does not have any legal status, though CWSs are usually included in district planning documents.

CWS recognition places no formal obligation on the landowner, but may increase eligibility for land management grants.

In addition to the table above, the Barnstaple market town area has 68 County Wildlife Sites and County Geological Sites (also known as RIGS). These mainly represent broadleaved woodland and Culm grassland (wet, acidic areas of heath, rushes and grassland that are of tremendous importance for wildlife). Areas of neutral grassland and saltmarsh are also represented, along with several interesting geological exposures.

Key sites within the market town area



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