

# Local Development Framework Briefing Paper

## Devon Strategic Plan



### Devon County Council's advice to Local Planning Authorities.

*This is one of a series of briefing papers prepared by Devon County Council to assist the preparation of Local Development Documents.*

*To view this, and other briefing papers, see <http://www.devon.gov.uk/ldf-briefing-papers>*

*For more information or comment contact 01392 382275 or email [environment@devon.gov.uk](mailto:environment@devon.gov.uk)*

***Local Planning Authorities in preparing their Local Development Framework are requested to ensure that the key components of the Devon Strategic Plan are reflected in Local Development Documents by:***

- 1. Giving Devon's children the best possible start in life - LDF should promote healthy and safe alternatives to the car for the school run such as walking buses and cycle paths.***
- 2. Strengthening Devon's economy - LDF should support the growth of 'green businesses' linked to Devon's natural assets and help local firms be more environmentally friendly.***
- 3. Celebrating Devon's culture - Promote better local facilities and improved public transport we want to reduce the need for people to use their car to enjoy Devon.***
- 4. Improving Devon's environment - Promote minimisation of waste, reduce traffic congestion and make towns greener and cleaner.***
- 5. Promoting Independence and choice - Promote more efficient use of energy and water at home, particularly for those people on low incomes.***
- 6. 'Making Devon Greener' by:***
  - (a) Considering environmental implications,***
  - (b) Setting good example to others***
  - (c) Promoting best practice and***
  - (d) Encouraging the people of Devon to play their part in helping Devon to make Devon England's greenest county.***

### **Partnership Working**

***Devon County Council wishes to work in partnership with District Councils, other organisations and developers, to ensure that strategies in the development plan documents and local transport plans are consistent and complementary.***

## **1. Introduction**

Devon County Council's Strategic Plan 2006 to 2011<sup>1</sup> reflects the ambitions of the elected County Council to improve the quality of life for all is based on views of what local people consider are important in Devon<sup>2</sup>. The Plan sets out its priorities, the way they will be delivered and how the performance will be measured.

These Briefing Paper summaries key themes of the Strategic Plan which need to be taken fully into account by Local Planning Authorities in the preparation of the Local Development Documents.

## **2. Vision / Strategy for the future**

The Devon Strategic Plan 2006 to 2011 sets out the priorities to provide the best possible public services in Devon to meet local needs in a cost effective way over the next 5 years.

**The five priorities** for special attention are:

- 1. To give Devon's children the best possible start in life**
- 2. To strengthen Devon's economy**
- 3. Celebrating Devon's culture**
- 4. Improving Devon's environment**
- 5. Promoting Independence and choice and**

**Plus 'Making Devon Greener'** with an overriding theme that spans the breadth and width of the Strategic Plan, by, considering environmental implications, setting good example to others, promoting best practice and encouraging the people of Devon to play their part in helping Devon to make Devon England greenest county.

## **3. The Issues to be addressed**

The key issues to be addressed, based on responses received, need to focus on:

1. Improving the health and education outcomes for under achieving children
2. Unlocking the potential of disadvantaged communities
3. Minimising waste, increasing recycling and composting and reducing the land filling of waste
4. Tacking traffic congestion and air pollution and improving public transport
5. Enabling more elderly and disabled people to stay safe and healthy in their home.

---

<sup>1</sup> Our Devon – A Focus of the Future – Strategic Plan 2006 to 2011 (published by Devon County Council 2006)

<sup>2</sup> Source: Our Devon consultation carried out in autumn 2005 based on a random sample of 5,000 local residents

#### 4. Devon County Council Proposals / Options to be taken into account in preparing LDFs

The five priorities and main objections that need to be reflected in LDF are:

##### **Priority 1: The best possible start in life**

Our children deserve the best possible start in life. This means helping children and young people by achieving:

Our targets for 2008

- Better examination results
- Less truancy and fewer pupils excluded from school
- More pupils doing at least two hours PE and sport a week
- Every child at risk supported by an allocated social worker
- Quicker access by young people to mental health services
- More 16-18 year olds in work, education or training
- More young people involved in service development
- Be fit and healthy
- Stay safe from harm and protected from abuse
- Enjoy learning and achieve the best they can
- Be valued members of the community who contribute positively
- Find a job and provide for themselves

***LDF should promote healthy and safe alternatives to the car for the school run such as walking buses and cycle paths.***

##### **Priority 2: A stronger Devon economy**

A strong economy in tune with our environment will help everyone enjoy a good quality of life by:

- Promoting Devon as a good place to live, work and visit
- Focusing on poorer communities
- Helping people get the skills employers need
- Supporting business growth.

Our targets for 2008:

- Economic growth in line with similar areas of the UK
- Improved skill levels and fewer skills gaps
- Greater success rates for new businesses
- More investment in under-performing areas.

***LDF should support the growth of 'green businesses' linked to Devon's natural assets and help local firms be more environmentally friendly.***

### **Priority 3: Celebrating Devon's culture**

Our environment, cultural heritage and the arts all help make Devon a great place to live. To make sure everyone can enjoy it we will:

- Develop our reputation for high quality cultural experiences and enterprise
- Help people to get the most from their experiences
- Encourage everyone to work together to offer better opportunities to enjoy Devon

Our targets for 2008

- More awareness of the opportunities Devon has to offer
- Growth in cultural tourism
- More participation in walking, cycling and horse riding and better information about access to the countryside
- Quality facilities such as modernised library services in key towns
- To promote Devon in the run up to the 2012 Olympics.

***Promote better local facilities and improved public transport we want to reduce the need for people to use their car to enjoy Devon.***

### **Priority 4: Improving Devon's environment**

We want Devon to continue to be a great place to live, visit and do business. To help protect and improve our environment we will:

- minimise waste and increase recycling and composting
- reduce traffic congestion and air pollution and improve public transport
- conserve the natural environment and make our towns greener and cleaner.

Our targets for 2008

- A 5% reduction in waste buried in our countryside
- A 19% increase in recycling and composting
- 1.6 million more local journeys made by bus or train
- Reduced levels of traffic pollution in all air quality management areas
- Improvements to the appearance and cleanliness of our town centres.

***Promote minimisation of waste, reduce traffic congestion and make towns greener and cleaner.***

## **Priority 5: Promoting Independence and choice**

We want to build strong communities in which everyone can play an active role and take control of their lives. We want to help older and vulnerable people to:

- stay healthy and safe in their own homes
- be active and have access to leisure and social activities
- maintain personal dignity and control
- have enough income to meet their needs
- get fair access to services.

Our targets for 2008

- 5% more older and vulnerable people helped to live at home
- 10% more older people helped to claim additional benefits
- Twice as many people receiving money directly to buy their own care
- To support 5% more carers • 40% fewer older people having to move permanently into residential care
- Greater satisfaction among older people with the health and social care support they get • More people volunteering.

***Promote more efficient use of energy and water at home, particularly for those people on low incomes***

**Plus Priority for: 'Making Devon Greener' by:**

- (a) Considering environmental implications,**
- (b) Setting good example to others**
- (c) Promoting best practice and**
- (d) Encouraging the people of Devon to play their part in helping Devon to make Devon England greenest county.**

## **5. Partnership Working**

An integrated approach to meeting Devon's strategic planning priorities can only be achieved by working in partnership with other organisations involved in the wider South West. At the regional level key organisations include the South West Regional Assembly, the SWRDA, and the Highways Agency and bus and rail operators. At the more local level the relevant organisations include the Highway and Planning Authorities, public transport operators, major employers and other generators of travel and traffic.

The County Council wish to work jointly on proposals with Local Planning Authorities to achieve the aims set out in this paper.

LDF Briefing Paper - Strategic Plan(2).DOC

\\dschl11.ds.devon.gov.uk\users\$\bob.maynard\My Documents\My TopDrawer (DT)\2nd Draft with recommendation(3)\LDF Briefing Paper - Strategic Plan(2).DOC