

Minerals Core Strategy

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

August 2007

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FURTHER INFORMATION

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Alternatively, all existing and emerging documents within the Minerals and Waste Development Framework can be viewed on the County Council's website www.devon.gov.uk

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Devon County Minerals and Waste Development Framework

- 1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the 2004 Act) places a requirement on mineral and waste planning authorities such as Devon County Council to prepare a portfolio of Local Development Documents (LDDs) within a Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF). The Devon County MWDF will replace the County Council's Minerals Local Plan (adopted in June 2004) and Waste Local Plan (adopted in June 2006), both of which are currently 'saved' while the MWDF is prepared. Within the MWDF, those documents that are Development Plan Documents (DPDs) will form part of the Development Plan along with the Regional Spatial Strategy and the DPDs prepared by the Devon District Councils.
- 1.2 It is proposed that the County Council's minerals policy will be contained within three DPDs:
- Minerals Core Strategy
 - Minerals Development Control Policies and Site Proposals
 - Bovey Basin Area Action Plan

The Minerals Core Strategy

- 1.3 The Minerals Core Strategy will be prepared first and is the subject of this Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report. The Core Strategy will set out the County Council's vision, strategy and strategic policies for minerals development within the County¹, having regard to the principles of sustainable development. Although the Minerals Core Strategy will be prepared ahead of the Waste Core Strategy, the interrelationship between these documents needs to be fully addressed through, for example, the minimisation of mineral waste and the recycling of suitable materials.

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.4 Section 19(5) of the 2004 Act introduced a statutory requirement for local planning authorities to carry out Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the proposals in each LDD and to prepare a report of the findings of the appraisal. The aim of this SA process, which should inform each stage of plan-making, is to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation of plans.
- 1.5 The SA process must also comply with the legal requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC '*on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment*' (commonly referred to as the SEA Directive). This Directive introduced a mandatory requirement to undertake Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the environmental effects of plans and programmes upon which work commenced after 21 July 2004. The aim of the SEA Directive is that:

¹ The area to be covered by the MWDF is the administrative area of Devon County Council. It excludes the National Parks of Dartmoor and Exmoor along with the Unitary Authorities of Plymouth and Torbay. However, the MWDF should have full regard to planning activities of these authorities and other authorities bordering Devon.

'Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action' (Article 10.1)

The SEA Directive has been implemented in English law through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the 2004 Regulations).

- 1.6 Having regard to the criteria in Schedule 1 of the 2004 Regulations, the formal determination of Devon County Council, under Regulation 9(1), is that implementation of the Minerals Core Strategy is likely to have significant environmental effects on the area covered by the Framework, and that SEA will therefore be required.
- 1.7 Rather than undertaking separate SA and SEA, advice from the ODPM is that the SA process should fully incorporate the requirements of the SEA Directive (see Planning Policy Statement 12 '*Local Development Frameworks*' and '*Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents*'). It is the intention of Devon County Council to undertake SA of the Minerals Core Strategy that meets the requirements of the SEA Directive and follows the ODPM advice. **Therefore, references to SA in this report refer to both SA and SEA, unless stated.**
- 1.8 In undertaking SA, the County Council's intention is to follow a process that is focused on the specific characteristics and effects of mineral development (as set out in Chapter 2 and the Mineral Resources Topic Paper). Minerals planning has a number of characteristics that set it apart from spatial planning in general, and this has implications not only for the preparation of the relevant LDDs, but also for SA of those documents.

SA Scoping Report: purpose and method of production

- 1.9 Scoping is the name given to the earliest stage of the SA process and has been undertaken at the initial evidence-gathering phase prior to the production of the Minerals Core Strategy. It is a way of focussing effort on the key issues in SA. Scoping itself involves a number of stages/tasks, resulting in this Scoping Report, which provides a framework for the SA of the Core Strategy at each stage in its production.
- 1.10 Preparation of the Scoping Report has also enabled consultation on the effectiveness of the scoping exercise to be undertaken. Under the 2004 Regulations governing SEA it is compulsory to consult statutory consultees (i.e. English Heritage, Environment Agency and Natural England) for a period of 5 weeks '*...when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the [environmental] report...*' (Regulation 12(5)). The ODPM guidance² on SA advises that a local planning authority should prepare a report on the scope of the SA, and that consultation on this report should be undertaken with the statutory environmental bodies and other bodies as appropriate, with a balance between those concerned with social, environmental and economic issues.

² Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2005), '*Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents*', ODPM, London.

- 1.11 In line with good practice (as outlined in the ODPM guidance) the Scoping Report was drafted in-house by the County Council's Minerals and Waste Policy Team, but refined following independent, expert review provided by SEA/SA consultants from Environ UK Ltd. The subsequent 5 week consultation on the Draft Scoping Report took place from 1st June 2007 to 6th July 2007. A full list of statutory and other consultees is provided in Appendix 3. During the consultation period, the Report and accompanying representation form were made available on the Devon County website at www.devon.gov.uk/mineralscorestrategy/draftsustappraisal.htm.
- 1.12 The intention to publish the Draft SA Scoping Report for consultation was highlighted in the third issue (March 2007) of the County Council's Minerals Update newsletter, which was sent to over 230 stakeholders, including parish and district councils, local and national groups, the minerals industry, local strategic partnerships, landowners and individuals. The fourth issue of the newsletter (May 2007) included an article explaining the sustainability appraisal process and inviting comments on the Draft SA Scoping Report.
- 1.13 Key scoping issues put to consultees are shown below:
- whether the Minerals Core Strategy is likely to have significant environmental effects and therefore requires environmental assessment;
 - the review of other relevant plans and programmes, baseline information and sustainability issues relevant to minerals planning in Devon;
 - the proposed SA Framework of objectives and indicators (derived from the above review) which will be used to assess the sustainability of the Minerals Core Strategy; and
 - the proposed structure of the Sustainability Appraisal report, which will accompany the Minerals Core Strategy.
- 1.14 A summary of consultee responses and Devon County Council's amendments included in this revised Scoping Report can be found on the Council's website at www.devon.gov.uk/mineralscorestrategy.htm.
- 1.15 In addition to the formal, 5 week consultation outlined above, the County Council appointed Adams Hendry as consultants to run two minerals stakeholder workshops on 14th February and 22nd March 2007. These workshops were designed to explore Issues and Options for the Minerals Core Strategy and provided the opportunity for a range of invited stakeholders to discuss key impacts of mineral development on wider sustainability issues to inform the SA Scoping Report. Details of the events and their outcomes are available on the workshop website at www.adamshendry.co.uk/20_devon_home.html.

Structure of the Scoping Report

- 1.16 The ODPM guidance on SA identifies a five stage process (A-E) for appraisal in parallel with LDD production (which is explained in Chapter 3), and the first part of this Scoping Report is structured to broadly reflect the steps in Stage A of this process:

- **Chapter 2** outlines the local context for mineral development, the County Council's proposals for the preparation of the Minerals Core Strategy and the specific characteristics of mineral development and their implications for the SA process.
- **Chapter 3** explains the process for undertaking SA of the Minerals Core Strategy, with detailed analysis of the methodology adopted for this Scoping stage. A step-by-step guide to the production of the SA Framework, which will be used to appraise the Core Strategy, is provided. This includes the process of reviewing:
 - relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives (Stage A1 in the ODPM guidance);
 - baseline information and trends (Stage A2, ODPM guidance);
 - sustainability issues and problems affecting Devon (Stage A3, ODPM guidance).

Finally, the SA Framework is presented and discussed, including the SA Objectives and broad SA Indicators that will allow effects of the Core Strategy to be described, analysed and compared (Stage A4, ODPM guidance).

- **Chapter 4** outlines the proposed structure for the SA Report that will initially be published in draft form alongside the Preferred Options for the Minerals Core Strategy (Stage A5, ODPM guidance).

1.17 The second part of this SA Scoping Report consists of a series of Topic Papers incorporating all the topics of the SEA Directive. These Topic Papers are designed to illustrate how the SA Framework presented in Chapter 3 has been logically developed. Each Topic Paper provides a detailed analysis of baseline data/trends (including significant data gaps) and relevant policies, plans and programmes, including their implications for minerals planning and its sustainability appraisal. The adverse impacts and opportunities presented by mineral development for each topic are considered and a summary is provided of relevant Strategic Sustainability Appraisal Objectives from the draft Regional Spatial Strategy (South West Regional Assembly, 2006) and challenges from 'A Community Strategy for Devon'³ (Devon Strategic Partnership, 2004).

Next Steps

1.18 This Scoping Report will be revised, as necessary, during the preparation of the Minerals Core Strategy to ensure it is up-to-date. The SA Framework will be used to inform the Issues and Options Paper (Regulation 25⁴) for the Minerals Core Strategy, which will be published for consultation in September 2007. The Paper will include a brief summary of sustainability issues and appraisal of all objectives and strategic options included, in order to inform public debate. SA will subsequently inform the selection and refinement of

³ The current Community Strategy covers the period 2004-07. Work has commenced on the preparation of a new 'Sustainable Community Strategy for Devon' anticipated for mid-2007.

⁴ Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 SI No.2204.

Preferred Options (Regulation 26) for the Minerals Core Strategy, which will be accompanied by a Draft SA Report.

2. MINERALS PLANNING: CONTEXT AND PROGRAMME

Planning for Minerals – Characteristics of Mineral Development & Implications for SA of the Minerals Core Strategy

- 2.1 Devon can lay claim to having amongst the most varied geology of the English counties (see Geodiversity Topic Paper). This geological diversity is reflected in the range of minerals which are extracted within Devon, as well as its diverse and high quality landscape, the varying quality of its agricultural land and the pattern of human habitation.
- 2.2 The ODPM guidance on SA is directed at spatial planning activity in general and, although it encompasses LDDs prepared within Minerals and Waste Development Frameworks, it does not consider in any detail the manner in which planning for minerals differs from 'mainstream' spatial planning.
- 2.3 Minerals planning has a number of characteristics that set it apart from spatial planning in general, and this has implications not only for the preparation of the relevant LDDs, but also for SA of those documents, including the development of objectives and indicators.

Special Characteristics of Minerals Development

- Planning permissions for mineral working are usually very long-term (typically to 2042, although sites may have viable reserves for an even longer period) and therefore extend well beyond the 2026 timescale of the Minerals Core Strategy. In addition, the nature and impacts of the activity will change as the site progresses from preparatory work, through phased working to restoration and aftercare;
- Although generally a long-term activity, mineral working is a temporary use of the land and, following its cessation, restoration to another after-use will occur;
- Minerals can only be exploited where they naturally occur, and the spatial distribution of the different mineral resources varies greatly across the country (local examples being ball clay and china clay which, in the UK only occur in Devon and adjacent counties);
- Once planning permission has been granted (in many cases as long ago as the 1940s and 1950s) the mineral planning authority has limited ability to influence the rate of extraction, tipping of waste or other aspects of working that would adversely affect the economic viability or asset value of a site;
- There is legislative provision for the periodic review of mineral permissions in order to strengthen environmental controls;
- The impacts of mineral working are felt not only in the vicinity of the site, but also across a wider area through the transportation of minerals to their markets; and
- The sheer scale of many mineral sites and their predominantly rural location set them apart from other forms of development.

- 2.4 These characteristics will influence the manner in which the new development plan process is undertaken for minerals planning, including considerations such as the extent to which the Minerals Core Strategy can be linked with other strategies and programmes (e.g. community strategies).
- 2.5 There are also implications for the manner in which SA of the Core Strategy is undertaken. The limited ability to influence long-term planning permissions will need to be taken into account in the prediction of the environmental, economic and social effects of the plan. It is important to ensure that all participants in the SA process are fully aware of the particular environmental, economic and social impacts of mineral development (both negative and positive), and the extent to which these impacts can vary across different types of mineral working. These issues are examined in the Topic Papers.
- 2.6 Although SA and the Minerals Core Strategy will clearly need to address the adverse impacts of mineral development, it is also important that the potential beneficial impacts are recognised in order that any synergies are appreciated and incorporated into minerals planning. A key element of the new planning system is the concept of 'spatial planning', whereby development plans such as the Minerals Core Strategy should look beyond traditional land use planning and be integrated with other plans and strategies to facilitate more positive planning.
- 2.7 Each Topic Paper included in this Scoping Report contains a table outlining the environmental, social and economic impacts (both adverse impacts and opportunities) associated with mineral working. These tables have been derived from the publications listed in Appendix 4 and adjusted following consultation with 'specialist' Devon County Council staff and the Environment Agency. It should also be acknowledged that impacts will vary in the degree to which they are **inevitable** when development occurs (e.g. land take), **capable of mitigation** (e.g. dust and noise emissions), or **potential** in nature (e.g. beneficial impacts associated with site restoration).

The Strategic Context – An Introduction

- 2.8 Minerals planning is only one element of planning for development within Devon. The **Devon Structure Plan 2001 to 2016** currently sets out the strategic planning framework for development and the use of land in the County. It provides for the development of about 65,500 houses and 700 ha of employment land over the Plan period, and proposes the following strategy for meeting these requirements:
- focussing an increasing proportion of development at the Principal Urban Areas (PUAs) of Plymouth, Torbay and Exeter;
 - providing for the development of two new communities to meet the needs of the Plymouth and Exeter PUAs;
 - providing for the Sub-Regional Centres of Barnstaple and Newton Abbot to play an important role in meeting strategic development needs in their areas;
 - providing for development in other main towns that can function as Area Centres;
 - providing for small scale development in Local Centres in rural areas;

- protecting Devon's historic and environmental resources and conserving and enhancing its biodiversity; and
- recognising the need to prioritise regeneration initiatives and investment in the main urban centres, certain coastal resorts and Area Centres.

2.9 The Structure Plan was adopted in October 2004, and is saved for a period of three years from that date. It will be replaced by the emerging **Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)**, which will form part of the development plan on its adoption (targeted for 2008).

2.10 The Draft RSS was published in June 2006 and the Examination in Public ended in July 2007. The Draft RSS requires that provision be made for the following scale of development in Devon to 2026:

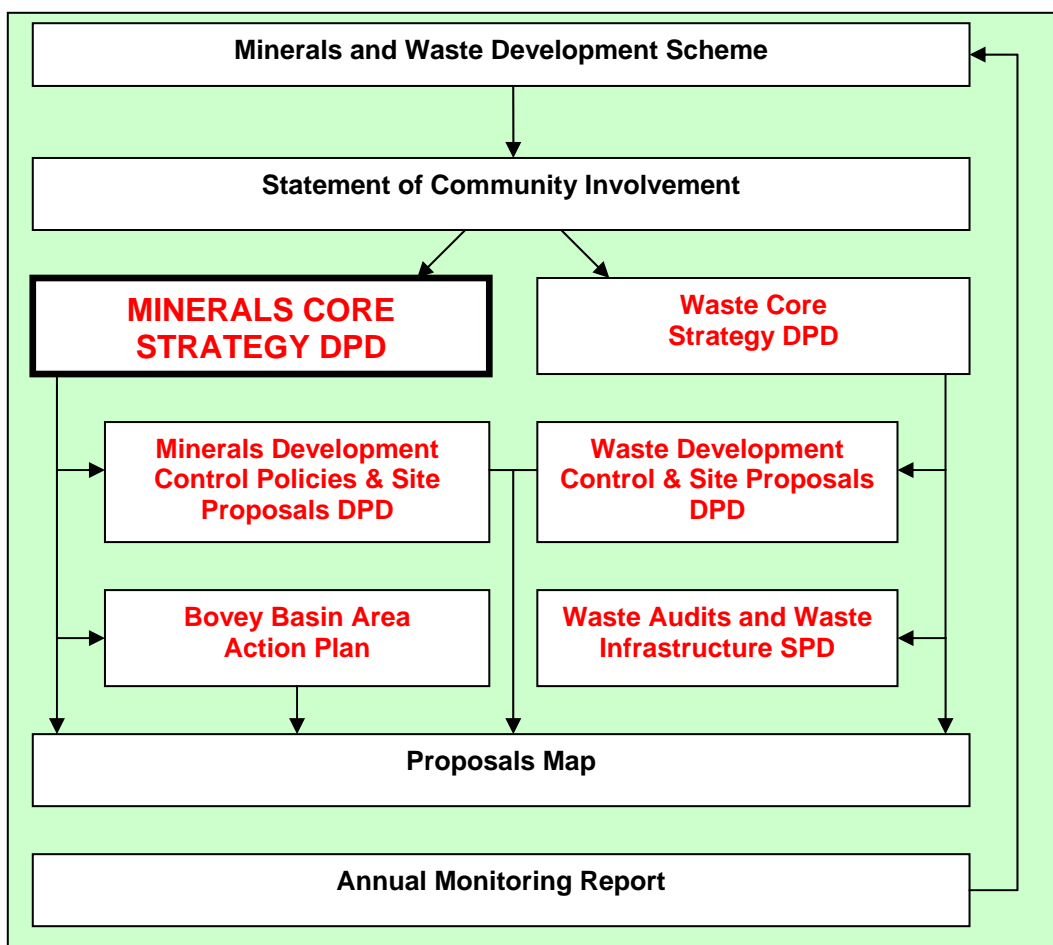
- Exeter Sub-Region: 18,500 dwellings (925 per year) in and adjoining Exeter's urban area, including the Cranbrook new community and 140 hectares of employment land, with a further 4,000 dwellings (200 per year) and 35-50 hectares of employment land in the Newton Abbot area;
- Plymouth, South East Cornwall and South West Devon Sub-Region: 31,500 dwellings (1,525 per year) within and adjacent to Plymouth, including the Sherford new community and 150 hectares of employment land;
- Torbay Sub-Region: 10,000 dwellings (500 per year) within and adjoining Torbay and provision for 11,700 jobs;
- Barnstaple: 4,800 dwellings (240 per year) and 50 hectares of employment land.

In Devon as a whole, including the areas identified above, the Draft RSS requires that provision be made for 101,600 dwellings over the plan period (5,080 per year).

Process and Programme for the Minerals Core Strategy

2.11 Devon County Council's emerging MWDF will contain a number of documents requiring SA, together with a smaller number that are not required to undergo appraisal. The following diagram portrays the relationship between the documents that will make up the Framework, with those LDDs requiring SA being labelled in red.

The Devon County Minerals and Waste Development Framework



2.12 The Devon County Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) Second Revision, sets out the proposed programme for the preparation of the above LDDs that will form the MWDF. The MWDS can be viewed at www.devon.gov.uk/mwdssecondrevision.pdf. The current timetable for the preparation of the Minerals Core Strategy is shown below.

Timetable for producing the Minerals Core Strategy - Key Milestones					
	Publication of Issues & Options	Publication of Preferred Options	Submission to Secretary of State	Examination	Adoption
Minerals Core Strategy	09/2007	02/2008	07/2008	01/2009	07/2009

The other two Minerals DPDs (i.e. the Minerals Development Control Policies & Site Proposals DPD and Bovey Basin AAP) will each be the subject of a separate SA process and scoping report at a later date. Their site-specific nature is likely to require a revised SA Framework, including revised SA objectives and indicators.

2.13 According to Planning Policy Statement 12 (PPS12) the Core Strategy DPD should set out the key elements of the planning framework for the area. It

should be comprised of a spatial vision and strategic objectives; a spatial strategy; core policies; and a monitoring and implementation framework with clear objectives for achieving delivery. It must be kept up-to-date and, once adopted, all other DPDs must be in conformity with it. For minerals, the Core Strategy should take account of the need to contribute appropriately to national, regional and local mineral requirements at acceptable social, environmental and economic costs. A full summary of the proposed Devon County Minerals Core Strategy is provided below:

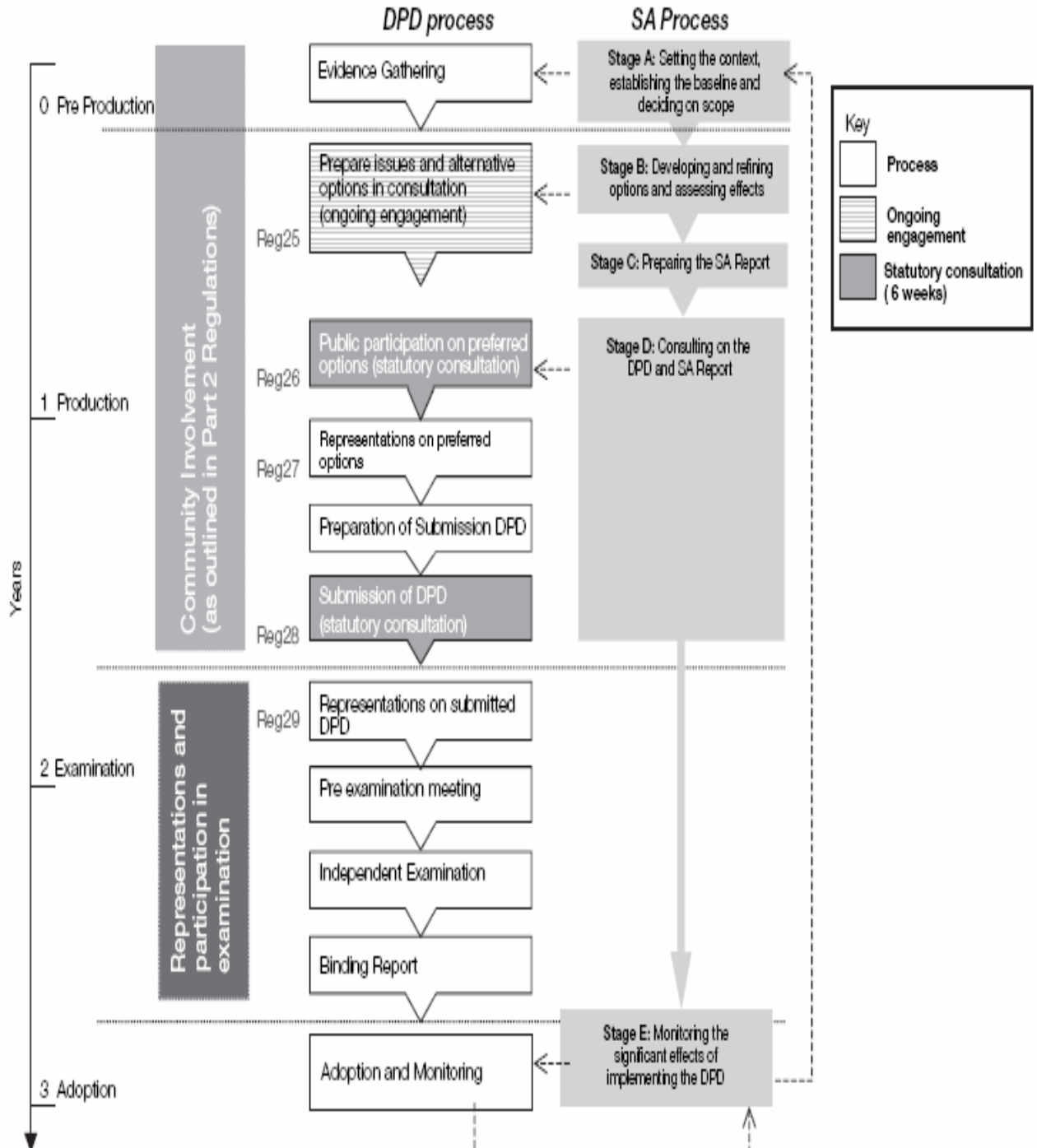
Devon Minerals Core Strategy – Summary of Characteristics	
Role	Sets out the County Council's vision, core strategy and strategic policies for meeting the demand for mineral resources having regard to the principles of sustainable development.
Spatial Coverage	All of that area for which the County Council is the mineral planning authority (i.e. excluding Plymouth, Torbay and the National Parks of Dartmoor and Exmoor).
Status	Development Plan Document.
Conformity	With RPG10, the saved Structure Plan and the emerging RSS. Also drawing upon other strategies with implications for the development and use of land, in order to set out a long-term spatial vision.
Proposed Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision • Sustainable Development Objectives • Aggregates Strategy (including Secondary and Recycled) • Ball Clay Strategy • China Clay Strategy • Strategy for Other Minerals • Environmental Protection Strategy • Targets and Monitoring Arrangements
Proposed Objectives	Objectives will be developed in consultation with stakeholders and will be included in future revisions of the Scoping Report as available.
Sustainability Issues and Problems	<p>The Core Strategy will need to reconcile provision of materials to meet society's needs with protection of the County's environment and the amenity of communities affected by mineral working and transportation. It is likely that the following will be the main sustainability issues and problems needing consideration in the SA of the Core Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safeguarding of mineral resources from sterilisation by other forms of development; • reducing reliance on the use of primary minerals through sustainable building methods and by promoting use of secondary and recycled materials; • minimising the distance that minerals are transported and promoting the use of methods other than road transportation; and • avoiding or mitigating the effects of mineral development on the landscape, biodiversity, water, air quality, climate change, historic environment, local communities and the economy, and seeking to achieve multiple benefits wherever possible.
Broad Options to be Considered	The options to be appraised in the SA will be developed at the Issues and Options Stage in consultation with stakeholders, and will be included in future Sustainability Reports when available.

2.14 Central to the new planning system is the requirement for greater levels of community and stakeholder involvement and the need for SA to be closely integrated with the plan-preparation process. The stages for preparing the

Minerals Core Strategy and their relationship with the SA process are summarised in the diagram below and are also listed in detail in the Devon Statement of Community Involvement (Submission Draft) available at www.devon.gov.uk/planning_sci.htm.

The Development Plan Document – Production Process

Source: ODPM (2005) 'Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents'



3 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL: SCOPE AND PROCESS

Introduction

- 3.1 This Chapter first outlines the SA process as a whole and then considers the scoping stage in detail, setting out the process used to develop the SA Framework.

Relationship between SA and Appropriate Assessment

- 3.2 It should be noted that Appropriate Assessment (AA) is not part of this Scoping Report. AA of plans or projects likely to have a significant effect on European Natura 2000 sites under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) is a separate process from SEA/SA with its own legal requirements. Draft Government guidance in '*Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment*' (DCLG, 2006) makes it clear that although AA should be undertaken in conjunction with SA (e.g. to share relevant evidence gathered), SA and AA are different processes with different objectives and should be clearly distinguishable and reported upon separately. While SA is a means of comparing options, AA is a standard which must be passed. Therefore a separate AA Baseline Report is being produced to inform the Minerals Core Strategy Issues and Options stage and to underpin AA screening.
- 3.3 Devon's European sites and their implications for the Minerals Core Strategy are considered within the Biodiversity and Geodiversity Topic Papers of this Scoping Report. These should be read in conjunction with the baseline information contained in the AA Baseline Report.

Spatial Scope of the SA

- 3.4 The spatial scope for the SA of the Minerals Core Strategy is the County of Devon, excluding:
- the areas administered by the unitary authorities of Plymouth City Council and Torbay Council; and
 - the National Parks of Dartmoor and Exmoor.

However, as environmental and sustainability issues do not observe administrative boundaries, the importance of assessing the wider spatial implications of Minerals Core Strategy alternatives, objectives and policies is recognised and this is taken into account within the Topic Papers.

Temporal Scope of the SA

- 3.5 To achieve consistency with the emerging RSS for the South West, the current timescale of the Minerals Core Strategy is the period to 2026, and the SA will therefore be based on this timescale. However, in some cases longer-term environmental and sustainability implications (e.g. climate change) may need to be taken into account.

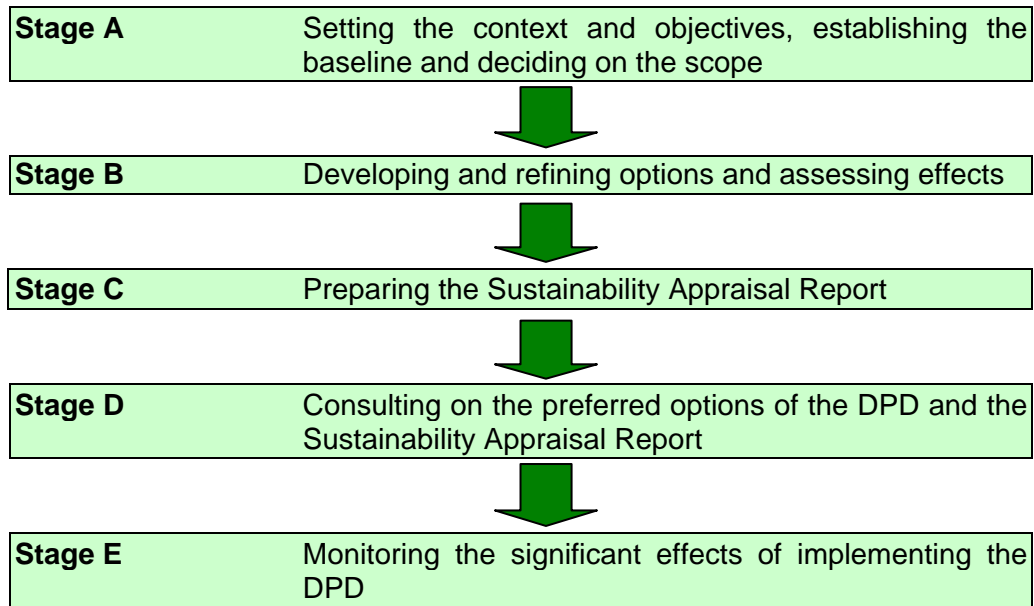
Thematic Scope of the SA

- 3.6 Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive requires assessment of the ‘*likely significant effects*’ of the plan on ‘*issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape*’, together with the interrelationship of these factors. Although the SEA Directive is expressly concerned with the *environmental* effects of plans and programmes, the issues listed in Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive is broader in nature and to some extent covers social issues (‘*human health*’ and ‘*population*’), together with an element of economic interest (‘*material assets*’).
- 3.7 In contrast, the process of SA specifically requires account to be taken not only of environmental factors, but also of social and economic effects of the proposed plan. Therefore, the choice of topics included for consideration in the SA of the Minerals Core Strategy is intended to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive, giving commensurate coverage of economic and social factors required by SA, and ensuring coverage of those topics of particular relevance to mineral development.
- 3.8 The SA topics, which are reflected in the selected SA objectives, are:
- **air quality and noise**
 - **biodiversity** (including fauna and flora)
 - **climate change and energy**
 - **economy**
 - **geodiversity**
 - **historic environment**
 - **human health**
 - **landscape**
 - **mineral resources**
 - **population** (including housing and quality of life)
 - **soil and land** (including agriculture)
 - **transport**
 - **waste**
 - **water** (including water quality, resources/consumption and flooding)
- 3.9 Each of the above topics is examined in a separate Topic Papers within this report. The inclusion of specific Topic Papers on Mineral Resources, Waste and Transport reflects their particular significance in relation to minerals planning. The SEA Directive’s reference to ‘*material assets*’ is not clearly defined, but is generally held to refer to property. This Scoping Report considers material assets in the Population and Economy Topic Papers.

The SA Process and Scoping

- 3.10 It is proposed to broadly follow the SA process set out in the 2005 ODPM guidance on SA. SA will be fully integrated with preparation of the Core Strategy in order to ensure that it meets the statutory requirement of Section 39 of the 2004 Act to ‘*contribute to the achievement of sustainable development*’. The key stages of the SA process, as set out in Figure 5 of the ODPM guidance are:

Key Stages of the SA Process (ODPM, 2005)



3.11 This Scoping Report is the output of **Stage A**, which is broken down by the ODPM guidance into the following tasks.

SA Stage A: SCOPING – Breakdown of Tasks (ODPM, 2005)	
A1	Identifying other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives
A2	Collecting baseline information
A3	Identifying sustainability issues and problems
A4	Developing the SA Framework
A5	Consulting on the scope of the SA

3.12 Although SA of the Minerals Core Strategy will encompass each of these tasks, the detailed approach that will be taken may differ from that of other local authorities and, in some respects, from the ODPM guidance. This reflects the emerging and rapidly-changing nature of SA and the new development planning system, together with the need to tailor the general guidance to meet the specific needs of minerals planning, which represents a relatively narrow field within the sustainable development agenda.

3.13 The process applied in the preparation of this Scoping Report has therefore varied, to a limited extent, from the ODPM model. This process, which in turn reflects the structure of this report, is shown overleaf:

What is the sustainability context for the Minerals Core Strategy?

- Review of relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives
- Baseline information
- Sustainability issues for Devon



What is the relationship between the Minerals Core Strategy and sustainability?

- Characteristics of mineral development
- Impacts of mineral development on the SA topics



How should the sustainability of the Minerals Core Strategy be appraised?

- Development of the SA Framework objectives and indicators

Review of other Plans, Policies, Programmes and Sustainability Objectives

- 3.14 Each Topic Paper contains a review of relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives at international, national, regional and local level affecting the particular topic. This review informed the collection of baseline information, identification of sustainability issues and the subsequent development of the SA Framework. Key objectives and targets relevant to the Minerals Core Strategy and its SA are listed along with a summary of the implications of the review.
- 3.15 To take account of any new plans and programmes that may emerge during the development of the Core Strategy, the review will be regularly updated to inform each plan preparation stage.
- 3.16 Due to the number of District Council **Local Plans** and **Community Strategies** in Devon and the range of sustainability topics covered within them, summaries of these documents are provided within Appendices 1 and 2 respectively, including any relevant objectives and targets, rather than them being repeated in each Topic Paper.
- 3.17 The breadth of the review of plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives takes into account the need for a spatial approach in the production of LDDs, as required under the new planning system and outlined in PPS12. Spatial planning goes beyond traditional land use planning to bring together and integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes which influence the nature of places and how they function. These include community strategies and strategies for education, health, social inclusion, waste, biodiversity, recycling and environmental protection. The Core Strategy should also take into account documents such as urban and rural regeneration strategies, local and regional economic and housing strategies, community development and local transport plans.

- 3.18 Rather than reviewing all spatial plans and programmes that may be of relevance to sustainable development and spatial planning in general, the County Council has focused on those aspects of other plans and programmes that are expected to have a bearing on the likely significant effects of the Minerals Core Strategy.
- 3.19 The implications of certain national plans and strategies are of overarching importance to sustainable development and are applicable to all the Topic Papers. To avoid duplication, a summary of these documents is provided here:

Securing the Future – The Government’s Sustainable Development Strategy (DEFRA, 2005)

Securing the Future provides the overarching UK strategy for sustainable development which should guide all other plans, policies and programmes. The five guiding principles for more sustainable development are:

- Living within environmental limits.
- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society.
- Achieving a sustainable economy.
- Using sound science responsibly.
- Promoting good governance.

The shared priorities for UK action are:

- Sustainable consumption and production.
- Climate change and energy.
- Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement.
- Sustainable communities.

PPS 1: Delivering Sustainable Development (ODPM, 2005)

PPS1 sets out the overarching planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. Key principles that should be applied to ensure that development plans contribute to the delivery of sustainable development include:

- Development plans should ensure that sustainable development is pursued in an integrated manner, in line with the principles for sustainable development set out in the UK strategy.
- Planning authorities should ensure that development plans contribute to global sustainability by addressing the causes and potential impacts of climate change – through policies which reduce energy use, reduce emissions, promote the development of renewable energy resources, and take climate change impacts into account in the location and design of development.
- A spatial planning approach should be at the heart of planning for sustainable development.
- Community involvement is an essential element in delivering sustainable development and creating sustainable and safe communities. In developing the vision for their areas, planning authorities should ensure that communities are able to contribute to ideas about how that vision can be achieved, have the opportunity to participate in the process of drawing up the vision, strategy and specific plan policies, and to be involved in development proposals.

- 3.20 At County level, the Devon Strategic Partnership has published '*A Community Strategy for Devon*' (2004) which sets out a broad range of goals covering social, environmental and economic issues, and this is informed by the Partnership's report '*Focus on Devon*' (2004), which provides extensive baseline information for the County. This Scoping Report draws upon these documents along with a draft evidence base for the new '*Sustainable Community Strategy for Devon*' anticipated for 2007. The Minerals Core Strategy and its SA will need to be integrated with the updated goals of the emerging Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 3.21 The review of plans, policies and programmes contained in the Topic Papers and Appendices 1 and 2 should be regarded as the first stage of an iterative process and will be updated at each stage of plan-making.

Baseline Information

- 3.22 Baseline information on environmental, social and economic topics is required for two purposes:
- to help identify sustainability issues that may be addressed through the Minerals Core Strategy; and
 - to allow the prediction and monitoring of the effects of the Minerals Core Strategy.
- 3.23 The baseline information is examined within the Topic Papers, which include summaries of the key issues. In order to assess the key sustainability issues facing Devon, trends information is also provided where possible. Trends may be quantified or simply stated in terms of getting better, worse or no change. Assessment of trends allows the likely future state of the Devon to be predicted, assuming 'business as usual' with no new plan. The baseline information is largely adapted from a range of existing Devon County Council publications together with the Devon Strategic Partnership's '*Focus on Devon*' report (2004), the draft evidence base (2007) for the emerging '*Sustainable Community Strategy for Devon*' and national and regional government websites. All data sources are listed.
- 3.24 Any significant data gaps are identified in each Topic Paper. This flags up future survey requirements and adds transparency to the process of developing the SA Framework.

Sustainability Issues: Identifying Conflicts and Synergies

- 3.25 Consideration of potential conflicts and synergies between the Minerals Core Strategy and sustainability topics is dealt with in the Topic Papers. Firstly, each Paper includes a table examining the impacts of mineral development on the topic in question (both adverse impacts and opportunities). Secondly, key issues from the review of plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives and key issues from the review of baseline review are summarised.
- 3.26 Consideration of issues within separate Topic Papers does not, at present, address the complex interrelationships between environmental and

sustainability issues, which can lead to cumulative effects. However, systematic analysis of cumulative and secondary effects will form an important and necessary component of future stages of SA, once various options and alternatives for the Minerals Core Strategy have been developed at the Issues and Options stage.

- 3.27 The compatibility of the SA Objectives developed in this Scoping Report is considered below (see 3.40-3.42).

Key Sustainability Issues and Problems

- 3.28 The baseline information, together with the review of plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives (see Topic Papers) have been used to identify the key sustainability issues and problems facing Devon. These issues are summarised in the following table, along with significant data gaps.

Summary of Key Sustainability Issues for the Minerals Core Strategy		
Topic	Key Issues	Significant Data Gaps
Air Quality & Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport-related air problems, particularly in Air Quality Management Areas (e.g. urban areas, main highways). • Air quality, noise and vibration impacts on sensitive rural communities, landscapes and habitats. • Interaction of air, water and land pollution. • Loss of 'tranquillity' in rural/semi-rural areas. 	None identified.
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important wildlife and habitats to be protected and enhanced, including European sites where protection is paramount. However, a strategic approach should be taken, recognising the importance of networks and combinations of smaller areas. • Key Biodiversity Action Plan habitats include mineral sites and features. • Separate Appropriate Assessment required. • Water Framework Directive ecological requirements. 	Up-to-date biodiversity/habitat data, including trends.
Climate Change & Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change must be taken into account (long-term view - beyond 2026). • Contribute to national targets for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. promoting energy efficiency and modal shift in transport). • Where possible, contribute to targets for renewable energy production. • Avoid exacerbating impacts of climate change (e.g. increased flood risk, land instability and run-off) 	Uncertainty of climate change predictions and potential impacts. Limitations of modelling, particularly at local scale.
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devon's economic growth (e.g. productivity) is failing to match UK levels and economic performance varies widely across the County, with specific rural areas suffering badly. • Adequate supply of minerals needed to support economic development proposed in Draft RSS and Regional Economic Strategy (RES). • Mineral operations make a limited but significant economic and employment contribution to specific areas (e.g. Bovey Basin). • Devon's environment is recognised in the RES as an important economic driver – minerals development should avoid detrimental environmental effects. 	None identified.
Geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devon has a rich geological resource which should be protected and enhanced (including two World Heritage Sites of mining/geological importance). Promote geodiversity objectives of Devon BAP. • Audits confirm a wide range of geodiversity in Devon's active aggregate quarries. • Previous loss of geological exposures and features due to poor management and restoration of mineral sites. Therefore need to consider geodiversity opportunities at <i>all stages</i> of operation. 	Lack of data on small, disused quarries.

Summary of Key Sustainability Issues for the Minerals Core Strategy		
Topic	Key Issues	Significant Data Gaps
Historic Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The historic environment is central to Devon's landscape and cultural quality. Certain mineral working areas form an important component of this heritage (e.g. Cornwall & West Devon Landscape World Heritage Site). Potential damage to historic assets from mineral working and transportation. Need for specific materials (e.g. building stone) for maintenance of historic assets. 	Limitations of the Buildings at Risk Register for the South West.
Human Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Devon's health is generally good, but there are inequalities due to economic and social disadvantage, including rural areas. Potential negative impacts of mineral operations and transportation on health (e.g. noise, dust and air quality). Potential positive recreational after-uses of mineral sites. 	Up-to-date Devon health and safety data, including trends. Impacts of specific minerals sites.
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minerals development must respect extensive landscape designations within and adjacent to Devon (including Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks). Loss of local distinctiveness (removal of features and insensitive development). Historic mineral sites may form part of landscape quality and distinctiveness. Have full regard to existing landscape character assessments and to the ongoing landscape character assessment programme within Devon. 	Current understanding of landscape character elements is limited to a relatively strategic scale. A more detailed landscape character assessment programme is ongoing.
Mineral Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure adequate and steady supply of minerals (with regard to Devon's sub-regional apportionment) by safeguarding mineral resources from sterilisation and maintenance of appropriate landbanks. Need to reduce reliance on primary minerals, and support increased use of recycled and secondary materials. This may require additional facilities. Maximise the benefits and minimise the impacts of minerals operations over their full life cycle. 	Recycled aggregate data from construction and demolition waste in Devon.
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Devon is one of the fastest growing counties with significant further growth planned by the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy. Significant pockets of multiple deprivation in coastal resorts, larger towns and 'remote' rural parishes. Need for significant additional housing coupled with increasing affordability problems. Adopt spatial planning approach, integrated with broader plans, strategies and programmes affecting Devon. 	None identified.

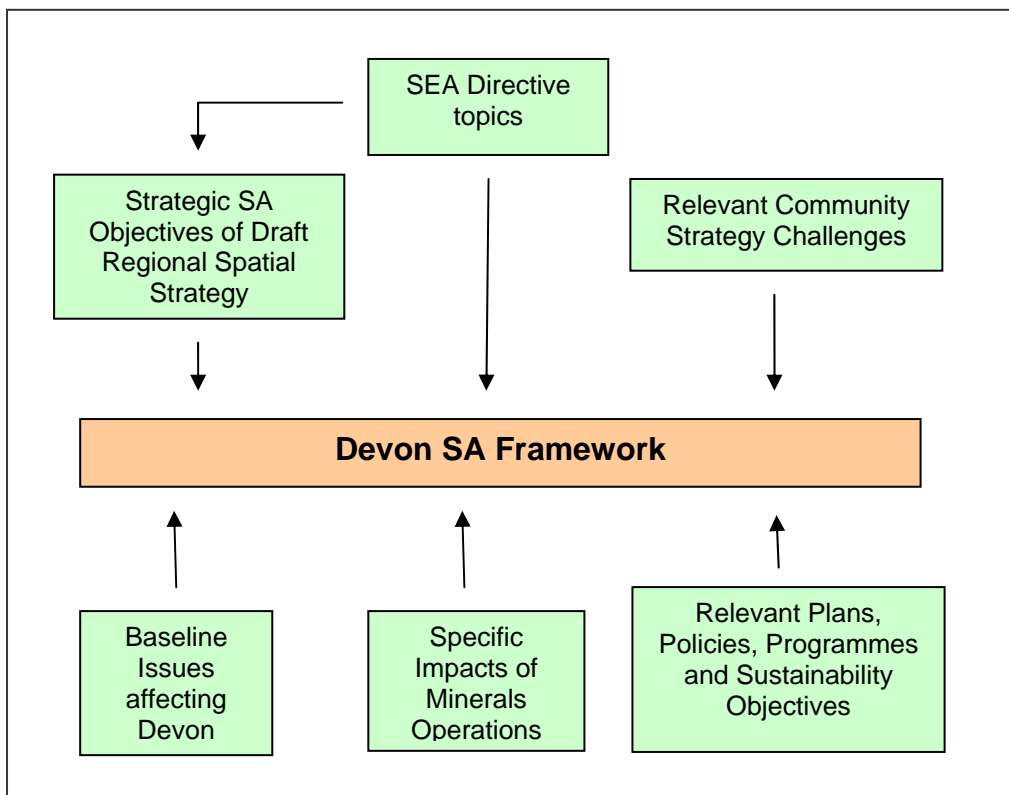
Summary of Key Sustainability Issues for the Minerals Core Strategy

Topic	Key Issues	Significant Data Gaps
Soil & Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing demand for land to accommodate a growing population and economy may impact mineral working near settlements. Protect soil as a diverse resource. Soil erosion due to flooding, run-off and inappropriate management is a significant pollution issue under the Water Framework Directive. Agricultural restructuring may increase opportunities for alternative after-uses for mineral sites, as high grade agricultural land in Devon is limited. 	None identified.
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic flows and road congestion are increasing, but with varying intensity over the network. Most Air Quality Management Areas in Devon are designated due to transport pollution. Road transport contributes to half of Devon's carbon dioxide emissions. Aim to reduce mineral transportation miles. Need to promote transportation of minerals by rail and water, but many minerals sites are in rural areas. Rural accessibility is an issue, particularly with increasing size of HGVs. 	Traffic growth/congestion data (county-level and sub-areas). Specific transport impacts of development proposed in the Draft RSS. Rail statistics – freight capacity.
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for mineral and waste development to be effectively coordinated. Drive waste up the waste hierarchy. Promote efficient use of mineral resources. Increased use of recycled and secondary aggregates may reduce use of primary sources. Growing waste generation but pressure to reduce the proportion landfilled will affect mineral site after-use. 	Data on commercial & industrial waste and construction & demolition waste.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirements of Water Framework Directive (WFD), including 'good ecological status' will have ongoing implications for minerals planning and the Minerals Core Strategy. (e.g. avoid exacerbating diffuse pollution issues). Water supplies are sufficient to meet increasing water demand, but inefficient use has water quality and energy implications. Liability of parts of Devon to flooding could be exacerbated by mineral operations. Climate change and sea level rise may increase flood risk but predictions are uncertain. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (regional, county and district levels) needs to inform the Minerals Core Strategy. Adopt sequential approach to mineral development and flood risk. 	Gaps in characterisation of water bodies, knowledge of water status and the identification of significant water management issues, required for the development of the South West River Basin Management Plan in accordance with the WFD.

Developing the SA Framework

- 3.29 The SA Framework is the key output of this Report. It will provide the mechanism for assessing the sustainability impacts of the vision, objectives and policies of the Mineral Core Strategy, including the important consideration of alternatives.
- 3.30 The SA Framework (including SA objectives and broad indicators) is logically developed through each Topic Paper. The division of issues into Topic Papers is designed to show clearly how the SA Framework has been devised and to assist consultation with key stakeholders and the public. The range of elements that have informed the development of the SA Framework are summarised in the diagram below.

Developing the SA Framework



- 3.31 The ODPM guidance on SA advises that the Framework should include ‘sustainability objectives which, where practicable, may be expressed in the form of targets, the achievement of which should be measurable using indicators’ (3.2.14). Figure 22 of the Guidance includes a wide range of example objectives and indicators. It is advised that these should be adapted to suit local circumstances, and that a ‘plan concerned with minerals...could include more objectives for soil and water quality, maintenance of the hydrological regime, and mineral reserves, and could express them in more detailed terms’ (p.106).

Developing the SA Objectives

- 3.32 The challenge for the County Council in developing SA Objectives has been to reflect the environmental, social and economic concerns and aspirations of

the Devon community whilst ensuring that they are relevant to, and capable of being influenced by, the Minerals Core Strategy. Three approaches were considered:

- using of a broad set of SA Objectives covering the whole range of sustainability issues (for example, the '*Community Strategy for Devon*' goals and challenges);
- focusing on a narrow set of SA Objectives that are likely to be directly affected by the Minerals Core Strategy and excluding issues such as housing and social inclusion; and
- a middle approach, reflecting the broad range of sustainability issues, but omitting SA Objectives that cannot be affected, either directly or indirectly, by the Minerals Core Strategy.

3.33 The County Council has decided to adopt the third approach in order to ensure that the SA of the Minerals Core Strategy reflects the broader sustainability agenda, while avoiding consideration of issues upon which the DPD is likely to have little or no effect. The relevance of the objectives to minerals planning has been reinforced by the choice of indicators used to measure the effects of the DPD.

3.34 The SA objectives were developed with close regard to the objectives of the Strategic Sustainability Appraisal (SSA) of the emerging RSS, together with the challenges contained within the '*Community Strategy for Devon*' (see final table in each Topic Paper). This ensures that the appraisal of the Minerals Core Strategy is consistent with regional-level planning and the wider sustainability agenda which provides the context for spatial planning in Devon. Such an approach is a requirement of Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

3.35 The SSA Framework for the RSS identifies six 'high level objectives', with each of these having several sub-objectives in the form of detailed questions (i.e. "*does the policy/proposal...*"). For each of these detailed objectives, the relevant challenges from the '*Community Strategy for Devon*' were identified. Using the information from Chapter 2, consideration was then given to how minerals development can affect the issues raised in the SSA objectives and Community Strategy challenges. Finally, SA Objectives for the Minerals Core Strategy were developed that are appropriate to the Strategy and its SA (see Topic Papers).

3.36 SA requires that equal weight is given to environmental, social and economic matters. This could be interpreted as indicating that each of these matters should have a similar number of SA Objectives. Although the objectives identified in the proposed SA Framework place greater emphasis on environmental and natural resource issues, it is considered that this is a valid approach given the analysis of the impacts of mineral development undertaken in Chapter 2, which illustrated the greater range of environmental impacts. The key social and economic issues arising from the Draft RSS and '*A Community Strategy for Devon*', which are capable of direct or indirect influence by the Minerals Core Strategy (e.g. housing, human health, quality of life and economic growth and diversification) have also been incorporated into the SA Objectives.

Developing SA Indicators and Targets

- 3.37 Indicators within the SA Framework are intended to measure the effects of the Minerals Core Strategy, and also help measure the extent to which the SA Objectives are likely to be met. At present, only broad SA Indicators in the form of appraisal questions have been developed (i.e. “*Will the plan/policy...?*”). These broad SA Indicators will be refined and sharpened through the SA process, as a result of consultation.
- 3.38 Targets to accompany the SA Objectives and Indicators have not been included at this scoping stage, but will be included within the Draft SA Report, as appropriate, following consultation feedback.

The SA Framework

- 3.39 The SA Framework for the Minerals Core Strategy, incorporating the SA Objectives and Broad Indicators, is shown overleaf. It is proposed to regularly review the Framework during the SA process in order to have regard to the results of stakeholder participation, emerging plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives and the availability of additional baseline information.

SA Framework for the Minerals Core Strategy		
SA Objective	Broad SA Indicators: “ <i>Will the plan/policy...?</i> ”	Related SEA Directive Topics
1. To maintain and improve human health and quality of life across Devon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause a greater impact from mineral development on the health and wellbeing of local communities? • Contribute to the promotion of healthy lifestyles and increased wellbeing? 	Human health Population
2. To contribute to the provision of an adequate and affordable supply of housing to meet society’s needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the supply of materials for new housing? • Avoid any physical constraints on new housing development? 	Population
3. To encourage and accommodate sustainable economic development and diversification.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the supply of materials for new employment development? • Maintain and enhance employment levels? 	Material Assets Population
4. To support and maintain the rural economy and the viability of rural communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and enhance employment and service levels in rural areas? 	Population Material Assets
5. To provide sustainable solutions to transport problems which support the economy and access to services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the impact of road traffic, particularly heavy goods vehicles, on local communities? • Increase the proportion of materials transported by rail or water? 	Population Material Assets Climatic Factors Air
6. To maintain and enhance biodiversity resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid loss of, or damage to (including fragmentation) designated sites and protected species? • Provide for the positive management of existing habitats? • Provide opportunities for the enhancement of protected species populations, where relevant? • Provide for the creation of new areas of biodiversity value? 	Biodiversity Flora Fauna
7. To maintain and enhance geodiversity resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for the retention and positive management of geodiversity resources? • Allow for access to geodiversity resources for study? 	[No specific SEA Directive topic]

SA Framework for the Minerals Core Strategy		
SA Objective	Broad Indicators: “ <i>Will the plan/policy...?</i> ”	Related SEA Directive Topics
8. To achieve the conservation and prudent use of soil and land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid loss of the best and most versatile land? • Minimise the use of land for minerals development? 	Soil Material Assets
9. To maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the landscape as a place to live, work and visit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause development of land within designated landscape areas which results in an adverse change in the character and/or visual integrity of those areas? • Cause development of land which is not sympathetic to the identified landscape character of that location? • Provide for the restoration of land to an appropriate after-use and landscape character? 	Landscape Cultural Heritage
10. To maintain and enhance the historic environment, including archaeological sites, historic buildings, conservation areas, historic parks and gardens and other locally distinctive and culturally important features, areas and their settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause a loss of, or harm to, the character or setting of historic assets? • Provide materials for the maintenance of historic assets? • Generate new information on the historic environment? 	Cultural Heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage)
11. To adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change and minimise future change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to avoidance or mitigation of, or adaptation to, climate change? 	Climatic Factors
12. To promote the prudent use of energy and encourage use of renewable sources of energy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the efficient use of energy? • Increase the generation of renewable sources of energy? 	Climatic Factors Material Assets
13. To conserve mineral resources and promote the use of alternative sources of materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguard mineral resources from loss or sterilisation? • Encourage the use of secondary or recycled materials? 	Material Assets

SA Framework for the Minerals Core Strategy		
SA Objective	Broad Indicators: “ <i>Will the plan/policy...?</i> ”	Related SEA Directive Topics
14. To minimise the generation of waste and promote a move upwards through the waste management hierarchy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the quantity of waste produced? • Increase the proportion of waste materials recycled? 	Material Assets Population
15. To maintain and improve the quality of ground, river and sea waters and manage the consumption of water in a sustainable manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and improve the quality of ground, river and sea waters? • Avoid adverse effects on existing patterns of groundwater flow? • Maintain consumption within local carrying limits? 	Water
16. To reduce the risk of flooding (including coastal flooding) and improve flood management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain or enhance floodplain capacity? • Minimise the numbers of people and property at risk from flooding? 	Water Climatic Factors
17. To improve air quality and minimise the impact of noise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead to changes in air pollution in existing Air Quality Management Areas? • Cause changes to the emission into the air of dust and pollutants? • Cause changes in noise impacts on local communities? 	Air Human Health

Compatibility of the Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

- 3.40 The compatibility of the SA Objectives can be tested in order to identify any tensions or conflicts between them and to inform the subsequent appraisal process so that appropriate mitigation or alternatives can be considered.
- 3.41 The compatibility matrix overleaf shows whether the SA Objectives are compatible, potentially incompatible or incompatible with each other:
- ‘compatible’ includes circumstances where objectives may have positive synergies, together with cases where there is no potential for incompatibility;
 - ‘potentially incompatible’ refers to circumstances where two objectives may be in conflict in certain scenarios, but where mitigation is possible to prevent adverse effects occurring;
 - ‘incompatible’ is used where two objectives are clearly in conflict and where there is no prospect that mitigation can be effective.
- 3.42 The compatibility testing presented in the matrix gives rise to the following key conclusions:
- none of the SA Objectives are wholly incompatible;
 - the main circumstances where there is potential for incompatibility occur with the ‘development-driven’ objectives (e.g. 2, 3 & 4) on the one hand and the environmental and resource protection objectives on the other; however, in each of these cases, the extent of conflict between objectives can be reduced through attention to minimising adverse effects and maximising positive measures – for example, in the case of biodiversity (6) by avoiding development of land with nature conservation value and by providing for habitat creation and management;
 - other potentially incompatible objectives concern human health (1), which may be harmed by economic development (3 & 4) and the recycling or other processing of waste materials (13 & 14); landscape (9), which may be affected by infrastructure for renewable energy (12) or waste management (14); and air quality (17), which may be affected by waste management (14) processes.

SA Objectives - Compatibility Matrix

1 Maintain & improve human health & quality of life across Devon																	
2 Contribute to provision of an adequate & affordable supply of housing...	Green																
3 Encourage & accommodate sustainable economic development...	Yellow	Green															
4 Support & maintain the rural economy & viability of rural communities	Yellow	Green	Green						Green	Compatible							
5 Provide sustainable solutions to transport problems...	Green	Green	Green	Green					Yellow	Potentially incompatible							
6 Maintain & enhance biodiversity resources	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow				Red	Incompatible							
7 Maintain & enhance geodiversity resources	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green											
8 Achieve conservation & prudent use of soil & land	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green										
9 Maintain & enhance the quality & distinctiveness of the landscape...	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green									
10 Maintain & enhance the historic environment...	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green								
11 Adapt to & mitigate effects of climate change & minimise future change	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green							
12 Promote prudent use of energy & encourage use of renewable sources	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green						
13 Conserve mineral resources & promote the use of alternative sources...	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green					
14 Minimise the generation of waste & promote a move up waste hierarchy	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green				
15 Maintain & improve quality of waters & manage consumption sustainably	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green			
16 Reduce the risk of flooding & improve flood management	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green		
17 Improve air quality	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17

Next Steps

- 3.43 A diagram showing the Development Plan Document production process can be viewed at 2.14. The next formal output for the Minerals Core Strategy will be an Issues and Options Paper, which will be widely published for consultation in September 2007. The Issues and Options Paper will include a brief sustainability appraisal of the alternative options for addressing key issues. Both the adverse and beneficial sustainability effects of each option will be assessed. Options will include 'do nothing' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios where relevant. By including sustainability appraisal the intention is to inform the debate and stimulate discussion, not to 'lead' the public in a pre-determined direction.
- 3.44 SA will inform the subsequent selection of preferred options for the Minerals Core Strategy. Formal 6 week consultation on the Preferred Options Paper will be accompanied by a full, Draft SA Report. The proposed format of the SA Report is shown in Chapter 4.
- 3.45 A final statutory 6 week consultation will take place when the Minerals Core Strategy and SA Report are submitted to the Secretary of State for examination. The Sustainability Appraisal is one of nine tests the Inspector will use at independent examination to assess the soundness of the Core Strategy (PPS12, paragraph 4.24). The SA process will be tested for coherence, consistency and effectiveness.
- 3.46 Regardless of the stage in the Sustainability Appraisal, a judgement based approach to the prediction of environmental and sustainability effects will be taken that is transparent, auditable and supported by evidence. A variety of tools will be used to aid assessment. However, as the Core Strategy is a strategic document, containing only general locations for development, the use of summary matrices (i.e. analytical tables) supported by Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping, as appropriate, are likely to be the most effective and understandable assessment techniques. Other techniques such as Causal Chain Analysis are likely to be more useful for site specific development plan documents.

4 STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL REPORT

4.1 Figure 40 within Appendix 15 of the ODPM guidance on SA provides a suggested structure for the final SA Report that is required to be produced at the time of submission of the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State. Although the structure of the SA Report will be reviewed throughout the SA process, the present intention is to adopt the ODPM's structure as outlined below.

1. Summary and outcomes

- 1.1 Non-technical summary
- 1.2 Statement of the likely significant effects of the plan
- 1.3 Statement on the difference the process has made to date
- 1.4 How to comment on the report

2. Appraisal Methodology

- 2.1 Approach adopted to the SA
- 2.2 When the SA was carried out
- 2.3 Who carried out the SA
- 2.4 Who was consulted, when and how
- 2.5 Difficulties encountered in compiling information or carrying out the assessment

3. Background

- 3.1 Purpose of the SA and the SA Report
- 3.2 Plan objectives and outline of contents
- 3.3 Compliance with the SEA Directive/Regulations

4. Sustainability objectives, baseline and context

- 4.1 Links to other policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives and how these have been taken into account
- 4.2 Description of the social, environmental and economic baseline characteristics and the predicted future baseline
- 4.3 Main social, environmental and economic issues and problems identified
- 4.4 Limitations of the information, assumptions made, etc.
- 4.5 The SA framework, including objectives, targets and indicators

5. Plan issues and options

- 5.1 Main strategic options considered and how they were identified
- 5.2 Comparison of the social, environmental and economic effects of the options
- 5.3 How social, environmental and economic issues were considered in choosing the preferred options
- 5.4 Other options considered, and why these were rejected
- 5.5 Any proposed mitigation measures

6. Plan policies

- 6.1 Significant social, environmental and economic effects of the preferred policies
- 6.2 How social, environmental and economic problems were considered in developing the policies and proposals
- 6.3 Proposed mitigation measures

6.4 Uncertainties and risks

7. Implementation

7.1 Links to other tiers of plans and programmes and the project level (EIA, design guidance, etc)

7.2 Proposals for monitoring

4.2 The SA Report will be suitably annotated in order to clearly indicate which elements constitute the Environmental Report for the purposes of the SEA Directive.

4.3 The results of the assessments will be reported in matrices. Predicted changes to the sustainability baseline will be assessed in terms of magnitude, geographical scale, time period over which they occur, whether they are permanent, temporary, positive or negative, probable or improbable, frequent or rare, and whether there are secondary, cumulative and/or synergistic effects. Interrelationships between effects will be considered where practicable.

4.4 As stated in 3.2, Appropriate Assessment of the Minerals Core Strategy is a parallel, but separate process from SA and will the subject its own distinct reports. However, AA progress will be briefly summarised within the SA Report and cross-referenced.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

SA TOPIC COVERAGE (POLICIES & TARGETS) IN DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN DEVON								
SA TOPICS	East Devon Local Plan (July 2006)	Exeter Local Plan First Review (March 2005)	Mid Devon Local Plan First Alteration (July 2006)	North Devon Local Plan (July 2006)	South Hams LDF Core Strategy (Dec. 2006)	Teignbridge Local Plan (October 1996)	Torrige Local Plan (Sept. 2004)	West Devon Local Plan Review (March 2005)
Biodiversity	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - To increase bio-diversity and seek to influence landowners to increase bio-diversity on their land. - To increase number of LNRs, SNCIs and SLINCs and to ensure more people have access to nature reserves.	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - No net loss to locally distinctive and important habitats and networks. - No net loss or damage to SSSIs or County Wildlife Sites.	✓ <u>Relevant Targets(2)</u> - No loss of any designated sites (international – local). - No loss of priority habitats or species.	✓	✓	✓
Geodiversity	✓	✓	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> As for Biodiversity.	✓ <u>Relevant Targets(2)</u> - No loss of any designated sites (international – local).	✓	✓	✓
Landscape	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets(2)</u> - Complete Landscape character assessment Summer 2007	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - No loss of statutorily designated area by type. - No new non-exception housing or industry in open countryside. - No net loss of undeveloped Coastal Protection Area.	✓

SA TOPICS	East Devon Local Plan (July 2006)	Exeter Local Plan First Review (March 2005)	Mid Devon Local Plan First Alteration (July 2006)	North Devon Local Plan (July 2006)	South Hams LDF Core Strategy (Dec. 2006)	Teignbridge Local Plan (October 1996)	Torrige Local Plan (Sept. 2004)	West Devon Local Plan Review (March 2005)
Historic Environment	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - No loss of listed buildings or harmful alteration. - To ensure protection for archaeological remains.	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - No reduction in area of Conservation Areas. - No buildings delisted or downgraded to a lower status. - No increase in number or listed buildings at risk. - No loss or damage to archaeological sites or remains of national importance. - No damage without archaeological record to sites of local importance.	✓ <u>Relevant Targets (2)</u> - No loss of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments or Historic Parks & Gardens.	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - Reduced number of Listed Buildings at risk by grade. - No annual net loss in number of Listed Buildings.	✓
Soil and Land	✓ (Agricultural land, contaminated land)	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - No development takes place on contaminated land except where necessary remedial works have been completed.	✓ (Agricultural land)	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets (2)</u> 80% of new residential and employment development within Development Boundaries.	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - No net loss of best and most versatile agricultural land. - Increased % of derelict and contaminated land reclaimed. - No further development on unstable land.	✓
Water	✓ (Quality/quantity, flooding, runoff)	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - No development should take place on floodplains without proper remedial measures. - Ensure water based habitats are protected from development.	✓ (Development in/near floodplains, water management systems)	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - Meet EA targets. - No new development at risk from flooding. - No increase in flood risk areas.	✓ <u>Relevant Targets (2)</u> - No net loss of Flood Storage Capacity. - No permissions contrary to EA advice (flood defence grounds or water quality). - Provision of SUDS on 100% of sites).	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - Groundwater quality improved annually. - No net increase in % developed flood plain. - No increased flood risk from development.	✓

	East Devon Local Plan (July 2006)	Exeter Local Plan First Review (March 2005)	Mid Devon Local Plan First Alteration (July 2006)	North Devon Local Plan (July 2006)	South Hams LDF Core Strategy (Dec. 2006)	Teignbridge Local Plan (October 1996)	Torrige Local Plan (Sept. 2004)	West Devon Local Plan Review (March 2005)
SA TOPICS								
Minerals	x	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - Ensure mineral resources are safeguarded from any surface development which could prejudice their exploitation.	x	x	x	✓	x	x
Air Quality & Noise	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - Maintain or improve air quality from 1996 level (N.B. AMR (1) states 1997 level) - AMR (1) provides targets for air pollutants.	✓ (see general development requirements)	✓ (included in transport and amenity)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Transport	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> (see Air Quality)	✓	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - Decrease in road casualties according to Government targets.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Waste	✓	x	x	x	Infrastructure	x	✓	x
Climate Change & Energy	✓ (Renewable energy, flooding)	✓	✓ (Renewable energy, Development in/near floodplains)	✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - At least 15% of energy generation for major developments from renewable energy.	✓ <u>Relevant Targets (2)</u> - At least 10% on-site energy generation (100% of sites). - 100% developments meeting 'excellent' or 'very good' BREEAM standards. - see also 'Water'		✓ <u>Relevant Targets</u> - Increased area of woodland (carbon sequestration). - Increased proportion of energy generated from renewable sources.	✓ (Energy)

	East Devon Local Plan (July 2006)	Exeter Local Plan First Review (March 2005)	Mid Devon Local Plan First Alteration (July 2006)	North Devon Local Plan (July 2006)	South Hams LDF Core Strategy (Dec. 2006)	Teignbridge Local Plan (October 1996)	Torrige Local Plan (Sept. 2004)	West Devon Local Plan Review (March 2005)
SA TOPICS								
Human Health	✓	✗ (but see relevant air quality and population targets)		✗ (but see relevant transport, population and air quality targets)	✗	✗	✓	✓
Population	✓	✓ Relevant Targets - 70% of all new housing on previously developed land. - No loss of playing field unless it is appropriately compensated for in another area.	✓	✓ Relevant Targets - At least 50% of new homes and employment development built in the Sub Regional Centre of Barnstaple. - Maintain rates of development in Priority Area for Rural Regeneration. - No net loss of local shops, community facilities etc within villages or open space.	✓ Relevant Targets (2) - Sherford new community: 4,000 dwellings by 2016.	✓	✓	✓
Economy	✓	✓ Relevant Targets - Unemployment: no more than 75% of the rate for England and Wales. - Economic activity rate above England and Wales. - Development of 100 ha employment land excluding offices between 1995 and 2011.	✓	✓ Relevant Targets - Meet strategic targets in phased manner. - No net loss of employment land. - Reduce unemployment levels. - Increase GDP per head and household incomes. - Improve index of deprivation score.	✓ Relevant Targets (2) - 62ha of employment land 2001-16. - 80% of new employment development within Development Boundaries. - 60% of new employment development at Area and Local centres. - 10% increase p.a. in employment permissions outside Area Centres.	✓	✓	✓

(1) Exeter LDF Annual Monitoring Report (December 2006) – Appendix 1: Monitoring Data www.exeter.gov.uk/media/pdf/l/p/AMR_2006.pdf

(2) South Hams Annual Monitoring Report (December 2006) – Appendix 2: LDF (Preferred Options) Proposed Monitoring Framework
www.southhams.gov.uk/amr_dec_06.pdf

APPENDIX 2

SA TOPIC COVERAGE WITHIN COMMUNITY STRATEGIES IN DEVON								
SA TOPICS	East Devon Sustainable Community Plan (2006-16)	Exeter Vision (2003)	Sustainable Community Plan for Mid Devon (2006-09)	North Devon First (2002) and Action Plan (2006)	South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy (2007-11)	Community Strategy for Teignbridge (2007-11)	Working Together - Community Strategy for Torridge (2003)	West Devon Community Strategy (2004)
Biodiversity	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> Action Plan proposes a range of actions with target dates.	x	✓ <u>Objectives</u> - Enhance distinctive cultural and environmental assets.	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - environmental quality.	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Actions to be developed)	x	✓ (see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)
Geodiversity	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Landscape	✓ <u>Vision</u> - Recognise and value East Devon as a distinctive destination.	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	x	✓ <u>Objectives</u> Protect our high quality urban and rural environment as our greatest asset. <u>Targets</u> Action Plan with range of actions)	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - environmental quality.	x	x	✓ (see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)
Historic Environment	✓ <u>Vision</u> (see Landscape)	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	x	✓ <u>Objectives</u> - Enhance distinctive cultural and environmental assets. - Protect our high quality urban and rural environment. <u>Targets</u> Action Plan with range of actions)	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - local distinctiveness.	x	x	x
Soil and Land	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	✓ (see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)

SA TOPICS	East Devon Sustainable Community Plan (2006-16)	Exeter Vision (2003)	Sustainable Community Plan for Mid Devon (2006-09)	North Devon First (2002) and Action Plan (2006)	South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy (2007-11)	Community Strategy for Teignbridge (2007-11)	Working Together - Community Strategy for Torridge (2003)	West Devon Community Strategy (2004)
Water	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> Action Plan with range of actions)	x	x	x	✓ (see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)
Minerals	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Air Quality & Noise	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with range of actions)	x	x	x	✓ (see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)
Transport	✓ <u>Vision</u> - Appropriate transport and other connections within and between many and widespread communities.	✓ <u>Aims</u> Accessibility <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	✓ <u>Priorities</u> Improve access <u>Targets</u> None, but actions with indicators.	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - Apply weight limits to roads where appropriate. - Reduce traffic congestion in Barnstaple. - Reduce the environmental impact of transport, particularly by reducing CO2 emissions and improving air quality in towns. <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with range of actions)	x	✓ <u>Key issues</u> - Traffic in urban areas.	✓ <u>Aspirations</u> - Improve transport choices.	✓ (see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)
Waste	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with range of actions)	x	x	✓ <u>Aspirations</u> - To reduce waste. <u>Action Plan (2004-07) Targets</u> - To recycle 33% of all waste by end 2005.	✓ (see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)

SA TOPICS	East Devon Sustainable Community Plan (2006-16)	Exeter Vision (2003)	Sustainable Community Plan for Mid Devon (2006-09)	North Devon First (2002) and Action Plan (2006)	South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy (2007-11)	Community Strategy for Teignbridge (2007-11)	Working Together - Community Strategy for Torridge (2003)	West Devon Community Strategy (2004)
Climate Change & Energy	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	x	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with range of actions including flooding and renewable energy)	✓	✓ <u>Key issues</u> - Promote renewable energy. <u>Targets</u> (Actions to be developed)	✓ <u>Aspirations</u> - To reduce energy consumption and % of energy produced through renewable forms. <u>Action Plan (2004-07) Targets</u> - Achieve Euro targets for renewable energy production by 2010.	✓ (see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)
Human Health	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - Positive mental health.	✓ <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	✓ <u>Priorities</u> Develop stronger, healthier communities <u>Targets</u> None, but actions with indicators.	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - Road safety. - Encourage awareness of and access to healthier lifestyles for all. <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with range of actions)	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - outdoor leisure opportunities.	✓ <u>Key issues</u> Healthy living and leisure. <u>Targets</u> (Actions to be developed)	x	x
Population	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - Good quality affordable housing of adequate size and suitably located. - Target community support work into geographical areas where recognised difficulties.	✓ <u>Aims</u> - Affordable housing. - Exeter as a major cultural and leisure centre in region. <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - Develop stronger, healthier communities. Affordable, decent housing. <u>Targets</u> None, but actions with indicators.	✓ <u>Objectives</u> - Create equal opportunity for all. - Work together, listening to and valuing residents' views. <u>Priorities</u> - Strengthening local communities. - Developing greater sense of place and belonging. <u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with range of actions)	✓ <u>Priorities</u> - affordable housing.	✓ <u>Key issues</u> - Looking after the environment around housing and villages. - Access to services. - Stronger, safer communities. <u>Targets</u> (Actions to be developed)	✓ <u>Aspirations</u> - Affordable housing. - To protect and enhance the local environment...and its enjoyment by local people. - Strategy to address poverty and exclusion. - Revitalise communities in greatest need. - Develop/improve range of ways to access services and leisure.	✓ <u>Priorities for action</u> - Social exclusion. - Housing (affordable and for elderly). - Community and leisure facilities. - Community planning. - Supporting children and young people.

SA TOPICS	East Devon Sustainable Community Plan (2006-16)	Exeter Vision (2003)	Sustainable Community Plan for Mid Devon (2006-09)	North Devon First (2002) and Action Plan (2006)	South Hams Community Strategy (2007-11)	Community Strategy for Teignbridge (2007-11)	Working Together - Community Strategy for Torridge (2003)	West Devon Community Strategy (2004)
Economy	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p><u>Vision</u> - Economic activity that improves and sustains a distinctive environment and cultural heritage.</p> <p><u>Priorities</u> - Increasing opportunities for raising average income through regeneration.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p><u>Aims</u> - Balanced economic growth supported by protected and enhanced environment.</p> <p><u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with target dates)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">x</p> <p>(But useful baseline information)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p><u>Objectives</u> - Encourage a prosperous, developing, sustainable economy.</p> <p><u>Priorities</u> - Improvement of the economic infrastructure Development of appropriate economic sectors. - Regeneration of communities. - Implementing a rural recovery plan.</p> <p><u>Targets</u> (Action Plan with range of actions)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p><u>Priorities</u> - sustainable local business and employment opportunities. - encourage businesses to protect the natural environment.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p><u>Targets</u> (Actions to be developed)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p><u>Aspirations</u> - To protect and enhance the local environment...and its contribution to the local economy. - Regenerate communities.</p> <p><u>Action Plan (2004-07) Targets</u> - Reduce regional disparity by improving GDP by at least 5% by 2007. - Develop long term vision and action plan for revitalisation of Bideford.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p>(see 'Sustainability Principles' – Annex 1)</p>

APPENDIX 3: SCOPING REPORT CONSULTEES

The following organisations were consulted on the draft version of this SA Scoping Report (1st June – 6th July 2007):

Statutory Environmental Bodies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Agency • Natural England 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Heritage
District Councils	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Devon District Council • Mid Devon District Council • South Hams District Council • Torridge District Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exeter City Council • North Devon District Council • Teignbridge District Council • West Devon Borough Council
Adjacent Mineral/Waste Planning Authorities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cornwall County Council • Dorset County Council • Plymouth City Council • Torbay Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dartmoor National Park Authority • Exmoor National Park Authority • Somerset County Council
Regional Bodies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government Office for the South West • South West of England Regional Development Agency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South West Regional Assembly
Local Mineral Industry Bodies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devon Stone Federation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaolin and Ball Clay Association
Local Amenity and Environmental Bodies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Devon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devon Wildlife Trust

The intention to publish the Draft SA Scoping Report was highlighted in the third issue (March 2007) of the County Council's Minerals Update newsletter, which was sent to over 230 stakeholders, including parish and district councils, local and national groups, the minerals industry, local strategic partnerships, landowners and individuals. The fourth issue of the newsletter (May 2007) included an article explaining the sustainability appraisal process and inviting comments on the Draft SA Scoping Report. The Draft Report was made available online on the Devon County website during the consultation period and can be viewed at www.devon.gov.uk/mineralscorestrategy.htm along with a summary of representations received and the County Council's amendments.

APPENDIX 4: SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON THE IMPACTS OF MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Countryside Agency, English Heritage, English Nature and Environment Agency (2005) 'Environmental Quality in Spatial Planning' (including Supplementary Files)

DCLG (2006) 'Minerals Policy Statement 1: Planning and Minerals'

Defra (2004) 'The First Soil Action Plan for England: 2004-2006'

Devon Biodiversity Partnership (1998) 'The Nature of Devon: A Biodiversity Action Plan' (revised in 2005)

Devon County Council (2001) 'Minerals Local Plan Revised Deposit Version Part Ci – Sustainability Appraisal'

Devon County Council (2003) 'A Better Future for Biodiversity: Devon County Council's Role and Action Programme'

Devon County Council (2003) 'The Human Habitat – Devon's Historic Environment: Devon County Council's Role and Action Programme for the Historic Environment'

Devon County Council (2003) 'Our Coast – Our Common Asset: Devon County Council's Maritime Role and Action Programme'

Devon County Council (2003) 'Tourism – Everybody's Business: Devon County Council's Role and Action Programme'

Devon County Council (2004) 'The Essence of Devon – Devon's Landscape: Devon County Council's Role and Action Programme for the Landscape'

Devon County Council (2004) 'Devon County Minerals Local Plan'

Devon County Council (2004) 'Regeneration Role and Action Programme'

Devon Strategic Partnership (2003) 'Devon Rural Strategy'

Devon Strategic Partnership (2004) 'A Community Strategy for Devon'

English Nature, Quarry Products Association and Silica & Moulding Sands Association (1999) 'Biodiversity and Minerals – Extracting the Benefits for Wildlife'

English Nature, Quarry Products Association and Silica & Moulding Sands Association (2003) 'Geodiversity and the Minerals Industry – Conserving our Geological Heritage'

English Nature (1997) 'Position Statement – Non-Aggregate Mineral Working'

English Nature (2002) 'Position Statement – Aggregate Extraction and Nature Conservation'

English Nature (2003) 'Sector Analysis: Minerals and Aggregates'

James E, Venn O & Tomlinson P (2004) 'Techniques for Effective Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Local Aggregates Planning', C4S

ODPM (1990) 'PPG16: Archaeology and Planning'

ODPM (1992): 'PPG20: Coastal Planning'

ODPM (1994) 'MPG6: Guidelines for Aggregates Provision in England'

ODPM (1994) 'PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment'

ODPM (1996) 'MPG7: The Reclamation of Mineral Workings'

ODPM (1998) 'MPG2: Applications, Permissions and Conditions'

ODPM (2000) 'MPG5: Stability in Surface Mineral Workings and Tips'

ODPM (2001) 'PPG13: Transport'

ODPM (2001) 'PPG25: Development and Flood Risk'

ODPM (2002): 'PPG17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation'

ODPM (2004) 'Good Practice Guidance on the Environmental Appraisal of the Provision of Aggregates'

ODPM (2004) 'The Planning Response to Climate Change'

ODPM (2004) 'PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas'

ODPM (2004) 'PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control'

ODPM (2005) 'MPS2: Controlling and Mitigating the Environmental Effects of Minerals Extraction in England'

ODPM (2005) 'PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation'

ODPM (2005) 'Circular 06/05 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation'

www.goodquarry.com

APPENDIX 5: ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY

Acronym	Title	Explanation
AA	Appropriate Assessment	The process required by EU Directive 92/43/EEC (the Habitats Directive) for formal assessment of plans to ensure protection of the integrity of Natura 2000 sites.
AAP	Area Action Plan	A Development Plan Document that provides a detailed planning policy framework for a part of the Council's area that is a key area for change or conservation
AMR	Annual Monitoring Report	A document within the MWDF that monitors progress in implementing the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme and the effectiveness of the Council's adopted policies
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area	If National Air Quality Objectives are not likely to be achieved in a specific area, a local authority must declare an AQMA and develop an Air Quality Action Plan to improve quality.
	Community Strategy	A strategy, prepared for both Counties and Districts by Local Strategic Partnerships, with the key objective of enhancing the quality of life for local communities whilst contributing to the achievement of sustainable development
	Core Strategy	A Development Plan Document that sets out the key elements of the planning framework, including strategic objectives and core policies, with which other DPDs must be in conformity
	Development Plan	The statutory framework for planning decisions, comprising the Regional Spatial Strategy and the Development Plan Documents prepared by local planning authorities (including the County Council and District Councils)
DPD	Development Plan Document	The main type of Local Development Document which form part of the Development Plan, and include a core strategy, site specific allocations, development control policies and area action plans
DSP	Devon Strategic Partnership	The Local Strategic Partnership for Devon with responsibility for the County's Community Strategy
LDD	Local Development Document	The main group of documents within the MWDF, comprising Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents

	Local Plan	A plan prepared by district, unitary and national park authorities and, in the case of minerals and waste, by county councils, but which is being superseded by Development Plan Documents
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership	The broad-based body covering a local authority's area with responsibility for preparing the Community Strategy and providing a forum through which public service providers can work effectively together
MPG	Minerals Policy Guidance	Government planning guidance notes on mineral planning matters, now being incrementally replaced by Minerals Policy Statements
MPS	Minerals Policy Statement	Government planning policy statements on minerals matters which are being introduced to replace Minerals Policy Guidance
MWDF	Minerals and Waste Development Framework	The portfolio of documents containing the County Council's policy framework for minerals and waste planning, comprising a range of Local Development Documents together with a Minerals and Waste Development Scheme and Annual Monitoring Reports
MWDS	Minerals and Waste Development Scheme	A document within the MWDF setting out the range of LDDs that will be prepared, together with the timetable for their preparation
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance	Government planning guidance notes on a wide range of planning matters, now being incrementally replaced by Planning Policy Statements
PPS	Planning Policy Statement	Government planning policy statements on a wide range of topics which are being introduced to replace Planning Policy Guidance
	Proposals Map	A map accompanying the MWDF showing areas of protection and identifying locations for land use and development proposals included in the adopted Development Plan Documents
RPG	Regional Planning Guidance	A formerly non-statutory policy document prepared by the Secretary of State which, upon commencement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, became the Regional Spatial Strategy

RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy	A document, forming part of the development plan prepared by the regional planning body (in the case of Devon, the South West Regional Assembly) that provides the strategic framework within which local authorities prepare their Development Plan Documents
SA	Sustainability Appraisal	A systematic process, required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and incorporating the requirements of the SEA Directive, aimed at appraising the social, environmental and economic effects of plan strategies and policies and ensuring that they accord with the objectives of sustainable development
SCI	Statement of Community Involvement	A document within the MWDF setting out the County Council's proposals for involving the local community and other stakeholders in the preparation of LDDs and the determination of planning applications
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment	A process required by EU Directive 2001/42/EC (known as the SEA Directive) for the formal strategic assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment
	Structure Plan	A strategic plan prepared by County Councils, unitary authorities and national park authorities which provides the context for the preparation of Local Plans, but will now be superseded by the Regional Spatial Strategy
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document	A type of Local Development Document that does not form part of the development Plan, but provide further detail or guidance on policies in Development Plan Documents
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Local planning authorities are required to prepare this assessment in consultation with the Environment Agency. The SFRA will be used to refine information on the areas that may flood (taking into account climate change) and will provide the basis for a sequential approach to development allocation and control.