



# Securing the Positive Management of Local Sites in Devon

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# New emphasis on Local Sites

- Defra guidance on Local Sites, 2006
- New national indicator to increase the number of Local Sites in positive management
- This is the key biodiversity target within the Local Area Agreement (as one of ~35 national targets)
- Means that getting County Wildlife Sites into positive management is a priority for everyone!

# The challenge

1. We have a **target** to increase the number of sites in positive management by 3% a year (~ 60 sites)
2. We need to **monitor** the number of sites in positive management
3. We need to provide more **advice** to Local Sites managers and help them to bring sites into +ve management

## Results to date

- Positive management = ‘management that contributes to maintaining or enhancing the features of interest for which the site was selected’
- Rough baseline **based on NE agri-environment data alone** (WGS data not included) - 18% of 2002 sites in +ve management

# Monitoring +ve management

DBRC to collate the following data (funding dependent)

- A. CWS in an agri-environment scheme within last five years
- B. First hand knowledge from advisers – information collated in a simple quick format every 6 months
- C. Data collated from a rolling monitoring/advisory programme as part of Devon Biodiversity Monitoring Framework (5% of sites a year – dependent on funding)

# Getting sites into +ve management

- Better co-ordination of provision of one to one management advice – especially through a rolling programme of visits
- Promotional campaign for land managers – provision of information / website / newsletter?
- New information system for Local Sites that all partners can access
- This all needs better co-ordination of existing funds + new funding.....

## Next steps.....

- Agree a simple reporting system to collate information from all those involved in Local Sites
- Find new ways of working to better co-ordinate funding etc for provision of management advice
- Seminar for all those involved in CWS advisory work ?