

Exmoor National Park Authority

Local Development Framework

(incorporating Minerals and Waste Policies)

Town & Country Planning Act 1990. Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

Annual Monitoring Report

December 2005

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT FINDINGS

The key content of the Report can be summarised as follows (for the period April 2004 to March 2005).

Progress on the Local Development Framework - All the key targets set out in the Local Development Scheme have been met.

Whether policies and related targets in local development documents have been met – There were no targets specified for the relevant period. During this period it is judged there was generally satisfactory progress in implementing the relevant policies. A new set of policies (those of the Local Plan 2001-2011) came into force just before the end of the period, and early indications suggest that these are having the intended impact.

What impact the policies are having in respect of national and regional targets, and social, environmental and economic sustainability objectives – During the relevant period it is judged there was a generally satisfactory impact in these terms.

Whether the policies in the local development documents need adjusting or replacing – The current Local Development Framework policies (i.e. the ‘saved’ policies from the Local Plan) do not need adjusting or replacing at this stage. The programme set out in the Local Development Scheme remains a sound basis for taking forward the planning policies for the National Park.

INTRODUCTION

This is Exmoor National Park Authority's first Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) under the new planning regime introduced by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The Report examines the implementation of the Exmoor National Park Local Development Framework (including minerals and waste policies) for the period April 2004 to March 2005. The Report itself is a part of the Local Development Framework.

The Authority is now required to prepare, and submit to the Secretary of State, an AMR each year. The Reports, due each December, will each cover whole years April to March preceding the Report. (This initial AMR is only required to report on the period October 2004 until March 2005, but Government advice is that the report may cover the whole year April 2004 to March 2005, and this is the approach taken here.)

The content of the AMR is governed by the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, and subject to Government advice..

Exmoor National Park Authority is the planning authority for Exmoor National Park. Approximately two thirds of the National Park lies in Somerset County and West Somerset District, and one third in Devon County and North Devon District. The following table sets out a basic profile of the National Park.

EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK		
Park Profile 2003		
Topic	Figure for National Park	Data sources
Area		
Total Park area	692.8 sq km	Monitoring Landscape Change
Somerset	491.9 sq km	Monitoring Landscape Change
Devon	200.9 sq km	Monitoring Landscape Change
Parishes totally\ partly in the Park	43	Monitoring Landscape Change OS\Designation maps
Population		
Population normally resident	10873	ONS derived from 2001 census
Age 0-15	1629	ONS derived from 2001 census
Age 16-74	8009	ONS derived from 2001 census
Age 74+	1238	ONS derived from 2001 census
Housing		
Households	4896	ONS derived from 2001 census
Owner occupied	68.26%	ONS derived from 2001 census

Private rented\housing association	30.6%	ONS derived from 2001 census
Local authority	1.14%	ONS derived from 2001 census
Vacant housing stock	3.8%	ONS derived from 2001 census
Household spaces	5675	ONS derived from 2001 census
Spaces not used as main residence	563	ONS derived from 2001 census ONS derived from 2001 census ONS derived from 2001 census
Employment		
Economically active aged 16-74	63.13%	ONS derived from 2001 census
Unemployment	2.85%	ONS derived from 2001 census
Nature conservation		
SSSIs	193.07 sq km	English Nature
National Nature Reserve	4.07 sq km	English Nature
Section 3 coast\foreshore	7.85 sq km	Section 3 Map (hand measured)
Section 3 moorland	169.11 sq km	Section 3 Map (hand measured)
Section 3 woodland	49.84 sq km	Section 3 Map (hand measured)
Heritage		
Scheduled Monuments	162	English Heritage Listings
Conservation Areas	16	ENPA files
Grade 1 Listed Buildings	22	English Heritage Listings
Grade II* Listed Buildings	63	English Heritage Listings
Grade II Listed Buildings	926	English Heritage Listings
Leisure		
Public Footpaths	438 km	Definitive Map \GIS
Public Bridleways	464 km	Definitive Map \GIS
Other PRow	64 km	Definitive Map \GIS
Visitor days\year	1,397,000	All Parks Visitor Survey 1994
Day visitors days	23%	All Parks Visitor Survey 1994
Days\staying outside park	45%	All Parks Visitor Survey 1994
Days\staying inside park	31%	All Parks Visitor Survey 1994

As an ‘all purpose’ planning authority the National Park Authority has responsibility for local planning, minerals and waste planning, and certain strategic matters. Exmoor National Park Authority’s planning responsibilities have to be seen in the context of the statutory purposes of the National Park set out in the Environment Act 1995. These are:

- 1 To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage; and
- 2 To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities by the public.

(Where there is a conflict between these two purposes the first must take precedence.) In pursuing these purposes the Authority also has a duty to seek to foster the social and economic well-being of local communities, but without incurring significant expenditure.

The Local Development Framework is the set of documents which provides guidance and policies in respect of land use and development, minerals and waste for Exmoor National Park. Certain documents in the Local Development Framework form part of the Development Plan for the area (along with regional spatial strategy and, for a transitional period only, the structure plan).

As the first AMR produced under the new system, it represents an initial step towards developing an ongoing and structured system to provide the rigorous ‘evidence based’ approach to annual monitoring and review of the Authority’s planning framework. National guidance indicates that it is acceptable for AMRs to develop gradually to take account of ongoing discussions, tools to assist in monitoring being developed by statutory bodies, and emerging best practice. Work to develop the AMR for next year will start once this report is submitted, to ensure that appropriate information is collected, managed and interpreted, and to take into account comments received and emerging national best practice.

EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The commencement of the period under review precedes the introduction of Local Development Framework. In April 2004 the local plan then in force was the Exmoor National Park Local Plan (adopted 1997). In March of 2005 this was superseded by the Exmoor National Park Local Plan 2001-2011 (Incorporating Minerals and Waste Policies).

Though prepared and adopted under the earlier legislation, the policies of these local plans are automatically ‘saved’ (under transitional arrangements) to form part of the Exmoor National Park Local Development Framework, which came into effect in October 2004.

At the same time the new Local Plan was adopted, in March 2005, a Local Development Framework Proposals Map was adopted (in practice this is identical to the new Local Plan Proposals Map).

Thus the period under review can be divided as follows in terms of the content of the Local Development Framework:

April 2004 to September 2004 – (No Local Development Framework)

- Exmoor National Park Local Plan (adopted 1997).

October 2004 to February 2005 – Local Development Framework comprises

- Exmoor National Park Local Plan (adopted 1997).

March 2005 – Local Development Framework comprises

- Exmoor National Park Local Plan 2001-2011 (Incorporating Minerals and Waste Policies) (adopted 1st March 2005)
- Exmoor National Park Local Development Framework Proposals Map (adopted 1st March 2005)

For the sake of simplicity, and because much of the relevant data available, including the National ‘Core Output Indicators’, refer to the whole year, this Report will address the period April 2004 to March 2005, even though strictly this includes a period before the inception of the Local Development Framework.

3 DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING

BACKGROUND

It is important that, in the longer term, monitoring of the local development framework has a sound evidence base. This requires development of indicators, research, data collection and management, analysis and presentation appropriate to the task and to the resources available. These should build on the resources currently available, which are dealt with in more detail in the following section.

Whilst work is ongoing at a national, regional and sub-regional (i.e. county) level, it is important that the local context is also addressed. Exmoor National Park is a relatively small area with a very small population. The pace and type of development is very limited, primarily due to the geography of the area, but also to the conservation orientated context provided by national, regional, and local policies for the National Park. Taken together these considerations mean that there is unlikely to be major variation in the policy approach to the area, and that the scale and type of development is marginal to most national and strategic development targets. It is important, therefore, that monitoring work is developed in a way that is proportional to these factors, and also to the resources available to carry this out.

The National Park Authority has a very small staff compared to most planning authorities. There are currently approximately 2 full-time-equivalent staff devoted to planning policy matters (including monitoring and both local and strategic planning responsibilities), that is, part of the time of both the Principal Planning Officer and the Senior Planning Officer, and the whole of the time of a Planning Assistant. Of these, the one full-time post is not part of the staff establishment, but a temporary post funded through the Planning Delivery Grant secured by the Authority’s achievements against Government targets.

This Annual Monitoring Report has been prepared in the following context:

- The Annual Monitoring Report is part of new planning system (introduced by the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act) and work continues in order to establish procedures and arrangements at, and between, national regional and local levels. This work is at an early stage and will enable a sounder footing to future AMRs.
- The period under review predates the establishment of the new system and the development of a set of appropriate monitoring indicators at the local level, so that the availability of appropriately targeted and timed data is at present limited.
- The preparation has had to compete with other work including adoption/publication of the new Local Plan (under the old system); getting the Local Development Framework under way (including preparation of the Local Development Scheme, Statement of Community Involvement, Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document, and Core Strategy Development Plan Document: and contributing (under the Authority's strategic planning responsibilities) to the preparation of the Regional Spatial Strategy.

In this context the current AMR is a useful tool in identifying the systems and methods which would aid the comprehensiveness and robustness of future AMRs.

Sub-Regional workshops are planned in January 2006 to allow discussion and comparison of monitoring output, and to provide local planning authorities with the chance to analyse the LDF process as a whole and the positioning of the AMR within this. This sub regional work will assist in the development of future AMR's in the region, including those for Exmoor National Park.

Owing to their recent introduction to monitoring at a local planning authority level, there are both National Core Output Indicators (NCOI) and locally derived indicators where either the information is not yet available or where further guidance is required. Gaps in information will be identified and work undertaken to assess the provision of data in the future. The recent Local Development Core Output Indicators Update document was welcomed by this Authority's officers. However, issues with the Core National Output Indicators have been highlighted and the consultation work in early 2006 will inform comment to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) regarding the usefulness of these indicators.

Regular officer meetings take place between local planning authorities, including Exmoor, and the Regional Planning Body (the South West Regional Assembly) to coordinate and share best practice on monitoring and information, co-ordinated through the Strategic Information Providers (SIP) group. Reference is made in recent ODPM advice to this work as an example of good practice. A copy of this document can be found on the South West Observatory planning module website. <http://www.swrpm.org.uk/LDF/index.asp>

Discussions have taken place with the South West Regional Assembly, South West Observatory and with other planning authorities in the region, with the intention of coordinating and streamlining the collection and analysis of information of common relevance, particularly in relation to the NCOI's and other contextual indicators. A

draft set of contextual indicators has been produced, which enables consistency of reporting between neighbouring planning authorities and across the region. The information on contextual indicators in this report draws on this work, and a summary of the suggested contextual indicators can be found on the South West Observatory planning module website. <http://www.swrpm.org.uk/LDF/index.asp>

The new planning system requires local authorities to undertake a 'Sustainability Appraisal' (SA) of DPDs and SPDs. The purpose of a SA is to promote sustainable development through better integration of sustainability considerations into the preparation and adoption of the documents.

The South West Local Government Association (SWLGA) and South West E-Government Group (SWEGG) have recently received funding from ODPM to develop an SA tool for monitoring purposes. The work to develop the contextual indicators has greatly informed the development of this tool namely the 'One Stop Sustainability Appraisal Shop' (OSSAS). (more details are available on the planning module web site via the ODPM Document: '[AMR - FAQs & Seminar Feedback on Emerging Best Practice 2004/05. ODPM. Sept 05](#)'.) <http://www.swrpm.org.uk/LDF/index.asp>

The project will deliver a web-based tool kit to aid local authorities to undertake Sustainability Appraisals / SEAs of their Local Development Frameworks (LDFs), and other plans and programmes (such as Local Transport Plans, Local Minerals and Waste Plans as specified in ODPM SEA guidance). The tool kit will be an online 'One Stop Shop' for quick, easy, and free access to standardised and reliable core baseline data for Sustainability Appraisals for all local authorities. These tools will comprise a GIS¹ capability, guidance and a report facility. The datasets will have standardised definitions and draw from reliable data sources. It will also provide links to guidance and good practice in undertaking SEA or SAs. A date of March 2006 has been set as a deadline for the 'live' running of the SA Tool, and it is envisaged that the tool will enable local planning authorities to enhance their AMR dataset collection.

LOCAL INDICATORS

Part of the Local Development Scheme is the development of appropriate and focused monitoring arrangements and indicators for the Local Development Framework. Each local development document will have its own specific set of indicators, and the choice and definition of these will be informed through consultation.

During the period under review, no specifically Local Development Framework indicators were in place. The 1997 Local Plan, in force for most of the period, also had no specified monitoring indicators.

The new Local Plan adopted this year does have an extensive list of potential indicators. However, this Plan was in force only for the last 30 days of the period under review. Systems were not yet in place to research and analyse these indicators, and most of them would in any case not provide meaningful information for such a

¹ GIS is a technology that is used to view and analyze data from a geographic perspective. It manages, analyzes, and disseminates geographic knowledge.

short period. The indicators were also formulated in advance of the introduction of the requirement for annual monitor reports. As many of these indicators' values are updated only at intervals of many years, their relevance to annual monitoring reports is questionable..

The National Park does have the benefit of a wide range of other data. Annual Housing Land Availability studies and other work feeds into regional and national statistics, and to the there is an annual house price survey, important because of the priority given in current policies to the delivery of affordable housing to meet local needs.

The Authority collects, analyses and publishes a wide range of data on the National Park, especially that related to its statutory purposes The Authority's 'State of the Park' Report provides data on a wide range of indicators, especially those linked to National Park statutory purposes (see above) and the current National Park Management Plan. That report is updated from time to time as new data becomes available. The most recent 'State of the Park Report' is available on the Exmoor National Park Authority web-site www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk .

A key ambition for future Local Development Framework monitoring is closer integration with wider national park data collection and analysis. This should be aided by the joint preparation of the LDF Core Strategy with a new National Park Management Plan (under the Environment Act 1995).

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL INDICATORS

As outlined above, development of regional and national indicators continues. The table following represents the National Core Output Indicators upon which the Authority is required to report

There are some difficulties in the definition and collection of some of these indicators generally, as outlined earlier in the Report. There are also certain difficulties for the National Park Authority, as it does not have general local authority powers/responsibilities and associated data generation, and certain data is available only by district area, and cannot be disaggregated to produce figures for the National Park area.

The table below sets out the Exmoor National Park results for the National 'Core Output Indicators'. A separate graph and notes elaborate the Housing Trajectory for the National Park.

Annual Monitoring Report

National 'Core Output Indicators'

(Note: These indicators are based on the updated version published by ODPM in October 2005.)

Num ber	Indicator	Availability of Data	Value/Result	%	Comment
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT					
1a	Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type.		completed gross internal floorspace (m2)		
		B1 (a)	0		
		B1 (b)	0		
		B1 (c)	0		
		B2	0		
		B8	0		
1b	Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type, in employment or regeneration areas defined in LDF		completed gross internal floorspace (m2)		
		B1 (a)	0		
		B1 (b)	0		
		B1 (c)	0		
		B2	0		
		B8	0		

1c	Amount of floorspace by employment type, which is on previously developed land.		completed gross internal floorspace (m2) upon previously developed land (as defined in Annex C of PPG3 (March 2000)).	
	B1 (a)		0	
	B1 (b)		0	
	B1 (c)		0	
	B2		0	
	B8		0	
1d	Employment land available by type.		Land (ha) available for employment use, being defined as (i) sites defined and allocated in the local development framework, and (ii) sites for which planning permission has been	

							granted	
			B1 (a)				0	
			B1 (b)				0	
			B1 (c)				0	
			B2				0	
			B8				0	
1e		Losses of employment land in					land (ha) which was available for employment in the previous monitoring year (1d) but has been lost to completed non-employment uses in the current monitoring year:	
(i)		employment/regeneration areas defined and allocated in the local development framework					NOT APPLICABLE	There are no such areas within the National Park
(ii)		local authority area					within the authority area;	

	Exmoor National Park Authority area			21.5 m2	Note that the National Park is not strictly a 'local authority', and includes parts of both West Somerset and North Devon Districts.
1f	Amount of employment land lost to residential development. [Where land identified in 1e, the amount lost to completed residential development]			21.5m2	
HOUSING					
2a	Housing trajectory showing:				
(i)	net additional dwellings over the previous five year period or since the start of the relevant development plan document period, whichever is the longer;			136	n.b. See also separate trajectory graph and notes below.
(ii)	net additional dwellings for the current year;			32	
(iii)	projected net additional dwellings up to the end of the relevant development plan document period or over a ten year period from its adoption, whichever is the longer;			205	
(iv)	the annual net additional dwelling requirement;			20.5	
(v)	annual average number of net additional dwellings needed to meet overall housing requirements, having regard to previous year's performance			19	
2b	Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land.			68%	
2c	Percentage of new dwellings completed at:				
(i)	less than 30 dwellings per hectare;			100%	

(ii)	between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare; and				0%	
(iii)	Above 50 dwellings per hectare.				0%	
2d	Affordable housing completions.				8	
TRANSPORT						
3a	Amount of completed non-residential development within UCOs A, B and D complying with car-parking standards set out in the local development framework.				0	
3b	Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: a GP; a hospital; a primary school; a secondary school; areas of employment; and a major retail centre(s).				Not Applicable	None of the National Park area meets these criteria
LOCAL SERVICES						
4a	Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development.				0	
4b	Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres.				0	
4c	Amount of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag Award standard.				5,300ha	Estimate. The definition used is ambiguous, and further areas of the National Park could arguably be included, depending on interpretation.
MINERALS						

5a	Production of primary land won aggregates.				0	
5b	Production of secondary/recycled aggregates.				0	
	WASTE					
6a	Capacity of new waste management facilities by type.				0	
6b	Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type, and the percentage each management type represents of the waste managed				Not available - See note	Data not collected for the National Park. Included within figures for Devon & Somerset Counties, each of which covers part of Exmoor.
	FLOOD PROTECTION AND WATER QUALITY					
7	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality				0	
	BIODIVERSITY					
8	Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance, including:					
(i)	change in priority habitats and species (by type);				21ha	(heathland regeneration)
(ii)	change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, regional, sub-regional or local significance				Not applicable	The whole of the National Park is nationally designated for its environmental

					value. Within this there has been 12,287 ha of Special Areas of Conservation ratified, and 98 ha of National Nature Reserve designated, during the period.
	RENEWABLE ENERGY				
9	Renewable energy capacity installed by type.				
(i)				bio fuels	0
(ii)				onshore wind	0.012 megawatts
(iii)				water	0
(iv)				solar energy	0.001 megawatts
(v)				geothermal energy	0
					estimate
					estimate

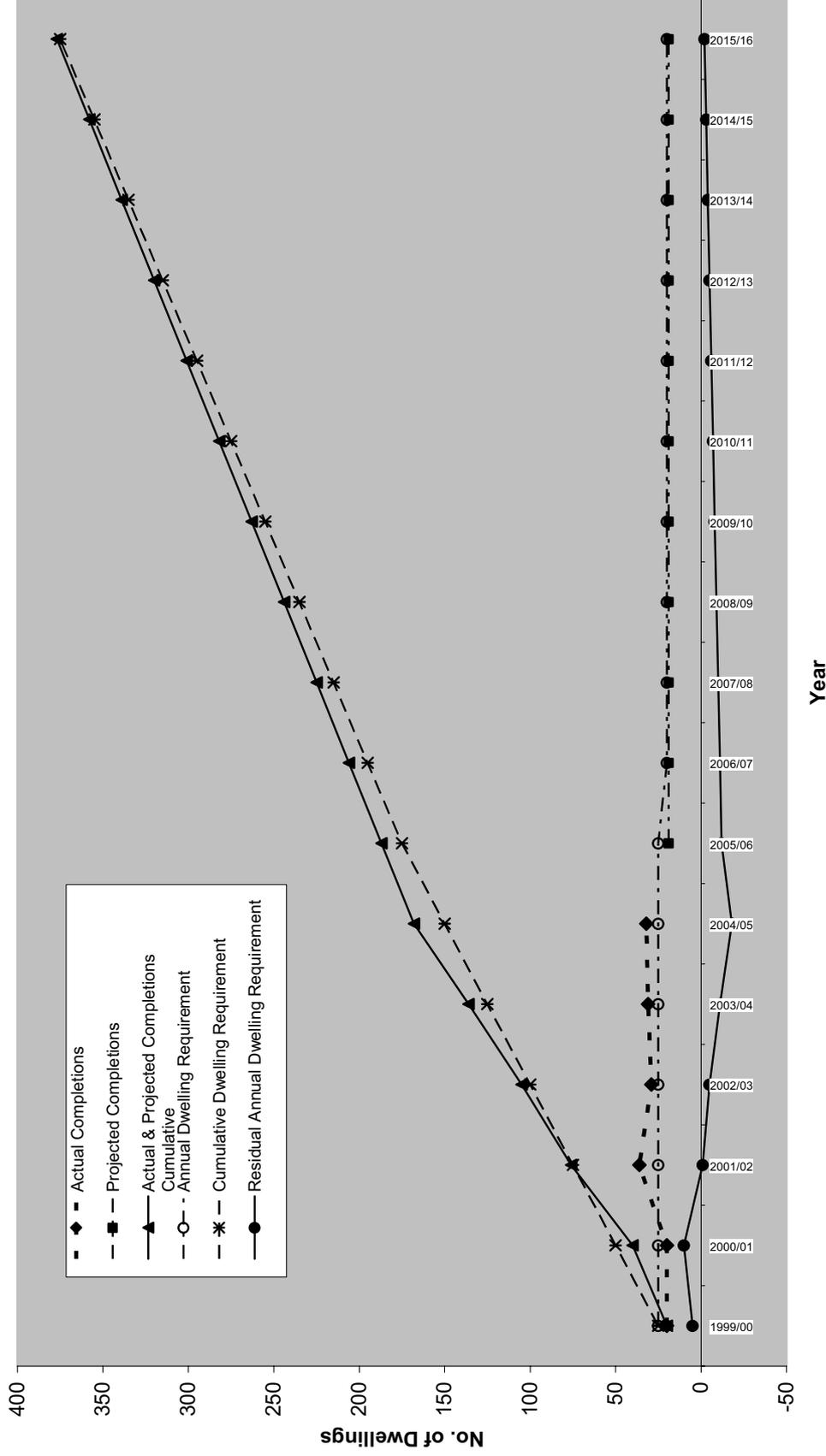
HOUSING TRAJECTORY

The housing trajectory below shows that the dwelling completions in the relevant period are approximately in line with the expectations (note these are not targets, set out in the Structure Plan. The recent years' completions, which were above the annual average Structure Plan figure, are expected to fall with the introduction of the new, restrictive Local Plan housing policy adopted in March 2005. The future figure is anticipated to be broadly commensurate with the figures now in the draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West.

Notes on Housing Trajectory:

- (a) **Actual completions** – *Net additional dwellings*. 2001/2 to 2004/5 monitored annually. 1999/2000 to 2000/1 average of 1994 to 2001 total (not available as annual figure).
- (b) **Projected completions** – *Projected net additional dwellings*, being an estimate of likely scale of development, but actual development will depend on scale of local affordable and intermediate housing needs through ongoing programme of parish based surveys.
- (c) **Actual and Projected Completions Cumulative** – Total dwellings from 1999, based on 'Actual Completions' (see above) 1999 to 2005 and Projected Completions' (see above) 2005 to 2016.
- (d) **Annual Dwelling Requirement** – *Annual net additional dwelling requirement*. Not strictly a 'requirement', because there are no targets in place. Housing development in the National Park is intended to meet identified local needs only. Figure for 1999 to 2006 is an average figure of 25 per annum based on the Somerset and Exmoor National Park Structure Plan (p62) indicative estimate of "about 250" for the period 1999-2011. Figure for 2006 to 2016 is an average figure of 20 based on the indicative figure of 200 units for that period in the Draft SW RSS.
- (e) **Cumulative Dwelling Requirement** – Total, from 1999, of 'Annual Dwelling Requirement' (see above).
- (f) **Residual Annual Dwelling Requirement** – *Annual average number of net additional dwellings needed to meet overall housing requirements, having regard to previous year's performance*. This is the number of dwellings needed in any year to bring the 'Actual and Projected Completions Cumulative' (see above) to equal the 'Cumulative Dwelling Requirement'.

Exmoor National Park Housing Trajectory 1999-2016



MONITORING ASSESSMENTS

This section sets out the required particular assessments.

Local Development Scheme Implementation

(i) Whether the timetable and milestones for the preparation of documents set out in the local development scheme have been met or progress is being made towards meeting them or, where they are not being met or not on track to being achieved, the reasons why

The timetable and key milestones in the Local Development Scheme have been met, and progress is being made towards meeting the future timetable.

A Summary Table and Gantt Chart from the current Local Development Scheme is attached as Appendix A. (The Local Development Scheme can be viewed in its entirety on the Authority's web-site www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk .)

However, there was no Local Development Scheme in effect during the period under review. In March 2005 the Authority submitted its proposed Local Development Scheme to the Secretary of State, but this did not come into force until December 2005 (following revision and the Secretary of State's notification that he did not intend to issue a direction to modify it).

During the period under review the Authority had commenced the preparation of the following documents, and these are retrospectively covered in the Local Development Scheme.

- 1 The Proposals Map. This was adopted in March 2005, prior to the submission of the Local Development Scheme, and therefore no timetable is provided for this.
- 2 The Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document. Preparatory work, including initial consultation, began on this in February 2005, in accordance with the Local Development Scheme timetable, which is set out below.

	Design Guide SPD
Overall Timetable	Feb 2005 – Dec 2006
Pre-production period, including commencement of document preparation.	Feb 05 – Feb 06
Preparation of draft supplementary planning document and sustainability report;	Feb – Aug 06
Draft supplementary planning document and sustainability appraisal report issued for public participation as reqd. by Reg. 17;	Sep – Oct 06
Authority consideration of consultation representations ;	Oct – Nov 06
Adoption and publication of document.	Dec 06

Though their preparation is not strictly part of the Local Development Scheme, the new Local Plan's policies are a key part of the current Local Development Framework. During the periods under review the replacement of the 1997 Local Plan was being progressed (under the 'old' plan-making arrangements), leading to the adoption in March 2005 of the Exmoor National Park Local Plan (incorporating minerals and waste policies) 2001-2011. The Authority's adoption this Local Plan in March 2005 is, therefore, an important landmark in the development of the Framework.

To summarise, in the context of the introduction of the new planning system (under the 2004 Act), and the transitional arrangements provided, this can be seen as good progress, for the relevant period, in keeping an up to date set of development plan policies.

Local Development Scheme Implementation

- (ii) whether policies and related targets in local development documents have been met or progress is being made towards meeting them or, where they are not being met or not on track to being achieved, the reasons why;

There was generally satisfactory progress in implementing the relevant policies.

The only policies in the Local Development Framework at the relevant time were those of the 1997 Local Plan until 1st March 2005, and for the remainder of March those from the new Exmoor National Park Local Plan 2001-2011 (these policies were 'saved' under transitional arrangements). Neither Plan contained specific targets to be reported upon.

With the exception of the approach to housing (for which see below) the approach of the two Local plans was very similar, especially in concentrating on the statutory national park purposes of conservation, and promoting enjoyment and appreciation (see above for details). It is also the case that even prior to adoption the policies of the new Local Plan were being accorded significant weight (in accordance with Government policy).

Therefore, while the generality of the Local Plan policies saw continuity with previous years through the relevant period, this time saw a decisive shift to implement the new Local Plan's housing policies. These preclude almost all open market housing development, but permits and encourage housing development to meet local needs for affordable housing.

Between April 2004 and March 2005 there were 32 dwelling completions, of which 8 were affordable dwellings. The transition referred to above will show only gradually in terms of completions. By the end of the period under review there had been only 4 applications for dwellings under the new affordable housing policy, one refused, one permitted and under construction, and two awaiting S.106 legal agreements. This low level would be a concern if it were not for the knowledge that subsequently (and

beyond the period under review) there has been a series of applications (and resolutions to grant permission) for local needs affordable housing.

The housing trajectory above (page 17 & 18) shows that housing completions are broadly in line with expectations. However, it should be emphasised that there is not a housing completions target. Both the Structure Plan and the Local Plan state that development in the National park should be to meet identified local needs for affordable housing.

In summary it can be judged that during the relevant period there was generally satisfactory progress in implementing the relevant policies, although this is difficult to prove conclusively with the limited directly relevant data available for the period.

- (iii) what impact the policies are having in respect of national and regional targets and any other targets identified in local development documents and not covered by (ii) above. Local Planning Regulation 48(7) specifically requires information to be provided on net additional dwellings and local planning authorities should produce housing trajectories to demonstrate how policies will deliver housing provision in their area.

As previously highlighted, the scale and type of development on Exmoor is marginal to the achievement of national and regional targets. It is however, in accordance with the general thrust of national and regional policy which encourages the provision of most development in the larger settlements, and the re-use of previously developed land. The Housing Trajectory (page 17 & 18), as previously mentioned, shows general conformity with the housing figures in the Structure Plan and draft Regional Spatial Strategy.

- (iv) what significant effects implementation of the policies is having on the social, environmental and economic objectives by which sustainability is defined and whether these effects are as intended;

Exmoor National Park Authority commissioned the 'Forum for the Future' to carry out an extensive Sustainability Appraisal of the National Park Authority. This looked at sustainability in terms of a wide range of indicators, including social, environmental and economic matters. While the final Sustainability Appraisal is not currently available, early drafts of the Report suggest that the Authority has been generally very successful, within the limits of its resources and powers, in contributing to the sustainability of the National Park. Alongside its extensive activities in conservation and land management, and others such as management and distribution of a Sustainable Development Fund, the Authority's implementation of planning policies is a key component in the delivery of this contribution to sustainability. This is achieved primarily through control of development, but also through partnership work on environmental improvements.

Further development of the monitoring indicators for the Local Development Framework and National Park Management Plan should provide an element of quantitative data for future AMRs. In the meantime the available evidence, though qualitative and somewhat limited, suggests that sustainability is relatively static, but to the extent that implementation of policies affect this it is in a positive direction.

The policies of the Local Development Framework (in practice those of the Local Plan in force at the time) have been implemented during the plan period. The limited information available for the period, together with the modest pace of development in the National Park, is judged to indicate that these support the relevant sustainability objectives.

- (v) whether the policies in the local development document need adjusting or replacing because they are not working as intended;

The policies are judged to be generally working as intended. There are some policies which may benefit from further refinement, and review and potential replacement of these has been programmed in the provisions of the Local Development Scheme for a Development Control Policies DPD.

- (vi) whether the policies need changing to reflect changes in national or regional policy;

The policies are in accordance with current national and regional policy, and therefore do not at present require changing for this reason.

- (vii) the extent to which any local development order, where adopted, or simplified planning zone is achieving its purposes and if not whether it needs adjusting or replacing; and

Not applicable. There is no adopted local development order or simplified planning within Exmoor National park.

- (viii) if policies or proposals (including the local development order or simplified planning zone scheme) need changing, the actions needed to achieve this.

Not applicable. There is no adopted local development order or simplified planning within Exmoor National park.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF MONITORING

The next year a considerable amount of work is programmed to develop monitoring arrangements appropriate to the new planning system, and this should significantly strengthen next year's annual monitoring report.

A new appointment has been made to the post of Planning Assistant, with specific responsibility for monitoring work. This will include representing the Authority in regional and sub-regional groups developing monitoring arrangements and indicators (see Data Collection and Reporting above). It will also involve working with the Development Control and Planning Administration teams to enhance the routine collection of relevant data through the Authority's planning application computer system, with a particular focus on the National Monitoring Output Indicators.

The preparation of local development documents during the year (such as the Core Strategy DPD and Design Guide SPD) will include attention to devising monitoring provision for these documents. As a case in point, the Core Strategy is being developed in concert with the new National Park Management Plan, and this should result in closer integration between planning monitoring and that for the wider National Park activities currently dealt with in the State of the Park Report.

Appendix A: LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (extracts)

Exmoor National Park - LDS GANTT CHART - Revised 1st November 2005

DOCUMENT	2005				2006				2007				2008			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4												
Saved Local Plan																
Statement of Community Involvement																
Core Strategy DPD																
Development Control Policies DPD (Including minerals and waste policies)																
Design Guide SPD																
Renewable Energy SPD																
Annual Monitoring Report																

KEY	
DPD Pre-production	Saved Policies
DPD Production	SCI Pre-production
DPD Examination	SCI Production
S	SCI Examination
E	SPD Preparation
A	AMR Preparation

EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK - LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME
Schedule of Proposed Local Development Documents

Document title	Status (DPD or SPD)	Role & content	Geographic coverage	Chain of Conformity	Commence-ment of pre-mission submission consultation	Date for public participation on preferred options (DPD), draft (SPD) & sustainability appraisal report	Date for submission to Secretary of State	Proposed date for adoption
Proposals Map	DPD	Indicates areas to which the Authority's particular planning policies apply.	Whole of Exmoor National Park	Not applicable	n/a	n/a	n/a	Adopted Mar 2005
Statement of Community Involvement	Other	Document setting out standards and approach to involving the community and stakeholders in the production of the local development framework	Whole of Exmoor National Park	Consistent with national policy and general conformity with RSS	Apr 2005	Oct-Nov 2005	Jan 2006	Aug 2006

Document title	Status (DPD or SPD)	Role & content	Geographic coverage	Chain of Conformity	Commencement of pre-submission consultation	Date for public participation on preferred options (DPD), draft (SPD) & sustainability appraisal report	Date for submission to Secretary of State	Proposed date for adoption
Design Guide	SPD	Encourage and facilitate high standards of design for development. Presenting examples and advice on design issues.	Whole of Exmoor National Park	Conforms to 'saved' landscape and conservation policies of Local Plan.	Apr 2005	Sep-Oct 2006	n/a	Dec 2006
Core Strategy	DPD	Sets out spatial vision and overarching objectives (related to National Park Management Plan) for the area, including minerals and waste, together with targets for the development of affordable housing and brownfield land	Whole of Exmoor National Park	In general conformity with Regional Spatial Strategy	Oct 2005	Jun-Jul 2006	Dec 2006	Dec 2007

Document title	Status (DPD or SPD)	Role & content	Geographic coverage	Chain of Conformity	Commencement of pre-submission consultation	Date for public participation on preferred options (DPD), draft (SPD) & sustainability appraisal report	Date for submission to Secretary of State	Proposed date for adoption
Renewable Energy Guidance	SPD	Advice and detailed considerations giving effect to the policies in the 'saved' Local Plan.	Whole of Exmoor National Park.	Conforms to 'saved' Local plan, Core Strategy, and Regional Spatial Strategy	Sep 2006	Nov-Dec 2006	n/a	May 2007
Development Control Policies	DPD	Basis for Development Control decisions for all topics not dealt with in previous DPDs. Policies superseding those of saved Local Plan	Whole of Exmoor National Park	Conforms to Core Strategy and general conformity to Regional Spatial Strategy.	Oct 2006	Apr-May 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2009