

**Assessment Table 1: Questions on the effects of the proposed policies of the draft joint Core Strategy for North Devon and Torridge on health** (Source: Department of Health, Draft Guidance on Health in Strategic Environmental Assessment, Annexe D, 2007)

| Questions  | Related SA/SEA topics   | Government policies  | Evidence base   | Draft joint Core Strategy elements   |
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| <b>Direct environmental effects on the population's health and well-being</b>              |   |  |   |  |
| Could the plan or programme lead to impacts on people from noise or disruptive activities? | High Level Objective 2: Health and Well-being<br><br>High Level Objective 5: Safeguard environmental quality and assets<br><br>5.6 Minimise light and noise pollution | Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC<br><br>PPG24 Planning and Noise (1994)  | <i>The Medical Research Council, IEH Report on the non-auditory effects of noise (Report R10, ISBN 1 899110 14 3, 1997) provides evidence of a causal relationship between environmental noise (road, rail, aircraft, construction and noise releases from products, e.g. car tyres, cars) and hypertension and heart disease. Environmental noise causes annoyance and sleep disturbance to many people (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i><br><br>Noise hotspots are expected to be found at the main road networks and isolated noise generators.<br><br>Being rural districts, Torridge and North Devon are relatively remotely located in relation to centres of population and transport links.  | The majority of the Core Strategy Policies would not lead to direct effects on people from light and noise pollution levels across the districts. <a href="#">However, Policy COR4A – Coastal Strategy includes the enhancement of Bideford and Ilfracombe as commercial and leisure ports, which could lead to additional noise or disruptive activities.</a>   |
| Will the plan or programme give rise to emission to air or water?                          | High Level Objective 6: Use of natural resources<br><br>6.4 Maintain and enhance air quality<br><br>6.5 Protect the quality of local water resources                  | UK Air Quality Standards and Objectives (Defra)<br><br>Air Quality Strategy 2000 | <i>Air pollution has both short- and long-term damaging effects on health and can worsen the condition of those with lung or heart disease and may reduce average life expectancy (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i><br><br>Torridge and North Devon currently have no Air Quality Management Areas designated.<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The risk of air quality objectives being exceeded by benzene, 1,3-butadiene, CO<sub>1</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, lead, NO<sub>2</sub> or PM<sub>10</sub> are negligible.</li> <li>• Existing or planned Part A or B processes in Torridge and North Devon are not thought to include any major pollutant emissions sources.</li> <li>• There are no roads planned or existing which are predicted to have average daily traffic flows greater than 50,000 vehicles.</li> </ul> <i>Water pollution via surface run-off and leaching into groundwater can lead to contamination, such as through hydrocarbons, heavy metals, herbicides, pesticides and chlorinated hydrocarbons and radioactive contamination, which can lead to adverse health effects (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i> | <b>- Policy COR4:</b> Indirect impact of new development in rural areas from increase in traffic movements around rural settlements and between main towns, although might be balanced by more self-contained settlements.<br><br><b>+ Policy COR1, COR2, COR7, COR8, COR9 &amp; COR16:</b> would contribute to a minimisation of risk and indirectly benefiting the environmental by maintaining and improving air and water quality. |

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|  |   |  | <p>In 2006, 23 locations along rivers in Torridge were monitored for biological river water quality. Of these sites, 57% (13) had very good biological water quality and 43% (10) had good water quality.</p> <p>Between 2004 and 2006, 74 locations were also monitored for nitrates in Torridge. Of these sites, 1% (1) recorded very low concentrations of nitrates, 7% (5) had low concentrations, 73% (54) had moderately low concentrations, 16% (12) had moderate concentrations and 3% (2) had high concentrations.</p> <p>Nitrogen dioxide is measured at 16 locations in North Devon. Monitoring at 3 of these 16 sites exceeded Air Quality Standards in 2007<sup>1</sup>. Two monitored sites in Braunton showed an increase in the concentration of nitrogen dioxide between 2007 and 2008.</p> <p>Source: Environment Agency (2007)</p>  |   |
| Does the plan or programme improve drinking and bathing water? | <p>High Level Objective 6:<br/>Use of natural resources</p> <p>6.5 Protect the quality of local water resources</p>                                       | <p>EC Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC)</p> <p>Water Framework Directive 2000</p>       | <p><i>Water safety plans should identify potential contamination. Acid land contaminants can lead to corrosion problems for metal pipes and plastic pipes are susceptible to physical degradation or permeation by organic and inorganic chemicals plus biological contamination, which can lead to pollution</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>Instow in North Devon failed to meet mandatory standards in 2009. The remaining 10 bathing waters are classified as either good or excellent.</p> <p>There are 2 bathing waters in Torridge: Hartland Quay and Westward Ho! Both of these bathing waters passed mandatory (Imperative) standards in 2007 and had excellent water quality. Bathing waters in North Devon and Torridge also passed the more stringent EU (guideline) standard.</p> <p>In Torridge there are over 700 supplies, which provide drinking water for homes and businesses</p> | The Core Strategy Policies would not have any direct impacts on drinking and bathing water.   |
| Will the plan or programme contribute to climate change?       | <p>High Level Objective 6:<br/>Use of natural resources</p> <p>6.1 Reduce non-renewable energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions district wide</p> | <p>UK 2006 Climate Change Programme</p> <p>PPS 1 and Climate Change supplement to PPS1</p> | <p><i>Climate instability and rising sea levels have major long-term health implications through extreme weather events (hatwaves, floods and cold). The elderly are more vulnerable to heat, as the body's regulatory systems change with age. Prolonged exposure to heat causes heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Children and infants are also especially susceptible. Avoidance or mitigation of adverse effects can make a difference</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007)</p> <p>A total of 504 kt of end user CO2 was produced in Torridge</p>   | <p><b>+ Policies COR1, COR2, COR3, COR8 &amp; COR9:</b> Promote a low carbon, low resource consuming economy within the environmental limits of the region. Co-location of jobs and homes would provide opportunities for decentralised district heating and/or electricity generation and higher sustainable design targets, in excess of Building Regulations.</p> <p><b>+ Policy COR4A</b> seeks to maintain and</p> |

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|   |  |  | <p>in 2005, which accounted for 6% of the total of 9,080kt produced in Devon. This was the lowest recorded out of the local authorities in Devon, and the 8<sup>th</sup> lowest out of all the local authorities in the South West.</p> <p>According to source of end user emissions in Torrridge, 34% (170 kt) came from road transport. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest recorded by a local authority in Devon, accounting for 6% of the county total. Road transport was responsible for 39% of North Devon's emissions.</p> <p>30% (153 kt) of all CO2 end user emissions came from domestic sources, this was the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest recorded by a local authority in Devon.</p> <p>29% (148 kt) from industry &amp; commerce and, the lowest recorded by a Devon local authority.</p> <p>7% (34 kt) also came from land use, land use change &amp; forestry.</p> <p>Torrridge residents were responsible for a total of 8.6 tonnes of CO2 per capita in 2005. This was 0.6 tonnes lower than the Devon average, 0.2 tonnes higher than the South West average and 0.7 tonnes lower than the UK average. Torrridge had the 18<sup>th</sup> lowest total per capita emissions out of the 45 local authorities in the South West. North Devon has the 27<sup>th</sup> lowest per capita emissions.</p> | <p>enhance the coastal area and protect the integrity of the coast and estuary as an important wildlife corridor.</p>   |
| <p>Does the plan or programme affect the production and availability of fresh food?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 1: Create communities that meet people's needs</p> <p>1.3 Create and sustain vibrant towns and villages</p> <p>1.4 Improve access to key services, employment areas and facilities for all sectors of the community</p> <p>High Level Objective 2: Health and Well-being</p> <p>2.1 Improve health of population</p> | <p>Choosing Health? Choosing a Better Diet, 2004</p> | <p><i>Fresh fruit and vegetables promote health. Low-income families are least able to eat well because cheaper foods are most likely to be high in fat and sugar, and poorer access to fresh fruit and vegetable outlets is a significant cause of health inequalities. Local Authorities can influence healthy eating and improve access to healthier food, particularly in deprived areas, through its own services and functions, such as planning, housing, education, transport and through a leadership role for its community</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>There are 457 Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Devon, split between the county's 8 districts. LSOAs have a minimum population of 1,000 and a mean population of 1,500, they are constrained by the boundaries of the wards used for the 2001 census.</p> <p>According to the IMD 2007, 21 of these LSOAs are among</p>   | <p>The Core Strategy policies support the creation of vibrant and viable towns, villages and rural settlements and encourage sustainable growth, employment opportunities and access to services. Food production could be supported by the creation of allotments.</p> |

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|   | <p>and reduce health inequalities</p> <p>High Level Objective 4: Provide access and secure a shift toward more sustainable forms of transport</p> <p>4.1 Reduce the overall need to travel by car</p> <p>High Level Objective 6: Use of natural resources</p> <p>6.6 Protect high grade soils</p> |  | <p>the most deprived 20% nationally, the same number as in 2004. They are home to almost 34,000 people.</p> <p>5 of these areas are in North Devon, 3 in Ilfracombe and 2 in Barnstaple. There is also 1 of these areas in Bideford.</p> <p>2 of the North Devon LSOAs are within the 10% most deprived nationally, 1 in Ilfracombe and 1 in Barnstaple. The most deprived LSOA in the county is in Ilfracombe, North Devon, which is within the most deprived 6%.</p> <p>21.5% are 'Healthy eating adults' in Torrridge and 24.2% in North Devon, compared with 26.3% England average (NHS, 2008).</p> |  |
| <b>Effects on people's lifestyles</b>   |   |  |   |  |
| Does the plan or programme encourage the use of public transport or alternative means of transport other than private cars? | <p>High Level Objective 4: Provide access and secure a shift toward more sustainable forms of transport</p> <p>4.2 Make public transport, walking and cycling easier and more attractive</p>  | <p>DfT sustainable travel policies (see DfT website)</p> <p>DfT 'Climate Change and Transport', 2006</p> | <p><i>Reduced car use lowers direct exposure to exhaust pollutants. Reduction in traffic congestion and noise can be expected to improve quality of life and well-being. Any reduction in carbon emissions, however small, contributes to the achievement of climate change objectives</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>In Torrridge in 2001 62% of people travelled to work by car and 2.4% by public transport (2001 Census). In 2000 in Torrridge 25% of journeys to school were by car and 40% on foot.</p>  | <p>The Core Strategy policies support the reduction of car travel and seek to make public transport, walking and cycling easier and more attractive. A separate transport policy will be prepared.</p> |

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| <p>Does the plan or programme encourage walking and cycling?</p>                            | <p>High Level Objective 2:<br/>Health and Well-being<br/>2.1 d Loss/gain of pedestrian and cycle routes and public rights of way (DCAF)</p> <p>High Level Objective 4:<br/>Provide access and secure a shift toward more sustainable forms of transport<br/>4.2 Make public transport, walking and cycling easier and more attractive</p> | <p>DfT Walking and Cycling Action Plan <i>Walking in Towns and Cities</i>: Government response to Select Committee Report, 2001; DfT sustainable travel policies (see DfT website); <i>Choosing Health: Physical Activity Action Plan</i>, 2005</p> | <p><i>Physical activity is one of the best ways of improving overall health and reducing obesity. Neighbourhoods with mixed land use, high population and employment density, street connectivity, pedestrian-oriented design and safety encourage more physical activity and have a lower obesity prevalence. These features are particularly helpful to older people to reduce social isolation. The proportion of people engaging in physical activity declines with age and particularly after the age of 25. Participation in walking has been shown to decline from 45% among men aged 16-24 to 8% among men aged 75 or over. Among women, walking remained relatively stable among those aged 16-54 (29-32%) but declined rapidly to 5% for those aged 75 and over (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>26% of adults in Torridge are obese and 25.1% in North Devon, compared to the England average of 23.6% (NHS, 2008).</p>         | <p><b>+ Policy COR1, COR2, COR3, COR4, COR6, COR9, COR10, COR11, COR12, COR14 &amp; COR15:</b> Delivery principles are based around improving walking and cycling facilities and co-location of jobs, homes and services, which should also contribute to increasing walking and cycling routes.</p>   |
| <p><b>Effects on local communities</b></p>  |   |   |   |  |
| <p>Do plans and programmes contribute to regeneration and tackling health inequalities?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 1:<br/>Create communities that meet people's needs<br/>1.3 Create and sustain vibrant towns and villages</p> <p>High Level Objective 2:<br/>Health and Well-being<br/>2.1 Improve health of population and reduce health inequalities</p>   | <p><i>Tackling Health Inequalities: status report on Programme for Action</i>, 2003</p>   | <p><i>Where you live influences the length of your life as it is a proxy for wealth, income, education, good environmental conditions and access to opportunities/amenities/services. Some parts of the country have the same mortality rates now as the national average in the 1950s. Places that exclude or segregate certain groups will tend to increase health inequalities. Mixed communities are not characterised by the same problems often linked with low-income ones (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>Torridge has a higher Standard Mortality Rate than the national ratio despite being in the region with the lowest level, i.e. Torridge SMR – 102 (97 for males, 107 for females in 2001). In 2008 the life expectancy for a man in Torridge was 78.4, for a woman 83.0, which was better than the England average. In North Devon the life expectancy for a male was 77.9 in 2008 and 82.2 for a female (NHS,2008).</p> | <p><b>+ Policy COR1, COR2, COR3, COR4, COR6, COR8, COR9, COR12, COR14, COR15, COR17 &amp; COR18:</b> The key principles include regeneration of the districts and eliminating health inequalities.</p> <p><b>+ Policy COR4A</b> seeks to protect the integrity of the South West Coast Path and the Tarka Trail and provide or improve a network of connecting routes.</p> |

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| <p>Could the plan/programme create a risk of flooding?</p>   | <p>High Level Objective 5:<br/>Safeguard environmental quality and assets<br/><br/>5.4 Reduce the impact of flooding and avoid additional risk of flooding</p>   | <p>PPS25: Development and Flood Risk</p>   | <p><i>The social environment affects how people behave, so preventing social isolation, supporting community engagement and creating a sense of belonging supports social capital. Community severance from physical barriers caused by transport infrastructure, and psychological barriers caused by road safety fears, limit travel horizons and affect people's ability to self mitigate these barriers in order to reach key services such as employment, education and health facilities (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>Flood map indicates the extent of land at risk of flooding from the River Taw and River Torridge and their tributaries. Flood defences exit along River Torridge. The area of risk from extreme flood extends along the Bideford Bar at Appledore.</p>  | <p><b>+ Policy COR1, COR6 &amp; COR8:</b><br/>Policies address water conservation, including the efficient use of water and the re-use of surface water.</p> <p><b>+ Policy COR2:</b> refers to minimising flood risk and adopting effective measures of water management including SUDS and rain water harvesting.</p> <p><b>+Policy COR4A</b> <a href="#">advocates working with the Marine Management Organisation to define any Coastal Change Management Areas.</a></p> |
| <p>Does the plan or programme involve provision of facilities, e.g. general practitioner surgeries, health centres or hospitals, leisure/sport centres, swimming facilities?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 1:<br/>Create communities that meet people's needs<br/><br/>1.4 Improve access to key services, employment areas and facilities for all sectors of the community<br/><br/>High Level Objective 2:<br/>Health and Well-being<br/><br/>2.1 Improve health of population and reduce health inequalities</p> | <p><i>Tackling Health Inequalities, 2003; Choosing Health, 2004; Our Health, Our Care, Our Say, 2006; Sustainable Communities: People, Places and Prosperity, 2005</i></p> | <p><i>Higher Rate of GP consultations are associated with greater social and economic deprivation, although those in greatest need are least likely or able to access it. Communities most at risk of ill health tend to experience the least satisfactory access to key cultural, social, recreational and leisure amenities and preventative health services.</i></p> <p><i>Community facilities accessible to all is a key message in 'Our health, our care our say' White Paper 2006, which envisages care being provided closer to home through community hospitals, state-of-the-art diagnostic centres, day surgery and outpatient facilities closer to where people live and work (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>In North Devon there are 4 hectares of recreational play space per 1000 population; in Torridge this is 1.54 hectares.</p> | <p>The Core Strategy does not include detailed policies that would result in health or leisure/sports facilities but green infrastructure provision will be sought and footpath and cycle routes.</p>  |

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| <p>Does the plan or programme encourage a sense of community safety, identity and social cohesion?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 1:<br/>Create communities that meet people's needs</p> <p>1.2 Reduce crime and the fear of crime</p> <p>1.3 Create and sustain vibrant towns and villages</p> <p>1.4 Improve access to key services, employment areas and facilities for all sectors of the community</p> <p>High Level Objective 5:<br/>Safeguard environmental quality and assets</p> <p>5.2 Protect and enhance the countryside, natural landscape and townscape</p> | <p><i>Living Places: Cleaner, Safer, Greener</i>, October 2002 (now CLG lead); National Community Safety Plan 2006-09</p> | <p><i>Good design encourages greater community ownership of the environment and reduces negative effects such as vandalism and under-use of facilities. A sense of community identity and belonging is known to foster health and the sense of well-being. Fear of crime reduces social solidarity, and has an adverse psychological impact. Fear of leaving their home exposes older people in particular to isolation and vulnerability. Good urban design can help to "design out crime" and enhance community safety</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>In 2003/04 there were 106 burglaries from households in Torridge. A survey identified 57% of respondents were concerned about being burgled whilst away on holiday. 63% of respondents were concerned about alcohol misuse in towns. Alcohol and disorder crimes are prominent fear of crime generators. In 2008/09 there were 106 burglaries from households in Torridge and 203 in North Devon.</p> | <p>The Core Strategy policies seek to deliver positive contributions in particular the creation of safe environments providing access to all and the regeneration of towns, villages and rural settlements (<b>+COR 3, COR4, COR8, COR16</b>).</p> |
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**Effects on the local economy**

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| <p>Does the plan or programme have employment implications for all sections of society?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 1:<br/>Create communities that meet people's needs</p> <p>1.4 Improve access to key services, employment areas and facilities for all sectors of the community</p> <p>High Level Objective 3:<br/>Promote sustainable economic growth</p> <p>3.2 Diversify the range of local employment opportunities</p> | <p>European Employment Strategy 2005-2008</p> | <p><i>Isolated developments can lead to exclusion of vulnerable groups. Local job opportunities enable walking and cycling as travel to work or commuting options. Unemployed people have a higher risk of poor physical and mental health and shorter life expectancy. Low-paid, insecure employment carries greater risks of accidents, infections and heart disease and increased health-damaging behaviour such as smoking</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>Torridge has a high proportion of low paid jobs and is economically dependent on seasonal work. There is a lack of employment opportunities outside Barnstaple and a lack of diversification in the rural economy.</p> | <p><b>+COR9, COR 10, COR11 &amp; COR12:</b> provide the framework for the creation of a 'vibrant northern Devon economy', including support of identified community regeneration initiatives and key economic sectors.</p> |
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| <b>Effects on people's activities</b>   |   |   |   |  |
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| <p>Does the plan or programme promote easy and sustainable access to services, such as workplaces, shops, schools, healthcare facilities and social activities?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 1:<br/>Create communities that meet people's needs</p> <p>1.4 Improve access to key services, employment areas and facilities for all sectors of the community</p> <p>1.5 Provide access to learning, training, skills and knowledge for everyone</p> <p>High Level Objective 4:<br/>Provide access and secure a shift toward more sustainable forms of transport</p> <p>4.1 Reduce the overall need to travel by car</p> | <p>Cabinet Office Social Exclusion Unit, <i>Health and Transport</i>, June 2006</p> | <p><i>Poor transport contributes to social exclusion as it restricts access to activities that enhance other people's life chances, such as work, learning, healthcare, food shopping and other key activities. Communities are severed by physical barriers (e.g. transport infrastructure) and psychological barriers (e.g. road safety fears) limit travel horizons and can affect access to services (e.g. by foot or affordable transport) is experienced disproportionately by women, school children, the elderly and disabled people. Poor access to services is a significant factor in social exclusion, which is associated with health problems (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>Torrige is relatively remote in its location in relation to larger centres of population and major transport links. Many of the major services currently used by local residents, such as hospitals, entertainment and shopping centres are outside the District.</p> <p>Public transport infrastructure is generally poor and many communities are therefore reliant on the private car for access to work, school, shops and other services. Access to all community services is difficult particularly from the more remote rural areas.</p> | <p><b>+ COR4, COR5, COR11, COR15 , COR17 &amp; COR18:</b> policies address access to services, employment and key facilities for all sectors of the community.</p> |



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| <p>Does the plan or programme affect people's access to health facilities?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 1:<br/>Create communities that meet people's needs</p> <p>1.4 Improve access to key services, employment areas and facilities for all sectors of the community</p> <p>High Level Objective 2:<br/>Health and Well-being</p> <p>2.1 Improve health of population and reduce health inequalities</p> <p>High Level Objective 4:<br/>Provide access and secure a shift toward more sustainable forms of transport</p> <p>4.1 Reduce the overall need to travel by car</p> | <p>Saving lives: Healthier Nation White Paper (July 1999)</p> <p>A new commitment to neighbourhood renewal, National Strategy Action Plan (2001)</p> <p>Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action (2003)</p> <p>A stronger local voice: A framework for creating a stronger local voice in the development of health and social care services (July 2006)</p> | <p><i>Lack of access to services (e.g. by foot or affordable transport) is experienced disproportionately by women, school children, the elderly and disabled people. Poor access to services is a significant factor in social exclusion, which is associated with health problems (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>Torrige is relatively remote in its location in relation to larger centres of population and major transport links. Many of the major services currently used by local residents, such as hospitals, entertainment and shopping centres are outside the District.</p> <p>Public transport infrastructure is generally poor and many communities are therefore reliant on the private car for access to work, school, shops and other services. Access to all community services is difficult particularly from the more remote rural areas</p> | <p>Policies seek to improve access to health facilities by the alignment of housing and other development.</p> |
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| <b>Effects of the built environment on people</b>   |  |   |   |  |
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| Does the plan or programme promote exercise as part of daily living?  | <p>High Level Objective 2:<br/>Health and Well-being</p> <p>2.1 Improve health of population and reduce health inequalities</p> <p>High Level Objective 4:<br/>Provide access and secure a shift toward more sustainable forms of transport</p> <p>4.2 Make public transport, walking and cycling easier and more attractive</p>                                 | Obesity strategy  | <p><i>Modern inactive lifestyles possibly represent the dominant factor driving obesity. High levels of car use, 24-hour food availability, abundant desk jobs and low levels of physical activity typify them. Decreasing obesity may only be achieved if we adapt our built environment to make it easier for us to regularly be more active in our everyday activities. A challenge will be to ensure that personal and community health considerations are included as future infrastructure is designed and built</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>Census 2001 recorded 9.6% of the population in Torridge in the category of health considered 'not good'. This is higher than the South West (8.5%) and England and Wales as a whole (9.2%). 8.8% of the population in North Devon are in the category of health considered 'not good'.</p>   | Spatial planning does not impact directly on people's lifestyle choices. <b>However, improved access to the countryside and the coast would be beneficial.</b> |
| Will plans or programmes for housing take into account sustainable provision, conservation of warmth, ventilation, flexibility? | <p>High Level Objective 1:<br/>Create communities that meet people's needs</p> <p>1.1 Provide suitable housing that both meets the needs of the population and maximises affordable housing delivery</p> <p>High Level Objective 6:<br/>Use of natural resources</p> <p>6.2 Improve both energy efficiency and the use of sustainable construction materials</p> | CLG Making Homes Decent; Code for Sustainable Homes (DCLG 2008) | <p><i>Cold, damp homes are associated with cardiovascular and circulatory diseases. Fuel poverty affects mental health and contributes to health inequalities. Housing needs to be suitable for people with disabilities, families and the ageing population</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>The house price to income ratio in Torridge is 7.28, which is significantly higher than the South West Region's ratio of 4.7 and the national ratio of 5.3. North Devon has a ratio of 15.2. The average household income in Torridge was £17,358 in 2001. In 2009 the average household income was £24,970 for North Devon and £24,172 for Torridge.</p> <p>Affordability is particularly bad in rural areas where there is a lower level of housing stock, lower wages and greater competition for housing from a relatively high level of in-migrants and more second homes. This is a particular issue in Appledore and coastal areas. Second homes represent more than 10% of the stock in some area.</p> | Yes, see <b>COR 8</b> (Improving the Quality of New Development).  |

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| <p>Is the plan or programme concerned with contaminated land or waste management or disposal?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 5:<br/>Safeguard environmental quality and assets</p> <p>5.5 Reduce the amount of landfill waste and promote recycling and the use of recycled goods</p>  | <p>Defra Circular 1/2006<br/>Contaminated Land</p> | <p><i>Contaminants such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), heavy metals, oil, asbestos and landfill gases are injurious to health. Waste disposal can be a major generator of road transport, noise and dust, with potential adverse effects on safety and air quality (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>A total of 18,320 tonnes of residual household waste was produced in Torrington in 2006/2007, the 3rd lowest recorded by a collection authority in Devon and 3% of the county total.</p> <p>293 tonnes of residual household waste was produced per capita in Torrington, which was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest recorded amongst the county's collection authorities, behind North Devon with 308 tonnes per capita. This was almost 6% below the Devon average of 311 tonnes per capita. 31.49% of all household waste was recycled in Torrington. Although high, this was below the South West average of 38% and was the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest recorded by any local authority in Devon, including the unitaries and disposal authorities.</p>  | <p>Spatial planning policies do not impact.</p>  |
| <p>Does the plan or programme promote a healthy environment?</p>                                  | <p>High Level Objective 2:<br/>Health and Well-being</p> <p>High Level Objective 4:<br/>Provide access and secure a shift toward more sustainable forms of transport</p> <p>4.2 Make public transport, walking and cycling easier and more attractive</p> <p>High Level Objective 5:<br/>Safeguard environmental quality and assets</p> <p>5.2 Protect and enhance the countryside, natural landscape and townscape</p> | <p>Choosing Health, 2004</p>                       | <p><i>Urban environments that are dense, mixed use, easily accessible on foot or bicycle with high-quality green infrastructure can deliver positive health outcomes and provide the right environment for promoting active lifestyles and good use of resources. In rural areas the interrelationship between home, work, leisure and mobility is key to healthier lives (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>The Torrington landscape is prioritised by the landscape character assessment and by the designation of landscape quality. In addition to nationally designated landscapes such as the North Devon AONB, there are County designated landscapes such as Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLVs) and Coastal Preservation Areas (CPAs), which reflect important local landscape quality. Nine Landscape Priority Areas have been identified for Torrington, most of which are associated with river and coastal features.</p> <p>In 2003 63% of residents were satisfied with the cleanliness standards in Torrington. However, Torrington District Council received 51 complaints about dog fouling during 2003.</p> | <p><b>+ COR6 &amp; COR7</b> seek to conserve and enhance the environmental quality of northern Devon.</p> <p><b>+COR4A</b> recognises the importance of conserving and enhancing the coastal, marine and estuarine environments.</p> |

| <b>Effects of the natural environment on people's health and well-being</b>          |   |                             |   |  |
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| Does the plan or programme provide greater access to countryside and coast?          | <p>High Level Objective 2:<br/>Health and Well-being</p> <p>High Level Objective 5:<br/>Safeguard environmental quality and assets</p> <p>5.2 Protect and enhance the countryside, natural landscape and townscape</p>  | Rural Strategy 2004 (Defra) | <p><i>Greater opportunities for walking and cycling are beneficial to physical health. Greater contact with nature is beneficial to mental health</i> (Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>The natural landscape of northern Devon, which varies between secluded wooded valleys and extensive open moorlands, is highly valued by local residents and tourists. Much of North Devon and Torridge is characterised by areas of small fields, banked hedges and open moor land. It is mostly grassland with scattered areas of wet unimproved grassland. Coastal valleys or combes run to the sea and are characterised by ancient semi-natural woodland. The northern part of Torridge is par of the North Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Hartland and Lundy island are designated Heritage Coasts and Lundy Island is further designated as a Marine Nature Reserve. The UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is cantered on Braunton Burrows and its Transition Zone covers the majority of the districts.</p> | +COR4A supports tourism and leisure facilities and seeks to improve access to the South West Coast Park and the Tarka Trail. |
| Will the plan or programme promote health and well-being in the natural environment? | <p>High Level Objective 5:<br/>Safeguard environmental quality and assets</p> <p>5.2 Protect and enhance the countryside, natural landscape and townscape</p> <p>High Level Objective 6:<br/>Use of natural resources</p> <p>6.4 Maintain and enhance air quality</p> <p>6.5 Protect the quality of local water resources</p> | Health Concordat, 2005      | <p><i>Contaminants such as PAHs, heavy metals, oil, asbestos and landfill gases are injurious to health. Waste disposal can be a major generator or road transport, noise and dust, with potential adverse effects on safety and air quality</i>(Dept. of Health, 2007).</p> <p>Agricultural pollution is the single biggest cause of water quality problems across Devon, particularly the Tamar and Torridge catchments. Local pollution impacts may affect residential development decisions Pressures associated with agriculture are linked to changes in the rural economy, particularly diversification of economic activity and the increasing focus of land management on long-term stewardship. In addition the conversion of rural buildings presents and ongoing threat to important populations of barn owls and bats.</p>   | Spatial planning policies do not impact.   |

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| <p>Will the plan or programme provide for locally accessible green spaces?</p> | <p>High Level Objective 2:<br/>Health and Well-being</p> <p>High Level Objective 5:<br/>Safeguard environmental quality and assets<br/>5.2 Protect and enhance the countryside, natural landscape and townscape</p> <p>High Level Objective 6:<br/>Use of natural resources<br/>6.4 Maintain and enhance air quality<br/>6.5 Protect the quality of local water resources<br/>6.6 Protect high grade soils</p> | <p>Living Places:<br/>Cleaner, Safer, Greener, October 2002 (now CLG lead)</p> | <p><i>Green space encourages social contact and exercise, and is associated with lower crime rates and increased safety. People who can see trees or green space from their homes report higher levels of health and well-being (Dept. of Health, 2007).</i></p> <p>There are no national parks in the districts. Torridge is within the Culm Natural Area and the Lands End to Minehead Maritime Natural Area. The western edge of Exmoor National Park lies within North Devon.</p> <p>The total land used for agriculture represents 84.5% (83,000 ha) of total land area in Torridge and 97% (94,198 ha) in North Devon.</p> <p>Torridge contains six Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS), 20 Conservation Areas and 1800 listed buildings. North Devon contains six RIGS, 39 Conservation Areas and 2,909 listed buildings. Historic and archaeological interest in Torridge include barrows and earthworks and the disused railway lines and associated features, e.g. Halwill Junction.</p> | <p><b>+ COR6</b> – green infrastructure provision is promoted.</p> |
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