



## **Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment**

### **Open Space, Sport and Recreation Supplementary Planning Document**

**South Hams District Council  
June 2006**

**SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL  
JUNE 2006**

**SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL REPORT FOR THE OPEN  
SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION SUPPLEMENTARY  
PLANNING DOCUMENT**

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## **Non-Technical Summary**

To ensure that new plans and proposals make maximum contribution to sustainable development they should be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal (which incorporates a statutory Strategic Environmental Assessment).

The Supplementary Planning Document on Open Space, Sport and Recreation sets out the Council's aspirations for obtaining Open Space, Sport and Recreation in relation to new development. It sets out measures for the provision and funding of a wide range of facilities – both within new development and in the vicinity of new development. The SPD is produced to expand on policies set out in the South Hams local Plan, Devon Structure Plan and South Hams Local development Framework Core Strategy.

This document sets out the sustainability appraisal that has informed production of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD. The draft SPD (published in December 2005) was assessed against a range of social, economic and environmental measures which underpin sustainability, well-being and the promotion of balanced communities. These measures have been derived from analysis of existing baseline data and local context and include detailed assessment of environmental protection and likely significant impacts on the environment.

The first stage of the appraisal compared the benefits of introducing an SPD with a "business as usual" approach. By testing these options against the social, economic and environmental measures it is concluded that introduction of SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation will, on balance, support sustainable development.

The second stage of the Sustainability Appraisal involved looking in detail at the objectives of the SPD, and testing these individually against the range of sustainability measures. Again this concluded that introduction of SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation is likely to promote sustainable development, in particular by supporting community viability and balance; quality of the built environment; health; landscape and biodiversity. Set against this is the negative impact that provision of Open Space, Sport and Recreation could have in diverting limited funding away from other works of public benefit – in particular from affordable housing.

Overall the initial sustainability appraisal supported introduction of SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation – subject to the local planning authority taking a balanced view on the merits of each individual planning application and what combination of public facilities should be blended together to provide balanced communities in the long term.

The draft Sustainability Appraisal was issued on consultation alongside the SPD between December 2005 and February 2006. There was a single response which made specific comment (relating to positive effects that public space can have on soil, air and water quality). The SA has been reviewed and amended in light of this comment, and other issues that have come to light during the consultation.

The SA was considered by the Council and is issued alongside the Adoption of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD which comes into effect on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006.

Full details of how the SA have informed the production of the SPD are included in the "Statement of Sustainability" which forms the Appendix 4 of this document.

## 1. SUMMARY AND OUTCOMES

### Introduction

- 1.1 This Report documents the processes of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation as required by planning legislation and Government guidance. SA/SEA assists in promoting more sustainable development through an ongoing dialogue and assessment during the preparation of development planning documents.
- 1.2 The SPD is designed to provide information to all those involved in the development process about the standard that the Local Planning Authority requires for the provision of Open Space, Sport and Recreation. It also promotes the benefit that Open Space, Sport and Recreation has for Balanced communities, healthy lifestyles and biodiversity.

### Purpose of the SA and the SA Report

- 1.3 In accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act (2004), Local Development Documents (LDDs) must be subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA). The SA process assists Local Authorities to fulfil the requirement of “*contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development*” in spatial and land use plan making.
- 1.4 In preparing LDDs, Local Authorities are also required to carry out Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with European and UK legislation. The UK Government has prepared SA Guidance on undertaking SA of LDFs. This advises that an integrated approach to SA and SEA should be pursued, so that the SA process incorporates the SEA requirements. This involves extending the breadth of (predominantly environmental) issues required to be considered under SEA to cover the full range of aspects (including social and economic aspects) for sustainability.
- 1.5 SA assists in promoting sustainable development through integrating sustainability considerations into plan making. It is an iterative, ongoing process and integral to plan making. SEA considers the effects of the emerging LDDs on the environment. It must predict and evaluate the significant effects of Plan alternatives and propose measures to offset any adverse effects identified.
- 1.6 This is the SA Report which documents the SA and SEA process. It is being published alongside publication of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Supplementary document in accordance with SEA Regulations and SA Guidance.

### Compliance with the SEA Directive/Regulations

- 1.7 The SEA Regulations set out certain requirements for reporting the SEA process and specifies that if an integrated appraisal is undertaken (i.e. SEA is subsumed within the SA process) then the sections of the SA Report that meet the requirements set out for reporting the SEA process must be clearly signposted. Consequently the requirements for reporting the SEA process are set out in

Appendix 1 and the section of the report that progresses each requirement is indicated.

- 1.8 Sustainability Appraisal of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD has been undertaken during its development. Amendments have been made regarding measures for the progression of sustainability to be incorporated with the SPD. The SA has been subject to formal consultation with the statutory agencies as required under the SEA regulations.
- 1.9 This SA report will be published by South Hams District Council at the same time as the Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD is adopted for implementation on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2006.
- 1.10 The Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD conforms to Policy 16 of the 1996 South Hams Local Plan 1989-2001. Because this policy predates the EC Directive 2001/42/EC it has not been subject to either SA or SEA. When this policy is reviewed in the LDF Core Policies it will be subject to SEA, at which point the SPD may need revising or revisiting. The SPD also conforms with Policy CS11 in the LDF Core Strategy (infrastructure provision) and policies S6 and ST3 contained within the adopted Devon County Structure Plan 2004. The Core Strategy and Structure Plan have been subject to SA/SEA.

## **2. APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY**

### **Summary of Appraisal Methodology**

- 2.1 Preliminary SA work which identified issues for sustainability was undertaken by South Hams District Council during 2004. An Appraisal Framework was developed and used by the Council during 2004 to carry out a draft SA of the Issues & Options Report for the Core Strategy published in October 2004. The Core Strategy forms part of the Local Development Framework and sets out key elements of the planning framework for the South Hams. It also establishes the development strategy that will inform other development plan documents including any SPDs. (This SA Report is available on the Councils Website [www.southhams.gov.uk](http://www.southhams.gov.uk)).
- 2.2 Enfusion Ltd was then commissioned in January 2005 by South Hams Council to progress the SA work associated with the priority Local Development Framework documents (but excluded the SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation). The appraisal of this document has been undertaken in-house. A Scoping process was undertaken by Enfusion during early 2005 to help ensure that the SA covers the key sustainability issues that are relevant to the development planning system in the South Hams. This included the development of an SA Framework of objectives, to comprise the basis for appraisal. A Scoping Report was prepared to summarise the findings of the Scoping process. This was published in April 2005 for consultation with stakeholders. The Report is also available on the Council's website.

### **Sustainability Context and Objectives**

- 2.3 The Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD has been developed against the background of baseline issues initially addressed in the Council's SA scoping report as summarised below:
- 2.4 Key issues and opportunities identified for South Hams from the review of relevant plans and programmes (PP) include:
- Provision of a range of affordable housing to meet local needs
  - Development of year-round prosperity and raising wage levels by encouraging local businesses, employment and lifelong learning opportunities.
  - Regeneration of towns, villages and hinterlands to support viable sustainable communities.
  - Protecting and enhancing the quality of the environment, local distinctiveness, cultural and historical heritage.
  - Sherford new community in the Plymouth Sub-Region
  - promotion of good design and quality developments with most developments concentrated in and around main towns and large villages.
  - Adhering to the waste hierarchy and maximising recycling
  - Developing sustainable green tourism.
  - Promoting sustainable travel and access to services and facilities
  - Reducing the fear of crime.

- Enhancing the diversity of the District's wildlife habitats and species.
- Taking full account of the purposes of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Park designations.
- maintaining the high-quality undeveloped coastal landscape
- Protecting the natural beauty and functioning of South Ham's estuaries including the River Dart estuary, Kingsbridge estuary (also designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest) and Yealm estuary (also a candidate Special Area of Conservation).

### **Description of the Social, Environmental and Economic Baseline Characteristics**

- 2.5 Collection of baseline information is fundamental to the SA process to provide a background to, and evidence base, for identifying both sustainability problems in South Hams and alternative ways of dealing with them, developing the SA Framework, and providing the basis for predicting and monitoring effects of the plans or policy. In order to assess how the LDF can contribute to sustainable development it is essential to understand the economic, environmental and social circumstances in South Hams today and their likely evolution in the future. This is also required under the SEA legislation. The aim is to collect only relevant and sufficient data on the present and future state of the plan area (i.e. South Hams District) to allow the potential effects of the plan to be adequately predicted.
- 2.6 The SA Guidance proposes a practical approach to data collection, recognising that information may not yet be available now, and that information gaps for future improvements should be reported as well as the need to consider uncertainties in data. Collection of baseline information should be continuous as the SA process guides plan making and as new information becomes available. The collection of baseline information that has informed the appraisal objectives for this SA has been derived from the work carried out for the SA Report for the LDF Core Strategy. A table containing the baseline information can be found on the Council' website at [www.southams.gov.uk](http://www.southams.gov.uk)
- 2.7 The identification of key sustainability problems, objectives and issues assist in identifying the relevant baseline information and developing the SA Framework and is required for compliant SEA.

### **Appraising the draft SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation**

- 2.8 Against this background the appraisal of the SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation was then progressed using matrices to record the likely sustainability effects against each objective in the SA Framework. Table 1 sets out the SA objectives and decision aiding questions.

Table 1: SA Objectives and Decision aiding Questions.

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>DECISION-AIDING QUESTIONS</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Balanced Communities</b> <i>SEA topic: Population</i>
Promote community viability and balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote mixed use, mixed housing type and mixed tenure developments</li> <li>▪ Encourage regeneration and enhancement of viable communities</li> <li>▪ Enable independent lifestyles for the elderly and those with disabilities</li> <li>▪ Provide sites for community services and facilities (education, health, recreation, social care etc)</li> <li>▪ Provide sites for business and employment within communities</li> <li>▪ Enable people to live near to where they work.</li> <li>▪ Promote social inclusion and community ownership</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>Access</b> <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i>
Enhance access to jobs, education, services, cultural and leisure facilities for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enhance access, particularly in rural areas</li> <li>▪ Promote accessible jobs, services and facilities such as shops, schools, banks, health centres, community centres, libraries, sports and leisure facilities, especially in under-served localities and Sherford New Community</li> <li>▪ Improve quality and capacity of public transport, particularly in new developments</li> <li>▪ Encourage integrated public transport</li> <li>▪ Provide for basic services within walking distance of residents</li> <li>▪ Reduce isolation of minorities and people with limited mobility</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Housing</b> <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i>
Ensure that all have access to a range of good quality housing to meet their needs, particularly affordable housing for identified local needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Restrict second home ownership</li> <li>▪ Provide dwellings to allow local residents, including young people, to remain within their communities</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<b>Quality of the Built Environment</b> <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i>
Enhance the form and design of the built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure new development is located in line with sustainable principles</li> <li>▪ Promote high density in new development wherever appropriate</li> <li>▪ Insist upon high design quality and respect for local character, distinctiveness and surrounding environment in new development</li> <li>▪ Protect and enhance the quality of green and open spaces</li> </ul>

<b>5</b>	<b>Health</b> <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i>
Provide a healthy and safe environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provision of space for informal recreation</li> <li>▪ Design out crime and fear of crime in local communities</li> <li>▪ Contribute to a safe, secure built environment</li> <li>▪ Encourage safe provision for walking and cycling</li> <li>▪ Prevent unacceptable levels of noise, light, odour and air pollution, through application of the precautionary principle</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>Employment</b> <i>SEA topic: Population and Material Assets</i>
Promote a range of quality employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote reuse of redundant agricultural buildings for employment</li> <li>▪ Encourage provision of jobs accessible to residents</li> <li>▪ Promote a year-round working countryside</li> <li>▪ Support provision of employment to allow young people to remain within their communities</li> <li>▪ Support indigenous growth of small and micro businesses</li> </ul>
<b>7</b>	<b>Economic Growth</b> <i>SEA topic: Population and Material Assets</i>
Promote sustainable economic development that can capitalise on the local distinctiveness of the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Taking advantage of Objective II and Regional assistance from SWRDA</li> <li>▪ Encourage growth of indigenous companies</li> <li>▪ Encourage diversification into key growth sectors, including the environmental sector</li> <li>▪ Provide for the needs of businesses (range of premises, services, infrastructure, skilled workforce)</li> <li>▪ Enhance the vitality of town, district and local centres and encourage their commercial renewal</li> <li>▪ Provide for the purchase of goods and use of services locally</li> </ul>
<b>8</b>	<b>Landscape</b> <i>SEA topic: Landscape</i>
Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are conserved and enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preserve and where possible enhance diverse landscape character and value</li> <li>▪ Maintain a high quality of undeveloped coastal landscapes</li> <li>▪ Protect and enhance the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Dartmoor National Park</li> <li>▪ Maintain and enhance hedgerow cover and traditional field boundaries</li> </ul>
<b>9</b>	<b>Land and Soil Quality</b> <i>SEA topic: Soil and Water</i>
Maintain and improve the quality of land and soil in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote high density development</li> <li>▪ Actively promote the re-use of previously developed land</li> <li>▪ Remediate contaminated land</li> <li>▪ Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>

<b>10</b>	<b>Biodiversity</b> <i>SEA topic: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora</i>
Protect and enhance the diversity and abundance of semi-natural habitats and indigenous species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote ecologically based land management</li> <li>▪ Protect and enhance valuable wildlife habitats and species, both those statutorily designated and those of local value</li> <li>▪ Avoid habitat fragmentation</li> <li>▪ Protect and enhance those species and habitats identified in the Devon BAP and the National BAP</li> <li>▪ Protect and enhance the biodiversity value of the Coastline, including estuaries</li> </ul>
<b>11</b>	<b>Historic Environment and Cultural Heritage</b> <i>SEA topic: Cultural Heritage</i>
Protect and enhance cultural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Protect and enhance valued architecture, both buildings (including listed buildings) and their settings</li> <li>▪ Support locally-based cultural resources and activities</li> <li>▪ Protect and improve historical and archaeological environment (landscapes, site, buildings and settings), including Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)</li> <li>▪ Protect the important geology of South Hams district</li> <li>▪ Protect and enhance Conservation Areas</li> </ul>
<b>12</b>	<b>Minerals</b> <i>SEA topic: Material Assets</i>
Encourage efficient exploitation of mineral resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Contribute to the supply of minerals while protecting local communities and the environment</li> <li>▪ Minimise demand for primary minerals and aggregates</li> <li>▪ Recycle local stone, where possible, to reinforce local character</li> </ul>
<b>13</b>	<b>Energy</b> <i>SEA topic: Material Assets and Climatic Factors</i>
Encourage energy efficiency, and promote the generation and use of energy from renewable sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Avoid exacerbating climate change by reducing energy usage (including through design of new development, and sustainable location of development to encourage accessibility by means other than the car)</li> <li>▪ Support the generation and use of renewable energy, while protecting local communities and the environment</li> <li>▪ Promote energy efficiency by locating development in such a way as to minimise the number of trips made by private car</li> <li>▪ Promote energy efficiency in the design of new development</li> </ul>
<b>14</b>	<b>Air Quality</b> <i>SEA topic: Air, Climatic Factors and Human Health</i>
Protect and improve local and global air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain or improve local air quality</li> <li>▪ Reduce the number of trips made by private car</li> <li>▪ Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</li> <li>▪ Consider the longer term effects</li> </ul>
<b>15</b>	<b>Waste</b> <i>SEA topic: Water, Soil, Human Health and Population</i>
Encourage minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage provision for local community recycling and waste management facilities, including on new developments</li> <li>▪ Promote minimisation, reuse and recycling of construction materials and waste</li> </ul>

16	<b>Water</b> <i>SEA topic: Water and Climatic Factors</i>
Protect and enhance the water environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Take into account the predicted effects of climate change</li> <li>▪ Protect and improve freshwater, estuarine and coastal water quality</li> <li>▪ Consider the close relationship between water quality, quantity and flood risk management</li> <li>▪ Increase efficient use and reuse of water resources</li> <li>▪ Promote sustainable coastal and flood risk management that provides for climate change, where appropriate, in new developments</li> <li>▪ Promote Sustainable Drainage Systems</li> </ul>

2.9 Analysis of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD has been undertaken in two sequential steps. The first (as detailed in appendix 2) is to analyse the options of carrying on with “business as usual” compared with the situation should an SPD be adopted. The analysis looks at the current, and future, impacts and notes areas where mitigation might be required.

2.10 The second step is to undertake a detailed analysis of the objectives of the SPD and assess these against the SA objectives as detailed in Table 1 above. This analysis is covered at appendix 3. Likely effect has been indicated through the use of symbols, with a commentary column alongside. The objectives underpinning the Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD which are subject to analysis are:

1. Providing sites and facilities for sport and recreation, which contribute to active, healthy lifestyles.
2. Delivering public spaces which are well maintained and contribute to the quality of the built environment.
3. Designing and managing public spaces for biodiversity.
4. Designing and managing public spaces which contribute to community safety.
5. Providing facilities for children and young people.
6. Providing spaces for relaxation and enjoyment.

### 3. **APPRAISAL RESULTS**

#### **Step One – Comparing Production of SPD against “Business as Usual”**

- 3.1 As detailed at paragraph 2.9 the initial analysis examined “business as usual” and the implementation of the SPD as two options. This analysis is set out in appendix 2.

#### **Option 1 – Business as Usual**

- 3.2 The business as usual option assumes current legislation and development plan policies where they relate to open space, sport and recreation with the following being pertinent:
- South Hams District Council Local Plan 1996. Policy 14 seeks open space in new development for children’s play.
  - National Playing Field Association standards for sport and play facilities.
  - Restrictions on the sale or disposal of playing fields.
- 3.3 Existing legislation and policy is limited and fragmented. At current time major developments may bring with them on-site Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities but this is often done in an ad-hoc manner. Smaller development, with no opportunity to provide on-site facilities, rarely makes any contribution, and indeed frequently places any additional burden on existing facilities.
- 3.4 The business as usual option gives the following effects in relation to key sustainability themes as noted in appendix 2.
- 3.5 Social
- Public space contributes to social objectives but “business as usual” offers an unstructured approach to future provision and enhancement.
- 3.6 Economic
- There are no significant impacts on economic sustainability from the “Business as Usual” option.
- 3.7 Environmental
- Existing public space contributes to a number of environmental SA objectives, although the level of impact relies heavily on the management regime of individual sites.

## **Option 2 - Implementation of Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD – and analysis of the SPD Objectives.**

- 3.8 The SPD goes beyond existing legislation and policy to set in place a structure for delivery of Open Space, Sport and Recreation in relation to new development. The SPD is underpinned by:
- i. *Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 – Open Space, Sport and Recreation.* This requires that LPAs ensure provision for Sport and Recreation facilities (through new facilities, or improvement to existing), where planning permission is granted. The use of planning obligations is endorsed.
  - ii. *Circular 05/2005 Planning Obligations* clarifies the appropriateness of using planning obligation for capital and maintenance (commuted) sums for public facilities.
  - iii. Devon County Structure Plan Policy S6 requires development to contribute to, or bear the full cost of new or improved facilities. Policy ST3 specifically requires LPAs to have regard to the need for community facilities and services including recreation, open space and health.
  - iv. South Hams Local Development Framework Core Strategy (submission stage – January 2006) requires that development should provide for community infrastructure.
- 3.9 Specifically the SPD will provide tools and mechanisms to assist in the provision of enhanced quality and quantity Open Space, Sport and Recreation. This includes:
- Locally based criteria for deciding provision of facilities including:
  - Open space for sport
  - Children’s play space
  - Informal open space, woodlands, parks and gardens
  - Funding formulae for capital costs
  - Funding formulae for maintenance costs
  - Construction and design standards
  - Adoption Standards

All new development will be assessed, on a site by site basis, to identify local needs and appropriate contributions.

- 3.10 Detailed further analysis of the option of introduction of SPD and SPD objectives was undertaken and assessed against the SA objectives.
- 3.11 Consideration of production of SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation and a detailed analysis of the objectives underpinning the SPD, demonstrates limited but specific contribution and positive impact on the Sustainability Appraisal Objectives as detailed in appendix 3 and summarised below.
- 3.12 Social

Provision of public spaces for all ages and all abilities contributes to community vibrancy and cohesion. It assists in delivering balanced

communities, access to services, healthy life styles, and adoption of SPD will allow public space to be better provided, and managed, at levels appropriate to a locality. Each planning application will need to be assessed in its merits to ensure Open Space, Sport and Recreation is brought forward in such a way as to contribute positively to balanced communities, but not to detract from other public benefits, notably affordable housing.

### 3.13 Economic

Carefully designed, sited and managed public space contributes to the vitality and attractiveness of an area. This can have positive economic impacts by enhancing areas as attractive employment locations or tourist destinations.

### 3.14 Environment

Enhanced provision and management of Open Space gives positive impacts on a number of environmental objectives, notably quality of the built environment, landscape and biodiversity. It also has the potential to improve water, air and soil quality.

#### 4. **MITIGATION MEASURES**

- 4.1 Overall the appraisal highlights a number of positive impacts in relation to the introduction of SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation - in particular in relation to Social and Environmental objectives. Negative impacts relate to the requirement within the SPD for development to fund Open Space, Sport and Recreation and the impact this may have on the level of funding available for other work of public benefit, in particular, affordable housing.
- 4.2 To mitigate this impact it is necessary to look at each planning application on its merits and for the Local Planning Authority to take a balanced view on each occasion as to what combination of public infrastructure is generated from the development and how it is blended together to provide balanced communities in the long term.
- 4.3 The appraisal also identified opportunities to enhance positive impacts. These include:
- Adapting management of Public Space to increase the range of biodiversity habitats.
  - Increasing community involvement in the management of public space.
  - Planting of trees in public spaces to act as carbon sinks.

## 5. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

- 5.1 Unlike the old Development Plan system, the new Local Development Framework (LDF) for South Hams is designed to be an ongoing, iterative process, in which all sections are kept up-to-date through a rolling process of public involvement, monitoring and, where necessary, adjustment. The monitoring of the significant effects of any plan of this type is seen as essential by the European SEA Directive, and the Council believes that all stakeholders should have an early opportunity to be part of the process. The purpose of this section is to briefly suggest proposals for monitoring the sustainability effects of the implementation of the SPD.
- 5.2 The Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD conforms to Policy 16 of the 1996 South Hams Local Plan 1989-2001. Because it predates the EC Directive 2001/42/EC it has not been subject to either SA or SEA. When this policy is reviewed in the LDF Core Policies it will be subject to SEA, at which point the SPD may need revising or revisiting. The SPD also conforms to Policy CS11 in the LDF Core Strategy (infrastructure provision) and policies S6 and ST3 contained within the adopted Devon County Structure Plan 2004. These plans have been subject to SA/SEA.
- 5.3 The over arching sustainability appraisal framework for the LDF sets out indicators to which this SPD will contribute. In particular, the following draft indicators are relevant to the SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation.
- Landscape - Headline AONB indicators being developed
  - Accessibility - % of new housing within five minutes walking distance of Public Open Space.  
Target: 50%
- 5.4 The development of the LDF monitoring proposals is an ongoing process which is being developed as part of an integrated district-wide monitoring strategy. However, the council intends to develop a framework to measure the effectiveness of the SPD and meet the monitoring requirements of the SA process. This will assist in measuring the effects of the SPD on the key sustainability issues identified from the appraisal. It will also help to identify unforeseen adverse effects of the implementation of the SPD at an early stage and allow remedial action to be taken.

## APPENDIX 1

### COMPLIANCE WITH SEA DIRECTIVE

<b>SEA Directive Requirement</b>	<b>Covered in -</b>
Preparation of an Environmental Report, detailed below (Article 5).	The Environmental report is imbedded within the Sustainability Appraisal which accompanies the SPD
(a) an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	Section 1.1 - 1.2, 1.10 & 2.10
(b) the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation on the plan;	Section 2.3-2.7 Table 1 Appendices 2 & 3
(c) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	Sections 2.3 – 2.7 Appendices 2 & 3
(d) any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC;	Section 2.3 – 2.10 Table 1 Appendices 2 & 3
(e) the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;	Section 2.3 – 2.10 Table 1 Appendices 2 & 3
(f) the likely significant effect (1) on the environment, including 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 and the interrelationship between the above factors; These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary , positive and negative effects.	Section 2.8 – 2.10 & 3.1 – 3.14 Table 1 Appendices 2 & 3
(g) the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan;	Appendices 2 & 3 Section 4
(h) an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know how) encountered in compiling the required information;	Sections 2.1 – 2.10 Table 1 Appendices 2 & 3

<p>(i) a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10;</p> <p>Refer to paragraphs 36-37</p>	<p>Section 5</p>
<p>(j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.</p>	<p>Non – technical summary</p>
<p><b>Consult</b> responsible environmental authorities on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report.</p>	<p>Undertaken in the scoping for original Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental assessment</p>
<p><b>Consult with responsible environmental bodies</b> – the Countryside Agency, Environment Agency, English Heritage, English Nature – and the public on the draft plan and the Environment Report before the plan is adopted (Article 6).</p>	<p>Will be undertaken with this SA/SEA being consulted on alongside draft SPD</p>
<p>Take into account the Environment Report and consultation responses during the <b>preparation of the plan</b> before it is adopted (Article 8).</p>	<p>Responses will be taken into account in bringing the SPD forward for adoption</p>
<p>When a plan is adopted Responsible environmental bodies and the public and other <b>relevant bodies will be informed</b> of (Article 9):</p> <p>(a) The plan as adopted;</p> <p>(b) A statement summarizing how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan, how any consultation responses have been taken into account and the reasons for choosing the plan as adopted;</p> <p>(c) The measures for monitoring.</p>	<p>Relevant bodies and organisations will be informed at adoption</p>
<p><b>Monitor</b> the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects and so to take remedial action (Article 10).</p>	<p>The SA/SEA includes measures and indicators for monitoring the sustainability objectives</p>

## APPENDIX 2

### SUSTAINABILITY APRAISAL OF ADOPTION OF OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION SPD OPTIONS COMPARED TO BUSINESS AS USUAL OPTION

This document sets out the results of the Sustainability Appraisal of options for the Open Space, Sport & Recreation SPD.

The two options considered in this initial scoping exercise are:

- i. No change to existing practice – “business as usual”.
- ii. Implementation of SPD on Open Space, Sport and Recreation.

A comparison of the likely, social, environmental and economic effects of implementing these options is provided in the matrix below. Where adverse effects are identified, potential mitigation measures have been considered where possible. The preferred option (with an outline of reasons) for the progression of sustainability is set out at the bottom of the matrix.

Symbols used in the matrices are to be interpreted as follows:

++	Likely to contribute considerably to the achievement of the sustainability objective
+	Likely to contribute somewhat to the achievement of the sustainability objective
-	Likely to conflict somewhat with the achievement of the sustainability objective
--	Likely to conflict considerably with the achievement of the sustainability objective
•	Negligible effect on the achievement of the sustainability objective
0	No identifiable relationship with the sustainability objective
?	Level of effect on the achievement of the sustainability objective unclear

SA OBJECTIVE	DECISION-AIDING QUESTIONS	PREDICTED EFFECTS OF OPTIONS		NATURE OF EFFECT(S)
		Option 1 Business as usual	Option 2 SPD	
<p><b>Balanced Communities</b> Promote community viability and balance</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote mixed use, mixed housing type and mixed tenure developments</li> <li>• Encourage regeneration and enhancement of viable communities</li> <li>• Enable independent lifestyles for the elderly and those with disabilities</li> <li>• Provide sites for community services and facilities (education, health, recreation, social care etc)</li> <li>• Provide sites for business and employment within communities</li> <li>• Enable people to live near to where they work.</li> <li>• Promote social inclusion and community ownership</li> </ul>	+	++	Adoption of SPD will secure Open Space, Sport and Recreation at an enhanced level contributing to viable communities, sites for community facilities and promote community ownership.
<p><b>Access</b> Enhance access to jobs, education, services, cultural</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance access, particularly in rural areas</li> <li>• Promote accessible jobs,</li> </ul>	+	++	Adoption of SPD will secure Open Space, Sport and Recreation at an enhanced level providing additional

<p>and leisure facilities for all</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i></p>	<p>services and facilities such as shops, schools, banks, health centres, community centres, libraries, sports and leisure facilities, especially in under-served localities and Sherford</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Community</li> <li>• Improve quality and capacity of public transport, particularly in new developments</li> <li>• Encourage integrated public transport</li> <li>• Provide for basic services within walking distance of residents</li> <li>• Reduce isolation of minorities and people with limited mobility</li> </ul>			<p>access to leisure and sport facilities particularly where there are current deficiencies.</p>
<p><b>Housing</b> Ensure that all have access to a range of good quality housing to meet their needs, particularly affordable housing for identified local needs</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrict second home ownership</li> <li>• Provide dwellings to allow local residents, including young people, to remain within their communities</li> </ul>	-	-	<p>Funding to provide Open Space, Sport and Recreation could limit funding available for affordable housing – any impact will be considered and addressed on a site-by-site basis.</p>

<p><b>Quality of the Built Environment</b>  Enhance the form and design of the built environment  <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure new development is located in line with sustainable principles</li> <li>• Promote high density in new development wherever appropriate</li> <li>• Insist upon high design quality and respect for local character, distinctiveness and surrounding environment in new development</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the quality of green and open spaces</li> </ul>	+	++	Quality open space, parks, gardens and public spaces contribute to form and sustainability of the built environment.
<p><b>Health</b>  Provide a healthy and safe environment  <i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of space for informal recreation</li> <li>• Design out crime and fear of crime in local communities</li> <li>• Contribute to a safe, secure built environment</li> <li>• Encourage safe provision for walking and cycling</li> <li>• Prevent unacceptable levels of noise, light, odour and air pollution, through application of the precautionary principle</li> </ul>	+	++	Adoption of SPD will secure well designed additional funding to provide (well designed) public spaces and facilities providing for informal recreation, walking and cycling within a secure built environment.
<p><b>Employment</b>  Promote a range of quality employment opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote reuse of redundant agricultural buildings for employment</li> </ul>	•	•	No significant difference between options.

<p><i>SEA topic: Population and Material Assets</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage provision of jobs accessible to residents</li> <li>• Promote a year-round working countryside</li> <li>• Support provision of employment to allow young people to remain within their communities</li> <li>• Support indigenous growth of small and micro businesses</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Economic Growth</b> Promote sustainable economic development that can capitalise on the local distinctiveness of the area</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Material Assets</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking advantage of Objective II and Regional assistance from SWRDA</li> <li>• Encourage growth of indigenous companies</li> <li>• Encourage diversification into key growth sectors, including the environmental sector</li> <li>• Provide for the needs of</li> <li>• businesses (range of premises, services, infrastructure, skilled workforce)</li> <li>• Enhance the vitality of town, district and local centres and encourage their commercial renewal</li> <li>• Provide for the purchase of goods and use of services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>+</p>	<p>Quality public spaces enhance the attractiveness and vitality of town, district and local centres.</p>

	locally			
<p><b>Landscape</b> Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are conserved and enhanced</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Landscape</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve and where possible enhance diverse landscape character and value</li> <li>• Maintain a high quality of undeveloped coastal landscapes</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Dartmoor National Park</li> <li>• Maintain and enhance hedgerow cover and traditional field boundaries</li> </ul>	+	++	Adoption of SPD will secure Open Space at enhanced quality designed and managed to conserve local landscape and townscape character.
<p><b>Land and Soil Quality</b> Maintain and improve the quality of land and soil in the region</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Soil and Water</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote high density development</li> <li>• Actively promote the re-use of previously developed land</li> <li>• Remediate contaminated land</li> <li>• Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	0	+	Localised opportunities to seek improvements.
<p><b>Biodiversity</b> Protect and enhance the diversity and abundance of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote ecologically based land management</li> <li>• Protect and enhance valuable</li> </ul>	+	++	Adoption of SPD will secure Open Space with enhanced opportunity to design and manage for species and habitat objectives.

<p>semi-natural habitats and indigenous species</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora</i></p>	<p>wildlife habitats and species, both those statutorily designated and those of local value</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid habitat fragmentation</li> <li>• Protect and enhance those species and habitats identified in the Devon BAP</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Historic Environment and Cultural Heritage</b> Protect and enhance cultural resources</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Cultural Heritage</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance valued architecture, both buildings (including listed buildings) and their settings</li> <li>• Support locally-based cultural resources and activities</li> <li>• Protect and improve historical and archaeological environment (landscapes, site, buildings and settings), including Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)</li> <li>• Protect the important geology of South Hams district</li> <li>• Protect and enhance Conservation Areas</li> </ul>	0	0	No significant difference between options.
<p><b>Minerals</b> Encourage efficient exploitation of mineral resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the supply of minerals while protecting local communities and the environment</li> <li>• Minimise demand for primary</li> </ul>	0	0	No significant difference between options.

<p><i>SEA topic: Material Assets</i></p>	<p>minerals and aggregates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycle local stone, where possible, to reinforce local character</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Energy</b> Encourage energy efficiency, and promote the generation and use of energy from renewable sources</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Material Assets and Climatic Factors</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid exacerbating climate change by reducing energy usage (including through design of new development, and sustainable location of development to encourage accessibility by means other than the car)</li> <li>• Support the generation and use of renewable energy, while protecting local communities and the environment</li> <li>• Promote energy efficiency by locating development in such a way as to minimise the number of trips made by private car</li> <li>• Promote energy efficiency in the design of new development</li> </ul>	0	0	No significant difference between options.
<p><b>Air Quality</b> Protect and improve local and global air quality</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Air, Climatic</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain or improve local air quality</li> <li>• Reduce the number of trips made by private car</li> <li>• Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</li> </ul>	0	0	No significant difference between options.

<i>Factors and Human</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider the longer term effects</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Waste</b> Encourage minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Water, Soil, Human Health and Population</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage provision for local community recycling and waste management facilities, including on new developments</li> <li>Promote minimisation, reuse and recycling of construction materials and waste</li> </ul>	0	0	No significant difference between options.
<p><b>Water</b> Protect and enhance the water environment</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Water and Climatic Factors</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take into account the predicted effects of climate change</li> <li>Protect and improve freshwater, estuarine and coastal water quality</li> <li>Consider the close relationship between water</li> </ul>	0	0	No significant difference between options.
<p><b>Recommendations: Preferred Option</b></p> <p>The introduction and adoption of SPD offers the opportunity for new development to provide enhanced contribution to sustainable objectives – particularly in relation to balanced communities, access, quality of built environment, health, landscape and biodiversity.</p>				

## **APPENDIX 3**

### **SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION SPD OBJECTIVES**

A detailed appraisal of the Open Space, Sport & Recreation SPD objectives has been carried out. The likely effect of each objective upon each sustainability objective was considered, with comments about whether the SPD objectives are likely to progress or conflict with each SA objective. The findings have been recorded in a matrix presented in this Appendix.

The objectives for the SPD are:

1. Providing sites and facilities for sport and recreation, which contribute to active, healthy lifestyles.
2. Delivering public spaces which are being well maintained and contribute to the quality of the built environment.
3. Designing and managing public spaces for biodiversity.
4. Designing and managing public spaces which contribute to community safety.
5. Providing facilities for children and young people.
6. Providing spaces for relaxation and enjoyment.

The SA of the SPD objectives found that, with limited exceptions, the Open Space, Sport and Recreation objectives positively contribute to the identified sustainability objectives.

Where conflicts were identified, possible measures to offset them are provided in the matrix. The main area of conflict is the impact that SPD and OSSR may have on the scale of affordable housing.

Recommendations for the SPD focus on aspects for improvement, such as ensuring that Open Space, Sport and Recreation be audited, on a site by site basis – to ensure maximum contribution to sustainability objectives. On the whole, the findings of the SA suggest that the emerging SPD will make significant positive contributions to the progression of SA objectives for the district.

Symbols used in the matrices are to be interpreted as follows:

++	Likely to contribute considerably to the achievement of the sustainability objective
+	Likely to contribute somewhat to the achievement of the sustainability objective
-	Likely to conflict somewhat with the achievement of the sustainability objective
--	Likely to conflict considerably with the achievement of the sustainability objective
●	Negligible effect on the achievement of the sustainability objective
0	No identifiable relationship with the sustainability objective
?	Level of effect on the achievement of the sustainability objective unclear

SA OBJECTIVE	DECISION AIDING QUESTIONS	PREDICTED EFFECTS OF SPD OBJECTIVES						NATURE OF EFFECT(S)
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
<p><b>Balanced Communities</b> Promote community viability and balance</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote mixed use, mixed housing type and mixed tenure developments</li> <li>Encourage regeneration and enhancement of viable communities</li> <li>Enable independent lifestyles for the elderly and those with disabilities</li> <li>Provide sites for community services and facilities (education, health, recreation, social care etc)</li> <li>Provide sites for business and employment within communities</li> <li>Enable people to live near to where they work.</li> <li>Promote social inclusion and community ownership</li> </ul>	++	++	•	+	++	++	SPD objectives, notably 1,2,5 & 6 contributes significantly to balanced communities – in particular promoting community facilities along with social inclusion and community ownership.
<p><b>Access</b> Enhance access to jobs, education, services,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance access, particularly in rural areas</li> <li>Promote accessible jobs,</li> </ul>	++	+	•	++	++	++	High quality accessibility for all abilities and all ages in key to quality Public spaces – whether to achieve sport, play

<p>cultural and leisure facilities for all</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i></p>	<p>services and facilities such as shops, schools, banks, health centres, community centres, libraries, sports and leisure facilities, especially in under-served localities and Sherford New Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve quality and capacity of public transport, particularly in new developments</li> <li>• Encourage integrated public transport</li> <li>• Provide for basic services within walking distance of residents</li> <li>• Reduce isolation of minorities and people with limited mobility</li> </ul>							<p>or quiet relaxation.</p>
<p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>Ensure that all have access to a range of good quality housing to meet their needs, particularly affordable housing for identified local needs</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrict second home ownership</li> <li>• Provide dwellings to allow local residents, including young people, to remain within their communities</li> </ul>	+	+	•	+	+	+	<p>Public spaces provide outdoor opportunities alongside housing. These are particularly important where private garden space is limited or unavailable. Contributions to Public Space may detract from funding available for housing. Each planning application needs to be considered on its merits to ensure an appropriate balance of housing, public space and other services to ensure long term viability and community cohesion.</p>

<p><b>Quality of the Built Environment</b> Enhance the form and design of the built environment</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure new development is located in line with sustainable principles</li> <li>• Promote high density in new development wherever appropriate</li> <li>• Insist upon high design quality and respect for local character, distinctiveness and surrounding environment in new development</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the quality of green and open spaces</li> </ul>	+	++	•	+	+	+	<p>Quality and location of safe public spaces contributes to quality of built environment – especially protection and enhancement of green and open spaces.</p>
<p><b>Health</b> Provide a healthy and safe environment</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Human Health</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of space for informal recreation</li> <li>• Design out crime and fear of crime in local communities</li> <li>• Contribute to a safe, secure built environment</li> <li>• Encourage safe provision for walking and cycling</li> <li>• Prevent unacceptable levels of noise, light, odour and air pollution, through application of the precautionary principle</li> </ul>	++	+	•	++	+	+	<p>Accessible and attractive Public Spaces will encourage use and contribute to health and well being.</p>
<p><b>Employment</b> Promote a range of quality employment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote reuse of redundant agricultural buildings for employment</li> </ul>	•	+	•	•	•	•	<p>Quality of Public Space contributes to the attractiveness of an area and may</p>

<p>opportunities</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Material Assets</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage provision of jobs accessible to residents</li> <li>• Promote a year-round working countryside</li> <li>• Support provision of employment to allow young people to remain within their communities</li> <li>• Support indigenous growth of small and micro businesses</li> </ul>							<p>influence employers looking to location in an area.</p>
<p><b>Economic Growth</b> Promote sustainable economic development that can capitalise on the local distinctiveness of the area</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Population and Material Assets</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking advantage of Objective II and Regional assistance from SWRDA</li> <li>• Encourage growth of indigenous companies</li> <li>• Encourage diversification into key growth sectors, including the environmental sector</li> <li>• Provide for the needs of</li> <li>• businesses (range of premises, services, infrastructure, skilled workforce)</li> <li>• Enhance the vitality of town, district and local centres and encourage their commercial renewal</li> <li>• Provide for the purchase of goods and use of services locally</li> </ul>	•	+	•	•	•	•	<p>Quality of Public Space contributes to the attractiveness of an area and may influence employers looking to location in an area.</p>

<p><b>Landscape</b> Ensure that special and distinctive landscapes, and the features within them, are conserved and enhanced</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Landscape</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve and where possible enhance diverse landscape character and value</li> <li>• Maintain a high quality of undeveloped coastal landscapes</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Dartmoor National Park</li> <li>• Maintain and enhance hedgerow cover and traditional field boundaries</li> </ul>	+	++	+	•	•	+	Quality Public Spaces contribute to town scopes in the built environment and landscape character in the countryside.
<p><b>Land and Soil Quality</b> Maintain and improve the quality of land and soil in the region</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Soil and Water</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote high density development</li> <li>• Actively promote the re-use of previously developed land</li> <li>• Remediate contaminated land</li> <li>• Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land</li> </ul>	•	•	+	•	•	•	Limited relationship.
<p><b>Biodiversity</b> Protect and enhance the diversity and abundance of semi-natural habitats and indigenous species</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote ecologically based land management</li> <li>• Protect and enhance valuable wildlife habitats and species, both those statutorily designated</li> </ul>	•	•	++	•	•	•	Management of Public Spaces contribute to biodiversity habitat and species management.

<p><i>SEA topic: Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora</i></p>	<p>and those of local value</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid habitat fragmentation</li> <li>• Protect and enhance those species and habitats identified in the Devon BAP</li> </ul>							
<p><b>Historic Environment and Cultural Heritage</b> Protect and enhance cultural resources</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Cultural Heritage</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>• Protect and enhance valued architecture, both buildings (including listed buildings) and their settings</li> <li>• Support locally-based cultural resources and activities</li> <li>• Protect and improve historical and archaeological environment (landscapes, site, buildings and settings), including Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)</li> <li>• Protect the important geology of South Hams district</li> <li>• Protect and enhance Conservation Areas</li> </ul>	•	•	•	•	•	•	No relationship.
<p><b>Minerals</b> Encourage efficient exploitation of mineral resources</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Material Assets</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the supply of minerals while protecting local communities and the environment</li> <li>• Minimise demand for primary minerals and aggregates</li> <li>• Recycle local stone, where possible, to reinforce local</li> </ul>	•	•	•	•	•	•	No relationship.



<p>and global air quality</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Air, Climatic Factors and Human</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the number of trips made by private car</li> <li>• Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</li> <li>• Consider the longer term effects</li> </ul>							
<p><b>Waste</b></p> <p>Encourage minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Water, Soil, Human Health and Population</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage provision for local community recycling and waste management facilities, including on new developments</li> <li>• Promote minimisation, reuse and recycling of construction materials and waste</li> </ul>	•	+	•	•	•	•	<p>Look to minimise recycling and re-use of organic materials.</p>
<p><b>Water</b></p> <p>Protect and enhance the water environment</p> <p><i>SEA topic: Water and Climatic Factors</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take into account the predicted effects of climate change</li> <li>• Protect and improve freshwater, estuarine and coastal water quality</li> <li>• Consider the close relationship between water</li> </ul>	•	•	•	•	•	•	<p>Design drought tolerant planting mixes.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>Ensure new or enhanced Open Space, Sport and Recreation facilities provide maximum contribution to balanced communities through careful location and thorough analysis of impact on other public services. Design and manage public space so as to contribute to quality of the built environment, landscape character, and to promote biodiversity whilst minimising water use and waste.</b></p>								

## **APPENDIX 4**

### **Statement of Sustainability**

**South Hams District Council  
June 2006**

### **Sport and Recreation Supplementary Planning Document**

1. This statement has been prepared in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 which requires authorities on adopting a plan or programme to prepare a statement setting out:

- How environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme;
- How the environmental report has been taken into account;
- How responses to the Sustainability Appraisal have been taken into account;
- The reason for choosing the plan or programme in the light of other reasonable alternatives;
- The measures to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of implementing the plan or programme.

2. This Sustainability Appraisal Report is published alongside the adopted Open Space, Sport and Recreation Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). A Sustainability Appraisal is a way of ensuring the potential economic, social and environmental effects of the proposed SPD are identified and measures are taken to remedy any detrimental effects. The SPD outlines the Council's approach to managing the provision of Open Space, Sport and Recreation in South Hams in support of policies in the Development Plan

3. The SPD aims to provide clear guidance to address the environmental and social implications of providing new or improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation in relation to new development.

4. The Sustainability Appraisal assessed the options of adopting SPD or maintaining the existing "Business as Usual" approach. The Appraisal concluded that the adoption of SPD appeared to represent the most sustainable solution to addressing the need for new and improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation in relation to new development. The findings of the appraisal, along with the responses to consultation on the draft SPD helped the Council to decide on its

preferred approach. In the light of the responses received to the consultation, the approach in the final version of the SPD was refined in terms of the measures proposed and method of implementation. These changes did not affect the overall principle of the approach.

5. A Sustainability Appraisal Report was published alongside the draft versions of the SPD published for consultation December 2005. Copies of the report were available on the Council's web site and at the Council offices. A statement of the main issues raised through these consultations has been published entitled the "Statement of Consultation" setting out the main issues and how these issues have been addressed. There was one specific response to the Sustainability Appraisal Report through the consultation exercise.

6. In preparing the SPD two options were considered. These were as follows:

<b>Option 1:</b> Continuation of current policy:	No further action taken to seek structured funding to Open Space, Sport and Recreation over and above existing policy base.
<b>Option 2:</b> Adoption of Supplementary Planning Document on Open Space, Sport and Recreation	<p>This would involve the introduction of a structured framework to address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locally based criteria for deciding provision of facilities including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open space for sport</li> <li>• Children's play space</li> <li>• Informal open space, woodlands, parks and gardens</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Funding formulae for capital costs</li> <li>• Funding formulae for maintenance costs</li> <li>• Construction and design standards</li> <li>• Adoption Standards</li> </ul>

7. The appraisal concludes that introduction of SPD represents the most sustainable means of delivering Open Space, Sport and Recreation in pursuit of providing balanced communities

8. The SPD will be monitored through a single system of monitoring for South Ham's Local Development Framework. This will ensure that the SPD continues to help effective provision of Open Space, Sport and Recreation in the District.