



Forum for the Future

South West Sustainable Land Use Initiative

Exmoor National Park Authority



Sustainability appraisal case study
September 2005

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Forum for the Future is a sustainable development charity, and our mission is to accelerate the transition to a sustainable way of life. Our mission is one we share with partners drawn from business, local authorities, regional bodies and universities. It is also the organising principle behind our portfolio of leading edge projects. We provide advice on issues as diverse as climate change, procurement strategies, sustainability accounting and the digital divide. We communicate what we learn with our partners to a wide network of decision-makers and opinion-formers.

This report has been developed with help and advice from Exmoor National Park Authority officers, members and selected stakeholders. Any omissions or inaccuracies are the sole responsibility of Forum for the Future.

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Executive summary

Our land resource is finite and we need to find more integrated and sustainable ways of using it. The challenge is to safeguard and enhance soils, air, water and ecosystems at the same time as securing social equity and economic prosperity in rural areas.

Section 1 of this report explains how the Exmoor case study is one of six case studies being undertaken by Forum for the Future in the South West, to test a sustainability appraisal tool to help develop a new evidence base of good practice for the region. The tool is based around the five capitals model – a sustainable development framework incorporating natural, human, social, manufactured and financial capital. The strength of this approach is that it enables very different initiatives, projects and activities to be compared in relative terms using the appraisal tool. This report describes the approach to sustainability appraisal and the appraisal findings for Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA).

In **Section 2** the Authority's role and remit in relation to National Park purposes enshrined in Government policy is set out to provide a context for the appraisal process. These purposes are to:

- conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park; and
- promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public

In addition to these purposes, ENPA also has a statutory duty to seek to foster the social and economic well-being of the local community. However, this is mainly the responsibility of the District and County Councils and the authority should not incur significant expenditure for the duty. Thus, the National Park Authority does not have the full range of responsibilities of local councils and is known as a 'single purpose' authority.

Section 3 summarises the National Park Authority's current approach to sustainable development which, in recent years has been increasingly pro-active. The Authority takes the view that the most effective means of delivering National Park purposes and achieving the long-term vision for Exmoor is by working to make the area function in more sustainable ways. The Authority is steadily embedding sustainable development principles into its internal systems as well as its delivery activities. In addition, Defra's creation of the small but influential Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) monies for National Park use in 2002 has been used very effectively by ENPA towards demonstrating sustainability.

Findings

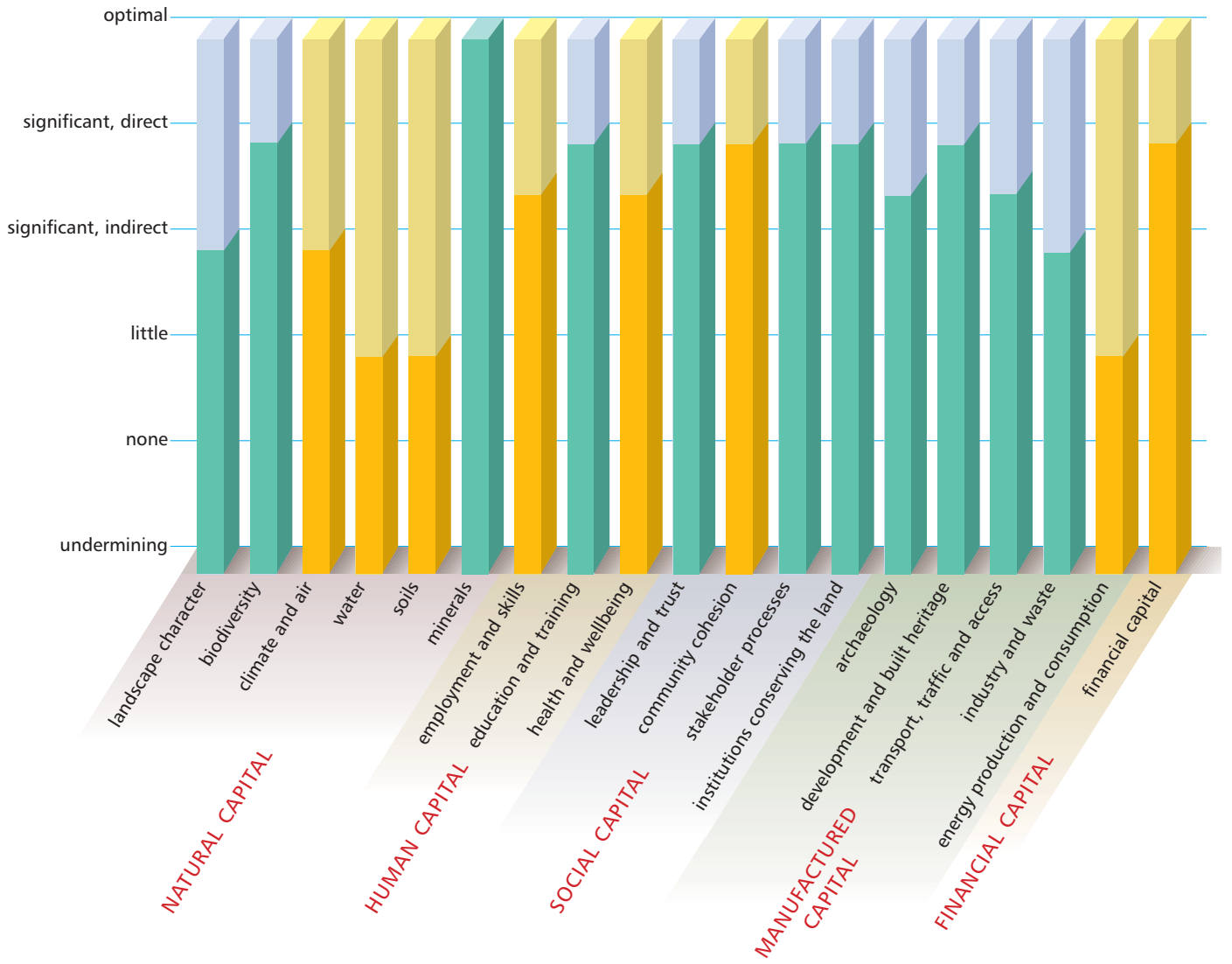
The results for Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA) are based on the views and perceptions of staff, members and selected local partners, i.e. it is a qualitative picture of ENPA's success in making Exmoor more sustainable, to show that it is making a considerable impact on National park-wide sustainability, but that there is clearly potential to do more to make Exmoor more sustainable.

What more ENPA could consider doing to make Exmoor sustainable

An important aspect of the appraisal workshops with ENPA staff and members was to look to some point in the future and imagine that current sustainability issues had been resolved, and to then think of ways that this could have happened: These ideas are listed below and have been developed in more detail in section 5 of the report:

- a** The Authority could be even clearer about its own policies for sustainable development
- b** Being more sustainable also means having a transparent and effective means of sustainability appraisal as part of ENPA's ongoing performance management and business planning cycle.
- c** The Authority could be more confident about building on its obvious success as a trusted local facilitator to be more pro-active in encouraging effective, stronger partnership working, i.e. ENPA as a catalyst for strong leadership and lasting change.
- d** The Authority already has a strong focus on young people and could develop this further by encouraging "tomorrow's local leaders, business entrepreneurs" and "tomorrow's sustainable tourists".
- e** ENPA already has a very effective communications strategy, but it could review this with the aim defining what a sustainable Exmoor should look like and how to achieve it.
- f** The Authority's work on landscape and nature conservation is a solid basis on which to build a more explicit approach towards defining how natural resource protection fits with existing National Park purposes. ENPA could consider taking the lead in defining what natural resource capacity and "limits of acceptable change" mean in practice for different parts of Exmoor.
- g** The Authority has demonstrated innovation and success in local market developments in food, drink and small-scale renewable energy using the Sustainable development Fund. In particular, this approach could be further developed to help ensure that "local" means high quality food and drink produce that is reasonably priced.

Chart 1 ENPA's illustrative contribution to local sustainability across Exmoor against potential contribution

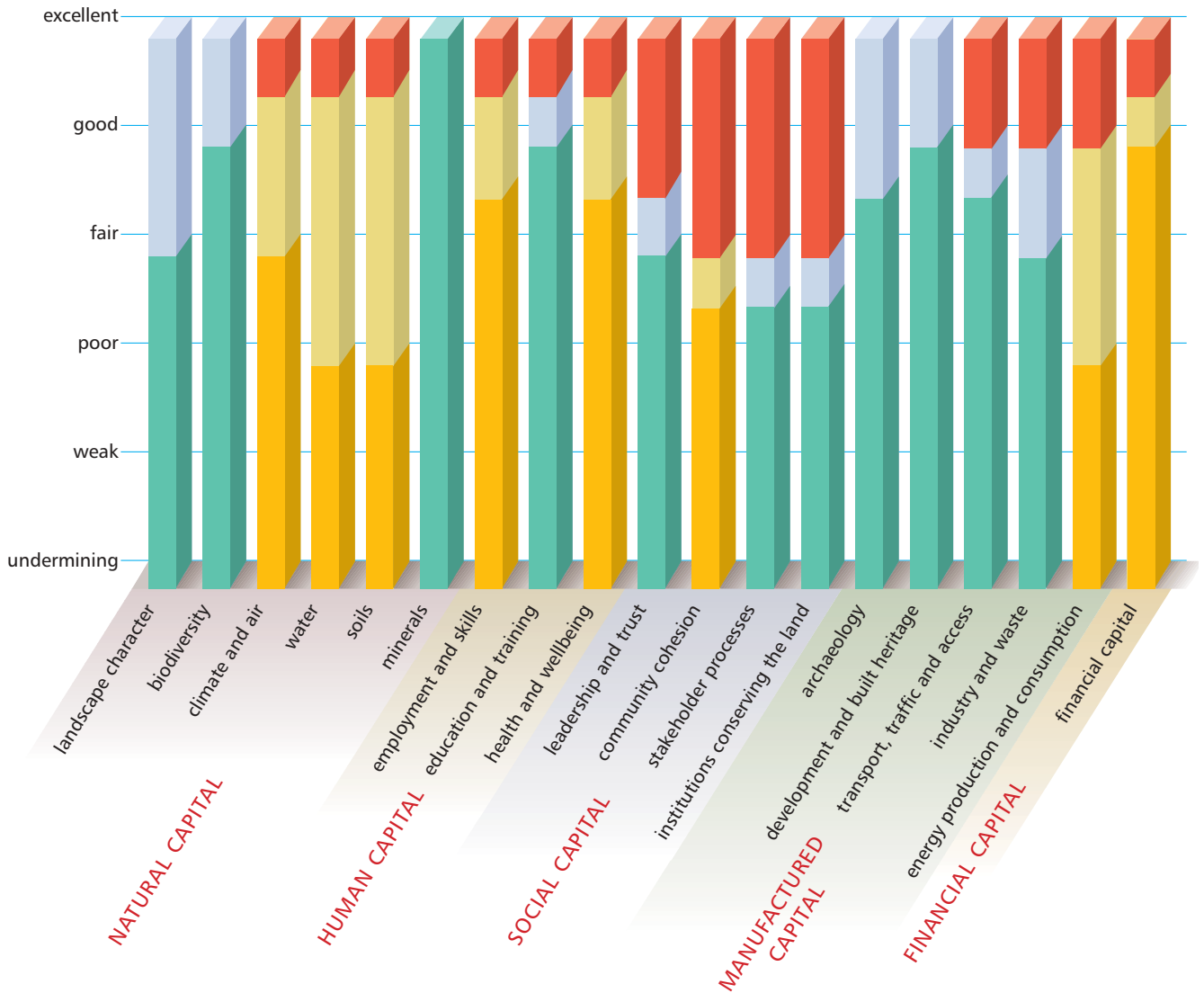


Key to chart 1

ENPA's contribution to sustainability across Exmoor National Park

- ENPA core remit; what's working well
- ENPA core remit; what more could be done
- ENPA non-core; what's working well
- ENPA non-core; what more could be done

Chart 2 Illustrative sustainability 'balance sheet' for Exmoor National Park as a whole



Key to chart 2

Perceived sustainability 'balance sheet' for Exmoor

- ENPA core remit; what's working well
 - ENPA core remit; what more could be done
 - ENPA non-core; what's working well
 - ENPA non-core; what more could be done
 - perceived policy and resource 'barriers' or constraints to local sustainability
- } core remit = where the National Park Authority has a lead role
- } non-core = where the lead role does not rest with the National Park Authority

The following sections are a summary of the appraisal findings and explain the profiles in Charts 1 and 2.

Natural Capital

Landscape character (some direct or significant indirect contribution to National Park-wide sustainability):

Exmoor National Park Authority's planning and management activities are delivering multiple benefits via a raft of measures to co-ordinate

land management and recreational use. Having and being able to apply detailed soils and local landscape character assessment data on the Geographic Information System would greatly enhance the Authority's performance, enabling them to achieve excellence.

Biodiversity (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide

sustainability): ENPA leads by example. Its Local Biodiversity Action Plan process, work on habitat restoration and improving management, and more general partnership working helps to achieve significant success in species and habitat conservation. There is potential to further build on their current approach to biodiversity by also helping to deliver Water Framework Directive responsibilities, e.g woodland retention and woodland planting to retain water and reduce/slow run-off, which would also be adaptations to climate change impacts (see climate and air quality below). However, the Local Biodiversity Action Plan process is not statutory and agriculture on Exmoor continues to have negative impacts on local biodiversity. If ENPA is able to influence the further tailoring of the Environmental Stewardship Scheme, i.e. adjust the point scoring system, and hopefully run the scheme direct as the local delivery body, it should have an even greater positive impact on biodiversity across Exmoor whilst helping to maintain farm livelihoods.

Climate and air quality (some direct or significant indirect contribution to National Park-wide sustainability):

Although not directly within its remit, ENPA is actually doing much to encourage improved local air quality and tackle climate change impacts by encouraging sustainable construction, more sustainable approaches to farming and renewable energy development and encouraging more people to use public transport. However, overall, local air quality is influenced by pollution-laden prevailing winds from Europe.

Water and soil resource function (little contribution to National Park-wide sustainability):

ENPA is not explicitly required to address water and soil function as part of their remit. However, the Authority encourages its own tenants to adopt best practice and it could perhaps use its influence to do more to encourage soil conservation and water resource quality in connection with biodiversity and landscape character. Currently, the Authority makes little direct contribution to advice on water and soil resource management, but works indirectly via the Environment Agency, the Rural Development Service and others.

Minerals (optimal contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): As the planning Authority with responsibility for minerals and similar non-renewables, e.g. peat, ENPA scores "excellent" for local sustainability because it very actively protects and encourages the conservation and wise use of local resources, particularly for construction, both in the repair and restoration of historic buildings and new development; all of which will be given even greater emphasis with the new design guide. However, in a global context ENPA is helping to "undermine" global sustainability as some building materials such as slate are much more expensive when locally sourced compared to overseas supplies, thus imports from as far afield as China and Brazil are being used in spite of the transport and carbon emissions involved. ENPA acknowledge that it needs to consider this impact.

Human Capital

Employment and skills (some direct to significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): ENPA fulfils its socio-economic duty by successfully leveraging in money for training purposes to raise local skill levels and help develop new employment opportunities. The most recent example of this is the securement of £300K from South West Regional Development Agency up to 2008. The Authority also has some control through the planning system to guide business diversification to help ensure that jobs are where people live. Perhaps the most important barrier to further success is the uncertainty about the long-term future of the Sustainable Development Fund beyond 2008.

Education and training (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): ENPA is very effective in promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of Exmoor – surveys show that all of ENPA's literature and activities are simple, effective and inclusive. The Authority is well placed to actively encourage increasing participation by under-represented groups and communities. It could also work more with others to help alleviate the current shortage in supply of suitably trained educators/facilitators.

Health and well-being (some direct to significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): The Authority has worked hard to ensure that Exmoor is seen as a tremendous natural asset providing valued opportunities for recreation, peace, tranquillity and spiritual refreshment for physically and mentally able-bodied and disabled people alike. There are no real external barriers to ENPA achieving further success for health and well-being within the context of the Authority's current remit. It could focus on making stronger links between out-door recreation and healthy living.

Social Capital

Community cohesiveness (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): The Authority directly supports local community events and local people are actively encouraged to take part in ENPA led committees and initiatives to make sure that local views help shape activities and outcomes, e.g. Planning for Real. ENPA also actively works at maintaining good links with parish councils and local interest groups, through its officers and members. The Authority uses its PR and media to encourage a strong local sense of place and to promote the Exmoor brand. It was seen as a trusted ally and 'friend' throughout the 2001 Foot and Mouth Disease epidemic and 'recovery period'. As the Planning Authority ENPA has a small degree of control over the socio-economic make-up and cohesiveness of communities across Exmoor, but this is heavily influenced by longer-term national demographic trends.

Leadership and trust (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): The Authority is seen to be accessible, focused and very responsive to local as well as nationally important issues. It is increasingly looked to as a pro-active and objective mediator/facilitator between local communities and interest groups and the public sector. It is particularly good at taking on board local aspirations and concerns and raising their profile by providing a clear channel through to national government. ENPA

has a strong social inclusion agenda in place within Exmoor and the 'Greater Exmoor' fringe, but it could perhaps promote this in a more prominent and visible way.

Stakeholder networks and processes (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): ENPA actively facilitates and encourages local networks and interest groups, and in doing so builds trust with and between its 'constituency'. It does this through the efforts of both staff and members. The Authority also maintains excellent links with other protected areas within and outside of the South West and strong links with other organisations important to local governance and socio-economic processes, e.g. local authorities, public sector agencies, Local Strategic Partnerships, South West Tourism, South West Coast Path, etc. As an effective facilitator and enabler, ENPA uses its influence to share and network good practice via a web of interlinked groups. Staff and members consulted felt that ENPA could raise its game by seeking a wider cross-section of people as representatives on the various groups and panels that the Authority has direct control over.

Institutions conserving the land (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): Unsurprisingly ENPA works very closely and effectively with the statutory environment agencies such as English Nature, as well as major NGOs like the National Trust (who own a considerable proportion of Exmoor), Campaign to Protect Rural England and private estates. In addition, ENPA is locally respected as the planning authority for Exmoor. There is perhaps an opportunity for ENPA to engage more directly with the Local Strategic Partnerships to make Exmoor's needs and opportunities more explicit in each Sustainable Community Strategy covering Exmoor at county and district level. Lastly, although ENPA has good relationships with each of the statutory agencies and regional organisations, it could possibly deepen these by being more pro-active in pushing them to work directly towards realising a shared vision for a sustainable Exmoor.

Manufactured Capital

Archaeology (some direct to significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): ENPA has excellent working relations with English Heritage and an interdisciplinary approach to site work, recording and long-term management regimes (both strategic and on a site by site basis). Currently, there are a number of joint projects underway across the National Park. However, the full archaeological resource has yet to be surveyed and recorded in detail for the whole of the National Park area.

Development and built heritage (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): ENPA is developing new design guidance to encourage sustainable construction, including the use of local materials such as timber. ENPA already does much to encourage sustainable construction but as the Local Planning Authority it could possibly do more.

Transport infrastructure, traffic and access (some direct to significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): The Authority aims to lead by example, so it has developed a staff travel incentives scheme and is developing clear internal policies to reduce car use wherever possible. ENPA has little direct influence over public transport provision; this is the responsibility of the local authorities, but it has been

successful in supporting initiatives to re-route heavy traffic and has used grant aid to set up good practice public transport schemes. The next visitor survey will address sustainable transport issues for the first time. Off-road visitor access is well-managed by the Authority. ENPA does much to communicate which facilities, routes and tracks are suitable for which visitors using a variety of media. ENPA is responsible for writing, reviewing and implementing the Exmoor components of the Rights Of Way Improvement Plans for each County Council. Until the Department of Transport seriously overhaul their guidance on signage for road traffic demand management in designated landscapes, or allow the National Parks greater interpretation it will be impossible for ENPA to achieve “excellent” in this aspect of Manufactured Capital.

Industrial processes and waste arisings (some direct or significant indirect contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): The Authority has effectively demonstrated good practice and raised awareness about waste reduction and management in a number of ways. There is much potential for ENPA to use its communications media to encourage tourist providers and visitors to reduce their waste. It may also be possible to work more closely with the local authorities to achieve more seamless waste management across the National Park.

Energy production and consumption (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): Once again, ENPA is leading by example to promote the use of renewable energy, improve energy efficiency and reduce consumption. Overall, the Sustainable Development Fund has made it easier for ENPA to champion renewable energy development and to be pro-active in encouraging good ideas and innovation connected with the management of Exmoor’s natural resources. Another means by which the Authority has actively promoted energy efficiency and renewable energy development is through the planning system, but it could possibly be even more pro-active in this respect.

Financial Capital

One of ENPA’s biggest strengths is its ability and willingness to use its funding very flexibly in comparison to other bodies. The Authority has used its second purpose and duty of care to deliver its first purpose through awareness-raising and using the Sustainable Development Fund to encourage local entrepreneurs to develop sustainable local business opportunities. Through its vision for Exmoor and close partnerships ENPA is able to influence the way funding is targeted and used on Exmoor. The ‘Care Moor’ Scheme is one of ENPA’s main sustainable tourism initiatives. The National Park Authority spends over £1 million each year on recreation management, rangers, estate services and volunteers. ENPA actively promotes Exmoor as a high quality tourist destination. There is potential to make up some of the loss of income from hunting through development of the “equine tourism “ market. Provision of a downhill bike centre and family cycle holidays are being investigated. Persuading visitors to stay longer is also part of ENPA’s strategy for boosting Exmoor’s economy. The Authority needs further research to study how well money circulates locally, for local businesses and households to reap the full benefits. This information should help guide the Authority’s future policies and activities, not least its use of the Sustainable Development Fund monies.

1 Introduction: context to the SW land use appraisal case studies, their scope and purpose.

1.1 What is sustainable, integrated land use?

There are several definitions of sustainable development currently in use, for example it means enabling “all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations” (Defra, 2005). Another widely-used definition comes from the Brundtland report of 1987, “development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” Forum for the Future’s own definition similarly explains that “sustainable development is a dynamic process which enables all people to realise their potential and to improve their quality of life in ways which simultaneously protect and enhance the Earth’s life support systems” (1996). All of these definitions essentially mean we should all live on the earth’s income rather than eroding its stock of capital assets.

At present, the costs of economic activity are largely accounted for without including all of the impacts on the land and its resources in terms of pollution, inefficient energy use and the production of materials currently considered as waste to be disposed of at further cost. A damaged environment impairs and threatens everyone’s quality of life and threatens long term economic stability e.g. climate change impacts. Obviously, land is a finite resource and we cannot make more of it or replace it. The challenge is to find more integrated and sustainable ways of using it so that natural resource function is not compromised or impaired in pursuit of short-term gain. This approach involves taking into account all of the goods and services that land is capable of providing society with in any given area.

To integrate simply means to bring together all of the parts or components of land use to result in more sustainable outcomes, i.e. social equity and economic prosperity are achieved in ways that work with the environment to protect and conserve natural resource function and natural assets such as biodiversity, water quality and landscape character.

Forum for the Future advocates the use of the Five Capitals Model¹ as a robust and practical way of thinking about using resources in more sustainable ways. The Five Capitals are:

Natural capital – is the basis of life itself, it is the stock or flow of renewable and non-renewable natural resources, sinks that deal with wastes, and processes that regulate the climate, e.g. use renewable resources only from well-managed and restorative ecosystems.

Human capital – consists of people’s health, knowledge, skills and motivation. Enhancing it through education and training and is essential to a flourishing economy for meeting basic human needs such as housing, food, freedom and security, creativity and leisure.

¹ Also used by the Department for International Development for their work on sustainable livelihoods, and by Water UK and a growing number of commercial and public sector organisations.

Social capital – helps us maintain and develop human capital in partnership with others through trade unions, voluntary bodies, institutions and communities through effective communication based on trust, shared values and objectives.

Manufactured capital – means the material goods or fixed assets, like buildings, roads, pathways and machines, which contribute to the production of goods. It can be enhanced by harnessing natural systems to reduce wastes and treat them by efficient re-cycling and re-manufacturing,

Financial capital – represents the full value of natural, human, social and manufactured capital, i.e. by ensuring that financial costs and payments take due account of the other four capitals.

1.2 The South West land use initiative and case studies

The appraisal process trialled in this case study is being developed by Forum for the Future to help identify good practice in sustainable, integrated land use, the barriers to achieving it and to help in promoting solutions to these problems across the South West region. Using the Five Capitals Model as an overall framework, the appraisal methodology draws on the Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) and checklist, so findings from this initiative should help develop the land use strand of the South West's RSDF and help to refine its indicators. Other sustainability appraisal tools such as Quality of Life Capital have also been used to develop the appraisal process. Exmoor National Park Authority is one of five initial case studies. The others are the Ruby Country Initiative in north Devon, the restoration of the lowland heath Natural Area/Character Area in Dorset, the Purbeck biodiversity project and the Parrett Catchment Project in Somerset. The case study findings will be used to develop a user-friendly "how to do it" guide. This will be for regional, sub-regional and local organisations and groups interested in appraising their own area-based land related initiatives or in helping to design and monitor new ones. The appraisal process and the companion 'user guide' will be an end in themselves. However, they will also be a practical means towards the development of a regionally-held body of evidence about what:

- good practice actually is and where it exists
- is necessary to turn good practice into common practice
- issues are common across the South West
- issues are locality specific
- processes and delivery methods work well
- needs changing, or requires further investigation in order for more sustainable, integrated land use to be mainstreamed.

Case study information is accessible via the SW Regional Observatory's web-accessible database as well as the Forum's own web-site. This database could be added to by other area-based projects and organisations as they complete their own appraisals. The Forum could act as a gatekeeper and co-ordinator for further case studies towards the development of a new regional evidence base for integrated, sustainable rural land use.

2 Exmoor National Park Authority's role and remit

Exmoor National Park covers 693 km² (267 sq. miles) of remote, unspoilt countryside in the south west of England. Although a well-defined landscape unit, part of the National Park is in Devon (29%) and part in Somerset (71%). Exmoor's landscape is characterised by upland heather and grass moorland often of high archaeological interest, bisected by narrow wooded valleys and steep coastal combs. Villages and farmsteads are mainly found in the sheltered valley bottoms and older buildings are made of local slate and sandstone. The moor takes its name from the River Exe, which rises there. Exmoor meets the sea at its northern edge, ending in high and spectacular cliffs with coastal heath, large caves, hidden inlets and pebble beaches. Exmoor ponies and red deer are nationally iconic species, but the National Park is also home to a number of rare bird, butterfly and plant species. Exmoor was designated a National Park in 1954 because of its size and scenery and also because it was one of the few wild areas in the south of England that people from London, the Midlands and South Wales could visit easily. The co-ordination of work to achieve National Park purposes in the area has been led by the free-standing Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA) since 1997. ENPA decides what measures can be taken to fulfil National Park Purposes to:

- conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Parks; and
- promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public

Like other public authorities it has a range of statutory duties and one of these is to seek to foster the social and economic well-being of the local community. However, this is mainly the responsibility of the District and County Councils and the National Park Authority should not incur significant expenditure in meeting this duty. It does not have the full range of responsibilities of local councils and is known as a 'single purpose' authority.

The money spent by the National Park Authority comes from a variety of sources. About 80% comes as a direct grant from the Government. The amount depends upon the Government's own priorities and their reaction to the Authority's annual bid and performance. The remainder is made up from grants from other statutory bodies, including European funding, and self-generated income.

The Authority's Committee consists of 26 members. Of these, 14 are district or county councillors and 12 are appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment. These latter 12 are made up of 5 parish councillors plus 7 people with special skills and knowledge representing the national interest. The ratio of councillors reflects that one third of the National Park is in Devon and two thirds in Somerset. Collectively, the Committee members bring to bear a balance of interests and skills on the day to day running of the National Park. The Secretary of State appointees have fixed terms while duly elected councillors are appointed by the constituent local authorities.

The National Park Authority produces a National Park Management Plan to provide a framework for all that it does in pursuit of its statutory purposes. This plan is extensively

reviewed every five years as a plan for Exmoor as a whole, rather than just the Authority. There is wide consultation with a variety of organisations and the proposals are open to public comment. In the past a similar procedure applied to its Structure Plan. This will now be carried out on the developing Core Strategy and Local Development Framework for Exmoor under the reformed planning system. These new planning instruments will set out the Authority's broad planning policies for Exmoor, including detailed proposals for each settlement.

In addition, ENPA produces an Annual Report that explains what it has done and how the money has been spent. It also keeps the public informed through frequent press releases, articles in local publications, a schools' newsletter, a free visitors newspaper and a community newspaper for residents of Exmoor. The Authority also widely consults and informs local organisations through the Exmoor Consultative & Parish Forum. The Authority also works closely with organisations and individuals on matters of shared interest, such as through the Visit Exmoor Forum, Archaeology Advisory Group and Exmoor Local Access Forum.

Statutory planning responsibilities, discussion and advice are the main tools the National Park Authority has to carry out its work. The diversity of its work means that it is in contact with many other parts of local and national government, agencies and other relevant organisations. Consequently, a considerable range of expertise exists within the Authority so that it can offer help and advice to local residents, businesses, special interest groups and visitors on subjects as diverse as:

Funding: The Authority's farm and countryside service provides free advice to put farmers and landowners in touch with the appropriate organisations able to fund management and conservation activities. In addition, the Authority operates its own landscape conservation grants, Community Support grants and a discretionary Sustainable Development Fund which is used to encourage and enable local sustainability, particularly where innovative and lasting changes can be put in place to boost the local economy, benefit communities and enhance the environment. Very occasionally the Authority also bought land to protect its landscape character and nature conservation interest.

Heritage: the Authority provides advice on how to manage archaeological sites and structures, including industrial archaeology or buildings of special interest.

Wildlife: the Authority's specialist staff provide free advice on the conservation and management of woodland and landscape to enhance wildlife habitats and the status of species.

Planning: the Authority promotes a high standard of building design and resists unsuitable development within the National Park. Its planning officers provide advice on development proposals to potential applicants as well as residents who may have concerns over the impact of a particular application. It produces a National park-wide Local Development Framework (formerly the Local Plan) covering issues from environmental protection to low cost local housing as part of its delivery of National Park purposes.

Tourism: Developing sustainable tourism, providing information about the special qualities of Exmoor. Encouraging tourism initiatives to promote a thriving economy.

Research: The Authority undertakes environmental and recreational research and surveys to build an evidence base on which to develop its policies and guide its operational activities.

Education: the Authority has 3 full-time education officers who advise and assist with environmental education both in school and on field visits, and it also publishes a wide range of educational material to support the National Curriculum. It also provides a residential study centre to support its environmental education service.

Helping hands: Parish Councils may request assistance in the form of work in kind or help and advice with projects.

Access and recreation: The Authority negotiates agreements on land management and access for the public. It holds detailed and extensive mapped information and can help with advice about rights of way, bridleways etc. It also maintains a comprehensive rights of way network of over 625 miles of footpaths and bridleways, runs an annual programme of guided walks and similar events, and provides and manages information centres, car parks, toilets and picnic areas. The Authority offers professional advice on staging events, rallies and other gatherings.

Archives: The Authority's library has many books about Exmoor, past and present, available for use at Exmoor House, where staff are on-hand who may be able to help. National Park Centres and local information points: There are 5 specially staffed centres throughout the park and they are there to help local people as well as visitors. There are also a number of information points strategically located across the National Park in various local outlets.

3 ENPA and sustainable development

In recent years ENPA has taken an increasingly pro-active approach to deepening sustainability across Exmoor as the most effective means of delivering National Park purposes and implementing the vision for Exmoor in the longer term. It has done this particularly effectively through use of the planning system to achieve sustainable patterns of development whilst conserving and enhancing Exmoor's landscape and wildlife. This approach was given a considerable boost with the introduction of the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) for National Park use in 2002 by Defra. The scheme was trialled with the aim of fostering sustainability within each of the National Parks. ENPA appointed a dedicated, full-time Sustainable Development Officer to oversee the implementation of the scheme in Exmoor and to take on aspects of embedding sustainable development into ENPA's own systems and operational activities. It is being used to support a huge variety of projects, from wildlife to recreation and activity centres; from green transport to educational facilities; from developing alternative energy sources to sourcing produce locally; and from training in traditional countryside skills to developing ecological and affordable housing. The success of the Sustainable Development Fund's first 18 months was evaluated by Defra's consultants in 2004 ([see www.defra.gov.uk/news/2004/041006a.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2004/041006a.htm)).

Until now, however, ENPA has not assessed its wider impact on local sustainability across Exmoor by examining all of its activities in relation to local sustainability issues and how it

is tackling these within the context of its remit and National Park purposes. Thus the sustainability appraisal carried out by the Forum for the Future had 3 main objectives. These were to:

- a** determine what impact the National Park Authority has on Exmoor's current sustainability and develop a sustainability profile to illustrate this;
- b** find out how ENPA could deepen or increase its impact to achieve more sustainable outcomes across the National Park; and thirdly,
- c** identify barriers that prevent this from happening and explore ways of resolving them.

Consequently, the results of this appraisal will be used to feed into the following statutory review processes being set up by ENPA and its partners from mid summer 2005 into early 2006:

- National Park Authority Performance Assessment – an external review of ENPA's performance alongside other National Park Authorities. The sustainability appraisal will provide a widely agreed picture of the Authority's contribution to sustainability across Exmoor National Park.
- Review of the National Park Management Plan, where the sustainability appraisal will help to identify issues to feed into the public consultation process to begin setting plan priorities for 2006-2011.
- Preparation of the new Local Development Framework Core Strategy – this will be developed alongside the new National Park Management Plan. It will provide the spatial vision for land use and related spatial matters affecting Exmoor.

The approach to appraisal based on the 5 capitals framework used by the Forum for the Future was first discussed and agreed with key members of the Exmoor National Park management team. It involved holding a series of half day, issues-based workshops; one for each of the 5 capitals. Selected staff and members took part in these mini-workshops to establish a list of key issues and ways that ENPA were already addressing them for each capital. This enabled material to be developed for further discussion by a much larger group of staff and members at a subsequent one-day event. The focus for this last and wider workshop was to validate and add to the earlier findings and then go on to explore ways in which ENPA could help make Exmoor National Park more sustainable, including ways to overcome current barriers and obstacles to a more sustainable Exmoor.

4 ENPA's sustainability profile in 2005

This section presents the findings from the appraisal process (see Annex A), which centred on discussions held with groups of members and staff at the series of 'in-house' workshops. The findings are presented below for each of the five capitals to summarise the Authority's impact on local sustainability in 2005, i.e. this report does not present an exhaustive list of all of the activities that ENPA carries out, but it gives good examples that cover the full scope and impact of what the Authority does. The external barriers preventing ENPA from achieving further success in delivering its role and remit towards a more sustainable Exmoor are briefly explained. Suggestions for how the Authority could increase its success in the future, by helping to realise potential benefits to local sustainability, are set out in Section 5. under each of the current National Park Management Plan categories or sections.

It is worth re-iterating here that the appraisal was stakeholder-led and qualitative. The sustainability evaluation criteria used to develop the sustainability profile for ENPA were adapted from those developed by the Audit Commission for use by Local Authorities for evaluating their performance in delivering key public services². Forum for the Future has amended these criteria for use in sustainability appraisal with each of their public sector partners. They have been adapted for ENPA in the following way:

CPA "Excellent" *interpreted to mean that ENPA makes:*

a close to **optimal** contribution to National Park -wide sustainability

CPA "Good" *interpreted to mean that ENPA makes:*

significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability

CPA "Fair" *interpreted to mean that ENPA makes:*

some direct or significant indirect contribution to sustainability across the National Park

CPA "Weak" *interpreted to mean that ENPA makes:*

little contribution to National Park-wide sustainability and there are missed opportunities

CPA "Poor" *interpreted to mean that ENPA's activities*

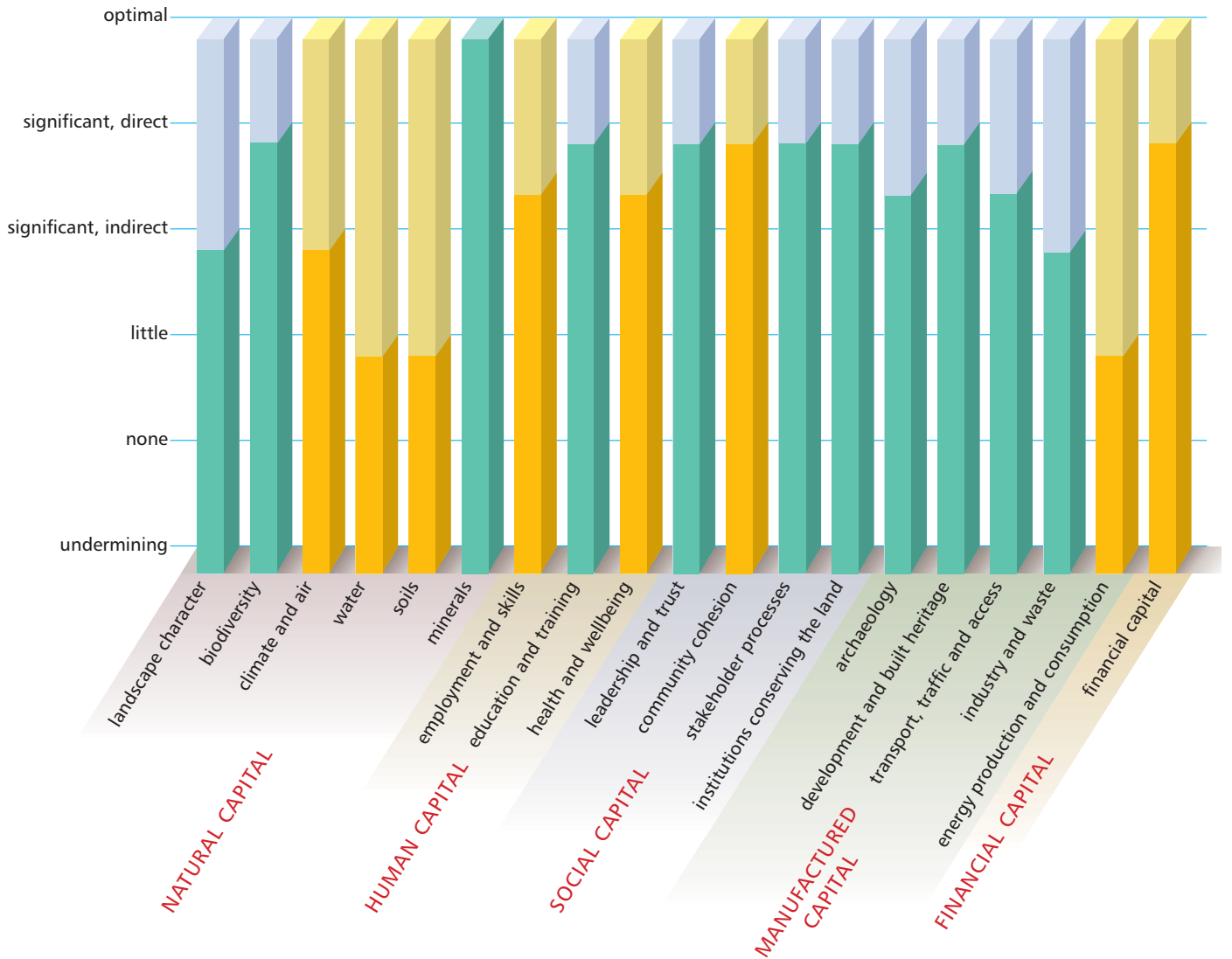
make **no contribution** to National Park-wide sustainability

CPA "Undermining" *interpreted to mean that ENPA's activities*

are **significantly undermining** area-wide sustainability

² Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) criteria developed by the Audit Commission for local government use - see www.audit-commission.gov.uk/cpa/index.asp for further information

Chart 1 ENPA's illustrative contribution to local sustainability across Exmoor against potential contribution



Key to chart 1

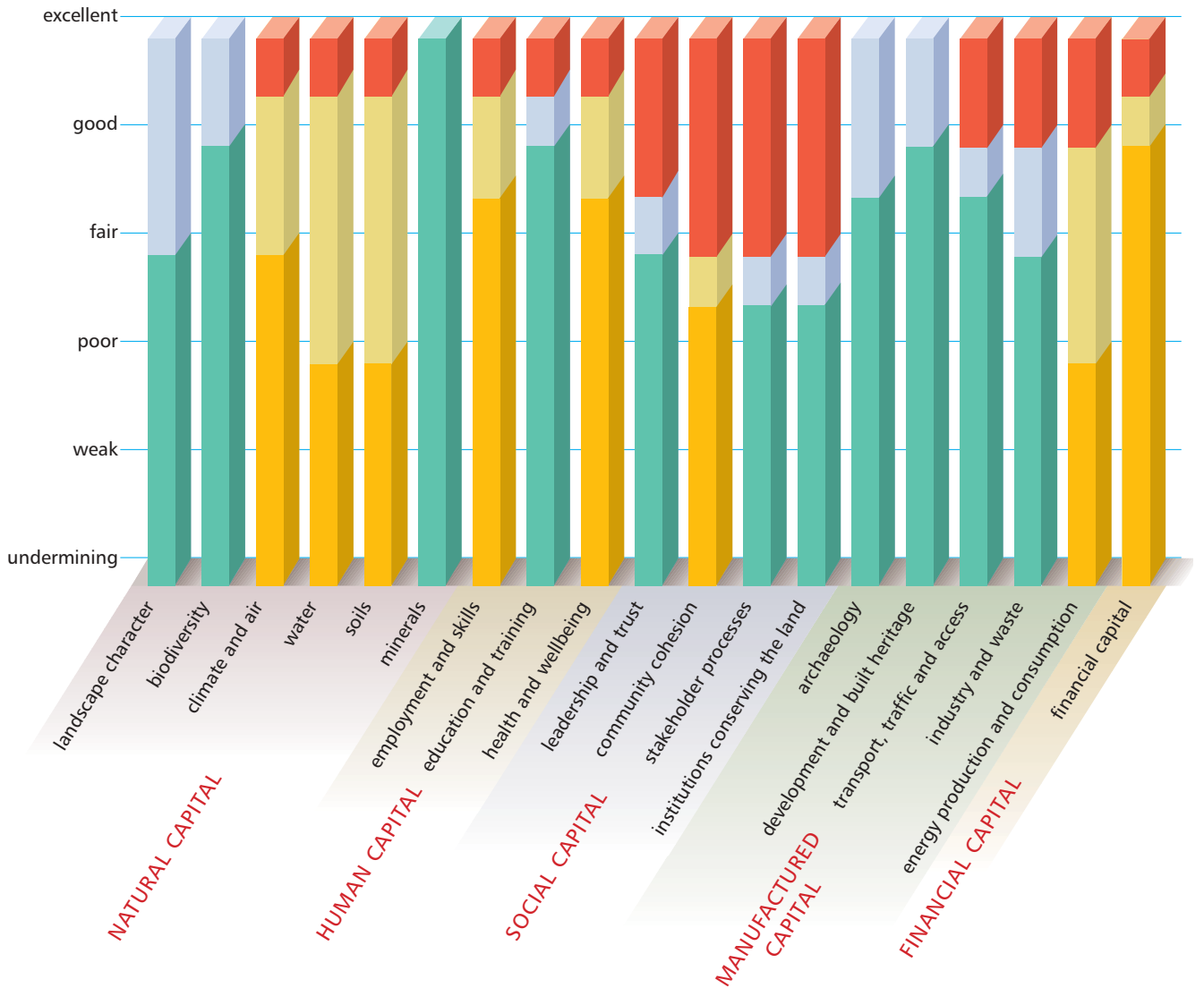
ENPA's contribution to area-wide sustainability

- ENPA core remit; what's working well
- ENPA core remit; what more could be done
- ENPA non-core; what's working well
- ENPA non-core; what more could be done

The bar chart above is simply a pictorial representation of staff and member views and perceptions, i.e. it is illustrative and not in any way quantitative, although the various views expressed were based on survey evidence and data collated as an integral part of the Authority's day to day activities³. The results clearly show that ENPA is having a considerable, beneficial impact on local sustainability across Exmoor, both through core activities directly relating to its remit to deliver National Park purposes, and in delivering its new duty to foster the socio-economic well-being of Exmoor's communities.

³ See "State of the Park report" which is constantly updated as a live document on ENPA's website.

Chart 2 Illustrative sustainability 'balance sheet' for Exmoor National Park



Key to chart 2

Perceived sustainability 'balance sheet' for Exmoor

- ENPA core remit; what's working well
 - ENPA core remit; what more could be done
 - ENPA non-core; what's working well
 - ENPA non-core; what more could be done
 - perceived policy and resource 'barriers' or constraints to local sustainability
- } core remit = where the National Park Authority has a lead role
 } non-core = where the lead role does not rest with the National Park Authority

4.1 Natural capital - what is working well:

4.1.1 Landscape character (some direct or significant indirect contribution to National Park-wide sustainability); ENPA's woodland management activities and the 2004/05 Moorland Initiative are delivering multiple benefits via a raft of measures to co-ordinate land management and recreational use. ENPA successfully lobbied government to set up the National Park-wide Environmentally Sensitive Area in 1993 and in this way, made a direct contribution to land management and local landscape character. Today however, many perceive the Environmentally Sensitive Area prescriptions to be too inflexible and geared too heavily towards pastoral rather than the more traditional mixed farming regimes once common across Exmoor. The new 2005 agri-environment Environmental Stewardship scheme may provide an opportunity for ENPA to increase its influence on natural resource management and landscape character across the National Park, especially if it becomes the delivery organisation for this scheme within the next few years.

As the Local Planning Authority, ENPA successfully enforces planning controls to ensure that local character and distinctiveness are maintained both in settlements and their wider landscape setting. This approach will be greatly reinforced through the publication and communication of the National Park Authority's new design guidance which will also encourage sustainable construction practices and the use of local materials (see Manufactured capital). Achieving "excellent" will probably require more targeted efforts using an improved information base to identify and realise the potential to enhance the landscape, its biodiversity resource and natural resource function using more integrated approaches and even closer partnership working with a number of agencies, the local authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships (see Human and Social Capital findings below).

Barriers to further success: given that ENPA currently lacks complete, detailed coverage for soils data and landscape character assessment information the Authority is already doing a considerable amount to conserve and enhance landscape character and biodiversity in ways that are sustainable. However, many staff are concerned that they are simply 'holding the line' rather than enabling positive enhancement of the local landscape. By resolving these resource issues it would be possible able to rapidly increase ENPA's impact to "good" and ultimately "excellent" by developing more detailed landscape management guidelines per land unit (see section 5).

4.1.2 Biodiversity (significant positive impact): ENPA's Local Biodiversity Action Plan process brings together all of the key stakeholders to achieve significant success in species and habitat conservation; this is a very good example of how ENPA works by influencing others and facilitating collaborative working (see social capital – this very effective partnership approach is key to ENPA's success across the board). There is potential for ENPA to further build on their current approach to biodiversity by also helping to deliver Water Framework Directive responsibilities, e.g woodland retention and woodland planting to retain water and reduce/slow run-off, which would also be adaptations to climate change impacts (see climate and air quality below). ENPA is heavily involved in the Moorland Improvement & Restoration on Exmoor project to re-create blanket bog on Exmoor. This will also have benefits for helping to slow run-off rates in specific areas and alleviate localised flooding

in response to climate change impacts. ENPA is leading by example in woodland management and conservation: it has 575ha of woodland under direct management in accordance with Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) principles (these are actively promoted via group certification). This scheme is run by ENPA with direct support from the Forestry Commission. All timber products from these Forestry Stewardship Council managed woods are used for local fencing, gates, etc to contribute to and reinforce local character and distinctiveness.

Barriers to further success: Currently Local Biodiversity Action Plans have no statutory status and so are largely under-resourced, Exmoor's is no exception. Despite best efforts, agriculture on Exmoor continues to have negative impacts on local biodiversity. If ENPA is able to influence the further tailoring of the Environmental Stewardship Scheme, i.e. adjust the point scoring system, and hopefully run the scheme direct as the local delivery body, it should have an even greater positive impact on biodiversity across Exmoor whilst maintaining farm livelihoods.

4.1.3 Climate and air quality (some direct or significant indirect contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): Although not directly within its remit, ENPA is actually doing much to encourage improved local air quality and tackle climate change impacts. By taking a more focused approach it could further increase its impact to "good". For example:

- Encouraging wood fuel & hydro power development.
- All new ENPA building projects have sustainable energy as part of the design.
- New planning design guide for wide use across Exmoor.
- Through planning control, e.g. reducing the need to travel, promotion of sustainable energy, sustainable construction, etc.
- Seminars held to help spread good practice amongst local developers and contractors
- Encouraging tourism in the UK rather than travelling abroad.
- Using land management solutions to reduce the incidence of climate change impacts such as localised flooding

Barriers to further success: Air quality across Exmoor is heavily influenced by prevailing winds carrying air pollutants from as far afield as continental Europe so there is little the Authority can do control this.

4.1.4 Water and soil resource function (little contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): Although ENPA is a partner in the Soil and Water Protection⁴ European project to tackle diffuse pollution and raise water quality, and every ENPA tenant is encouraged to develop their own soil management plan for prioritising changes to more sustainable management regimes, ENPA doesn't work directly to improve the local sustainability of water resources and soils across the whole of Exmoor because they are not explicitly required to as part of their remit. The Authority could perhaps use its influence to do more to encourage soil conservation and water resource quality in connection with biodiversity and landscape character by, for example, using its planning control powers

⁴ See www.sowap.org

more pro-actively in this respect. This would provide improved support to those agencies that are directly charged with protecting soil and water natural resource function and quality. Currently, the Authority makes little direct contribution to advice on local land management, but works indirectly via the Environment Agency, the Rural Development Service and others. Working relationships with these organisations could perhaps be strengthened for the Authority to increase its influence on land managers and deliver the vision for a more sustainable Exmoor (see Human and Social capital analyses). Access to better and more comprehensive soils data would be useful for ENPA in helping to set targets for habitat conservation and enhancement across Exmoor in relation to improved natural resource function and landscape character.

Barriers to further success: The real barrier to further success in increasing the sustainability of soils across Exmoor is ENPA's lack of detailed soils data and the cost of acquiring this.

4.1.5 Minerals (optimal contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): As the strategic planning Authority with responsibility for minerals and similar non-renewables, e.g. peat, ENPA scores "excellent" for local sustainability because it very actively protects and encourages the conservation and wise use of local resources, particularly for construction, both in the repair and restoration of historic buildings and new development; all of which will be given even greater emphasis with the new design guide. However, in a global context ENPA is helping to "undermine" global sustainability as use of local roofing slate is more expensive than imported slate from China, Brazil and other countries; the use of slate is preferred to meet local planning & design requirements. Similarly, imported thatch from Poland is not sustainable in view of distance travelled and carbon emitted, but also because it undermines more local production. ENPA acknowledge that they need to have an explicit strategy to achieve the local sourcing of sustainable materials to meet Exmoor's construction needs.

Barriers to further success: None, on the basis that it should be possible to resolve the slate issue by locating a more local source of natural slate, or acceptable, cheaper substitutes and stipulating these in planning consents and in design advice.

4.2 Human Capital – what works well:

4.2.1 Employment and skills (some direct and significant contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): Many of the local issues over employment and declining rural skills are not confined to Exmoor but prevalent across the South West region as a whole. ENPA is not directly responsible for encouraging local employment and business diversity but it has a duty to foster the social and economic well-being of the local community. It currently fulfils this duty by successfully leveraging in money for training purposes to raise local skill levels. The Authority also has some control through the planning system to guide business diversification to help ensure that jobs are where people live. ENPA is also very good at reaching the many, well-educated incomers to the area who often provide new job opportunities. These people are often very environmentally aware and

open to suggestions for making their businesses more sustainable. Targeted use of the Sustainable Development Fund has helped ENPA to encourage new business development that increases local sustainability on Exmoor. However, the Authority could perhaps do more along these lines to explicitly target and encourage local business diversification and to link training opportunities to boost the local skills base, reduce the need to commute and increase local production and consumption. The 2002 “Statement on the economy of Exmoor” consultation draft, which set out some of the challenges facing the National Park, also gave ideas for further economic development that are compatible with National Park purposes and sustainable development. Many of these ideas, such as encouraging spin-off business development such as bike and equestrian hire, stabling, accessories and clothing, could be developed using Sustainable Development Fund monies.

Barriers to further success: Perhaps the most important barrier to further success is the uncertainty about the long-term availability of the Sustainable Development Fund, although a further 3 year tranche of funding to 2008 was recently agreed by Defra that will be further supported by a contribution from the South West Regional Development Agency. A recent evaluation of the Sustainable Development Fund scheme commissioned by Defra resulted in the scheme being extended to each of the English Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty with a view to developing it as a model of good practice in rural development.

4.2.2 Education and training (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): ENPA is very effective in fulfilling its National Park purpose to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of Exmoor by the public – surveys show that all of ENPA’s literature and activities are simple, effective and inclusive. So the Authority is well placed to more strongly promote ways to increase local sustainability. It currently has a considerable and widespread impact on the development of human capital across Exmoor and beyond by developing:

- a strong relationship with all of the local schools, having developed joint agendas for all subjects via the ‘curriculum authorities’, resulting in a free FILEX pack of educational materials for schools. Consequently, all local schools make good use of the Pinkery Centre, as do visiting school groups from the close urban areas like Bristol. Demand is so high that ENPA doesn’t need to be pro-active, however, it does actively encourage participation by under-represented groups and communities. Sustainable Development Fund grant is used as a catalyst to bring together local and urban school children on one week courses to use video, art and other media to understand the area; all activities are directly linked to the curriculum.
- a well-structured approach to making information available in shops, hotels, and pubs in addition to its own visitor centres. Follow-up surveys show that the Authority is good at communicating and awareness-raising.
- various initiatives with initial funding support to encourage learning and knowledge transfer, e.g. the “Experience Moor” initiative is now successfully self-funded, offering young offenders and those ‘at risk’ from urban areas the chance to do countryside management. Monitoring demonstrates a large proportion have been “turned around”

by the practical learning experience. The ENVISION⁵ (Green Business Kit) seminars are primarily for tourism businesses to encourage farmers and tourism providers to work together, e.g. farmers within 5 miles to supply breakfast needs, encouraging local production and consumption that makes good economic sense.

- rural skills workshops at Simonsbath (accreditation approved) to add to the skills portfolio of attendees enabling youngsters to gain work and life experience through working with nature. (The only drawback is that the same opportunities are not available to all young, largely disadvantaged young people who may benefit.
- small local half day practical events in pubs and halls, e.g. cheese-making for goat owners to help spread good practice, making it easier for farmers to attend.
- adult learning and leisure initiatives for local communities, these include Winsford computing and Lynton
- community IT and other skills training provision within key rural settlements.

Barriers to further success: There are no real external barriers to ENPA achieving further success for employment and skills, within the context of the Authority's current remit, except for the current shortage in supply of suitably trained educators/facilitators. This is perhaps a matter for the regional learning and skills strategy Action Plan and the SW Protected Landscapes Forum to address more widely.

4.2.3 Health and well-being (some direct to significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): Exmoor is seen as a tremendous natural asset for everyone, and provides valued opportunities for recreation, peace, tranquillity and spiritual refreshment for physically and mentally able-bodied and disabled people alike. The Authority does much to encourage this, especially supporting under-represented groups to enjoy Exmoor, making it an inclusive experience as well as one that strengthens health and well-being, both physically and through spiritual refreshment, e.g. ENPA already supports the Seahorse Centre at Minehead, for adults with learning difficulties and also works closely with the Calvert Trust. ENPA also host and help in the delivery of the "Active Exmoor" initiative via a 3 yr grant from Sport England. The Authority's rangers regularly arrange healthy walks for locals and visitors that could perhaps be more proactive (working closely with local GPs) about local health issues rather than being reactive. ENPA has good links with the West Somerset District "Walking for health" initiative that attracts a high number of elderly people. These events are important as they also give people an opportunity to socialise.

Via its role as the Planning Authority and through initiatives such as the new design guide, ENPA is able to encourage more energy efficient, affordable and sustainable housing (although its power stops at development control) to further aid local health and well-being. The Authority also works closely with others to help disabled people gain access to Exmoor; for example, its policy is to replace stiles with gates for easier access. There are very few routes currently suitable for wheelchairs and ENPA could do more to identify additional routes that could be made so.

⁵ See www.envision.org.uk

ENPA is actively trying to solve the dog-fouling issue by providing fenced areas with bins by car parks just for dogs to use before and after walks. Lots of Exmoor accommodation is “dog-friendly”; this is seen as a niche tourism market that ENPA is happy to support by providing dog routes and dog-friendly stiles, but perhaps more could be made of this. However, this is not without problems as most of the farming community are concerned about dogs spreading worm infestations and worrying stock, especially at lambing time. The Authority itself is concerned that dogs allowed to roam off-leash can disturb vulnerable wildlife, particularly ground-nesting birds during the breeding season. It may be worth developing an interactive map that dog-owners can check and download maps from that explain where and why they can or can’t take dogs at different times of the year? It could be advertised locally (for use in local library) and also in publications that provide information about dog-friendly places to stay.

Barriers to further success: There are no real external barriers to ENPA achieving further success for health and well-being, within the limited context of the Authority’s current remit.

4.3 Social Capital – what is working well:

4.3.1 Community cohesiveness (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): The Authority gets directly involved in local community events, e.g. exhibitions at local fetes and shows, and it also sponsors local festivals and encourages ‘new’ community events, for example, ENPA successfully levered in EU funding for the new annual Exmoor food festival.

Local people are actively encouraged to take part in ENPA led committees and initiatives to make sure that local views help shape activities and outcomes, e.g. the Planning for Real exercise was hugely successful because of the in-depth, active engagement with local communities. This approach really helps to reinforce sense of place and local character, and actively reinforces the idea of Exmoor as a distinct entity with its own communities even if the social networks may reflect local authority areas and the ‘pull’ of key settlements such as Taunton and Barnstaple. ENPA also actively works at maintaining good links with parish councils and local interest groups, through its officers and members.

The Authority uses its PR and media to encourage a strong local sense of place and to promote the Exmoor brand, providing every household in the National Park with its house newspaper. This has a deliberately inclusive and friendly style. Far from trust breaking down in communities on Exmoor as a result of Foot and Mouth Disease in 2001, community cohesion grew as local people pulled together. ENPA was seen as a trusted ally and ‘friend’ throughout the epidemic and ‘recovery period’. In summary, ENPA is successful with an inclusive approach to diversity and is providing opportunities, especially for school children, to meet and mix with others from a range of areas and backgrounds (see Human capital).

Barriers to further success: As the strategic Planning Authority ENPA has a small degree of control over the socio-economic make-up and cohesiveness of communities across Exmoor. But this is also heavily influenced by longer-term national demographic trends that in turn relate to the global economy and wider societal trends affecting rural areas.⁶

⁶ See http://statistics.defra.gov.uk/esg/rural_resd/reh.asp

4.3.2 Leadership and trust (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability):

ENPA was looked to, and willingly took the, lead in tackling Foot and Mouth Disease impacts on Exmoor in 2001. The Authority is seen to be accessible, focused and very responsive to local as well as nationally important issues. It is increasingly looked to as a pro-active and objective mediator/facilitator between local communities and interest groups and the public sector. It is particularly good at taking on board local aspirations and concerns and raising their profile by providing a clear channel through to national government. ENPA has a strong social inclusion agenda in place within Exmoor and the 'Greater Exmoor' fringe, but it could perhaps promote this in a more prominent and visible way.

ENPA has a well-structured system of management in place and a long term vision to guide the implementation of Park Plan policies and objectives. The Authority is regarded as the lead body and champion for sustainable development on Exmoor. It appointed a Sustainable Development Officer 2 years ago (primarily to manage the SDF for Exmoor) and sustainability checks and assessment processes have been introduced across most of the NPA's activities. This sustainable development culture is gradually developing to become a more integral part of staff and member activities, however there is potential to more fully embed it within the organisation.

ENPA maintains strong links with other protected areas within and outside of the south west. It also maintains strong links with other organisations important to local and regional governance and socio-economic processes, e.g. the public sector agencies, South West Tourism, South West Coast Path, etc..

Barriers to further success: Within the context of its current remit, there are few external barriers that hinder the Authority's potential for achieving further success for this aspect of Social Capital.

4.3.3 Stakeholder networks and processes (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability):

ENPA actively facilitates and encourages local networks and interest groups, and in doing so builds trust with and between its 'constituency'. It does this through the efforts of both staff and members. Local groups see ENPA's direct links to central government as very important to them. The Authority also maintains excellent links with other protected areas within and outside of the south west and strong links with other organisations important to local governance and socio-economic processes, e.g. public sector agencies, South West Tourism, South West Coast Path, etc. In addition, ENPA has a member on the Regional Assembly and similar links to the Local Strategic Partnerships, and so is in a good position to ensure local and local to regional communications are actively managed.

As an effective facilitator and enabler, ENPA uses its influence to share and network good practice via a web of interlinked groups, e.g. Sustainable development Fund Panel, Moorland Board, Exmoor and Quantocks Foodlinks and others. The Authority also helps to run and facilitate others' events, e.g. recreational activities for local and visiting groups in addition to initiating its own participative processes such as the extensive Planning for

Real exercise 4 years ago, and the more recent Design Guide consultation, to keep in touch and work directly with Exmoor's communities in the broadest sense. Staff and members consulted felt that ENPA could raise its game by seeking a wider cross-section of people as representatives on the various groups and panels that the Authority has direct control over.

Barriers to further success: There are no real external barriers to further success in this aspect of social capital.

4.3.4 Institutions conserving the land (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): When Exmoor was first set up it was viewed by locals as an imposition and a threat to the area's farming activities and agricultural development. Local people set up an "Exmoor People's Organisation" to resist the influence of the National Park Committee and relations with the local community were very difficult in the 1970s. Things have moved on considerably since then (see Leadership and trust above). ENPA's success is largely due to the high quality and commitment of its staff and members. Unsurprisingly, ENPA works very closely and effectively with the statutory environment agencies, as well as major NGOs like the National Trust (who own a considerable proportion of Exmoor) and the Campaign to Protect Rural England. In addition, ENPA is locally respected as the planning authority for Exmoor. ENPA's officers endeavour to work closely with applicants to discuss planning proposals prior to and during the application process. This may be time-consuming on occasions but it makes for more robust outcomes. Local people have an increasingly good understanding of what ENPA can and can't do, e.g. it's the planning authority but does not provide local services (it doesn't empty the bins or repair the roads). There is perhaps an opportunity for ENPA to engage more directly with the Local Strategic Partnerships to make Exmoor's needs and opportunities more explicit in each Sustainable Community Strategy covering Exmoor at county and district level. This would help implement key aspects of the Government's new Sustainable Development Strategy (2005) in relation to the role of Local Strategic Partnerships. Lastly, although ENPA has good relationships with each of the statutory agencies and regional organisations, it could possibly deepen these by being more pro-active in pushing them to work more directly towards realising the vision for a sustainable Exmoor.

Barriers to further success: There are no real external barriers to further success for ENPA for this aspect of Social Capital.

4.4 Manufactured Capital – what is working well:

4.4.1 Archaeology (some direct to significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): ENPA has developed excellent working relations with English Nature, English Heritage and their field service staff to result in an interdisciplinary approach to site work, recording and long-term management regimes (both strategic and on a site by site basis). Currently, there are a number of joint projects underway across the National Park. The Authority supported the work of Somerset County Council in the development of a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based Historic Landscape Character assessment but has yet to make full use of this material, although constraints

mapping is now complete across the whole park for all sites and monuments, for informing future management of sites and areas. This resource is freely available to the local authorities and other organisations (see education and training under Human capital). However, the full archaeological resource has yet to be surveyed and recorded in detail for the whole of the National Park area.

Barriers to further success: There are no external barriers to further success for this aspect of Manufactured Capital unless it is lack of capital to complete detailed surveying and mapping of the full extent of the archaeological resource. This information would enable a more complete approach to National Park-wide management.

4.4.2 Development and built heritage (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): ENPA is developing new design guidance to encourage sustainable construction, including the use of local materials such as timber. As a result of the “Quality Underpins Exmoor’s Sustainable Tourism” (QUEST) initiative, ENPA is holding seminars with local businesses to encourage more sustainable construction practices, including changes to buildings to improve access. ENPA already does much to encourage sustainable construction, e.g. the use of local materials such as Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) accredited timber. As the Local Planning Authority it could possibly do even more. There is an educational role for ENPA in influencing architects and builders to change behaviours, source more sustainable materials, etc. This should be successfully achieved through actively communicating the new ENPA design guidance. (see education under Human capital).

ENPA is doing much to ensure that new development is contained within existing settlements. The new design guidance will also include cost-saving ideas for insulation, heating and power, etc. to save on running costs. This includes the siting and orientation of the buildings themselves. This whole approach is particularly important to result in low cost affordable housing for local people. Although ENPA has no direct control over service provision, the Authority’s officers and members are very pro-active in the planning process to ensure that new development is adequately and appropriately provided for, i.e. ENPA does have real control and uses it effectively.

Although ENPA does not have statutory responsibility for traffic demand measures, it has successfully secured the re-routing of lorries away from historic centres within the National Park such as Dunster. This was been achieved through close working with the County Councils and Local Highways Authorities. ENPA is also very effective at facilitating the re-use of historic buildings on a case-by-case basis, i.e. it uses its planning powers with discretion and foresight.

Barriers to further success: There are no external barriers preventing ENPA’s further success for this aspect of Manufactured Capital.

4.4.3 Transport infrastructure, traffic and access (some direct to significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): The Authority aims to lead by example, so it has developed a staff travel incentives scheme and is developing clear internal policies to reduce car use wherever possible. ENPA has little direct influence over

public transport provision as this is the responsibility of the local authorities, but it has been successful in getting heavy transport re-routed out of historic centres like Dunster. It has also used grant aid to set up good practice schemes, e.g. the annual Snowdrop Valley park and ride scheme and promotion of experimental bus services, encouraging people to reduce their car use. ENPA may perhaps have some limited scope, i.e. for new development, to have greater influence on traffic flows through its role as the strategic planning authority for the area, i.e. mixed use developments, road layout and design as part of traffic demand management measures in keeping with local character. It may also perhaps be worth considering encouraging the development of Village Design Statements to help guide traffic-demand management in existing settlements. The 2005 visitor survey will also address sustainable transport issues by increasing the number of “active” visitors in the sample. ENPA should perhaps seek a much better ‘working partnership’ with the Local Highways Authorities (and possibly the Department for Transport) to ensure that a more sensitive and seamless approach is taken to transport infrastructure and traffic demand management across Exmoor, for example a more flexible interpretation of Design Manual for Roads and Bridges regulations and guidelines in keeping with Exmoor’s status as a nationally designated high quality landscape. Off-road visitor access is well-managed by the Authority. ENPA does much to communicate which facilities, routes and tracks are suitable for which visitors using a variety of media. For example, visitors are encouraged to use woodland areas that have the capacity for heavier use/greater numbers. This also helps to maintain the ‘remote and wild’ feel of the open moorland. The Devon and Somerset Rights of Way Improvement Plans (ROWIP) each have a separate Exmoor chapter and address open access and proposals for increasing access on rights of way for less mobile people. ENPA is responsible for writing, reviewing and implementing the Exmoor components of the ROWIPs for each County Council.

Barriers to further success: Until the Department for Transport revise the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and seriously overhaul their guidance on signage for road traffic demand management, or allow the National Parks greater leeway in how these are interpreted within nationally designated landscapes it will be impossible for ENPA or any similar authority to achieve “excellent” in this aspect of Manufactured Capital.

4.4.4 Industrial processes and waste arisings (some direct or significant indirect contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): The Authority has used its Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) very effectively so far to demonstrate good practice and raise awareness about waste reduction and re-use, especially for farm plastics, i.e. the SDF funded scheme for collection of farm waste plastics has been so successful that it should become a self-sustaining enterprise within the next year or so. As part of the Quality Underpins Exmoor’s Sustainable Tourism initiative, ENPA has 5 seminars planned for local businesses to encourage more sustainable business practices i.e. sustainable production and consumption including waste reduction, re-cycling and more sustainable waste treatment. There is much potential for ENPA to use its communications media to encourage tourist providers to get visitors to reduce their waste. Many visitors from urban areas are used to recycling and would readily use better facilities and systems if these were provided.

Barriers to further success: It is difficult for ENPA to make as much progress as it would perhaps like in encouraging waste reduction and recycling across Exmoor since it does not have direct control over these local services. However, it may be possible to work more closely with the 2 local authorities to achieve a more seamless 'single service' (see Section 5).

4.4.5 Energy production and consumption (significant positive contribution to National Park-wide sustainability): Once again, ENPA is leading by example to promote the use of renewable energy, improve energy efficiency and reduce consumption. The Authority obtains heat and power on a green tariff for Exmoor House. Recent facilities such as the Pinkery centre (wind and solar power) and new saw-mill (run on micro-hydro, diesel and wood fuel for space heating) have used sustainable, renewable materials in their construction. A small-scale renewable energy plant/turbine has also been constructed as a good practice example. ENPA is very active in encouraging appropriate small-scale wind-turbines and photovoltaic panels. It has also used the Sustainable Development Fund for encouraging new micro-hydro power plant and there is potential to do more along these lines. Furthermore, the Sustainable Development Fund has been used as a catalyst for encouraging new wood fuel initiatives, such as using hedgerow off-cuts and to encourage local stores to stock wood fuel products. ENPA is doing all it can to promote wood fuel and encourage development of a local market to ensure that local woods and forests have an economic future and well as being managed to conserve biodiversity and landscape character.

Overall, the Sustainable Development Fund has made it easier for ENPA to champion renewable energy development and to be pro-active in encouraging good ideas and innovation connected with the management of Exmoor's natural resources. Another means by which the Authority has actively promoted energy efficiency and renewable energy development is through the planning system, but it could possibly be even more pro-active in this respect.

Barriers to further success: Until clearer policy signals and interventions enable the regional and local markets for renewable energy to develop more rapidly the best that ENPA can do is continue to lead by example and use the limited SDF monies as effectively as possible to stimulate local demand and local capacity.

4.5 Financial Capital – what works well:

4.5.1 Increasing local prosperity through economic diversification (rated Good): One of ENPA's biggest strengths is its ability and willingness to use its funding very flexibly in comparison to other bodies such as the South West Rural Development Agency. The Authority has demonstrated how it can use its second purpose and duty of care to deliver its first purpose through awareness-raising and using the Sustainable Development Fund to encourage local entrepreneurs to develop sustainable local business opportunities, e.g. ENPA already supports South West Wood Fuels and is considering a proposal to develop a local Forestry Stewardship Council timber processing plant that would considerably add value to locally produced timber. (see Manufactured capital). ENPA is using the Sustainable

Development Fund as a lever to further influence farm business diversification, especially where value can be added to local produce and help boost incomes, e.g. Exmoor ready meals. The vision is to create an “Exmoor brand” as well known and regarded as the Eden Project, i.e. Exmoor as a living, sustainable entity or landscape.

4.5.2 Keeping money ‘local’: Currently the Sustainable Development Fund is being used to encourage innovation in developing Exmoor’s economy, e.g. by being offered as interest-free loans for business development such as small-scale local fisheries, primarily for local consumption through farm shops and local restaurants, etc. It is also being used to train maintenance staff to service new wood-chip boilers, enabling the industry to become more mainstream and locally self-sufficient. ENPA is working with local authorities to look at ways of getting better use from existing business premises on the National Park’s fringes (Barnstaple Industrial Estate) to encourage links and connections between different enterprises. This is where access to broadband could help considerably. ENPA will continue to lead by example by purchasing locally and fostering initiatives that help develop local markets. The Quality Underpins Exmoor’s Sustainable Tourism project is having some success in working with local producers to develop product branding so that energy costs/emissions and miles travelled are clearly identified so that “local” will become synonymous with high quality and sustainability.

ENPA is also actively promoting the development of local timber and wood fuel markets, primarily by using the Sustainable Development Fund to help new businesses to get started, and to determine the potential for market development. For example, the Sustainable Development Fund was used to fund a survey of the potential of hedgerow cuttings as a source of local wood fuel; there is huge capacity so the SDF will now be used to help stimulate the market. The development of local markets will be further supported through ENPA’s new design guide emphasising the use of local materials and sustainable construction practices. ENPA planners are also encouraging the use of local contractors and suppliers to ensure that money stays longer in the local economy, further contributing to local sustainability.

The way that ENPA has set up and operates the Sustainable Development Fund Panel makes ENPA the “loudest” voice for sustainability and investment in local businesses. Membership of the panel is broad and experienced, and keeps things ‘real’. Members are able to offer robust business advice to Sustainable Development Fund applicants and sound ideas for improving the applications. As the Planning Authority ENPA also uses its influence to encourage pre-application discussion about the location, design and servicing of new business developments to ensure that these are as sustainable as possible, i.e. minimise transportation impacts, provide local community facilities/local benefits and encourage sustainable construction and energy use, etc.

4.5.3 Safeguarding local assets whilst benefiting the local economy: Through its vision for Exmoor and close partnerships with English Nature and the Environment Agency, ENPA is able to influence the way funding is targeted and used on Exmoor. For example, ENPA is a signatory to a concordat with English Heritage and other bodies to safeguard the historic interest of Exmoor’s natural and built heritage. It uses Sustainable

Development Fund monies and influences spending via other grant streams to ensure that Exmoor's historic interest is safeguarded as a financial asset, e.g. Dunster and similar historic centres are vital for tourism revenue.

The Care Moor scheme is one of ENPA's main sustainable tourism initiatives. Under the scheme tourists and tourism businesses are encouraged to contribute voluntarily towards the repair of eroded footpaths. The scheme has attracted many thousands of pounds worth of sponsorship in kind, such as clothing and equipment, but 'pay back' donations have been low. Currently the scheme is receiving an average of around £3,000 per annum. The National Park Authority spends over £1 million each year on recreation management, rangers, estate services and volunteers. Voluntary work is mostly undertaken by local people through the Exmoor Conservation Volunteer Partnership. The National Trust runs a scheme at their Base Camp at Countisbury where visitors to Exmoor can reduce the cost of their accommodation by undertaking unpaid conservation work on National Trust property in the area. This type of scheme could perhaps be extended to other areas of Exmoor.

4.5.4 Using the environment to boost the local economy: ENPA actively promotes Exmoor as a high quality tourist destination, for example, by working in partnership with other regional organisations to sell the south west as a quality experience at the Outdoors Show at the NEC in Birmingham. There is potential to make up some of the loss of income from hunting through development of the "equine tourism" market, e.g. ENPA is already developing the Coleridge Way to make it suitable for visiting riders through a partnership with the local councils and equestrian organisations. Provision of a downhill bike centre is also being investigated through a Sustainable Development Fund grant. Family cycle holidays are another idea with obvious benefits to reducing road traffic and providing high quality interchange points and facilities that locals may also benefit from.

Persuading day visitors to stay longer is also part of ENPA's strategy for boosting Exmoor's economy through new events such as the annual food and arts festivals. Co-operative tourist packages where the accommodation provider also provides lower cost mini-bus or taxi links are being considered with local partners to provide an inclusive, hassle-free package to attract longer-staying, higher-spending repeat customers.

Barriers to further success: ENPA is seeking funding for a New Economics Foundation study of Exmoor's economy to get a better feel for how well money circulates locally for local businesses and households to reap the full benefits. This information should help guide the Authority's future use of the Sustainable Development Fund monies. However, public sector investment in the area (and the region as a whole) is still not as joined up as it could be. Furthermore, the majority of public and commercial sector organisations and companies across the UK do not currently use sustainability accounting methods and cost-benefit analysis such as "triple-bottom line accounting" to inform how they do things in the mid to longer term. In many ways the state of Exmoor's economy is simply a reflection of the state of the regional economy for the South West as a whole. Until a more integrated, sustainable approach to economic activity becomes far more commonplace it will be extremely difficult for ENPA have much of an impact on Exmoor's economy.

5 Conclusions and ideas for the Exmoor National Park Management Plan

5.1 What more ENPA could consider doing to increase its impact on National Park-wide sustainability

An important aspect of the appraisal workshops with ENPA staff and members was to look to some point in the future and imagine that current sustainability issues had been resolved, and to then think of ways that this could have happened. This discussion led to some useful ideas for what more the Authority could do now to increase its impact on National Park-wide sustainability. These ideas are set out below and developed in more detail in the subsequent table which follows the current National Park Management Plan format:

- a** The Authority could be even clearer about its own policies for sustainable development, i.e. be more explicit about what sustainability means for Exmoor and how ENPA is working to achieve it, and how it needs to do this in close partnership with specific groups and organisations, particularly the local authorities responsible for the provision of key community services. One way of being more explicit about how ENPA is helping to increase local sustainability would be to give ENPA successes a far higher profile, e.g. the Pinkery Centre.
- b** Being more sustainable also means having a transparent and effective means of sustainability appraisal as part of ENPA's ongoing performance management and business planning cycle. The Authority is already subject to performance and monitoring requirements set by Defra. It would probably be worth exploring how these requirements could be met by using an internal sustainability management system that helps to integrate sustainable development into every aspect of the Authority's operational activities. This would help ENPA to really lead by example and "walk the talk" on issues ranging from sustainable procurement, waste management and employee terms and conditions of contract to staff travel.
- c** The Authority could be more confident about building on its obvious success as a trusted local facilitator to be more pro-active in encouraging effective, stronger partnership working, i.e. ENPA as a catalyst for strong leadership and lasting change.
- d** The Authority already has a strong focus on youngsters and it could develop this further by encouraging tomorrow's local leaders and business entrepreneurs and tomorrow's sustainable tourists. This could be the underlying and explicit direction of ENPA's educational work, both with locals and visiting schools and youth groups of all kinds.
- e** ENPA already has a very effective communications strategy, but it could review this with the aim of looking at how best to communicate its success on all fronts, e.g. in each of the 5 capitals, to a wide number of different audiences in ways that really bring alive what sustainability means in practice in the 21st century. This means defining what a sustainable Exmoor should look like and how it could function, etc. This could include setting targets for land use types and habitat coverage for the National Park on a landscape/land unit basis (see 1 to 7 in the table below).

- f** The Authority’s work on landscape and nature conservation is a solid basis on which to build a more explicit approach towards defining how natural resource protection fits with existing National Park purposes and what this means in practice, e.g. there is high potential for ENPA to help deliver the Water Framework Directive through its programme of strategic woodland planting and management. The Authority is well-placed to be a regional and local hub for sustainable natural resource management through its partnerships with the statutory agencies, local businesses and communities, etc. ENPA could consider taking the lead in defining what natural resource capacity and “limits of acceptable change” mean in practice for different parts of Exmoor.
- g** The Authority has demonstrated innovation and success in local market development using the Sustainable Development Fund. This approach could be further developed to help ensure that “local” means high quality produce that is reasonably priced, i.e. accessible to local families on average incomes as well as affluent visitors. Promoting the Exmoor brand and marketing it successfully to partners and consumers would be a crucial aspect of this strategy.

The table below has the same format as the Exmoor National National Park Management Plan so that its suggestions about how ENPA could help increase local sustainability relate directly to its current methods of operation and delivery of National Park purposes:

First purpose: Conservation and enhancement of natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage

Management Plan chapters

Suggestions for increasing local sustainability

1 Landscape

Proceed with the planned landscape character assessment to result in a GIS-based assessment capable of spatial planning and analyses at a range of scales. **This will enable the development of management guidelines for each individual land unit/land parcel that, when aggregated, map strategic targets for the restoration, conservation and enhancement of specific landscape elements and features, e.g. firmer targets for increased areas of wildland, moorland and native woodland, etc.**

A Geographic Information System-based assessment could also be used for a number of applications linked to more sustainable farming, forestry and natural resource use. It would also complement and **give spatial expression to the Authority's design guidance for planning purposes.**

Making mapped information from the assessment freely available to all types of local stakeholder could greatly facilitate the local planning process and help **establish direct links between the Authority's vision for Exmoor and the local Community Strategy processes managed by the Local Strategic Partnerships.**

2 Farmland

(see above) Using the landscape assessment Geographic Information System data, it would be possible to develop more effective partnerships with the local farming community by putting together **farm specific land management advice with the Rural Development Service and advisory bodies such as Agricultural Development Advisory Scheme and Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group; ENPA tenants could set the standard for whole farm approaches to sustainable farming.** This could include using the Sustainable Development Fund to enable low carbon, energy efficient farming on Exmoor. A key aspect of this database would be the inclusion of the much-needed soils information that the Authority has already identified as a significant information gap. Many of the current soil issues on Exmoor are symptoms of unsustainable, intensive land management. ENPA could help to spread/disseminate information about what best suits which soils through local farmer to farmer events and possibly special 'clinics' where farmers can meet specialists at times convenient to farmers.

These data layers would also provide valuable mapped information free of charge to individual farm businesses that they could use for their own business-planning purposes on a whole farm basis. In parallel, the same spatial data could be used to help implement more strategic, area-wide approaches to enhancing natural resource use in partnership with the statutory agencies, e.g. for designing catchment-specific land management approaches on a very targeted basis and more cost-effective basis to reduce the impacts of diffuse pollution and localised flooding.

Similarly, the GIS land unit/land parcel based information from the

First purpose: Conservation and enhancement of natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage *(continued)*

	<p>character assessment information and Local Biodiversity Action Plan could be used at a strategic level (local character areas or landscape types) to guide the further development of agri-environment scheme targeting across the National Park, e.g. the National Park Authority could perhaps advise Defra on how to revise the point scoring system for both Entry Level Scheme and Higher Level Scheme to make them more “Exmoor relevant” i.e. an Exmoor version of the schemes to better encourage and guide local farmers to select management measures that will directly address local need and make an increased contribution to local sustainability across the whole of the National Park. This could be especially useful if ENPA becomes a key delivery agency or “one stop shop” for the new England Rural Development Plan from 2007. Such an approach would help to underpin the economic viability of management systems that also enhance environmental quality, in keeping with sustainable farming policies.</p>
3 Moor and heath	<p>See above 1 & 2 above. New soils data and landscape character assessment information will enable more closely defined geographical and quantitative targets to be drawn-up for heath and moorland restoration and long-term management. Appropriate ongoing management is vital to conserve and enhance this resource and reverse the fragmentation of this important habitat of international nature conservation interest.</p>
4 Woodland	<p>ENPA has an exemplary track record in both demonstrating and promoting sustainable woodland management across Exmoor. The Authority has actively encouraged the development of the local timber and wood fuel industry to ensure that local woodland management is economically viable. It would perhaps be useful to enshrine this approach in a new, additional objective for woodland management in the revised National Park Management Plan, i.e. to ensure that the commercial exploitation of Exmoor’s woodland resource is actively encouraged in ways that boost the local economy, support sustainable construction and renewable energy development and enhance the environment. This should all be achievable by promoting appropriate woodland management systems and practices to supply local timber and woodfuel markets developed through the Sustainable Development Fund and other mechanisms. ENPA’s role as Planning Authority for Exmoor could also be used to strengthen the integration of “conservation management” of local woodlands with local timber and energy market developments.</p> <p>There may also be a strategic role for Exmoor’s woodlands in combating the impacts of climate change, particularly as carbon sinks, as biomass for modern low carbon energy production and as ‘sponges’ to aid rainwater infiltration, reduce run-off rates and soil erosion as a result of increasingly common extreme weather events, i.e. wetter winters and drier summers. This would further build on ENPA’s Local Biodiversity Action Plan partnership approach and would help to deliver Water Framework</p>

First purpose: Conservation and enhancement of natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage *(continued)*

	<p>Directive responsibilities, e.g woodland retention and woodland planting to retain water and reduce/slow run-off.</p>
<p>5 Coast</p>	<p>Improved measures to reduce agricultural diffuse pollution discharges to the sea may be possible (see farmland above) by working in closer partnership with the Environment Agency and others. Perhaps the greatest future threat to Exmoor’s coastline and coastal waters comes from the Severn Estuary and adjacent coastal development. As there is currently no Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan covering the whole of Exmoor’s coastline, there could be a new objective towards the development of one in partnership with the Environment Agency and other key partners. This would enable ENPA to highlight marine issues since the National Park has no defined seaward boundary other than for planning purposes.</p>
<p>6 Rivers, streams, wetlands and groundwater</p>	<p>Integrated, sustainable catchment management for Exmoor’s river catchments would incorporate many of the suggested measures described in 1-5 above. Existing National Park Management Plan objectives for rivers, streams, wetlands and groundwater could perhaps be revised to explicitly address the need for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, e.g. a commitment to managing upland bogs and moorland as ‘spongy headwaters’ for the area’s catchments. These measures would then directly link with land management practices that the Authority could encourage via the new agri-environment measures. ENPA’s relationship with the Environment Agency (Devon and Wessex offices) is good but it would benefit from being “more tangible” and more pro-active on sustainable resource management. This could be perhaps be a new objective in the revised National Park Management Plan.</p> <p>There is considerable potential for ENPA to help raise farmer awareness about good soil management practices by working in tandem with the Environment Agency and others to provide farmer to farmer events and newsletters, etc. similar to the Exe where improved management of cattle-crossing points have been shown to greatly reduce the amount of sediment washed downstream.</p> <p>Again, ENPA’s role as planning authority means that they could also encourage further micro-hydro energy development for both housing and industrial use in appropriate locations, particularly if the potential increases with climate change impacts.</p>
<p>7 Wildlife – biodiversity</p>	<p>ENPA has well-established Local Biodiversity and Species Action Plans with clear targets for habitats and species management and enhancement. Conservation activities should almost certainly benefit with the improved land management guidelines developed as a result of the proposed landscape character assessment (see 1 and 2 above) if produced in GIS format for practical management applications. This would enable</p>

First purpose: Conservation and enhancement of natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage (continued)

	<p>all nature conservation objectives to be directly linked to local landscape and land management objectives via detailed management guidelines for each land unit/land parcel. Longer term trends in species migration as a result of climate change could be mapped and planned for, to optimise species resilience through the encouragement of economically viable farming and land management regimes that maximise nature conservation potential.</p> <p>ENPA could perhaps do more to monitor the population of Red Deer to encourage sustainable deer management in response to the changed approach to hunting with hounds brought about by new legislation. Deer are important to both Exmoor’s ecology and its economy (see financial capital). There is potential for a well-managed deer population to increase supplies to local meat markets. This could perhaps be an explicit aspect of continued support of the Exmoor & District Deer Management Society in the revised National Park Management Plan policies.</p>
<p>8 Pollution and resource use</p>	<p>ENPA is well-placed to foster the development of an “ecosystems-based approach” to natural resource use across Exmoor to encourage increased local sustainability, i.e. working with nature to the benefit of the local economy and Exmoor’s communities. The Authority could perhaps best do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● using the revised National Park Management Plan to highlight the need for a more integrated approach to land and resource use and the local economy on Exmoor ● actively facilitating increased partnership working between local authorities and agencies to develop shared objectives and action plans for sustainable construction, renewable energy development and improved waste management. This could include widespread signing up to the Vision for a sustainable Exmoor as a formally shared common vision. Ideally, this could then be integrated into each of the local Community Strategies, used to develop policies for the new Local Development Framework and to guide service provision by the two County Authorities. <p>The new approach to tranquillity mapping piloted in Northumberland National Park would be a good way to increase awareness amongst local stakeholders about noise, traffic, light pollution, energy use and waste through a participative exercise linked to the development of the landscape character assessment (LCA), or as a future follow-up exercise on completion of the LCA, resources permitting.</p>
<p>9 Cultural heritage</p>	<p>The full extent and quality of Exmoor’s archaeological resource is not known. However, the recently completed historic characterisation of Somerset and Exmoor provides an excellent information resource (available on Geographic Information System) that can be used as a framework for further survey work and data development.</p> <p>Exmoor’s listed buildings and historic buildings resource is well-documented</p>

First purpose: Conservation and enhancement of natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage *(continued)*

but there are issues over internal alterations that ENPA needs to address. **Many owners do not know about the need to use specific materials or methods to conserve the historic interest of their buildings.** As part of Management Plan Objective 9/2, ENPA could review its information resource and the way in which PR materials are targeted to ensure that awareness is raised amongst current owners and their agents. New owners could be made aware of the opportunities and constraints posed by repairs and alterations via local estate agents and/or land agents whenever a historic building is sold. This information could include advice about local craftsmen and local sustainable timber, stone and thatch, etc.

Under Management Plan Objective 9/3 **there could be a new policy to explicitly link the implementation of Local Biodiversity Action Plan priorities with sustainable farming methods to further underpin the importance of using local breeds** to manage Exmoor’s characteristic habitats and landscapes.

10 Living culture

The Sustainable development Fund is a great catalyst for action but **ENPA could be more explicit about its role in building social capital and how it is doing this successfully.** There could perhaps be a policy for Management Plan Objective 10/3 to **reinforce the link between the retention of rural craft skills and the local economy**, i.e. ENPA will actively encourage the retention of rural skills using the Sustainable Development Fund, especially where skills are vital to the conservation and enhancement of the landscape and its wildlife, and for connecting local people to both.

Second stated purpose: Promoting understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park

Management Plan chapters **Suggestions for increasing local sustainability**

11 Recreation

The workshop discussions identified the **potential for ENPA to be more pro-active in promoting the health and well-being benefits of recreation.** This could be a further development of Management Plan Objective 11/3. **For local people, this could mean providing local GPs and the Primary Care Trust(s) with tailored information about Exmoor’s special qualities for spiritual refreshment and for boosting physical well-being through walking, riding and cycling,** perhaps with special provision via the Sustainable Development Fund. There may also be potential to direct ‘patients’ and their families visiting the area to particular accommodation providers and centres to maximise the benefits of their stay. This could be another niche tourism market worth developing (see section below).

12 Tourism

There is **big potential for local tourist providers to encourage visitors to reduce their waste;** in fact most visitors from large urban areas are used to recycling their household waste and would readily use collection

Second stated purpose: Promoting understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park *(continued)*

bin and composting facilities if they were only provided. This fits within Management Plan Objective 21/1 and existing policy P12/1.

As part of the marketing drive to develop Exmoor as a high quality tourist destination, visitors could also be provided with compelling but “non preachy” PR material about the sustainability performance of local outlets, i.e. source only local, high quality produce to boost the local economy and help the environment, have energy efficient accommodation, low carbon energy use and local materials used in the construction of accommodation if new, or if a historic property, the information could explain that the timber frame is a means of sequestering carbon. Some form of sustainability audit could be developed and initially tested by those outlets that volunteered to take part, but it could ultimately be extended to all outlets in Exmoor over the longer term. **Perhaps it may be possible for district authorities to provide business rate ‘holidays’ or discounts for those outlets that have a higher sustainability performance rating? This approach could be perhaps be first brokered via the Local Strategic Partnerships?**

South West Tourism would obviously be able to provide considerable support for this approach. The next step could be for ENPA to work with marketing specialists to realise this potential and then closely target and actively promote growth markets, e.g. to ‘grow’ the active tourism market for stable numbers of higher paying customers (high value low impact tourism). In parallel, efforts would be made to **ensure locals on lower incomes have easy access to affordable services and facilities that a healthy tourist trade can help bring to an area. This is where the work with the New Economics Foundation will also help (see Financial capital analysis).**

As part of the moves to encourage more sustainable tourism, there **is still unrealised potential to do more to promote the connection between local foods, how the countryside is managed and what this creates in terms of high quality Exmoor landscape**, i.e. the need for appropriate livestock systems and people with the right skills to run them. For example, is there an ENPA endorsed ‘branded’ box scheme for tourists staying at self-catering accommodation?

13 Access

ENPA have a very comprehensive approach to access provision and there seems little if anything more that the Authority could do to be more sustainable in this respect, except for **finding better ways to monitor the impacts of access, particularly on wildlife**. Fixed point digital photography may be a cheaper option to consider, i.e. agreed geo-referenced view points that specific ENPA Rangers can take images of at agreed times of the year to develop a photographic record for monitoring over time. This could also work well for monitoring erosion on specific sections of particular routes and trails.

Second stated purpose: Promoting understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park *(continued)*

14 Visitor facilities

Directly linked to its access policies and approach, ENPA has a comprehensive and overtly sustainable approach to the provision of visitor facilities. It may perhaps be worth considering, under Management Plan policy 14/4 that mobile traders selling ENPA approved local produce and/or using local biofuel or similar will not be required to contribute to payback schemes or could perhaps be offered similar exemptions to provide added incentive to local traders to use more sustainable practices or methods of operation.

15 Traffic and transport

Traffic demand management is the responsibility of the two County Highways Authorities but ENPA has a comprehensive suite of objectives and policies designed to optimise the sustainability of travel and transport within the National Park. To achieve these as fully as possible ENPA should perhaps seek a much better 'working partnership' with each County authority, and possibly directly with the Department for Transport via the Association of National Park Authorities, to ensure that a more sensitive and seamless approach is taken to transport infrastructure and traffic demand management across Exmoor. For example, this could include a more explicit and widely understood road traffic hierarchy for heavy lorries and large tourist coaches. ENPA could seek more flexible interpretation of Design Manual for Roads & Bridges regulations and guidelines in keeping with Exmoor's status as a nationally designated high quality English landscape.

As the Local Planning Authority, there is potential for ENPA to have much more influence on how new transport infrastructure is designed, including mitigation measures. ENPA could perhaps also try to exert more influence in the review and implementation of the Local Transport Plans for Devon and Somerset, e.g. by working in much closer partnership to design more 'Exmoor friendly' traffic demand management schemes.

There is much potential for ENPA to market integrated transport for locals and tourists but no resources to do so at present.

16 Education and information

ENPA has a wonderfully inclusive approach to education and the provision of highly accessible information about the National Park, although there is still some way to go in raising public awareness about why conservation management is necessary within the National Park (see 17 Communication below). There may be scope to expand on the current education approach by working to bring farming and schools on Exmoor and on the National Park fringes closer together as part of the post Curry re-connecting town and country agenda (see www.defra.gov.uk/news/2005/050706b.htm). This may require closer day-to-day working of ENPA's education team with the farming and conservation teams, but greater integration of this kind may well have benefits for more integrated sustainable outcomes too. Perhaps the only further development of the existing approach would be to be much more explicit and directional in raising the profile and idea of Exmoor as an increasingly sustainable National Park to both locals and visitors alike.

Second stated purpose: Promoting understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park *(continued)*

17 Communication

It would be timely for the Authority to review its communication strategy and the emphasis on particular objectives given the results of this sustainability appraisal, the development of a 'core strategy' for the new Local Development Framework and the imminent review of the National Park Plan for Exmoor. In particular, it could be worth developing increased awareness of ENPA's role in conservation management, i.e. what this is and why it's essential to a sustainable Exmoor, and secondly, ENPA's role as the strategic planning authority in encouraging increased local sustainability across Exmoor. This would mean **retaining the focus on ensuring that National Park purposes are achieved but in a 'new' and explicit sustainability context, i.e. both within the 5 year plan period but with a clear vision for the longer-term. The communication strategy could be revised to address how National Park purposes are being met, and could be increasingly achieved within a sustainable development context.** A "together we can achieve more" kind of approach will be important since no one organisation can meet sustainable development targets and goals on its own.

Another facet to a revised communication strategy could be to develop a more targeted approach at increasing the ethnic diversity of visitors to Exmoor to be as inclusive as possible. (For further information see www.countryside.gov.uk/WhoWeAreAndWhatWeDo/pressCentre/prdivreview.asp)

Duty to seek to foster the social and economic well-being of the local community

Management Plan chapters

18 Land-based industries: farming and forestry

Suggestions for increasing local sustainability

If ENPA becomes the local delivery agent for Environmental Stewardship funding from 2007 it will be able to have far greater influence on how cost-effectively public support monies are used in the National Park. **Management Plan Policy P18/1 will need re-wording with the introduction of the new Entry Level Scheme and Higher Level Scheme in 2005 and so this could be an excellent opportunity to work with local stakeholders to begin mapping out a direct approach to Defra for revising ENPA's role in scheme local scheme delivery (also see sections 1 & 2 above).** Now that the overall shape of the new Rural Development Regulation has also been agreed, it will obviously be important to realise opportunities to the full by trying to secure a more tailored approach to public investment in Exmoor's land-based industries in ways that both meet National Park purposes and also deepen local sustainability. A seamless one-stop shop approach could be the best solution towards encouraging more sustainable livelihoods and a more diverse land-based sector.

Second stated purpose: Promoting understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park *(continued)*

It may be worth developing a shared economic strategy with local public sector and commercial partners so as to use agri-environment and rural development monies in ways that help optimise use of the Sustainable Development Fund, other regeneration monies and sources of revenue to increase local economic prosperity whilst meeting National Park purposes in full. For example, there is still unrealised potential to raise awareness about the connection between local foods and how the countryside is managed, i.e. the need for appropriate livestock systems into the distant future – both to local residents and to target tourist socio-economic sectors.

As part of Management Plan Objective 18/3 ENPA could also review/consider how it could further raise awareness about ways of reducing packaging for local products, and in buying in goods from other areas, i.e. lead by example. The Sustainable Development Fund schemes could be used as good practice examples for local businesses to follow similar practices, especially where cost-savings can be made, so that ultimately this becomes the norm rather than the exception. As the waste planning authority, ENPA could perhaps be more influential with farmers and communities on Exmoor to raise the issues and possible solutions that would improve local sustainability, e.g. realising opportunities to merge green and brown waste streams, to replace artificial fertilisers with treated animal waste and human biosolids, etc.

A new policy could be added to Management Plan Objective 18/4 to link with section 21 below to ensure that use of local FSC timber in sustainable construction is actively encouraged in other organisations and businesses, not just within ENPA.

The policies for Management Plan Objective 18/5 could be cross-referenced directly to those for landscape and woodland, if more detailed landscape guidelines are developed as a result of the proposed landscape character assessment.

19 Employment and economic regeneration

ENPA has a socio-economic role but a number of staff and members feel that the Authority is on a learning curve as to how best to develop this. It may be worth considering how the Sustainable Development Fund Panel could be further developed as a 'demonstration' or rural model for Business Link and others to mirror or add to, i.e. a safe sounding board for local innovation and business development to help put the local economy on a much more sustainable footing. This could perhaps be a new policy for Management Plan Objective 19/1.

Policy P19/6 for Management Plan Objective 19/2 could perhaps be revised to end in the words "can be quantified and increased in the pursuit of more sustainable outcomes on Exmoor".

Second stated purpose: Promoting understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park *(continued)*

20 Housing and community services

Management Plan Objective 20/1 and Policy P20/1 could perhaps be more explicit by describing local needs in more detail, i.e. to include reference to the need to **build in keeping with local character and to reduce fuel/energy poverty or disadvantage by enabling access to affordable local renewable fuel sources as far as possible not only new housing but also existing housing stock, especially that in need of improvement.** Also, to ensure that new development follows appropriate sustainable design principles (i.e. ENPA's design guide) and is energy efficient to minimise running costs and carbon emissions. These policies could be cross-referenced to those for section 18 above.

Management Plan Objective 20/4 could perhaps be revised to more specifically relate to appraisals of local needs based on sustainable development principles and to also relate directly to the Community Strategies and Local Strategic Partnerships as well as Community Planning initiatives. This would help to ensure that all of these activities are as joined up as possible and will be an effective way of encouraging other groups and organisations to embed National Park purposes and the vision for a sustainable Exmoor into their thinking and planning.

21 Development control and planning

ENPA could aim for **widespread signing up to a common vision for a sustainable Exmoor by the Local Strategic Partnerships and local authorities (service providers, highways, etc.) as a formally shared common vision.** Ideally, this could then be integrated/used to:

- revise each of the local Community Strategies
- develop policies for the new Local Development Framework and Core Strategy
- help guide service provision across Exmoor and fringe areas by the two County Authorities in way that keep Exmoor special
- Management Plan Policy P21/2 will obviously need revising to relate to the new Regional Spatial Strategy currently under development by the South West Regional Assembly.
- Management Plan Policy P21/3 could be revised to ensure that new development is not only to the highest standard but also meets local sustainability requirements or standards – these will presumably be detailed in the new design guidance?

22 Making it happen

Management Plan Objective 22/4 could perhaps be revised to ensure that **some form of sustainability appraisal (either the one used to generate this report or something similar) is adopted by the Authority to measure: its internal processes and performance, and the effectiveness of its activities on Exmoor's sustainability beyond the impact of the Sustainable Development Fund.**

5.2 Ideas for developing the vision for a more sustainable Exmoor

Using the appraisal tool also involved discussing what the vision for a more sustainable Exmoor National Park could include. The main features were:

- Exmoor as a “living Eden, not just a project”, i.e. a living landscape and not a rural museum. This means there would be:
 - real village shops
 - real, vibrant and diverse communities
 - the “Exmoor brand” would be widely understood to equal high quality local produce
 - the National Park would be a high quality destination and experience for visitors of all kinds
 - the area would look black from space (no light pollution) with remote places safeguarded for future generations
- Exmoor would sustain a strong sense of community and sense of place
- The National Park Authority would lead or pioneer a “new local heritage” that is “of the place” via the planning system and wide application of its comprehensive design guide. This new heritage would feature strong design and innovative use of local materials, including re-cycled, secondary products. There would be a trusted cohort of accredited, well-trained local suppliers, contractors and tradesmen working to make the Exmoor design standards and new heritage an affordable reality.
- There would be wide national understanding and continuity of the “Exmoor brand”.
- Exmoor National Park would be a “shop window” for selling very practical sustainability solutions to the rest of the South West and beyond through its explanation of the issues and effective actions taken to resolve them.

Groups of staff and members also considered what would need to happen to make all of the above come to pass. This largely involved focusing on key issues, unrealised opportunities and possible gaps in ENPA’s current approach and turning these into tangible scenarios by taking existing trends for change and ‘casting forward’ to imagine what “good” would look like in around 10-20 years. The following list summarises all of the ideas to come out of the 6 workshops. Many of these could be turned into goals, targets and aspirations for feeding into the consultation process for the new Management Plan.

- a** The media (radio, TV, etc) would report on “Exmoor” and provide coverage for Exmoor. Broadband and technological developments would make it possible for “e-broadcasting” to develop and enable increased community activities and local involvement so that a united “Exmoor community” begins to develop.
- b** Incomers and visitors help to keep services going and ‘evolve’ to meet modern needs but in ways that fit with Exmoor’s local sense of place.
- c** The downside/dis-benefits of the local authority divide would diminish over time, especially for service delivery as ENPA’s role as a local facilitator, enabler and good practice example for sustainable development would have explicit, high profile recognition at the regional level in relation to spatial planning, governance and natural resource management, e.g. an example for others to follow.

- d** ENPA would continue to develop its “leading by example” role, e.g. high profile construction, travel and transport projects, greatly encourage more sustainable production and consumption practices amongst public sector and commercial partners.
- e** ENPA would be the successful delivery agent for the new rural agenda, a properly resourced one-stop shop for all grant schemes and sources of funding. As highly regarded and trusted local enabler/facilitator this would result in highly effective scheme targeting and cost-effective results. As the delivery agent, ENPA would also be able to use agri-environment monies in flexible ways to ensure that Exmoor targets are met whilst maintaining national continuity, e.g. out-wintering stock still allowed under Single Farm Payment, possibly as a subset of an increased, on-going Sustainable Development Fund. ENPA would also be able to foster less interventionist, more sustainable approaches to meet SSSI targets, e.g. less pesticide and herbicide spraying in vulnerable habitats.
- f** ENPA would be given the resources to fill gaps in its data and information about the physical environment as a matter of high priority (soils, landscape character, etc) to ensure that appropriate/adequate monitoring and reporting on the state of the National Park was possible on an on-going basis.
- g** The National Park Committee would be fully representative of all of Exmoor’s interests and local council members and staff would be far more aware of Exmoor’s needs, issues and opportunities.
- h** Exmoor’s National Park Authority members, groups, societies and forums would include representatives for young people so that their views and ideas are more explicitly included in ENPA’s policies, National Park Plan, etc. There would be a Young People’s Forum to help coalesce views and ideas to forward to other groups and the Authority Committee.
- i** All of Exmoor’s “users” would be given a chance to make their views known on a regular basis, i.e. including those residents and visitors who are not members of special groups or organisations. Their voice would be found/heard via wider and effective participative processes.
- j** ENPA’s visitor numbers would have been maintained but not increased to ensure that adverse impacts on landscape, wildlife and local communities are avoided or minimised wherever possible. However, the mix of visitors would change to include higher numbers of ‘active’ visitors who stay longer and spend more on riding, cycling, walking, shooting, etc. possibly as a more explicit “healthy holidays” destination for people of all ages, ability and ethnicity. There would be even greater emphasis on inclusive provision to ensure no-one who wants to holiday on Exmoor is disadvantaged.
- k** Countryside management skills (hedge-laying, stonewalling, charcoal-making) would be highly regarded and well-paid, and would dominate local agriculture. ENPA would foster an accredited apprenticeship scheme with local colleges. This would have long-term support from Defra.

- l** There would be a return to pre-WWI estate management values to successfully overcome 40yrs of skewed Common Agricultural Policy subsidy impacts. Land use and management systems that employ more people, e.g. woodland better than intensive arable, are locally understood and valued. Low carbon farming increases on Exmoor, with the help of locally produced bio-fuels and machinery co-operatives.
- m** ENPA would develop and widen its support for training in sustainable construction for local contractors and young people entering the trade. In parallel, ENPA planners would reinforce sustainable building practices by making it both essential and easier for developers to use Forestry Stewardship Council timber, local materials and local contractors. However, traditional skills like lime-washing would be equally encouraged.
- n** Through the planning system, ENPA would enable increased sheltered housing for the elderly and affordable, low energy housing for local families on lower incomes. Planning gains would be used to fund more responsive transport provision for both locals and visitors.
- p** Following ENPA's example, a "second Pinkery centre" would be built under a local sustainable construction initiative to meet rising demand for this type of facility.
- q** ENPA would be successful in seeking to use its educational work with young people especially, to guide them towards higher education and vocational training to create tomorrows employers and entrepreneurs for Exmoor.
- r** ENPA would use proven approaches from elsewhere, e.g Australia's "Healthy Parks" and "Health Co-ordinators" to ensure that leisure and recreation opportunities are directly linked to Primary Care Trust/Government healthy eating and exercise objectives to reduce demands on the NHS and local services (including the police). Encouraging Brat camps and Fat camps could be a part of this approach.

6 References

- CEPAR, "Evaluation of the National Parks Sustainable Development Fund" (2004). London University
- CPRE et al, "Mapping Tranquillity: defining and assessing a valuable resource" (2005). CPRE
- Defra, "Securing the future: delivering UK sustainable development strategy" (2005). HM Government
- Exmoor National Park Authority, "Exmoor National Park Management Plan 2001-2006" (2001). ENPA
- Exmoor National Park Authority, "State of the Park report" (2003). ENPA
- Exmoor National Park Authority. "Statement on the economy of Exmoor – consultation draft" (2002). ENPA
- SW Protected Landscapes Forum, "A prospectus for protected landscapes in the South West: contributing to rural development and quality of life" (2004)

Useful web links

www.swbiodiversity.org.uk/Regional/LBAPs/Exmoor/exmoor.htm

www.info4local.gov.uk/searchreport.asp?id=25535&heading=e-mail+alert

("Getting started" – SD Action Plans for Departments and Agencies)

Annex A The appraisal tool

Asset base	State and trends	Issues	Partnership or project impact	Measures of success	Future success
Natural e.g. biodiversity soils, climate, water					
Human e.g. health and well being					
Social e.g. stakeholder processes local governance and leadership					
Manufactured e.g. transport, energy and waste					
Financial (Public investment in the catchment)					

Annex B Exmoor National Park sustainability issues matrix

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Natural Capital						
1 There is little mixed farming on Exmoor	Y	?	Y	Y	Y	% increase in area of mixed farming managed in line with National Park purposes towards target? (M1)
2 Large farms are getting larger and there are more small-holdings	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Is this issue having an adverse impact on the landscape (see below)?
3 Slow, cumulative landscape change is taking place with little means of measurement or agreed thresholds or capacity limits.	Y				Y?	100% of landscape units 'stable' or showing positive change (M2a) and increasing % of National Park managed in line with National Park purposes (M2b) – this would require baseline landscape character data but could use Geographic Information System for periodic survey and updating of agreed key characteristics per landscape unit using aerial survey data.
4 Moorland restoration and management is a high priority	Y		Y		Y	% moorland restored per annum against target (M3) and % of total moorland under sustainable management (M4).
5 Tranquillity appears to be decreasing, there is increasing suburbanisation	Y	Y	Y		Y	Link to M2 above. Use Newcastle methodology and National Park Plan review process at 5 yearly intervals to encourage local participation in tranquillity indicator review. (M5)
6 Waste packaging and old machinery cause a proportion of farms to look like scrapyards	Y	Y			Y	See (M2) no 'permanent' eyesores on Exmoor – material removed within 3-6 months?
7 New farm sheds are larger and out of character to their landscape setting	Y			Y	Y	See M2 above. Can farm structures and building materials be brought within the planning system for Exmoor?
8 Fly-tipping is an issue in some localities	Y	Y			Y	Declining nos of sites affected per annum (M6) and, possibly, successful prosecutions per annum?
9 Visitor pressure is continuing to erode landscape archaeology	Y			Y		Decrease in archaeological monuments, sites and areas 'at risk' per annum or every 3-5 yrs for State of the National Park reporting (M7).
10 Many of Exmoor's privately-owned woodlands are un-managed	Y			Y	Y	Nos or % of target woodlands brought into Forestry Stewardship Council/ENPA accredited management per annum (M8).
11 The biggest threat to upland oakwoods is Rhododendron ponticum	Y				Y	Decrease in total number of sites affected per annum (M9) and M2 above.
12 Nitrates deposition is affecting key habitats in a number of locations	Y		Y	Y	Y	Decline in sensitive sites affected by critical load exceedence per annum, or at agreed intervals (M10).
13 A moderate proportion of Exmoor's SSSIs are in unfavourable condition, primarily due to lack of management.	Y				Y	Increase in area and nos of SSSIs in favourable condition (M11)
14 The invasion of non-native species is a growing problem	Y	Y			Y	M9 and M11 above, plus a decline in total nos of sites and areas affected by non-native species (M12)
15 Key species and their habitats are generally in decline on Exmoor, e.g. Heath Fritillary	Y	Y			Y	See M11 above, plus % or area of key habitats under sustainable management in line with National Park purposes and their indicator species no longer 'at risk' (M13).
16 High Quality Blanket Bog sites in need of extension and re-connection	Y				Y	% of target areas of Purple Moor Grass converted/restored to blanket bog under appropriate long term management per annum or every 5 years. (M14)

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Natural Capital (contd)						
17 Fewer cattle and more sheep upsets the sward composition, encouraging bracken to spread on moorland	Y				Y	% of grazing area under sustainable management regimes per annum (M15) Perhaps this could be compiled using stocking rates data from Rural Development Service?
18 Species rich grassland and meadow areas are fragmented and declining in quality, often due to inappropriate management.	Y	Y?			Y?	See M15, plus this could also be a sub-set of M13
19 There is no statutory protection for Exmoor's 1000 plus veteran trees, the most vulnerable being those on ploughed farmland.	Y					Could Exmoor tree wardens and volunteers be used to compile this indicator (could have an "adopt a tree campaign" with local schools and wildlife Watch groups to also help raise awareness). Rising % of total nos of veteran trees under sustainable management, i.e. not at risk, per annum or every 3-5yrs (M16)
20 Despite area designations, many bird species are in decline on Exmoor due to intensive agriculture, increased pastoral farming and habitat decline, e.g. Cirl Bunting	Y	Y			Y	See M11 to M15, plus bird counts at keys sites for selected indicator species. Thus measures would be species specific, e.g. increase in nesting pairs of Cirl Bunting per annum at key sites (M17a).
21 Pesticides such as Vermectin make cowpats less degradable, affecting insects birds and bats.	Y			Y		Decreasing use of non-desirable farm pesticides, i.e. nos of farms using any of list of such substances (M18) and M29 below. This could be done as a regular survey with the EA and the water companies.
22 Exmoor's remnant high moor and heath biodiversity is in decline	Y	Y?			Y?	See M3, M4, M11 and "rising populations of Red Grouse (M17b), Curlew (M17c) and Merlin (M17d)"
23 Exmoor's coastal sea bird populations are less diverse and some species are declining rapidly	Y					Similar approach to above, plus extent of cliff and foreshore managed in line with National Park purposes (M18).
24 Woodland regeneration is affected by Exmoor's rising deer population. Deer on Exmoor spread to farmland outside of the National park, causing damage.	Y			Y	Y	Decline in % of woodland sites suffering deer damage in Exmoor and Exmoor fringes (M19)
25 The free-living pony population on Exmoor is still very low (@ 200 registered)	Y				Y	Agreed support measures in place and progress annually reviewed in relation to total registered herds and nos for each. (M20)
26 Endangered Devon Closewool sheep numbers are low	Y				Y	Rare breed status achieved, with support measures in place and nos per annum monitored against target population (M21).
27 Red Devon beef cattle numbers continue to decline	Y				Y	Target levels and support measures agreed for each registered herd and annual nos against target population (M22)
28 Fly-tipping, dog fouling and disturbance from dogs have localised impacts on livestock and biodiversity	Y	Y		Y	Y	See M6, plus success in location and use of dog latrines (M23) and decline in levels of complaint annually. (M24)
29 Climate change is affecting species distribution and populations on Exmoor.	Y	Y?		Y?	Y?	See M11 to M17 above, plus "Key species and habitats with agreed resilience strategies for climate change in place as part of the Local Biodiversity Actrion Plan process (M25).
30 Exmoor's 3 geological SSSIs have no special protection and Dean Steep is scrubbing over.	Y				Y	Favourable Condition achieved for each geological SSSI with agreed management measures 'active' for each site, to be reviewed every 3-5 yrs (M26).

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Natural Capital (contd)						
31 Little is known about the condition of soils within the National Park, although some former heathland sites are now so enriched (agric phosphates) that reversion is no longer possible.	Y			Y		Soils surveyed and Geographic Information System database in place and used to report M2 to M24 (M27)
32 Peaty soils are at greatest risk from erosion (inc moorland fires and flooding).	Y	Y		Y	Y	See M26 , plus "decline in area/sites where peaty soils are at risk" (M28).
33 Vulnerable soils are easily washed away and are vulnerable to heavier rainfall resulting from climate change.	Y			Y?	Y?	Can any steps be taken to reduce the rates of erosion? See M29 below.
34 Diffuse water pollution from agriculture is a cause for concern.	Y		Y	Y	Y	Soil and Water Protection good practice measures adopted/used by ENPA tenant farmers/ nos participating per annum (M29). And % of each Exmoor catchment under effective 'catchment sensitive farming ' management (M30)
35 Visitor pressures are affecting water abstraction levels, especially in summer when rainfall is lowest.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Exmoor catchments with Abstraction Management Plans in place (M31).
36 Bathing water quality is not measured for Exmoor's coastal coves and beaches. Neither are impacts on wildlife from pollutants in coastal waters (inc diffuse agricultural run-off). Pollution levels are greatest/more concentrated in summer via rivers and streams. This could increase with global warming and drier summers.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	See M29 above. Bathing water quality for each 'bathing cove' is good at agreed intervals each year. Environment Agency to measure and Exmoor to publicise (M32).
37 Exmoor's coastal strip suffers from marine litter.	Y	Y		Y	Y	Decrease in nos of complaints per annum (M33)?
38 Groundwater supplies are prone to contamination from agricultural chemicals	Y		Y	Y	Y	See M18 , M29 and M30 . Decreasing incidence of groundwater contamination at 5-10yr intervals (M34)
39 Acid rain has resulted in soil critical loads being exceeded for most upland Exmoor soils	Y			Y	Y	See M10 above.
40 Air pollution from traffic emissions on mainland Europe is affecting Exmoor's soils and habitats. Ground level ozone exceeds government targets	Y		Y			Ideally, local air monitoring on Exmoor would be desirable as there are periods during the year when asthma sufferers should avoid the area due to low-level ozone levels?
41 Climate change is causing drier summers, affecting hedgerow beech trees and increasing the risk of moorland fires.	Y		Y	Y	Y	See M11 to M17 and M24 above. Also, stable or declining in incidence of moorland summer fires (M35)
42 Heavier winter rainfall is helping to increase erosion rates, especially on the coast.	Y			Y	Y	See M29 above, plus "decline in erosion rates at key/sensitive sites" (M36) is this realistic?
43 Heavier winter rainfall due to climate change is exacerbating local flooding, in turn made worse by lack of woodland and overstocking of pastures	Y	Y		Y	Y	See M8 , M15 , M18 and M29 above, plus decreasing incidence of serious local flooding per annum (M36).
44 Warmer winters mean no snow on the uplands – a visual change to the landscape.	Y					This visual change should trigger actions for enabling species/habitat and landscape changes on Exmoor in the future.

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Natural Capital (contd)						
45 Warmer winters and summers mean an increase in pathogens and problem insects.	Y		Y	Y	Y	Probably worth keeping a watching brief on but not measuring anything at this stage? Similar to above, including strategies to reduce or avoid the threat from pathogens, etc.
Manufactured Capital						
46 Earlier land drainage works still cause problems in some locations, exposing archaeology	Y			Y		See M14 , M28 , M29 and M30 .
47 Many archaeological monuments are fragile and easily damaged by fire, vandalism, riders and machinery				Y		See M2 , M7 and M35 .
48 Use of locally distinctive building materials (cob or thatch) is in decline	Y			Y	Y	Increase in planning approvals for building refurbishment and new build where these materials are a condition of consent (M37).
49 Nos of historic buildings "at risk" (mostly churchyard and agricultural ones) is slightly increased				Y	Y	'At risk' historic buildings brought into appropriate/sustainable repair and ongoing management per annum against total nos of 'at risk' stock. (M38)
50 Timber doors and windows are being replaced with uPVC	Y			Y	Y	UPVC door and window frames replaced by FSC timber frames per annum against target. (M39)
51 Historic buildings and vernacular design are more at risk from gradual accumulative changes		Y?		Y	Y?	See M2 , M37 , M38 and M39 .
52 Disposal of white goods and similar bulky waste items is difficult for most people on Exmoor as there are very few facilities.				Y	Y?	All Exmoor communities provided with reasonable, easier ways of disposing of white goods so that there is an agreed strategy for each settlement (M40). (ENPA to encourage Local Strategic Partnerships to negotiate with the Local Authorities?)
53 A moderate proportion of Exmoor's population is disadvantaged by distance to key services			Y			Target 'disadvantaged settlements' or 'neighbourhoods' adequately provided with access via outreach services or similar as appropriate. (M41)
54 Many locally employed people cannot afford local house prices (fuelled by second home ownership).				Y	Y	It is possible to obtain an adequate picture of need per annum through housing need surveys, but these really need supplementing with accurate figures for out-migration of young people unable to afford local house prices.
55 It is not clear how new development is affecting the 'natural beauty' of Exmoor	Y			Y		See M2 above
56 Light pollution seems to be increasing on Exmoor.	Y	Y?		Y	Y?	See M2 and M5 above.
57 There is little information about what proportion of journeys are made by local transport on Exmoor				Y		Adequate to good info made available and shared between the Local Highway Authorities and ENPA to ensure that issues are addressed and solutions jointly sought on an annual basis in line with the National Park Management Plan objectives.
58 Footpath erosion has increased in recent years (heavier rainfall plus greater vehicle, rider and walker use)	Y			Y		See M7 above, plus recording a decline in the severity of erosion on vulnerable/high priority sections of routes and sites over time (M42).
59 Few people recognise footpath erosion		Y?		Y		Erosion recognition a key part of any new communications strategy and monitor/record details of calls made reporting footpath erosion per annum? (M43)

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Manufactured Capital (contd)						
60 NPA visitor surveys were not presented consistently so trends are hard to identify	Y?	Y?		Y?	Y?	Review and put in place an ongoing monitoring process to record key data (M44)
61 Off-road driving seems to be on the increase	Y			Y		Is it possible to measure and police this?
62 Noise from organised events can spoil peoples' enjoyment of Exmoor		Y	Y?		Y?	Decline in number of complaints per annum (in direct proportion to targeted advance publicity) (M45).
63 Visitor centre use is high and rising; is action needed to manage numbers at busiest times of the year?				Y	Y?	How big an issue is this for ENPA?
64 It is difficult to estimate numbers to country properties on Exmoor where there is no gate or entrance fee.				Y		How are visitors surveyed on Exmoor? Could annual surveys meet needs for information?
65 Commuting is increasing on Exmoor and travel-to-work distances are increasing rapidly (people travelling out during the day, back in the evening).	Y?	Y?		Y		Could households be surveyed every 5 years on this issue (to coincide with national census years) as part of a wider survey of local needs and behaviours?
66 Only a small proportion of Rights of Way are suitable for people with mobility problems – it isn't known what % could be improved for wheelchair access without detriment to the environment/'wildness'.	Y		Y	Y		All Rights of Way checked for suitability for disabled access, especially wheelchair use, and graded accordingly, with action set in train to upgrade access on agreed routes. Reviewed at least every 5 years. (M46)
67 Although more waste is being recycled on Exmoor, more is being produced.	Y?			Y	Y?	Construction and demolition waste reduction targets for Exmoor set by ENPA as the planning authority and monitored annually? (M47) Household and municipal waste reduction targets agreed with the District Councils who will monitor for ENPA? (M48). If targets are hit per annum, new ones could be set and council tax rebates issued for Exmoor households and businesses.
68 Indications are that Exmoor households produce more waste than the regional average, although this is not measured separately from the District Council collection data	Y			Y	Y	See M48 above and M49 and M50 below.
69 The only household refuse disposal site in the National Park (Lyn Down) has very restricted opening hours			Y?	Y		Ideally there should be a waste disposal plan to cover every settlement, hamlet and farmstead on Exmoor and provision made accordingly, using farm-based facilities where possible. (M49)
70 Re-cycling facilities within the National park only accept a limited range of materials.	Y			Y	Y	Waste disposal plans for settlements and 'neighbourhoods' should address all kinds of waste disposal. (M50)
71 Use and disposal of plastic on farms is a common concern	Y	Y?		Y	Y?	See M50 above, Sustainable Development Fund farm waste plastics pilot scheme roll out to all Exmoor farms by target date? (M51).
72 It is hard to isolate figures for the use of power on Exmoor from those for each District. Use appears to be growing as the number of households increases	Y		Y?	Y	Y	% of housing stock on Exmoor that is energy efficient (M52) with sustainable power (M53). These indicators could be developed through surveys via the ENPA household paper and re-run every 5 years, until incorporated into the national census?
73 Large detached houses in rural areas tend to have higher than average electricity use due to heating needs.						See M52 and M53 above. Perhaps the Sustainable Development Fund could be used with Clear Skies monies to encourage such households to invest in improved insulation and renewable energy equipment?

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Human Capital						
74 Similar to other rural areas, wages on Exmoor are low compared to the national average			Y		Y	Stable to rising annual earnings by sector for Exmoor against regional average (M54)?
75 Child poverty is high on Exmoor , especially in West Somerset.			Y		Y	Decline in child poverty on Exmoor to agreed target threshold (M55).
76 Small, often family run businesses seem to be in decline on Exmoor. Many tourism-related businesses change hands every 2-3 years.	Y?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Acceptable levels of business viability of small and family-run achieved, i.e. nos of businesses still active 5 years after start-up (M56).
77 Most incomes on Exmoor are amongst the lowest in the West Country, with those on income supplements highest around Minehead.	Y	Y?	Y		Y	See M54 , M55 and M6 .
78 Farm incomes on Exmoor (reliant on hill cattle and sheep farming) have declined dramatically in recent years.	Y	Y?	Y		Y	Farm incomes stable and increasing in line with increasing diversification (M57).
79 Farm labour has declined in line with national trends, with more family labour and fewer employees. Many farmers are continuing to work after retirement age.	Y	Y	Y		Y	Stable and increasing nos of on-farm labour in line with farm diversification activities on Exmoor. (M59)
80 Many tourism-related jobs are part-time and seasonal and taken up by people living outside of the National Park.		Y	Y	Y	Y	This isn't all bad – needs discussing.
81 Unemployment is highest in the winter due the current seasonal nature of tourism on Exmoor.		Y	Y		Y	Reduction in nos of annual 'winter' unemployed to below target threshold for Exmoor (M60)
82 Exmoor stands out as the most deprived area in the West Country for education, skills and training (with West Somerset the worst of all), but most agriculture and tourism jobs don't demand high qualifications.			Y		Y	What basic standards are envisaged and is there a plan or strategy for putting these into action and by whom?
83 School children are generally aware that Exmoor NP is about wildlife and landscape, but they often don't make the connection that is also about people and buildings	Y		Y	Y	Y	Nos of school children/school parties per annum taking part in activities which also feature people and buildings on Exmoor (M61)
84 Few visitors differentiate between National Park centres and other information centres.			Y			Other information centres required to promote NP purposes and Exmoor's sustainability activities/issues to a demonstrable level?
85 A large % of visitors do not plan their days out and so do not use the information available.			Y			Marketing strategy developed and Communications Plan revised to ensure that the right information is made as accessible as it possibly could be.
86 Young people are especially affected by poor access to schools and training. Outreach services are not as good as they could be (require registration outside the area and are very disjointed).		Y?	Y			Nos or % of training schemes and courses per annum that ensure registration and attendance/travel have been factored into the course design and arrangements. (M62) Something for the proposed Youth Forum to take up.
87 Increasing nos of children are bussed out of the area to more bigger, often private schools. Local schools suffer as a result.		Y	Y		Y?	See M59 plus "% /number of Exmoor schools with pupil nos stable and increasing" (M63)

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Human Capital (contd)						
88 Outward-bound and animal-based businesses are being affected by school visit Health & Safety issues.	Y		Y		Y	% or number of outward-bound and animal-based businesses on Exmoor with clearly workable policies and operations experiencing no Health & Safety problems in attracting school visits per annum. (M64)
89 There is little demand but a growing need for training and advice on sustainable tourism business skills.			Y		Y?	Rising % or number of Exmoor's tourism outlets taking part in training seminars and learning events/ activities per year (new and refresher events?) (M65).
90 Most farmers can't afford to lose a day's income to attend even free training events. A proportion of the over 50's aren't very literate.		Y	Y		Y	% of Exmoor farmers taking part in training and networking events per annum (M66). Would be worth monitoring how many events are in the evening at local pubs and similar venues, and how many are in the daytime and farmers attendance costs are covered.
91 Many Exmoor households are disadvantaged by poor access to key services. The situation is most acute for those aged 16-25 yrs.		Y	Y	Y	Y	See M41 above, plus "distance thresholds for key services and households on Exmoor" (M67) and info on the cost/affordability and availability of key services, e.g. Childcare costs, their affordability and means/ease of access other than by car (M68).
92 Young people tend to move away from Exmoor to seek better jobs and opportunities elsewhere.		Y	Y	Y	Y?	Decline in nos of young people leaving Exmoor for jobs elsewhere per annum in relation to target threshold.(M69)
93 Rural youngsters on Exmoor are often fairly isolated and schools are not necessarily an antidote to this as a high proportion attend schools away from Exmoor.		Y	Y			Nos and types of local events for children/young people across Exmoor per annum (M70)
94 Fuel poverty and poor housing stock add to health problems suffered by a proportion of the elderly on Exmoor.			Y	Y	Y	Declining % or nos of Exmoor residents age? plus living in poor housing stock per annum or reported at 5 yr intervals (M71) and, declining % or nos of Exmoor residents experiencing from fuel poverty (M72).
95 Minehead attracts retirees from off the moors and less affluent retirees from outside of Exmoor, further exacerbating housing market problems for young families.		Y	Y		Y	Declining % or nos of young families seeking suitable accommodation/property to rent or buy. (M73)
96 Dog-fouling in lay-bys and footpaths is a continuing problem.	Y	Y?	Y			See M23 and M24 above.
97 EU regulations for disabled access are putting a strain on many small tourism-related businesses.		Y	Y		Y	Stable and rising nos/% of small Exmoor tourism outlets complying with European Union regulations (M74) and possibly nos of small tourism outlets needing help to comply with EU regs?
Social Capital						
98 Nos of distinctive Exmoor customs are slowly declining and fewer parishes are carrying them on.		Y				Nos of distinctive (parish) customs/ events per annum (M75). ENPA's role in encouraging local customs is clarified and actions agreed so that monitoring can be set up.
99 There are concerns about incomers different views of Exmoor and its conservation needs.	Y	Y				Would it be worth inviting new residents to an 'Exmoor induction' event where they could meet staff and Committee? Thus indicator could be "% of new residents taking part in introductory events/days" (M76).
100 There are increasing complaints about shoots (noise, safety to walkers and riders, intensity) although they are seen as well-paid and a very social activity.		Y	Y		Y?	Link to communications strategy, to promote understanding of the importance of shooting to Exmoor's economy, and promote taking part in shoots (at least as beaters) as a social event. Could 'social shoots' become included in M72 above?

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Social Capital (contd)						
101 Community cohesion seems as strong as ever but it coalesces around different issues; second-home owners who do not contribute to the local community are seen as the main issue.		Y		Y	Y?	Run as a local survey via the Exmoor magazine, % of households who feel community cohesion is strong and growing (M77) – would have to define what this means using simple examples people can give tick box answers to.
102 In terms of social networks there is no single Exmoor community; those in the West look to Barnstaple whilst those in the East look to Taunton. Only Lynton and Lynmouth are self-contained Exmoor communities.		Y				See above and feed into communications plan as an issue to be addressed.
103 Incomers often bring valued skills and get involved in local governance but they may not adequately represent long-held local views. This can cause tensions if they're perceived to be taking over.	Y?	Y	Y?	Y?	Y?	See M76 and M77 above.
104 The county split across Exmoor does not encourage unified and seamless public service delivery (highways, health, education, etc).		Y		Y	Y	% of service Memoranda of Understanding and delivery plans in place and reviewed annually with Local Authority partners (M78)
105 The county split across Exmoor also results in duplication and poor collaboration in marketing Exmoor as a tourist destination.		Y		Y	Y	Is ENPA identified as a Destination Management Organisation in the SWT strategy "Towards 2015"? Agreed delivery plan in place and reviewed annually with Devon and Somerset Tourism partners. (M79).
106 There seems to be a proliferation of schemes and initiatives for rural areas and market towns, making it hard to see how things could best work together on Exmoor.	Y?	Y	Y?	Y?	Y	ENPA is made the main rural delivery agency for Exmoor, i.e. a one stop shop with appropriate resources. (M80)?
107 The LSPs use the same admin boundaries as the local authorities – not clear how they use the Exmoor Vision and National Park Plan to guide their activities. ENPA worked well with the Local Strategic Partnerships over Foot and Mouth Disease but the momentum seems to be falling away.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Regular and meaningful info-exchange with the Local Strategic Partnerships re-established by the end of 2005, with memoranda of Understanding to set out how partnership working will be taken forward over respective community strategy and NP plan periods (M81)
108 ENPA has strong lines of communication with central government via Defra, but communications at the regional level are not as good/effective.		Y				Something to be resolved in the communications strategy/plan. Possible measure of success could be ENPA views sought and reflected in key regional strategies and plans both unilaterally and via the Protected Landscapes Group.
109 The South West Rural Development Agency prefer to use their funding to buy 'additionality' e.g. new jobs created, whereas ENPA are more concerned with safeguarding what's already there, e.g. improved job security.		Y	Y		Y	Improving job security per sector on Exmoor per annum (M82). This could be a cruder aggregate measure per sector in terms of ratio of jobs created to those lost?
Financial Capital						
110 There is no agreed 'capital value' placed on Exmoor's natural resources or the public goods and services that flow from these assets.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	This is the holy grail of sustainability cost-accounting at present and there are no easy answers.

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Financial Capital (contd)						
111 There is no clear understanding of how 'leaky' or 'sticky' Exmoor's economy is.	Y	?	Y	Y	Y	New Economics Foundation study should enable simple and meaningful measures to be developed along the lines of Local Multiplier 3.
112 Local production for local consumption is seen as desirable but some goods are brought into Exmoor without paying for the full cost of manufacture, transportation and emissions of GHGs, e.g. CO ₂ .	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	See above re Local Multiplier 3 approach. Perhaps, post New Economics Foundation study it would be possible to develop "% or £ of Exmoor's total local produce used/consumed within Exmoor and Exmoor fringes" (M83) in relation to an agreed target.
113 Hi –tech modern equipment is often serviced by external companies, e.g wind turbines serviced by a Scottish company.	Y?		Y	Y	Y	Increasing local capacity to supply and service renewable energy equipment (M84). Could be expressed as ratio of demand to availability (nos/%) of local contractors.
114 Farmers and woodland owners 'supply' Exmoor's landscapes but see little of the profits from tourism. Farming on Exmoor is dependant on grants and subsidies.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	% of annual tourism revenue diverted to sustainable farming and environmental management activities in relation to target per annum (M85), i.e. this would mean developing and extending the visitor payback schemes.
115 Exmoor's 3 dominant economic sectors are characterised by low incomes and seasonal employment.	Y	Y?	Y	Y	Y	See M54 to M59 above
116 The biggest local issue is not the creation of new jobs but job security and higher incomes.		Y	Y		Y	As above
117 The profitability of farming on Exmoor has greatly decreased in recent years, small dairy and arable farms are most 'at risk'.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	See M1, M2, M57, M58 and M59
118 The cost of 'clean-up' for agriculture on Exmoor, e.g. diffuse pollution, is not known.	Y	Y?	Y	Y	Y	See M11 to M18, M29 to M31 and comment for Issue 111 above. Perhaps it may be possible to develop some meaningful calculations with assistance from the farming community, Environment Agency and water companies. One output would be to identify parts of catchments where changes to farm management are still urgently needed.
119 Market dislocation is unsustainable, e.g. distant suppliers and processing facilities add to road miles, emissions and costs for local producers.	Y	Y?	Y	Y	Y	See comments for Issue 112, 113. and M83.
120 Cutbacks in agriculture have up and downstream adverse impacts on other local businesses.	Y?	Y	Y	Y	Y	See above.
121 Defra's changes to funding delivery mean that ENPA can no-longer top up agri-environment grants, so added-value will be lost.	Y	Y	Y	Y?	Y	% of total farm businesses remaining profitable by changing or diversifying in positive ways for Exmoor's wildlife and landscape (M86)
122 It is not possible to separate the value of Exmoor's fisheries from the whole catchments of rivers that flow within the National Park boundary.	Y		Y	Y	Y	See comments for Issue 112, 113. and M83.
123 It is not known how tourism's contribution to Exmoor's economy is changing.	Y?		Y?	Y?	Y	See comments for Issue 112, 113. and M83.

Sustainability Issues	Natural Capital	Social Capital	Human Capital	M'factured Capital	Financial Capital	Suggested measure(s) of success or outcome indicators (numbered M1 to M90)
Financial Capital (contd)						
124 High property prices on Exmoor are also driving up the cost of holiday accommodation, food and entertainment.		Y	Y		Y	Presumably people are prepared to pay, but does this disadvantage those on limited budgets, especially families on middle to low incomes – is there an unmet need?
125 Loss of 'high value' hunting visitors seems to have affected local tourism outlets.	Y	Y?	Y		Y	Increase in annual nos of 'equine tourists' in relation to overall trend in visitor numbers.(M87).
126 Financial support is vital to ventures that encourage visitors to leave their cars at home.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	% of total Exmoor visitors arriving by public transport (M88) per annum and % of visitors using sustainable local transport facilities/services during their stay (M89)
127 Exmoor has high potential for timber but production costs are high and timber value is falling.	Y		Y	Y	Y	Local Forestry Stewardship Council timber could be stipulated as a condition of planning consent in all refurbishment and development instead of non-Forestry Stewardship Council timber? What proportion of local timber would be best directed to local wood fuel markets?
128 Visitor payback schemes only provide a very small source of annual revenue.	Y	Y	Y	Y?	Y	See M85 above and net income from visitor payback schemes per annum (M90)