

Appendix I

Workshop Reports

Summary report from the Torridge District workshop, held on Wednesday 21 July 2010

This is a summary of the break-out group discussions undertaken at the workshop held to inform the North Devon & Torridge Joint Landscape Character Assessment, which took place on 21 July 2010 at the Caddsdow Business Support Centre in Bideford. This workshop focused on Torridge district, and was attended by a range of representatives from different organisations with an interest in landscape issues, including parish councils. The overall workshop aims were to involve local stakeholders and communities in identifying what they particularly value about the different landscapes of Torridge, as well as to brainstorm ideas for 'landscape guidelines' to take forward work to protect, manage and plan the future landscapes of the district⁶. A list of workshop attendees is included at the end of this report.

EXERCISE 1- IDENTIFYING SPECIAL QUALITIES

The group as a whole was asked to use post-it notes to write down what individuals thought were the 'special qualities' they most associated with the ten Landscape Character Types (LCTs) identified for Torridge. Bold text indicates those statements which summarise the most popular attributes to feed into the second exercise.

1B: Coastal Open Plateau

Undeveloped skylines
Tranquil
Wild and windswept
Dark skies
Old black and white wooden road finger posts
Opportunity for arable farming with less environmental cost than elsewhere
Large square fields
Space and freedom
Wind pruned hedgerows
Level important for sense of space – gives views of changes in farming practice and human intervention
Open uncluttered views of the sea, smooth uninterrupted sweeping skylines.
Openness, sense of space
Small hamlets
Open views, windswept (a positive attribute)
Space, vista, skyline
Late summer meadows, knapweed, butterflies
Long, open views – undeveloped skylines, tranquillity, Devon banks and lanes, views to Lundy

⁶ The workshop specifically sought to meet the objectives of the European Landscape Convention – to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and planning of landscapes; and to establish procedures for the participation of the general public and other stakeholders in the creation and implementation of landscape policies.

Space, views, wild winds
Vistas, wildlife (hawks), inaccessible
Space, views
Sea views, coastal walks, keep it natural

1D: Inland Elevated Undulating Land

Unimproved grassland and wetlands
40ft drove roads
Won't know what we've got till it's gone! The drive for tourists' money also brings its own destruction
Culm grassland attractive and designation needs extending
Wind turbines for the community (not for private consumers), hedges, culm, soft beauty – easy on the eyes
Working landscape, views
Vistas, small fields, turbine-less
Working landscape
Culm grassland, subtle beauty
Hedges, fields; recognise the natural beauty of the area
Undulating open landscape, views spoilt by wind turbine development, beautiful wooded valleys
Views; clumps of woodland; wind turbines look good here! See birds better
Views are highlighted in these slips, but these are threatened by wind turbines
Views, scenery, fields, rural, beautiful, quiet, relaxed
Rolling landscape, patchwork of fields, tranquillity

1F: Farmed Lowland Moorland and Culm

Remoteness
Specific biodiversity to Devon landscape; distinctive hedgebanks with unique ecology; uninterrupted rural views; tranquil
Working landscape with pockets of designated sites (culm)
Culm – great variety, wet/dry, smooth, tussocky, mosaic, expanse; fragmentation of culm is negative
Cider
Tranquillity, hedges, trees, wildlife – what's left of them!
Flat wet land surrounded by wildlife rich hedges
Sedge warblers, reed buntings
Woodland
Extraordinary character
Lapwings & golden plovers
Wildlife diversity, low-impact farming
Big villages (Winkleigh, Hartland, Dolton)
Water retention; biodiversity (IF farmed for conservation)
Wasteland
Unique culm grassland, birds, wild flowers, butterflies, protected (hopefully)
Animals and wildlife
Small field patterns with open grazing around
Pockets of culm, Devon Reds

Copses
Curlews, orchids, cotton grass, snipe
Sub-Eocene wave-cut platform
Culm grassland; wildlife value, wild feel in winter, visually attractive in summer
Hedges
Jas Ravilious (20 th century photographer of rural and farming life in Devon)
Relatively small fields, wildlife, hedges
Mosaic
Traditional grazing
<i>Comments on classification:</i> Culm is high moorland, not lowland surely? Surely farmed lowland moorland should be separate designation from culm?

3A: Upper Farmed and Wooded Slopes

Vistas, picturesque settlements/villages, tranquillity
Sunken lanes and Devon hedgebanks, distinctive cobb and thatch and whitewashed buildings
Stooks of thatching straw
Areas give vantage points to get overview of where you are in the landscape. Development better away from high levels. Traditional landmarks (churches) give orientation
Pastoral
Dark nights (milky way)
Views out
Uninterrupted vistas, hedgerows
Mazzards (cherry orchards)
Starlit nights (best skies in UK)
Quiet/peaceful place to live, safe environment, active farming
The way it's been farmed
Copses and woodlands
Little or no light pollution, balance between working farms and 'picturesque'
Lack of light pollution, spaciousness, views, changing seasons
Dramatic views
A common misconception of suburbia is that landscape needs organising
Fields and field boundaries
June hedgerows
Unkempt feel (unmanaged)
Intimate, varied, changing views
Open, rolling hills
Open countryside, rural impact, peaceful, beautiful, isolation, relaxed
Breakup of landscape by woods, vistas, narrow lanes with species-rich hedgebanks
Undulating landscape , should have an uninterrupted vista, peaceful countryside, important managed woodland

3C: Sparsely Settled Farmed Valley Floors

Natural river form and riparian vegetation with associated wildlife.
Wetland marsh for specific wildlife and flora , areas for recreation and relaxation, tranquil, unspoilt by development
Flood plains, peace and tranquillity, wildlife (not controlled or introduced)
Historical detail – old barns/bridges/mills, marshy ground mixed with grassland, wooded streams and ponds hidden by trees, fascinating footpaths
Rain soakaway, wild flowers
Biodiversity/habitats and connectivity
Private peaceful areas
Conservation, wild flowers, vegetation and birds etc. Natural
To be preserved and not trodden all over by open access
Flood storage areas
Water retention – particularly if beavers brought back. Fluvial marshlands for butterflies and flora. Biodiversity if farmed sensitively. Great environmental potential as above, particularly upper Torridge in Bradworthy/Woolsery area.
Important flood plain areas, important areas for wildlife
Wooded valley, flood plain
Messy footpaths
Beware those who have not learned what to interfere with and what to leave alone
Flood plain environment and ecosystems
Living, working landscape
Marsh marigold, fallen trees, ferns and moss, bogs on woodland floors
Flood plains, free from development (hopefully), historical landscape, flowing water, openness
Clear streams, habitats
The way it's been farmed

3G: River Valley Slopes and Combes

Sense of enclosure, aesthetic
Tranquillity, sanctity, wildlife (true)
Middle Torridge Valley: deeply incised river, woodland , hidden, seen best at slow walking pace.
Natural woodland
Broadleaved woodland , Tarka Trail – access and recreation
Access to water, tranquil environment, habitat to specific wildlife , geographically interesting
Intimate small woods with footpaths, mixed land pattern – bog/scrub etc, woods on the slopes – herons/hawks/martins
Habitat connectivity
Combes leading to sea views
Variety, lack of development
Wooded secluded areas for undisturbed wildlife (keep dogs out)
Peace by the river, kingfishers and otters , steep hills, changing views
Tranquillity, wildlife
Riparian corridors important for wildlife, good walks for locals

3H: Secluded Valleys

Potential for wildlife corridors to link moorlands to coastal flats
Woodland, rich pattern of water/hedgerows/small fields/woodland
Magical feel, peace, streams, woodland and coppice, intimate landscape
Farmed valley floors
Wooded slopes
Otters
Tranquillity, peace
Broadleaved woodland on slopes and vegetation/trees along rivers; river quality and wildlife
AONB, healthy watercourses, active farming
Secret, hidden, private, streams, rivers, woods, wildlife
Important habitats (for locals and wildlife)
Dawn chorus
Wet woods, unmanaged secret places
Seclusion, quietness, biodiversity, carbon sinks (woodland and peat), water retention (reduces flooding) – more so if beavers introduced.
Peace and tranquillity, genuine wildlife (not introduced), tourism can spoil what they will come for
Seclusion, 'timeless'
AONB; beautiful unspoilt landscape, subject to stricter development control, wooded landscape with indigenous species, abundance of wildlife
Hidden; secretive

4A: Coastal Scarp Slopes and Combes

Intimate, small-scale, 'safe' feeling, contrasts between sheltering woodland and open/framed vistas
Seclusion and enclosure, glimpses of the sea, secret places and hidden gems (e.g. sheds at Welcombe, clifftop woodland clearings)
Broad-leaved woodlands
History, stories, sense of adventure
Inaccessibility, lack of disturbance, biodiversity, unique flora or salt wind effects
Ancient woodland and flora, important water features in the landscape
Ancient broad-leaved woodland
Intimate
Unimpeded views out to sea – no clutter
Woodland – small, windblown trees
Sense of enclosure important, sensitive to development
SAC potential for wildlife movement
Wild, service trees
Old trees, biodiversity, lovely walks, wildlife, interesting geology
Linkages between upland and valley floors, 'traditional' lifestyles (farming)
Brownsham Estate – secluded, intimate, bluebells
Hartland Abbey – Medieval monastic farmed landscape underlying a later parkland
Tranquil
Intimate, small scale, sensitivity
Amazing 'intact' fishing villages of Clovelly and Bucks Mills

Field boundaries and pattern
“Olde Worlde” village charm
Thatched cottages
Long views along the coast to undeveloped north Devon downs

4D: Cliffs

Largely undeveloped
Awesome feel, against ocean, seabirds nesting, geological interest, views of sea and shore and beach.
Dramatic landforms
Spectacular geological formations, stunning vista, rugged, unique wildlife habitat
Iconic, national asset
Secure areas for wildlife
Wild, exposed
‘The power of nature’, views, wildlife
Views, atmosphere
Extensive coastal views
Dramatic landscape, unique part of Torridge, peaceful
Protection for wildlife – flora and fauna.
Access to cliff top – SWC path, cliff geology, archaeology – quays, lighthouse, lime kilns
Varied geology
This is the money landscape; while other areas are vital this is the photogenic bit for tourists.
Dramatic, views, seabirds (off Hartland Point)
Moving backdrop of wind and waves
Uncluttered sea views
Exceptionally wild but also accessible through South West Coast Path
Adders
Open, wide panorama
Unique landscapes, beautiful views, rock formations, geology

4E: Coastal Sand Dunes

Protection for wildlife – flora and fauna
Wild, biodiverse
Unsettled and wild
Heart of Henry Williamson’s ‘Two Rivers’
Other worldly feel, plants and wildlife, secret ponds, remoteness
Internationally important for biodiversity
Access to coast, views out over undeveloped skyline
Dynamic and moving
Wildlife
Unique landscape, specific biodiversity, windswept and wild, areas for enjoyment by locals and tourists for recreation

4F: Extensive Intertidal Sands

Protection for wildlife – flora and fauna
Undeveloped
Birds
Wildlife
Surfing, water sports, family relaxation and enjoyment, fishing, coastal ecology
Space and panoramas
Hidden archaeology and geology
Birds, views, beauty, not very accessible to man
Albert Goodwin RWS – famous landscape painter
Vistas, textures, stones and rocks, sea birds and waders, pools and their wildlife

Lundy Island

Never visited it! It's a jewel in the view over Bideford Bay from all around the coast. Lundy comes and goes with the weather
Escape from mainland – spiritual
Natural reserves, birdlife, wildlife
Marine Reserve – wildlife, all at sea
Marine Reserve, feel of remoteness, cliffs, weird church, good pub, caves, wildlife – seals, puffins, interesting stone walls/buildings
Uniqueness, marine conservation zone
Peaceful, no traffic, low impact from development, unique wildlife habitat, remote and tranquil
Natural, isolated, undeveloped, sanctuary
Remoteness, low population, inaccessibility, few motors, self sufficiency?
Time capsule
Cliffs
Remote, open, undeveloped
The isolation is important in human terms. Only here can you grasp how dependent we are on 'stuff' – daily papers, TV and packaged food
Granite
Marine Reserve, Special island landscape, high cliffs, wildlife
Peaceful, isolation
Isolation, tranquillity, superb natural environment

ND1: Coastal Undulating Farmland

Wooded hedgerows
Sided hedgerow trees
Field boundaries/hedgerows and irregular field patterns, views to the sea
Wide open un-interrupted views, peaceful, defined field boundaries, low level development, woodland ecology and natural habitat
Pattern of fields and distinctive shapes are important here
Hedges, sea views, openness, cliffs, geology, plants, birds
Gently rolling farmland
Productive farmland, excellent views
Vistas, hedges, field patterns, gulls circling tractors, starlings massing

Access to sea views via SW Coast path, peace and quiet
Views out to sea
Crooked tree forms
We've got to farm for food somewhere so let's do it here , but still retain North Devon's landscape and field patterns
Views to sea
Working landscape
Varied farming landscape, unexpected coastal views, hedges
Open views, defined field boundaries
Open views towards the sea, tranquillity, big skies

ND4: Estate Wooded Farmland

This landscape is underestimated as we assume it is safe under estate control so left alone in policy terms. Beware market forces! Changes in ownership will erode this character (<i>force for change</i>)
Local income and employment , woodland views, clean air.
Parkland – individual trees
Clumps of trees, hedges, interesting old trees
Specimen trees
Trees, wildlife, workplace
Woodland, views, country lanes with flowers etc, bees (hopefully), ancient trees , footpaths, agricultural employment
History, a true cultural landscape, specimen trees
Resource management (sustainability)
Carbon sinks (but not if the wood is subsequently burned), biodiversity (if mixed woodland with rides and clearings)
Distinctive parkland feel – individual; distinctive trees in open fields, lack of hedges or field boundaries along some lanes, strong coherence in building styles related to estates
Working environment
Specimen trees, hedges

EXERCISE 2: BRAINSTORMING FORCES FOR CHANGE & LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES

The whole group was split into three different focus groups, looking at the 'top 3- 5' special qualities identified in the first exercise for the Landscape Character Types. Each group discussed the issues or 'forces for change' affecting the special qualities (including future issues e.g. climate change) and discussed ideas for the development of landscape guidelines.

To be compliant with the European Landscape Convention (ELC), the guidelines in the Landscape Character Assessment report will be organised under the following categories:

- **protect:** measures to preserve the present character and quality of the landscape which will be greatly valued on account of its distinctive natural or

cultural configuration (*i.e. conserve current aspects of landscape importance and strengthen their resilience*)

- **manage:** change steered to improve landscape character, with an emphasis on the regular upkeep of the landscape and its evolution (*i.e. manage, maintain and enhance valued attributes to strengthen landscape character*).
- **plan:** the process by which new landscapes are created – including to radically reshape damaged landscapes (*e.g. large-scale habitat creation, Green Infrastructure planning, restoration of mineral sites*).

Taken from Article I of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe), March 2004

The following tables summarise the results from these discussions, with guidelines formulated from the workshop discussions.

1B: Coastal Open Plateau

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Space, open views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development on the skyline (e.g. large farm buildings) - Demand for both on and off-shore wind turbines - Cumulative effects of small scale turbines (including domestic) 	<p><u>Protect</u> open and undeveloped skylines from large scale buildings and structures (including offshore development).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design guidance for agricultural buildings
Tranquillity, undeveloped, dark night skies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and associated infrastructure, particularly associated with Hartland 	<p><u>Protect</u> the area's tranquillity and dark night skies through the control and management of development, including highways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidance focused on the quality of development (e.g. lighting design guidance to preserve dark night skies)
Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visitor pressure - Intensification of agriculture - Scale of farming – damage to and removal of hedgebanks - Impacts of climate change on tree species 	<p><u>Plan</u> for the replanting of characteristic woodlands associated with settlement in sheltered locations off the open plateau.</p> <p><u>Protect</u> and <u>manage</u> hedgerows and characteristic dwarf hedgerow trees, and <u>plan</u> for the future perpetuation of these distinctive features, strengthening resilience to climate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HLS targeting - England Woodland Grant Scheme - South West Woodland Renaissance

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
		change.	
Windswept, wild	As for tranquillity	As for tranquillity	
Culture, tradition, localism	- Lack of affordable housing – locals being forced to leave the area.	<u>Protect</u> the historic character of the area and <u>plan</u> for the sensitive location of farm buildings that respect the local characteristic clustering of agricultural buildings.	CORDIALE Interreg bid (SW Protected Landscapes Forum) – implementing ELC at the community-level

1F Farmed Lowland Moorland and Culm Grassland

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Culm grasslands and associated wildlife (including wetland birds)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tensions between SAC/SSSI designations and local interests, including farming practice - Common Land legislative requirements for management regimes to be put in place - Past drainage / inappropriate management and neglect - 20th century afforestation and future drive for further UK timber production (FC policy) - Climate change impacts – future drought conditions threatening wetlands 	<p><u>Manage</u> areas of Culm grassland through appropriate grazing and burning regimes whilst <u>protecting</u> their high wildlife importance.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for the expansion of fragmented Culm grassland sites to create an intact green network (including the restoration of the habitat within woodland rides/clearings).</p> <p><u>Manage</u> the area's existing plantations for sustainable timber production and wildlife interest, creating new green links to surrounding semi-natural habitats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SAC and SSSI designations already in place to protect the wildlife interest of the grasslands. - Environmental Stewardship - The <i>Working Wetlands</i> project (DWT) - Ensure management prescriptions provide a balance between wildlife needs and those of local farmers so agriculture remains viable. - England Woodland Grant Scheme
Traditional management regimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uncertainty over future levels of subsidy to support farming on agriculturally unproductive land 	<p><u>Manage</u> areas of Culm grassland through continuing to support local farmers graze the land as an integral</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental Stewardship - The <i>Working Wetlands</i>

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tensions between SAC/SSSI designations and local interests, including farming practice (i.e. requirements to only graze Culm for 6 months of the year) - Common Land legislative requirements for management regimes to be put in place 	<p>part of their agricultural practice.</p>	<p>project (DWT) – Hollow Moor and Torridge/Tamar headwaters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure management prescriptions provide a balance between wildlife needs and those of local farmers so agriculture remains viable.
Tranquillity and remoteness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing levels of tourism and access - Development associated with Holsworthy - Wind turbines (already in landscape) and cumulative impacts of future demand for turbine development - Population growth and associated need for supporting infrastructure and facilities 	<p><u>Protect</u> the landscape’s sense of tranquillity and remoteness through avoiding the location of new development on prominent, open skylines.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for a network of green spaces and green infrastructure links to support future population growth in existing settlements whilst integrating development into the landscape and providing local spaces for access and recreation.</p>	

3A Upper Farmed & Wooded Valley Slopes

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Open rolling landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Afforestation - Loss of hedgerows - Future pressure for the development of wind turbines 	NONE SUGGESTED	
Tranquillity and dark night skies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm intensification and industrialisation - Gentrification – small-holdings, equine enterprises and second homes - Street lighting - Future pressure for the development of wind turbines 	NONE SUGGESTED	
Field boundaries – Devon banks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Past hedgerow removal - Farms getting bigger (and smaller – hobby farms) 	NONE SUGGESTED	Affordable housing policies to ensure places to live for farmers / land managers
Picturesque villages and the use of thatch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gentrification – small-holdings, equine enterprises and second homes 	NONE SUGGESTED	

3C Sparsely Settled Valley Floors

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Unspoilt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreational pressure (particularly ramblers) 	<p><u>Protect</u> the unspoilt character of the valley landscapes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider limiting public access to some valley sections (e.g. preventing access along anglers' paths)
Valued floodplain landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flood meadows being ploughed - Bankside erosion (though often not noticeable) 	<p><u>Manage</u> levels of public access to ensure minimal disturbance to sensitive floodplain habitats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider limiting public access to some valley sections (e.g. preventing access along anglers' paths)
Riparian habitats and woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agricultural run-off affecting water quality (including from adjacent maize fields) - Flood meadows being ploughed - Loss of biodiversity - Decline in salmon stocks 	<p><u>Manage and protect</u> riparian wildlife and water quality by retaining flood meadows and allowing their seasonal inundation, ensuring an intact and well-managed hedgerow network to reduce soil erosion(particularly at right-angles to slopes), and encouraging low-input farming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental Stewardship

3G River Valley Slopes and Combes

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Wildlife, including birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of habitats - No predator control (e.g. mink) - Future effects of climate change 	<p><u>Manage</u> wildlife habitats and <u>plan</u> for the creation of new habitat networks and corridors to strengthen resilience to climate change.</p>	
Tranquillity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access and tourism - Sounds of chainsaws 	<p><u>Protect</u> the landscape's high levels of peace and tranquillity.</p>	
Broadleaved woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disease - Lack of management - Damage by deer - Wood monoculture 	<p><u>Manage</u> broadleaved woodlands through sensitive coppicing where appropriate, to stimulate new woodland growth and enhance woodland ground flora.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for the emergence of new markets to stimulate woodland management – e.g. woodfuel for community renewable energy projects and sustainable hardwood production. Ensure a balance is retained between woodland cover and the intimate mosaic of other land uses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community co-operatives established for wood products – including biomass - South West Woodland Renaissance (funding) - England Woodland Grant Scheme

3H: Secluded Valleys

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Unspoilt, secluded, secretive, hidden character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tourism and associated development, including holiday parks - Powerlines (e.g. the Duntz valley) - Roadford Reservoir 	<p><u>Protect</u> the secluded and unspoilt character of the valleys by keeping development away from the most tranquil and visible locations.</p>	
Broadleaved woodlands and coppice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of traditional woodland management - New woodland planting (positive) - Future opportunities for new markets for woodland products – particularly woodfuel and hardwood timber. 	<p><u>Manage</u> broadleaved woodlands through sensitive coppicing where appropriate, to stimulate new woodland growth and enhance woodland ground flora.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for the emergence of new markets to stimulate woodland management – e.g. woodfuel for community renewable energy projects and sustainable hardwood production. Ensure a balance is retained between woodland cover and the intimate mosaic of other land uses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community co-operatives established for wood products – including biomass - South West Woodland Renaissance (funding) - England Woodland Grant Scheme
Native wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beaver reintroduction (SW Water and DWT initiative) affecting valley/river ecology (but could have 	<p>As per broadleaved woodlands (no other suggestions)</p>	<p>As above (no other suggestions)</p>

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
	positive effects for flood control in light of climate change)		
Rich pattern of water / hedges / small fields / woodland	- Woodland planting	<u>Manage and protect</u> the rich landscape mosaic of small fields, hedges and woodlands.	

4D: Cliffs

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Undeveloped, peaceful	- Increasing levels of recreation and tourism – future open access to the coast (Marine & Coastal Access Bill) - Erosion of cliffs	<u>Protect</u> the undeveloped, peaceful nature of the LCT by managing visitor pressure and controlling new development in adjacent LCTs	Management of car parks & SWCP
Dramatic landforms, geology	-Future open access to the coast – need to manage car parking and use of the SW Coast Path -Sea level rise and coastal erosion	<u>Plan</u> for the natural retreat of the cliff edge due to coastal erosion, including the future realignment of the SW Coast Path.	
Views	- Development e.g. Westward Ho!	<u>Protect</u> dramatic open views out to sea and along the coastline	

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Wild, exposed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visitor and recreation pressure - Development outside the AONB 	<u>Protect</u> the 'wildness' of the LCT by appropriately managing visitor pressures	
Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farming within the combes - SAC designation reflecting importance 	<u>Protect</u> wildlife by appropriately managing visitor pressures, as well as managing farming in adjacent combes	

.4E: Coastal Sand Dunes & 4F: Extensive Intertidal Sands

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Unsettled, wild, windswept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visitor and recreation pressure 	<u>Protect</u> the unsettled, wild nature of the LCT by managing visitor pressure and controlling new development in adjacent LCTs.	
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coastal erosion and sea level rise - Visitor and recreation pressure 	<u>Protect</u> biodiversity by appropriately managing visitor pressures	
Open panoramas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development outside the AONB e.g. Westward Ho! 	<u>Protect</u> open panoramas	

4A: Coastal Scarp Slopes & Combes

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Ancient woodland, wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change (need to provide room for new woodland development) - Development pressure - Visitor / recreation pressure 	<u>Protect</u> and sensitively <u>manage</u> ancient woodlands to enhance their wildlife interest, encouraging expansion to build resilience to climate change	Woodland grant schemes & education
Intimacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development pressure - Visitor / recreation pressure 	<u>Protect</u> the intimate character of the LCT.	
Tranquillity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development pressure - Visitor / recreation pressure 	<u>Protect</u> the tranquillity of the area by deterring large scale development.	
History		<u>Protect</u> the historic elements of the LCT.	

ND1: Coastal Undulating Farmland

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Long views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pressure for the development of wind turbines 	<u>Protect</u> long views along the coast and out to sea by resisting shoreline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify important views

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development pressure - Demand for leisure 	development in prominent locations.	
Field patterns and Devon hedges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm intensification and industrialisation - Hedgerow removal contributing to an increase in soil erosion 	<u>Manage</u> hedgerows to protect and strengthen the landscape's field patterns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental Stewardship
Working landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic (tourism and industry) - Industrialisation 	<u>Manage and protect</u> farming traditions in the area to ensure it remains a working landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental Stewardship - Support traditional farming as opposed to hobby farming
Peace and tranquillity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in tourism - Increase in traffic levels - Development pressure 	<u>Protect</u> the landscape's high levels of peace and tranquillity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce weight limits on rural roads. - Limit Sat-Nav use in the area to reduce heavy vehicle use on rural lanes. - Introduce gated lanes.

ND4: Estate Wooded Farmland

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Parkland, ancient and veteran trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of new planting / replacement of specimen trees (existing trees are getting old and dying) - Future management decisions by estate owners 	<p><u>Manage and protect</u> important parkland and veteran trees, including through sensitive pollarding and coppicing where appropriate and their protection from deer / livestock damage.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for the planting of a new stock of parkland trees, choosing species that are most likely to survive in a changing climate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - England Woodland Grant Scheme - Environmental Stewardship - Partnership working with estate owners / managers
Strong, coherent character and sense of place (e.g. consistent building styles)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Landscapes have clear character due to the management regimes of 3 or 4 estate families - Future management decisions by estate owners 	<p><u>Protect and manage</u> the area's estate landscapes with their strong sense of place and identity.</p>	
A working landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Past loss of other areas of estate land in this part of Devon – therefore important to protect and consistently manage remaining areas - Future management decisions by estate owners 	<p><u>Plan</u> for the emergence of new markets to stimulate the management of the estates – e.g. the sustainable management and expansion of estate plantations for hardwood production (choosing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community co-operatives established for wood products – including biomass - South West Woodland Renaissance (funding)

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uncertain future economic conditions – could be potential to tap into future markets (e.g. timber production). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> climate hardy species). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - England Woodland Grant Scheme

Workshop Attendees

Name	Organisation
Peter Howard	Landscape Research Group
Stephen Hobbs	Hartland Digital Archive
Martin Beagley	Torrige DC
Hewitt	Buckland Brewer Parish Council
R Turner	Woolfardisworthy Parish Council
Richard Osborne	Northam Town Council
Barry Edwards	Northam TC
John Warden	Broadwoodwidge Parish Council
Chris Durton	Broadwoodwidge Parish Council
Clare Gurton	n/a
David Lansen	Torrige District Council
Andrew Austen	N Devon Council
Garry Jennings	Parkham Parish Conservation Assoc
Melanie Hinde	Devon County Council
Peter Hanes	Northam Town Council
M Cox	Torrige DC
Paul Winter	Torrige DC
Dave Edgcombe	North Devon AONB
Sarah Chappell	Torrige DC
Barb Francis	Torrige DC
Tom Hynes	North Devon Coast and Countryside Service

Name	Organisation
Chris Hassall	CPRE / Littleham / Landcross Parish Council
Bill Broadbent	Devon Wildlife Trust
J Bradbeer	Woolfardisworthy Parish Council
Pete Leaver	David Wilson Partnership
Cllr Woodard	Broadwoodwidge Parish Council
Cllr Darbek	Broadwoodwidge Parish Council
Cllr Millman	Milton Damerel Parish Council
Linda Blanchard	North Devon AONB
John Hawkins	Westhay Farm & Hartland Peninsular Association
A F Hawkins	Westhay Farm & Hartland Peninsular Association
S. Colquhoun	Environment Agency

Summary report from the North Devon District workshop, held on Monday 26 July 2010

This is a summary of the break-out group discussions undertaken at the workshop held to inform the North Devon & Torridge Joint Landscape Character Assessment, which took place on 26 July 2010 at North Devon Library in Barnstaple. This workshop focused on North Devon district, and was attended by a range of representatives from different organisations with an interest in landscape issues, including parish councils. The overall workshop aims were to involve local stakeholders and communities in identifying what they particularly value about the different landscapes of North Devon, as well as to brainstorm ideas for 'landscape guidelines' to take forward work to protect, manage and plan the future landscapes of the district⁷. A list of workshop attendees is included at the end of this report.

EXERCISE 1- IDENTIFYING SPECIAL QUALITIES

The group as a whole was asked to use post-it notes to write down what individuals thought were the 'special qualities' they most associated with the ten Landscape Character Types (LCTs) identified for North Devon. Bold text indicates those statements which summarise the most popular attributes to feed into the second exercise.

IF: Farmed Lowland Moorland & Culm Grassland

Wet grassland/mires (culm) – especially characteristic in winter months – dead grasses.
Isolated farms & farmsteads , unimproved grassland/rough pasture (culm)
Essential for the natural environment – birds, insects, butterflies etc
Provides the essential patchwork character of the landscape – needs balanced agriculture to maintain it.
Wet grassland – culm – very distinctive
Small contained enclosures with traditional thick Devon banks
Culm grassland habitat

2C: Steep Open Slopes

Encroaching scrub
Feeling of naturalness
Amazing views
Coastal views, lack of trees giving an open, windswept, exposed character
Recreation
Unmanaged
Remnant coastal heath
Windy narrow slopes
Superb beach sand dune development, dramatic headlands and 'Combe' valley – considerable National Trust land

⁷ The workshop specifically sought to meet the objectives of the European Landscape Convention – to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and planning of landscapes; and to establish procedures for the participation of the general public and other stakeholders in the creation and implementation of landscape policies.

Exciting and different. Balance between lively coastal watersports and 'remote' feel of coastal heath and headlands.
Largely undeveloped
Punctuated by buildings – good and bad
Circular walks – signed paths, fenced and open grazing
Locally distinct field boundaries

2D: Moorland Edge Slopes

Hedges, traditional buildings
Intricate field patterns and mature hedges
Expansive views out over to Exmoor
Large, open field pattern; beech hedges
Compensate for loss of set-aside and leave areas around hedges clear
Moorland – chance to see deer etc
Main unique attribute – culm grass
A feeling of transition from one landscape type to another – i.e. entering Exmoor
Tranquillity, sense of isolation, forms part of setting of National Park, views across North Devon, little signs of man's influence
Remoteness
Views to Exmoor – strong relationship; moorland influence in vegetation – gorse – different feel to landscape types adjacent (Exmoor and valleys)
Buildings using nature and locally sourced materials
Views – ability to 'spy' landmarks on the horizon – 'Molland Clump'
The harmony of man and nature – accessible, visible, scenic beauty, tranquil, peaceful
Views, open landscapes, richness and variety of wildlife habitat, protected villages
Narrow lanes without concrete verges or night lighting – tranquil and rural
Picturesque villages – rural character, individual designs, no housing estates
Of landscape value
Beech hedges and stone hedgebanks

3A: Upper Farmed and Wooded Slopes

Amenity woodland/ 'clump' plantings
Woods and copses
Ancient wooded valleys, evocative of North Devon
Like shaggy hedges and small gateways. Concerned about over hedge trimming and widening of gateways for bigger machines.
Narrow lanes – no concrete verges or night lighting, tranquil and rural
Narrow sunken lanes, rich hedgerow wildlife
Worked landscape activity – provides setting to villages and vice versa
Steep, deep valleys
Provide that essential contrast within the landscape which can be very appealing.
South Molton should be recognised as urban, separate from 3A
Screen large agriculture buildings with trees
Openness
Defined field pattern
Stone and cob lincays, agricultural buildings, isolated, built into field boundaries, hill top copses
Farm groups in valleys
Hill top settlements break up the upper farmed area – and can be very attractive

(with church towers)
Landscape value – woods need protecting

3C: Sparsely Settled Farmed Valley Floors

Nature, trees along natural rivers
Habitat around rivers and streams
Tranquillity, sense of isolation, unchanged for centuries, intimate landscape, sparse population
Natural, flood plain, diverse habitats
Views and vistas provide relief and openness
Essentially, maintain the size and 'footprint' of settlements, balance of farmed and 'set aside'

3F: Settled Valley Floors

Valley floors provide the richest agricultural land. Watercourse and grazed pasture where flooding occurs are necessary
Soft land uses that withstand flooding, and some historic 'mistakes' that need flood protection.
Vast amount of flora and fauna
Essential habitat for all wildlife under threat.

3G: River Valley Slopes and Combes

Mature trees along country lanes forming 'tunnels'
Woodland habitat contributes to diversity of wildlife corridor along river valley.
Flood zones, winter drama
Rain – run-off
At West Worlington a chance to see geography in action as ox-bow lake forms
Restrict areas of cattle grazing etc on river banks
Protect floodplain
Prevent excess fresh water tapping
Enhance and protect hedgerows as vital eco-spheres

3H: Secluded Valleys

Woodland birds
Haven for wildlife (in valleys by streams)
Linear settlements within narrow valleys
Wildlife havens – no public access
Native woodland , intimate, enclosed, ancient green lanes
Tranquillity, isolation, feeling of being unchanged for centuries , sparsely populated
Wildlife
Farming and countryside activities

3J: Upland River Valleys

Flood plains
Historic stone bridges, narrow lanes , natural quality of rivers
Tranquillity, isolation
Totally escapes

Part of the setting of the National Park
Views across North Devon
Little sign of man's influence

4B: Coastal Slopes and Combes with Settlement

To be protected from excessive development
Should medieval field system be noted around Combe Martin
Thatched cottages
Often defined by strong planted edges and variety of species
Local vernacular buildings – cob, thatch, slate, whitewash, stone
Built up area contained within landscape and not visible from a distance (apart from the sea)
Linear settlements – narrow valleys, morte slate, farmsteads within village centres
Localised difference at Combe Martin, strong industrial influence overlays medieval field system
Linear settlement
Historic interest around fishing villages – harbours and limekilns
Steep, wooded slopes
Distinctive hedgebanks – stone faced
Edwardian and Victorian seaside influence
Long/distant views to the coast

4C: Estuaries

Long views
Access to the waterfront along flood defences
AONB and SSSI – vital biosphere areas to be protected and managed rigorously
Taw and Torridge Estuary only one available to overwintering birds
Openness
Birdlife, cyclepaths, variety from tidal flows
Open feeling/expansive views
Managed recreation. No build! Unique habitats for flora and fauna
Wildlife and birds
Evidence of quays and lime kilns, wide open character between ridges
Water birds

4D: Cliffs

Views
Coast path
Breeding birds
Freedom to explore, discovery and experience
Extensive views along coast and inland
Cliff edge footpath – continuous, great views
Wildlife habitats, unique coastline are why Devon is a major tourist attraction, views
Erosion, safety, geological, inaccessible, coast path views, rock-climbing
Secluded coves
Total contrast from the North coastal path and the South meeting at the point

Walks
Provide spectacular coastal scenery – where accessible
Cliff castles – Hillsborough, and other historic defences
Views of South Wales
Rugged coastline and hidden coves
Stunning coastal views , cliffs with distinct geology and varied form

4E: Extensive Intertidal Sands

Largely undeveloped
Feeding areas for waders etc
Wide open panoramas out to sea
Open vast expanse of sand
Contrasts with season/weather – wild, alien, windswept, then busy, lively, crowded.
Unspoilt by modern development nearby

4F: Coastal Dunes

Open views, wildlife habitats , dune system should be protected
Ability to find space away from other people. Feeling of remoteness even when in use by others
A great sense of ‘naturalness’
Braunton Burrows: Intimate landscape? Mix of extensive and limited views
Element of leisure activities
Valuable biodiversity
Undulating sand dunes – UNESCO Biosphere Reserve
Balance of access and protection – e.g. encourage tourist access but control parking, pathways and erosion (and safety)
Unfettered public access – roam rather than follow paths
Wilderness, tranquillity, lack of built features – naturalness
Wilderness
Flora and fauna
Our World Heritage Site – unique habitat, harsh beauty

ND2: Coastal and Inland Rolling Downland

Lanes too small for large heavy traffic – agricultural and industrial
Hedges should be preserved for wildlife habitat
Dramatic views
Small communities
Extensive open views
Extensive views
Patchwork of green, far reaching views
Gently rolling hills
Large, square field patterns
Flora and fauna
Smooth flowing skylines, more sensitive where church spires are the only buildings that break them
Peaceful but also active
Wildlife habitat

ND3: Estate Wooded Hills & Ridges

Ridgeback hills
Parkland and wood pasture (Filleigh)
Old/veteran trees
Long views including to Lundy from Yarde Cross (652337), and across valley in line with ancient trackway to Tavistock. Plus views from Codden Hill (360 degree) if this ancient land.
This also includes quarry areas at Venn and Codden (south slopes) these can be sever (also Swimbridge) unless screened or managed (Landkey).
Of landscape value – flora, fauna, wildlife
Sense of peace
Landkey: Ancient trackways (harepaths), hedgerows and streams make up a lion outline from which Landkey derives its name (Domesday book exon). Was Lon-de-key
Parkland trees, narrow winding lanes along ancient boundaries
Single track roads offering criss-cross network between major roads
Views from Codden Hill – best in North Devon
Managed and formal

ND4: Estate Wooded Farmland

Ancient woodland and rights of way
Narrow Devon lanes, parkland trees, village settlements
Parkland with individual large trees
Secluded valleys with old wooded areas
Pastoral landscape of parkland trees (deciduous), some lanes without hedgerows – evocative country estates
Farmland, birds
Important because they often provide the larger areas of woodland as opposed to Spinneys Copse: valley sides of ancient woodland
Narrow lanes, no concrete verges or street lights, tranquil and rural
Ancient trees and managed landscapes – wonderful wildlife resource. Unchanged rural settlements
Age and durability, single trees act as landmarks
Veteran/hedgerow trees, parkland planting
Avoidance of ‘over farming’ and over grazing and deterioration of soil by fertilisers, pesticides, chemicals etc.

ND5: Marshland/Low-lying Farmland

Historic landscape
Ditches and stone walls
Wetlands, open landscape, Braunton Marsh
Peaceful and tranquil, transition between land/estuary/sea, traditional, pastoral
Bygone era
Habitat for biodiversity, and rich bird habitat
Shoreline Management Plan – relevant to Braunton Marshes (Horsey Island??). Water levels still apparently falling – various theories
Braunton Great Field
The jewel in North Devon’s crown – our unique and proud World Heritage Site – to be valued, protected and advertised!

Disappearing rapidly, historic important site
Medieval field system west of Braunton
Ancient farmland
Protection vital to preserve unique qualities
Links to history – wide green space
Unenclosed
Needs protecting
Traditional ways of farming and animal housing
Landshersds and furlongs
An obviously historic landscape

EXERCISE 2: BRAINSTORMING FORCES FOR CHANGE & LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES

The whole group was split into three different focus groups, looking at the 'top 3- 5' special qualities identified in the first exercise for the Landscape Character Types. Each group discussed the issues or 'forces for change' affecting the special qualities (including future issues e.g. climate change) and discussed ideas for the development of landscape guidelines.

To be compliant with the European Landscape Convention (ELC), the guidelines in the Landscape Character Assessment report will be organised under the following categories:

- **protect:** measures to preserve the present character and quality of the landscape which will be greatly valued on account of its distinctive natural or cultural configuration (*i.e. conserve current aspects of landscape importance and strengthen their resilience*)
- **manage:** change steered to improve landscape character, with an emphasis on the regular upkeep of the landscape and its evolution (*i.e. manage, maintain and enhance valued attributes to strengthen landscape character*).
- **plan:** the process by which new landscapes are created – including to radically reshape damaged landscapes (*e.g. large-scale habitat creation, Green Infrastructure planning, restoration of mineral sites*).

Taken from Article I of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe), March 2004

The following tables summarise the results from these discussions, with guidelines formulated from the workshop discussions.

1F Farmed Lowland Moorland and Culm Grassland

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
<p>Culm grasslands and associated wildlife (including wetland birds)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Past drainage / inappropriate management and neglect - Climate change impacts – future drought conditions potentially threatening wetlands - Changing economies of farming (both past and future) – future drive for food production - Agri-environment schemes too rigid / not tailored enough to local conditions (e.g. reduced stocking rates) 	<p><u>Manage</u> areas of Culm grassland through appropriate grazing and burning regimes whilst <u>protecting</u> their high wildlife importance. Share best practice between farmers farming in areas of Culm grassland.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for the expansion of fragmented Culm grassland sites to create an intact green network, where conditions allow (e.g. underlying geology / soils).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing best practice and holding training events with farmers in areas of Culm (e.g. Lower Ash Farm) - Environmental Stewardship - The <i>Working Wetlands</i> project (DWT) - Ensure management prescriptions provide a balance between wildlife needs and those of local farmers so agriculture remains viable.

Valleys: 3G River Valley Slopes and Combes, 3H: Secluded Valleys, 3J: Upland River Valleys

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Wildlife havens, particularly associated with woodlands	- Tree / woodland removal from along roads, for highway safety reasons.	<u>Manage</u> the valleys' important semi-natural woodlands, re-introducing coppice management including along roadsides to enhance biodiversity and provide a low-carbon fuel source for local communities. .	Engage with community/ volunteer and landowners to encourage coppice management, also to explore potential for a local woodfuel supply.
Narrow lanes/ green lanes and stone bridges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heavy modern farm traffic and suppliers – too large for the road network - Vehicular damage to roadside hedges and woodland. - Hedge and tree removal for highway safety – sections often left overgrown otherwise (responsibility of the landowner). 	<u>Protect</u> the landscape's network of unmetalled narrow rural roads and green lanes, undertaking sensitive management of roadside trees, hedges and woodland (including through coppicing)	<p>As above</p> <p>DCC to roll out a Highway Protocol / best practice on roadside management to areas outside the protected landscapes.</p>
Tranquillity / isolation	- Heavy traffic on rural roads	None suggested	None suggested

Coastal LCTs: 4A: Coastal Scarp Slopes & Combes, 4C: Estuaries, 4D: Cliffs, .4E: Coastal Sand Dunes, 4F: Extensive Intertidal Sands, Low-lying farmland/marsh and Braunton Great Field

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Nature / wildlife / naturalness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change adaptation - Future movement of sand dunes (need for a strategy for movement/migration) - Impact of recreation and military uses - Development pressure (flat land along coast desirable to build on) 	<p><u>Plan</u> for climate change adaptation. allowing habitat migration where feasible.</p> <p><u>Protect</u> the most sensitive parts of the coast from development pressure.</p> <p><u>Manage</u> levels of access and recreation, seeking a balance between these uses and conservation needs (e.g. through the use of zoning).</p>	<p>Shoreline Management Plan</p> <p>Identify areas suitable for future habitat migration (undeveloped sites)</p> <p>Coastal Development Document and Policy within the LDF</p> <p>Use local stakeholder input to inform NE priorities for landscape management.</p> <p>HLS and EWGS</p> <p>CORDALE Interreg bid (focus on Combe Martin)</p> <p>Estuary Management Plan (at consultation phase)</p> <p>Marine Management</p>

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
			Organisation (MMO)
Long, scenic views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Offshore wind turbines – e.g. Atlantic Array 	<p><u>Protect</u> important coastal and sea views.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for future renewable energy developments in the area, ensuring that landscape protection and key views are considered as high priorities for any proposals.</p>	<p>Lobby for the extension of the AONB boundary around the Caen Valley</p> <p>Exercise to prioritise key views in terms of what is valued / tourism</p> <p>North Devon Sustainable Energy Action Plan</p> <p>Seascape Assessment for offshore wind</p>
Heritage assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development around Braunton Great Field eroding traditional field systems and important landscape features - 'Horseyculture' encroaching into the countryside - Spread of hobby farming and rising cost of land - Tourism land uses replacing 	<p><u>Protect</u> the silver mining heritage associated with the landscape around Combe Martin, <u>planning</u> for the promotion of sustainable tourism opportunities to the area and other heritage sites in the landscape.</p> <p><u>Protect</u> the heritage assets of the landscape, reflecting and incorporating elements into new</p>	<p>Complete Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans for heritage areas/sites.</p>

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
	agriculture - Climate change and sea level rise threatening Horsea Island and Brauton Marsh	development. <u>Manage and protect</u> heritage assets for future generations.	
Opportunities for access and recreation	- Benefit to the economy – but should be spread across the district	<u>Manage</u> levels of access and recreation, seeking a balance between these uses and conservation needs (e.g. through the use of zoning).	Promote less sensitive areas (e.g. inland) for tourism Development of Access Management Plans Integrated Transport Initiatives AONB scheme to reduce car use by visitors – ‘Explore the Coast’ (leaving car at B&B) ‘Golden Coast’ park and ride

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Secluded / intimate / peaceful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Light pollution from nearby development - Cars and traffic - Recreation and tourism – impacts of the '28 day rule' Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 – relating to camping, shooting, scrambling etc. - Popularity of the coast for surfing 	<u>Protect</u> the secluded, intimate and peaceful qualities associated with the coast, exploring opportunities to <u>manage</u> recreational uses, reduce traffic levels and encourage sustainable energy / transport use.	<p>North Devon Sustainable Energy Action Plan</p> <p>AONB scheme to reduce car use by visitors – 'Explore the Coast' (leaving car at B&B)</p> <p>Low energy use initiatives</p> <p>Sustainable travel for local villages – e.g. park and ride</p> <p>Review/lobby on 28 day rule</p> <p>Improve rail transport links and destinations</p>

ND2: Coastal and Inland Rolling Downland

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Flowing skylines punctuated by church towers (particularly important viewed	- Demand for wind turbines – already approval for 22x140m turbines at Fullabrook. Will be very visible across district and AONB.	<u>Protect</u> the landscape's flowing open skylines and key views of square church towers by managing and controlling development on	

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
from estuary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Another proposal for 3x100m turbines at Shelfin. - Cumulative effects of different scales and styles of turbine, including domestic. - Future demand for 'energy farms' e.g. solar. Already proposals in the pipeline. However if Severn Barrage goes ahead, this demand may be removed. - Views of development in the south and into Torr ridge district. - Development of Mullacott Cross industrial estate – proposals to expand. Current cladding (pale green) prominent in the landscape. - Impacts of development limited as historic settlements located below the skyline. 	downland summits.	
Wildlife, flora and fauna, including farmland habitats and	- Important intact farmland habitats with hares, skylarks, buzzards and deer – livestock grazing very	<u>Manage</u> the farmed downland landscape through supporting a continuation in livestock farming and	Environmental Stewardship

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
single windblown trees	<p>important</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impacts of future changes to farming – market forces, climate change (energy crops, SRC) - Tightly flailed hedges 	<p>encouraging wildlife-friendly farming methods.</p> <p><u>Protect</u> single windblown trees as valued landscape features, and <u>plan</u> for the replacement of old specimens, including through planting a new stock of hedgerow and field corner trees.</p>	
Square fields and important beech hedge boundaries (19 th century downland reclamation and spread of beech from Exmoor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Past hedgerow loss and field amalgamation - Varying levels of management – some hedges intensively flailed, some replaced by fencing, others neglected. - Changes in farm management and economies – larger farms don't have the time to undertake sensitive hedge management – fencing cheaper and more stockproof. - Lack of subsidies to support hedge management (HLS focused on protected sites, ELS too broad). 	<p><u>Manage</u> and restore the landscape's important network of hedges to strengthen square field patterns and reinforce traditional skills.</p>	<p>Engage with voluntary groups (e.g. BTCV) to undertake hedge laying projects in the area</p> <p>Environmental Stewardship</p>

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Small communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development pressure - Past development policies favouring 'key settlements', leading to small communities left without services or affordable housing. - When built, affordable housing is often cheaply constructed and unsympathetic to building traditions and landscape setting. 	<p><u>Manage</u> and <u>plan</u> for the future sustainability of rural settlements, with limited new development integrated into its landscape setting (below ridge tops), replicating local building styles and materials wherever possible. New development should be appropriately linked to facilities and infrastructure to serve the needs of local communities.</p>	Design Guide setting out principles for new development in the landscape (Conservation Areas focused on historic cores)

ND3: Estate Wooded Hills & Ridges

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Veteran trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Castle Hill estate is in Stewardship and EWGS (positive) - Some remnant estate land not under management. - Future climate change impacts – e.g. increased pests/disease (e.g. Sudden Oak Death). 	<p>Sensitively <u>manage</u> the landscape's remaining ancient and veteran trees, including through traditional pollarding where appropriate.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for the planting of the next generation of veteran trees, choosing climate resilient species to ensure longevity.</p>	<p>Environmental Stewardship</p> <p>EWGS</p>

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
Long views, including from Codden Hill and 'designed views'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Future development pressure between Landkey and the South Molton roundabout impacting on northward views. 	<p><u>Protect</u> important views to and from the hills and designed parkland landscapes.</p>	<p>Identify important views and viewpoints.</p>
Wildlife habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Past loss of lowland heathland on Codden Hill – some remaining - Scrub encroachment on south facing slope - Past quarrying activity 	<p><u>Plan</u> for the expansion of lowland heath on Codden Hill, managed through appropriate grazing and burning levels, with remnant sites re-linked to form an intact habitat network.</p> <p><u>Plan</u> for potential habitat recreation in disused quarry sites, whilst <u>protecting</u> important geological outcrops revealed in rock faces.</p>	<p>Environmental Stewardship</p>
Ancient trackways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survived well – no routes are used as rat runs so character is being retained. 	<p><u>Protect</u> the landscape's ancient trackways and network of quiet rural lanes, resisting unsympathetic highways improvements or signage.</p>	
Peace and tranquillity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visual and noise intrusion from the A361 North Devon Link Road - Future development pressure between Landkey and the South Molton roundabout (eventual 	<p><u>Plan</u> for the future expansion of local settlements, integrating new development into its landscape framework through the provision of a surrounding network of green spaces, wildlife habitats and</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure Strategy (DCC)</p>

Special quality	Forces for change affecting special quality	Suggested guideline(s)	Suggested delivery mechanisms
	coalescence between Barnstaple and Landkey).	recreational routes.	

Workshop Attendees

Name	Organisation
Sheelagh Darling	Marwood Parish Council
Micky Darling	Marwood Parish Council
Bob Barfoot	CPRE North Devon
Sue Jerrard	Bittadon Parish Meeting
Robert Domleo	Atherington Parish Council
David Gravell	Landkey Parish Council
John Cole	Goodleigh Parish Council
Linda Blanchard	North Devon AONB
Derrick Spear	Coast & Countryside Alliance
Dave Edgcombe	North Devon AONB
Melanie Hinde	Devon County Council
Craig Dixon	Devon County Council
Mark Pine	Shirwell Parish Council
Paul Winter	Torridge District Council
Cathy Karniewicz	Goodleigh Parish Council
Jean Watkins	North Devon District Council
K Biney	North Devon District Council
Mark Alcock	North Devon District Council
Sally Hocking	Mortehoe Parish
CLlr Ricky Knight	Barnstaple Town Council
Andrew Jones	North Devon District Council