

Appendix 2

Devon Menu of Landscape Character Types

DEVON LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES (LCTs) SUMMARY LIST AND KEY CHARACTERISTICS

Revised 8 November 2010

Summary List of 37 Devon LCTs

LCT 1: PLATEAUX AND RIDGES

LCT 1A: Open inland planned plateaux

LCT 1B: Open coastal plateaux

LCT 1C: Pebblebed heaths

**LCT 1D: Estate wooded ridges and hilltops (new– ND3 from N D & T
joint LCA)**

LCT 1E: Wooded ridges and hilltops

LCT 1F: Farmed lowland moorland and Culm grassland

LCT 1G: Open inland plateaux

LCT 1H: Forested plateau

LCT 1J: Farmed and forested plateau

LCT 1K: Unsettled high upland moorland

LCT 1L: Upland moorland with tors

LCT 2: SCARP SLOPES

LCT 2A: Steep wooded scarp slopes

LCT 2B (formerly 2E): Steep wooded and settled scarp slopes

LCT 2C (formerly 2G): Steep open slopes

LCT 2D: Moorland edge slopes

LCT 3: VALLEYS

LCT 3A: Upper farmed and wooded valley slopes

LCT 3B: Lower rolling farmed and settled valley slopes

LCT 3C (formerly 4A): Sparsely settled farmed valley floors

LCT 3D (formerly 3J): Upland river valleys

LCT 3E (formerly 4D): Lowland plains

LCT 3F (formerly 4G): Settled valley floors

LCT 3G (formerly 2C): River valley slopes and combes

LCT 3H: Secluded valleys

LCT 4: COASTS

LCT 4A (formerly 4C): Estuaries

LCT 4B (originally 4B then 3D): Marine levels

LCT 4C (formerly 2F): Coastal slopes and combes with settlement

LCT 4D: (originally 2B): Coastal slopes and combes

LCT 4E: Extensive inter-tidal sands

LCT 4F: Dunes

LCT 4G: Low lying coast and beach

LCT 4H (formerly 5): Cliffs

LCT 5: ROLLING HILLS

LCT 5A (formerly ID): Inland elevated undulating land
LCT 5B (new ND1 from N D & T joint LCA): Coastal undulating farmland
LCT 5C (new- ND2 from N D & T joint LCA): Downland
LCT 5D (new -ND4 from N D & T joint LCA): Estate wooded farmland

LCT 6: OFFSHORE ISLANDS

LCT 7: MAIN CITIES AND TOWNS

LCT 1: PLATEAUX AND RIDGES

LCT 1A: Open inland planned plateaux (East Devon AONB, Blackdown Hills AONB, Tamar Valley AONB and WDBC)

- High open flat plateau
- Rectangular field pattern of medium to large scale
- Predominantly pastoral farming on heavy soils
- Well trimmed hedges on narrow earth banks
- Sparsely scattered boundary trees, usually beech with oak towards plateau edge
- Very uniform appearance
- Beech, oak and hazel are the dominant species
- Occasional copses and small conifer plantations punctuate the open farmland
- Long straight roads in centre, with narrow winding minor roads towards the edge
- Isolated farmsteads and clusters of buildings at crossroads; 20th century settlement associated with airfields
- Extensive views often blocked by woodland on boundary
- Series of linked narrow plateaux with gently sloping sides
- Regular well-maintained low-trimmed hedges on narrow earth banks
- Open farmland punctuated by narrow copses and double hedges along roads, with some beech clumps
- Linear pattern of scattered small-scale settlement along roads and clustered at crossroads

LCT 1B Open coastal plateaux (EDDC and East Devon AONB AONB, SHDC and South Devon AONB, North Devon AONB, and Torridge DC)

- High, open plateaux, dissected or separated by combes and river valleys
- Windblown vegetation
- Regular medium to large field pattern
- Stone boundary walls, dense low hedges (often elm) with occasional hedgerow oaks
- Mixed land use, mainly pastoral or arable
- Little woodland or limited deciduous woodland
- Few roads but many rights of way
- Very low or low settlement density

- Influence of geology on landform and/or soil colour
- Extensive views along coast

LCT IC: Pebblebed heaths (EDDC and East Devon AONB)

- High, level to gently undulating open plateaux
- Extensive lowland heath, conifer plantations and some beech woods
- Mix of unenclosed heath and conifer plantations
- Mix of major and minor roads
- Mainly unsettled
- Distinctive geology influences vegetation and land use
- Extensive recreational and biodiversity use
- Panoramic views

LCT ID: Estate wooded hills and ridges (N Devon DC)

- Distinct ridges dissected by a series of streams contrasting with surrounding undulating land, with summits affording spectacular panoramic views.
- Large bands of broadleaved beech and oak woodland across ridges and along stream valleys, with blocks of conifer plantation and secondary woodland on hill slopes. Estate woodland with veteran trees around historic designed landscapes.
- Traditional orchards around historic bartons.
- Predominantly pastoral character. Hill slopes and summits provide rough grazing land, with wood pasture and parkland around historic estates..
- Mixture of curving small-medium scale medieval fields and more regular larger enclosures of recent origin, bounded by mixed species hedges. Some Devon hedges are high with no topping hedgerows (particularly on hill summits), whilst banks on woodland edges are characterised by grown-out lines of beech.
- Rich variety of semi-natural habitats including heathland, bracken and semi-improved grassland, rush pasture and neutral grasslands, historic wood pasture, ancient trees, and rich broadleaved woodlands and damp meadows..
- Historic Grade I or II* mansion(s) set in ornamental historic parkland estate with nationally important features including fishpond, ice house and deer fencing. Historic quarries are landscape features. .
- Elsewhere, nucleated hamlets and farmsteads nestled at the base of slopes.
- Strong traditional vernacular associated with with a particular estate.
- Strong sense of tranquillity and history with little modern development.

LCT IE: Wooded ridges and hilltops (Teignbridge, EDDC, East Devon AONB and Blackdown Hills AONB and SHDC and South Devon AONB)

- Small hills and associated small ridges, or area of undulating small hills
- Irregular fields of variable size. some with spring-line mires
- Species-rich hedgebanks and tree rows, ancient woodland and great species diversity with oak and ash common as hedgerow trees

- Mixed woodland and some pasture; hilltop fields may be arable
- Sparsely settled
- Narrow enclosed winding lanes
- Limited views out
- High and frequently remote

LCT IF Farmed lowland moorland and Culm grassland (WDBC, Torridge DC, N Devon DC, Tamar Valley AONB and North Devon AONB)

- Flat to gently rolling moorland plateaux
- Mainly pastoral cultivation with prominent conifer plantations
- Notably regular field pattern with areas of unenclosed moorland heath or Culm grassland, and scrub
- Open and exposed
- Many shallow streams and rush-dominated roadside ditches indicative of impeded drainage
- Sparse settlement pattern of hamlets and isolated farms. Could contain some tourism and leisure uses and occasional isolated stone barns
- Sparse highway network of narrow straight lanes
- Hedgebanks with low hedges and a few roadside oaks and copses, in variable condition
- Crossroads marked by signposts
- Predominantly inland character, but could extend to coastal fringe

LCT IG Open inland plateaux (Teignbridge, WDBC and Tamar Valley AONB)

- Gently rolling plateaux
- Pastoral farmland with variable small-scale woodland cover and estate farmland plus minor other land uses
- Mainly broadleaved woodland, with some conifer plantations near boundaries and distinctive forestry management regime locally
- Many streams, wet rush pasture and ditches
- Hedgebanks with hedgerow trees
- Irregular medium-large scale field pattern
- Sparse pattern of dispersed hamlets, isolated farms, villages, historic settlements and crossroads settlements
- Dense network of narrow sinuous lanes with curved verges of variable width
- Open elevated long views over river valleys
- Exposed rock outcrops locally

LCT IH: Forested plateau (Teignbridge)

- Gently rolling elevated plateau;
- Large areas of conifer plantation and mixed woodland with relic heathland, which in some places dominates;
- Lanes on plateau relatively open and straight, often bordered by woodland on either side;
- Sparsely settled with isolated houses and farms along minor roads;
- Modern leisure and recreational development including car parks, picnic sites and trails;

- Panoramic views out but restricted to vantage points and gaps in woodland cover along the plateau edges;
- Prehistoric sites including cairns and hillforts.

LCT IJ: Farmed and forested plateau (Dartmoor)

- Gently undulating plateau rising above steep slopes
- Plateau core dominated by extensive conifer plantations associated with reservoirs
- Smaller patches of coniferous, mixed, wet woodland and heathy scrub fringe tributary streams and mires, linking to small farm woods and copses
- Predominantly pastoral medium scale medieval and post-medieval fields surrounding the plantations, with occasional larger and more regular arable fields and localised areas of horticulture. Smaller scale, more ancient irregular field patterns associated with hamlet fringes.
- Low cut mixed species hedgerows with hedgerow trees around the boundary, with fewer trees on exposed plateau. Some patches of gorse and bracken contribute to upland feel.
- Expansive views out from plateau edges contrasting with more enclosed and framed views within the plateau. Geological outcrops may provide panoramic elevated viewpoints.
- Settlement character confined to dispersed farms of granite, cob and slate on plateau edge with occasional larger hamlets of mixed building styles nestling within rolling landform.
- Extensive network of narrow winding lanes, in places passing through 'tunnels' formed by avenues of mature beech trees, often on banks.

LCT IK: Unsettled high upland moorland (Dartmoor)

- Large scale, upland plateaux with broad ridges, with occasional tors and rock outcrops along plateaux edges providing distinctive crumpled silhouettes contrasting with smooth uninterrupted skylines.
- Expansive panoramic views and an overwhelming sense of remoteness and exposure
- Large expanses of grass and heather moorland interspersed with bilberry, purple moor grass, gorse and bracken- extensively grazed by sheep, cattle and ponies
- Blanket bog and mixed valley mires over thick layers of peat supporting internationally important upland wildlife habitats
- Major water catchment, with extensive network of small streams and mires in shallow valleys radiating off plateaux tops, feeding larger watercourses draining the moor.
- Extensive remains of ancient settlements, cairns and boundaries, particularly associated with the Bronze Age.
- Features associated with mining heritage from medieval period
- Absence of settlement and intrusion with resultant high levels of tranquillity and dark night skies. Influenced in parts from military training use and associated modern buildings.
- Sparse network of rights of way often following ancient tracks.

LCT 1L: Upland moorland with tors (Dartmoor)

- Gently rolling, large scale landscape of smooth moorland slopes punctuated by granite tors and scatterings of granite boulders and clutter slopes along fringes.
- Strong sense of exposure and far reaching, often panoramic views. Tors form characteristic silhouettes on smooth, uninterrupted skylines.
- Large conifer plantations create dark blocks with hard edges, contrasting with the smooth, muted landscape backdrop.
- Patches of deciduous woodland are dominated by oak, ash and beech; generally limited to valley sides and around settlements.
- Mosaic of heathland vegetation over elevated areas and scattered, windswept trees.
- Free-roaming ponies, sheep and cattle strongly associated with moorland scene.
- Valley mires and blanket bogs thread through the rolling landscape before feeding into fast-flowing tributary streams occupying steep sided valleys off the moor.
- Strong pattern of 18th and 19th century 'newtakes' surround the moorland core, defined by a regular pattern of granite drystone walls and low hedgebanks enclosing rough grazing land.
- Numerous sites and features of high archaeological significance, including prehistoric monuments and ancient field boundary markings constructed from granite.
- Scattered former mineral workings and associated buildings dating from the medieval period onwards and 19th century quarries.
- Granite and slate predominate as local vernacular materials
- Small settlements clustered around bridging points or crossroads nestled into the folds of the landscape. Isolated farmsteads, often with colourwashed walls, are dotted across the moorland; commonly framed by trees providing shelter from the elements.
- Larger settlements often conspicuous in the landscape.
- Extensive, often ancient rights of way network. Open and straight roads cross the moorland contrasting with small, winding lanes traversing the lower slopes.
- Largely uninterrupted skylines. Telecom masts or other sizeable vertical element tend to stand out. .

LCT 2: SCARP SLOPES

LCT 2A: Steep wooded scarp slopes (Teignbridge, EDDC, East Devon AONB and Blackdown Hills AONB)

- A narrow band of steeply sloping land immediately below a plateau edge
- Mixed woodland and semi improved or unimproved pasture
- Pastoral cultivation, with small-scale irregular field pattern
- Lightly settled
- Narrow winding lanes with well treed banks
- Occasional long views out over adjoining valleys

- Many patches of semi-natural habitats, including spring-line mires and scrub

LCT 2B (formerly 2E): Steep wooded and settled scarp slopes (SHDC and South Devon AONB)

- A narrow band of steeply sloping land immediately below a plateau edge
- Unenclosed
- Well wooded
- Extensively settled, with converted buildings and much small scale 20th century dwellings
- Narrow winding lanes with well treed hedgebanks

LCT 2C (formerly 2G): Steep open slopes (WDBC and Tamar Valley AONB, N Devon AONB)

- Upper sloping hillside below a plateau edge
- Adjoining but not part of coastal cliffs
- Open pastoral farmland without woods or trees but with low hedges and hedgebanks
- Mix of pasture, rough grazing and low scrub
- Regular field pattern of variable size, giving an unenclosed appearance where very large
- Limited network of sinuous minor roads
- Small hamlets of vernacular style or extensive small-scale coastal settlement with much leisure-related development
- Medium to large scale, open but partly protected from exposure by headlands
- Extensive coastal views

LCT 2D Moorland edge slopes (Dartmoor, WDBC and Tamar Valley AONB, SHDC and South Devon AONB, N Devon DC)

- Sloping upland moorland edge
- Mix of open unenclosed moorland, pastoral farmland and rough grass
- Variable field sizes, often small
- Small areas of conifer plantation and mixed and amenity woodland
- Local dominance of beech as hedgerow and roadside tree
- Some artificial landform locally as result of mineral extraction
- Open, with long views
- Sparsely settled with farms and villages, sometimes influenced by adjacent urban edges.
- Limited road network
- Recreational use

LCT 3: VALLEYS

LCT 3A: Upper farmed and wooded valley slopes (Dartmoor, EDDC, East Devon AONB, Blackdown Hills AONB, SHDC and South Devon AONB, Teignbridge, Torbay, N Devon and Torridge DC)

- Undulating or rolling upper valley slopes

- Pastoral farmland, with a wooded appearance, and arable cultivation on lower slopes
- Small to medium size fields with irregular boundaries
- Deciduous woods and copses, especially on hilltops and upper slopes
- Very wide, usually low, species-rich hedges with many hedgerow trees
- Dispersed settlement pattern of isolated farms and small villages
- Very winding narrow lanes
- An intimate and intricate landscape with wider views often restricted by vegetation
- Frequently remote and tranquil with little modern development

LCT 3B: Lower rolling farmed and settled valley slopes (Teignbridge, EDDC, East Devon AONB , Blackdown Hills AONB, North Devon AONB, WDBC and Tamar Valley AONB, SHDC and South Devon AONB, Torbay)

- Gently rolling lower valley slopes
- Pastoral farmland, with a wooded appearance
- Variable field patterns and sizes with either wide, low boundaries and irregular patterns or small fields with medium to tall boundaries and a regular pattern.
- Many hedgerow trees, copses and streamside tree rows
- Settled, with varied settlement size, building ages and styles, sometimes with unity of materials in places through use of stone.
- Presence of leisure-related development often associated with coast
- Winding, often narrow sunken lanes with very tall earth banks. Main roads may dominate locally.
- Streams and ditches
- Some parts tranquil and intimate all year round, except near main transport routes.
- Enclosed and sheltered landscape and wider views often restricted by vegetation

LCT 3C (formerly 4A): Sparsely settled farmed valley floors (Teignbridge, EDDC and the Blackdown Hills AONB, WDBC and the Tamar Valley AONB, North Devon AONB, N Devon and Torridge DC, and SHDC and South Devon AONB)

- Open flat landform, often with distinct vegetated floodplain edge confined by valley sides
- Watercourses screened by riparian vegetation often with low floodbanks
- Hedges, not banks, generally on the boundary with rising land.
- Pastoral land use, with wet meadows and some arable, with variable field sizes
- Saltmarsh and reedbeds sometimes occur locally
- Sparsely settled
- Stone sometimes used for walls, bridges and quays.
- Network of narrow winding lanes, sometimes with major roads along boundaries
- Open internally, with views out screened by boundary vegetation

- Variable field pattern, with some areas apparently unenclosed
- Frequently tranquil with river views

LCT 3D (formerly 3J): Upland river valleys (Dartmoor, N Devon DC)

- Steep-sided river valleys radiating out from an upland core, and fed by a series of upland tributaries and mires..
- Open and exposed in upper reaches, becoming more enclosed and intimate in lower reaches.
- Valley floors fringed by wet woodland and often Rhôs pasture, whilst valley sides are cloaked in extensive areas of ancient semi-natural woodland dominated by sessile oak and beech of high nature conservation importance. Evidence of past woodland management, including coppicing.
- The valleys are varied and colourful, with broadleaved woodlands providing seasonal interest through a range of colours including autumnal reds and oranges, and blankets of bluebells, primroses and wild garlic in spring.
- Some valleys fringed by large areas of coniferous plantation.
- Rivers are fast flowing and quickly swell in size after rainfall.. Areas of white-water, small waterfalls and gushing torrents through rocky courses.
- Industrial heritage evident in some areas, including network of leats, or structures from past mineral extraction and peat working.
- Medieval granite stone bridges often form the historic focus for the location of hamlets, small villages and farmsteads with a unifying granite and slate local vernacular.
- Reservoirs are prominent features in some valleys.
- Small, narrow winding roads traverse steep valley sides, often enclosed by high hedgerows creating 'tunnels' through the landscape.
- Larger settlements along the lower reaches of the main rivers are traditional at their cores, include 20th century development displaying a mixture of vernacular styles and materials.

LCT 3E (formerly 4D): Lowland Plains (Teignbridge, WDBC, Tamar valley AONB, EDDC, SHDC & S Devon AONB, Torbay)

- Level to gently sloping or rolling plain
- Mixed farmland with other land uses, possibly extractive industry or commercial development.
- Orchards sometimes common
- Settlement pattern varies according to location, from sparsely to densely settled, with a mixed pattern of villages and hamlets
- Regular or irregular medium to large scale field pattern
- Local dominance of stone as building material, but great variety of materials and styles throughout
- Variable woodland pattern, sometimes with small discrete woodlands, large plantations, hilltop beech clumps or linear amenity planting.
- Roadside hedges. Hedgerow trees may be sparse or dominant
- Variable highway network from sparse to major roads
- Long views variable in quality, sometimes marred by pylons and communication masts
- Surprising feeling of remoteness in some parts

LCT 3F (formerly 4G): Settled valley floors (Teignbridge, EDDC, N Devon DC)

- Small river valley floor, tightly contained by steep valley sides
- Tree-lined river edges
- Sometimes distinct gradation through valley from urban land uses to rural water meadows
- Recreational and industrial land uses
- Sparsely settled with occasional small villages, farms and hamlets
- Major road sometimes along or across valley
- Views contained by woodland and trees on valley sides and floor
- Tranquil away from main roads
- Historic bridges and mills occasionally present

LCT 3G (formerly 2C) River valley slopes and combes (Teignbridge, WDBC and Tamar Valley AONB and SHDC and South Devon AONB, N Devon and Torridge DC)

- High slopes often forming undulating or rounded hillforms to either side of small narrow valleys, sometimes with exposed rock faces
- Pastoral cultivation in regular and irregular small to medium scale fields with hedgerows and localised market gardening
- Variable woodland. Broadleaved woodland found on lower slopes with scrub, often in discrete small woods or extending to water's edge. Conifer plantations sometimes extend over whole valley sides
- Scattering of hamlets or farmsteads, sometimes with large riverside settlement
- Sparse road network
- Ancient stone bridges
- Often extensive recreational use
- Extensive views over river valleys

LCT 3H: Secluded valley (Torbay, N Devon and Torridge DC)

- Steep valley landform with narrow valley floor in the lower reaches of each valley.
- A topography which helps to enclose and separate these areas from the wider landscape.
- Secluded character due to the enclosing topography and complex network of narrow sunken lanes enclosed by high hedge-banks which contain views across fields and out to the surrounding landscape.
- Complex and irregular small scale pattern of hedge-banks and lanes, which separate small woodlands, orchards and areas of permanent pasture.
- Lanes and fields are often damp and species rich with small streams, overhanging trees and small scale enclosure.

LCT 4: COAST

LCT 4A (formerly 4C): Estuaries (Teignbridge, EDDC and SHDC and South Devon AONB, N Devon and Torridge DC)

- Extensive, wide, shallow area of mudflats, sand banks, marshes or large sandy bays, inundated by salt water at high tide
- Estuary edge often defined by ridges, valley slopes, lowland headlands, cliffs and rock outcrops
- Degree of enclosure and shelter dependant upon scale
- Low accessibility but well used for water-related recreation
- Unsettled
- Major road crossings sometimes present
- Mainly tranquil except close to settlements and major roads
- Strong sensory characteristics: colour and texture of habitats, smell of mudflats, birdcalls, sight of sunlight reflecting off water

LCT 4B (originally 4B then 3D): Marine levels and coastal plains (Teignbridge, EDDC, East Devon AONB, WDBC and the Tamar Valley AONB, North Devon AONB and SHDC and South Devon AONB, N Devon DC)

- Flat land usually bordering an estuary or within a floodplain, based on alluvial or tidal deposits
- Vegetation influenced by coastal conditions with some hedges but limited tree cover.
- Agricultural land with little or no buildings although some land may have been reclaimed for other uses, such as recreation or transport.
- Proximity of roads and settlements in adjoining areas reduces tranquillity
- Flat, expansive landscape with 'big skies'.
- Land drainage regimes have a distinct influence on vegetation character, with local variations evident below the tidal limit (marine levels) and above (coastal plains), with transition marked by a distinct earth bank on the seaward side that may be a prominent feature in a flat landscape.
- Marine levels comprise mainly wet pastures, reclaimed grazing marsh enclosed by reed-fringed, often brackish, drainage ditches and streams providing habitats with high biodiversity value and strong sensory characteristics: colour and texture of habitats, smell of mudflats, birdcalls, sight of sunlight reflecting off ditches and pools along with seasonal inundation. Informal recreational use sometimes evident
- Coastal plains comprise arable fields with a notable absence of drainage ditches and historically significant field pattern.

LCT 4C (originally 2F, then 4B): Coastal slopes and combes with settlement (Teignbridge, WDBC and Tamar Valley AONB, N Devon DC)

- Steeply sloping narrow valley systems
- A mix of woodland and small to medium irregular fields with wide hedgebanks
- Pasture, with frequent wet pasture and horse paddocks
- Sometimes extensive linear settlement just above narrow, flat valley floor, with Victorian architecture and small-scale 20th century 'resort' development
- Sparse winding narrow lanes, with SWCP present along coastal edge and many other rights of way
- Coastal influence, even where sea views restricted by narrow combe mouth

- Small scale, confined and sheltered valleys, exposed, open ridges and higher slopes.
- Lushly vegetated

LCT 4D (originally 2B, formerly 4A): Coastal slopes and combes (Teignbridge, EDDC and East Devon AONB and North Devon AONB, and SHDC and South Devon AONB, Torrridge DC)

- Individual or multiple branching valleys that can range from narrow and steep including scarp slopes to more open shallow systems.
- Coastal influence in exposure, vegetation and extensive views
- Broadleaved woodland, dominant in places.
- Small areas of pasture or mixed cultivation and scrub with small to medium irregular field pattern marked by often low hedgebanks
- Extremely sparsely settled, old settlements in combes, with stone as dominant building material
- Extensive coastal rights of way with steep paths down to beaches
- Narrow winding roads and limited vehicle access to coast unless a main road follows the coast.
- Intimate, small-scale and enclosed in combes
- Tranquil and remote in areas with limited vehicle access, contrasting with less tranquillity where main roads and main settlements are in proximity.
- Coastal influence and sea views. High, open and exhilarating on top slopes, grading to intimate and enclosed in lower valley where views are restricted by narrowness of combe mouth

LCT 4E Extensive inter-tidal sands (North Devon AONB, N Devon and Torrridge DC)

- Flat sandy beach
- Extensive recreational use
- Protected by pebble ridge, low rocks, cliffs or dune system
- Unenclosed, unsettled and without roads
- Good access but few footpaths
- Exposed
- Extensive views along coast

LCT 4F Dunes (Teignbridge, North Devon AONB, N Devon and Torrridge DC)

- Sand dune systems forming dominant features in the local landscape
- Important biodiversity
- Recreational use evident
- Some rush-dominated pasture and coastal grassland
- Unenclosed
- Almost entirely unsettled, without roads but with tracks and footpaths
- Exposed along seaward edges but interior of dunes provides shelter
- Tranquil and remote in parts

LCT 4G: Low lying coast and beach (Torbay)

- Recreation land and associated urban furniture (seats, signs, litter bins) and other features of an urban landscape such as beach huts, cafés, amenity buildings, and hard sea defences.
- Proximity to the sea, which is often partially hidden from the hinterland by beach huts and sea defences. Some areas of windblown scrub, occasional tree groups and amenity planting of exotics in local amenity spaces.
- Low lying landform with some gentle valleys running down to the sea.
- Occasional areas of woodland and trees on higher ground obscure adjacent housing

LCT 4H (originally 5): Cliffs (East Devon AONB, N Devon AONB, S Devon AONB, Teignbridge, Torbay)

- Steeply sloping cliffs, near-vertical in places, sometimes heavily incised
- Narrow beaches, small stony coves or rocky foreshore at foot of cliffs
- Accessible only along cliff top paths or in some places along shore
- Unsettled or very sparsely settled on less steep slopes
- Scrub or coastal grassland on less steep landward slopes
- Variable geology, rock faces and visible geological features, sometimes with landslips evident
- Extensive views along coastline and out to sea
- Exposed and sometimes wild with dominant marine influence

LCT 5: UNDULATING AND ROLLING LAND

LCT 5A (formerly ID): Inland elevated undulating land (Teignbridge, Dartmoor, WDBC and Tamar Valley AONB and SHDC and South Devon AONB, N Devon and Torridge DC)

- Gently rolling farmland with streams creating small, often steeply sloping valleys.
- Mixed pastoral and arable cultivation, in a small to medium regular or irregular pattern on slopes, with some arable cultivation on flatter areas
- Hedgebanks with few hedgerow trees. Oaks, pine, holly and beech may be locally distinctive
- Little woodland.
- Network of sinuous minor roads
- Sparse settlement pattern of long-established small stone nucleated villages and hamlets, with scattered isolated houses and farms
- High and open, with extensive views where hedgebanks permit
- Moorland edge character, indicated by prevalence of beech and gorse or patches of rough pasture

LCT 5B: Coastal undulating farmland (Torridge DC)

- Strongly rolling landscape with prominent ridges and hilltops, heavily influenced by underlying geology.
- Pervading maritime influence with long coastal views

- Linear bands of broadleaved woodland, occasional small mixed woods and blocks of conifer plantation combined with a strong network of hedges resulting in a well-treed appearance.
- Strong pattern of regular medium-large fields of post-medieval and modern origin, interspersed with significant areas of smaller curving or medieval strip fields
- Fields bounded by Devon hedges comprising often locally characteristic native species with flower-rich banks and some stone facing. Patches of gorse reinforce a sense of exposure.
- Predominantly pastoral land use, with occasional arable fields and patches of rough grazing land.
- Nature conservation interest mainly provided by the area's network of woodlands and hedges, with isolated sites of Culm grassland, unimproved species-rich grassland and scrub interspersed within the farmland. Coastal locations include patches of maritime grassland, wet flushes and bracken scrub.
- Historic features include defensive sites offering coastal lookout points
- Traditional built vernacular of whitewashed and cream cob/render cottages, with some buildings of exposed local stone with red brick detailing. Recent housing, including cream/white bungalows, is a feature of some villages.
- Dispersed settlement pattern of scattered farmsteads and nucleated villages/hamlets at road crossing points.
- Settlement and farms linked by a network of rural roads enclosed by high hedgebanks. Main road cuts through the area.
- Urban and recreational land uses feature in the landscape.

LCT 5C: Downland (N Devon AONB, N Devon DC)

- Rolling downland landscape with broad rounded ridges and hilltops.
- Hill summits afford expansive views across the landscape and beyond
- Landscape drained by springs and small streams feeding into steep valleys and combs carving through the downland (separate LCTs). Views to these wooded valleys provide contrasting colour and texture to this strongly agricultural landscape.
- A simple agricultural landscape dominated by the sky – views of the coast convey a maritime influence to the areas of downland closer to the sea.
- Sparse woodland cover, limited to occasional blocks of coniferous plantations, small farm woods and wind-sculpted pine shelterbelts. Sporadic clumps and avenues of beech on prominent ridgelines.
- Mixture of medium-scale curving medieval fields and larger post-medieval and modern fields with dead-straight boundaries. Some areas of unenclosed downland.
- Range of boundary styles including grassy Devon banks with patches of wind-pruned gorse and scrub (particularly where exposed to coastal winds), flower-rich banks with mixed-species hedges, and stone-faced grassy banks.

- Square-cut beech hedgebanks can be locally distinctive towards adjacent moorland. Post-and-wire fences enclose some of the more intensively farmed fields.
- Semi-natural habitats limited to fragmented sites of species-rich acidic and neutral grassland, rush pasture, small patches of semi-natural woodland, scrub and bracken.
- Historic features include nationally important prehistoric burial sites, ancient hilltop enclosures, historic quarries and parkland estates.
- Strong local vernacular including cream and whitewashed cob/render, exposed local stone with slate roofs and some local use of thatch. High proportion of historically important buildings. Square stone church towers are characteristic landmarks.
- Sparsely settled and peaceful character, with dispersed farmsteads sited in dips in the landform and nucleated villages and hamlets located in tributary valleys and around crossroads.
- Settlement linked by straight roads enclosed by hedgbanks, with occasional gaps providing long views across the landscape.
- Caravan and holiday parks, as well as other tourism-related land uses detract from traditional landscape character and quality, particularly in locations close to the coast.

LCT 5D: Estate wooded farmland (N Devon and Torridge DC)

- Rolling hills and ridges drained by frequent streams, brooks and springs creating an undulating topography
- Higher land affords long views across the landscape
- Predominantly pastoral farmland, particularly dairying, with areas of arable cultivation and some ancient wood pasture. Pony paddocks sometimes found around villages.
- Well-wooded character, with frequent mixed and broadleaved plantations (often beech and oak), estate woodlands, wet woodland lining streams, historic wood pasture and conifer blocks.
- Grown-out beech and oak hedgebanks, veteran in-field trees and streamside orchards contributing to the landscape's wooded estate character.
- Mixture of sinuous medium-scale medieval fields and larger, more regular enclosures. Some villages retain small historic strip fields around their fringes.
- Fields enclosed by wildflower-rich Devon banks often topped with closely-cut mixed thorn, beech and sycamore hedges. Some use of fencing (including estate railings where associated with historic parklands).
- Nature conservation interest provided by grassland, ponds and valley mire, as well as bands of ancient semi-natural woodland lining minor valleys.
- Historic parkland, estates and manors influencing landscape character.
- Nationally important archaeological and historic sites contribute to an historic sense of place.

- Traditional local vernacular of whitewash and cream cob/render cottages with slate or thatched roofs, as well as some buildings of local stone. Linhays (traditional livestock shelters) constructed of cob and local stone with slate or corrugated iron roofs, reinforce a strong history of farming.
- Nucleated historic hamlets and villages focused around crossroads or stream crossing points, with square stone church towers forming local landmarks. Frequent farmsteads distributed throughout.
- Winding rural roads bounded by Devon banks restricting views, crossing many streams on stone bridges. Crossroads marked by distinctive white finger posts.
- Strong sense of peace and tranquillity.

LCT 6: OFFSHORE ISLANDS (Torbay, SHDC, South Devon AONB, N Devon AONB and Torridge DC (Lundy))

LCT 6A:

- Small offshore island ,either inhabited or uninhabited
- Strong geological influence on island form, including cliffs and rocky foreshore
- Vegetation on larger islands is strongly influenced by maritime conditions and exposure to prevailing winds, with coastal grassland and scrub with sparse, stunted trees and no hedges
- Grazed pasture and scrub, divided by post-and-wire fences or stone walls
- Paths or tracks and open access land on larger islands; no highway network.

LCT 7: MAIN CITIES AND TOWNS (All)

- Large settlement over 200ha in area, where the landscape is dominated by built development;
- Varied landform, often masked by development and only apparent when particularly pronounced;
- Nucleated historic cores, frequently including and surrounded by 19th century development, with more recent 20th century and later development on fringes.