

Neighbourhood Plans

What's it all about?

- Brought in by the Coalition Govt in 2011.
- Born out of the idea of 'Localism', giving local residents a greater say in development that goes on in their areas.
- Parish/Town Council owned.
- A community-led planning document that will influence development in your area over the next 15 or so years.



Why do it?

- Gives community a voice in decision making.
- Once adopted, the policies become part of the development Plan- holds legal weight in decisions.
- More focused- Local Plan covers the District,
NP covers specific neighbourhood
- 25 % CIL money for adopted plans for Town Council to spend locally



What can't they do?

- they cannot be used to stop growth but can direct and shape development
- They cannot propose lower levels of growth than that in the Local Plan.
- Can't have policies on non-land use topics but can identify community priorities.
e.g. Setting up car club, promoting public transport needs etc.

Also must comply with:

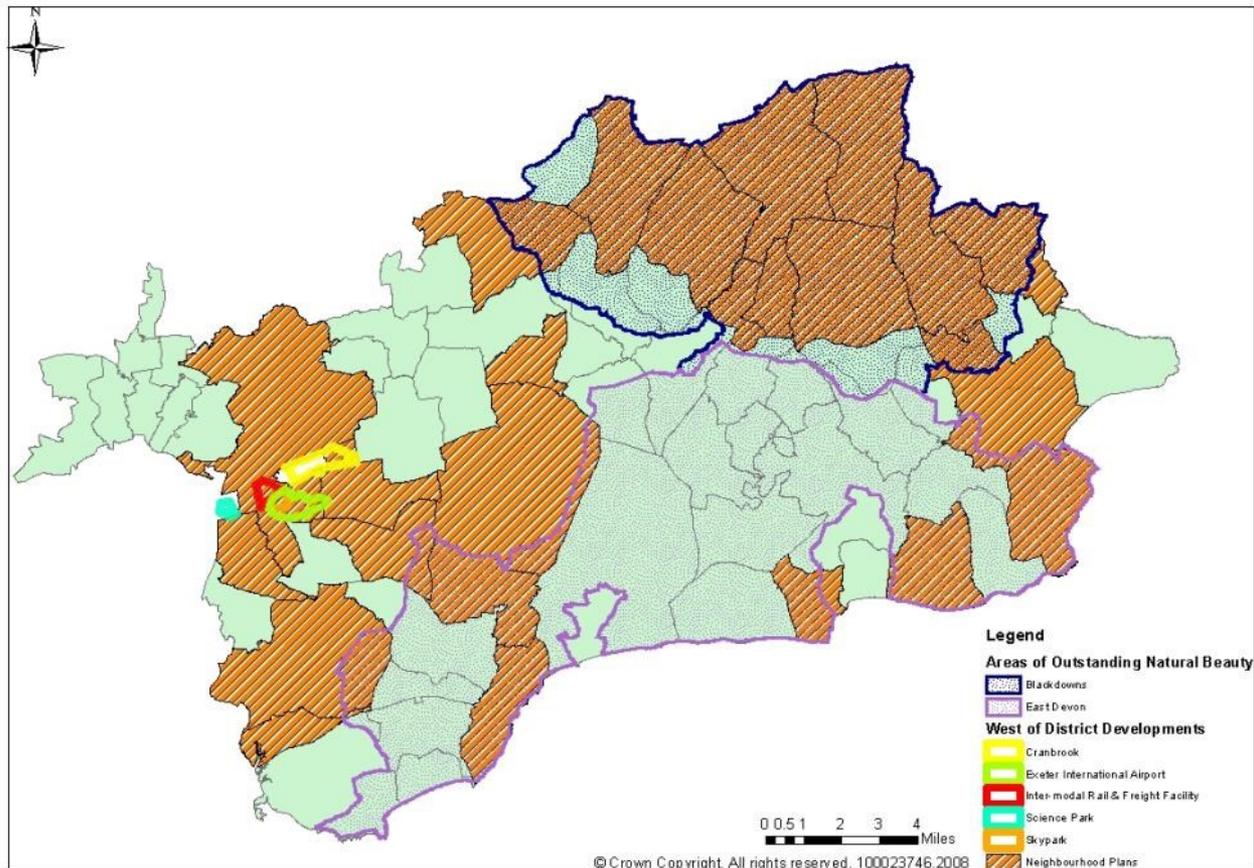
European Directives/legislation
National Planning Policy Framework
East Devon Local Plan

Examples of policy topics

Neighbourhood design guide & place specific design policies	Allocating sites for development
Designation of Local Green Space	Car parking spaces in development
Coalescence of settlements	Town centre redevelopment sites
Protection of gardens	Broadband provision
Small scale renewable energy	Housing for local older people
Enhancement of biodiversity	Protection and creation of community facilities
Size of dwellings	Protection of business uses in village centre

Neighbourhood planning in East Devon

- 27 Neighbourhood Areas- 2 more in the pipeline
- 1 Referendum with positive vote, so Plan will be 'made'



What's the process?

- Stage 1- Designating the Neighbourhood Area
- Stage 2- Establishing a steering group
 - Comprises Town/Parish councillors and members of the public.
 - Representative of community, role is to manage and progress the plan.
- Stage 3- Reviewing and gathering evidence
 - Creating a parish profile, reviewing existing information
- Stage 4- Consulting the community
 - Getting community views to assess aspirations
 - Could include questionnaires, workshops, flyers, information on websites, exhibitions etc.



What's the process?

- Stage 5- Developing aims and objectives
 - Based on the evidence and expressed as a series of statements
 - Should go through another stage of consultation to ensure community support
 - Stage 6- Drafting the plan and 6 weeks consultation
 - Stage 7- Submission to Local Authority, further 6 week consultation
 - Stage 8- Examination
 - Independent examiner agreed by EDDC and OTC, Paid for by EDDC
 - Checks the Plan against 'Basic Conditions' and produces a report
 - Stage 9- Referendum
 - If successful examination, then EDDC will organise and pay for a referendum
 - If greater than 50% of voting electorate in favour of Plan-
- Plan Adopted!**

