

Greenspace Strategy

Supplementary
Planning
Document

Statement of Representations



Regulation 19
Adoption Version



LDD8

November
2006

Torbay Local Development
Framework
2005 - 2026

Greenspace Strategy

Supplementary Planning Document

Local Development Document LDD8

Regulation 19 Adoption Version

Statement of Representations

Torbay Council

November 2006

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

2. CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

3. REGULATION 17 REPRESENTATIONS

4. COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI)

5. NEXT STAGES

APPENDICES

1. Illustration of Greenspace Strategy SPD Summary Leaflet, Sustainability Appraisal Summary Leaflet and related 'What is it?' Leaflets
2. Notice of Regulation 17 Public Participation
3. Notice of Supplementary Planning Document Matters
4. Statement of Availability
5. News Release
6. Schedule of Representations received on Regulation 17 Draft

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Greenspace Strategy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) forms part of the Torbay Local Development Framework. It is one of a number of Local Development Documents (LDD8) identified in the Torbay Local Development Scheme. It has been prepared alongside a related Sustainability Appraisal. In addition, the Greenspace Strategy document has been identified in the Council's Forward Plan, alongside the other related LDF documents contained in the Local Development Scheme.
- 1.2 The Greenspace Strategy SPD has been drawn up to supplement saved policies in the Adopted Torbay Local Plan 1995 – 2011 relating to recreation, open space and leisure. It will assist the protection, improvement and management of the quality of Torbay's green spaces and encourage a high standard of design in schemes for new and refurbished spaces.
- 1.3 The Greenspace Strategy aims to improve the quality of green spaces across Torbay. It sets out the Council's vision and strategic objectives for the regeneration and maintenance of Torbay's green spaces so that they become more attractive, accessible safe and well used by everyone. Thus the Strategy outlines how the Council, in association with the community, intends to deliver and maintain high quality green spaces that enable equal access and opportunity for all.
- 1.4 This LDD has been the subject of specific stages of consultation and participation to ensure that the emerging Greenspace Strategy properly reflects the needs of Torbay's communities. The Greenspace Strategy SPD and related Sustainability Appraisal have undergone an initial 'Pre - Regulation 17' stage of consultation, followed by the formal 'Regulation 17 Draft' stage of public participation, in preparation for its scheduled adoption by the Council in November 2006.
- 1.5 The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 require the Council to prepare a **Statement of Representations** prior to the adoption of a Supplementary Planning Document.

1.6 This Statement summarises the consultation undertaken during the evolution of this SPD, outlining details of key stakeholders and other parties involved in its preparation. By way of background, it includes a summary of consultation undertaken in the early stage of the process. It continues by presenting details of the main issues raised through the Regulation 17 consultation and outlines how these issues have been addressed in the Greenspace Strategy proposed for adoption. It therefore illustrates how the consultation process meets the requirements of the Regulations referred to above [Regulation 18 (4) (b)] and describes the relationship of the SPD with the evolving Sustainability Appraisal. Section 4 highlights the way in which the consultation process also complies with the emerging Torbay Statement of Community Involvement, which sets out the overarching LDF consultation framework.

1.7 The Greenspace Strategy is a statutory (but non-policy) document prepared in prescribed stages in accordance with the relevant Regulations. The process has involved detailed officer discussion, including input from the LDF Officer Steering Group (formed to ensure corporate consensus), presentations of drafts by officers to the LDF Working Party (LDFWP) and the Overview and Scrutiny Board, prior to agreement of the final version for consideration by the Cabinet and adoption by the Council. Throughout the process, production of the Greenspace Strategy has benefited from the close involvement of CAGE Space.

1.8 Appendix 1 to this Statement contains images of the documentation referred to during the consultation and participation stages. Full size copies are available on request.

2. CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Greenspace Strategy - Pre-Regulation 17 Draft SPD (Autumn 2005)

2.1 An initial Pre-Regulation 17 Draft Greenspace Strategy was produced for stakeholder consultation during the autumn of 2005. A summary leaflet was produced setting out the need for the strategy and relevant issues, the vision and objectives and how the strategy could be delivered. A questionnaire was attached seeking views. The leaflet was launched at the

national ILAM conference held in Torbay in September 2005. It was accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.

2.2 Further details are set out in the Greenspace Strategy Pre-Regulation 17 Draft Consultation Statement.

2.3 A Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out in parallel to the development of the Greenspace Strategy SPD, to ensure due consideration is given to the social, economic and environmental implications of the strategy.

2.4 This process involved several stages of consultation, starting with the Scoping Report, which was consulted on in September / October 2005. This document sought responses on an SA framework by which to test the SPD for sustainability, as well as identifying key Torbay-specific sustainability issues that the plan should address, and relevant external sustainability objectives to be considered. Further details are set out in the Greenspace Strategy Regulation 17 Draft Consultation Statement.

Greenspace Strategy – Regulation 17 Draft SPD (Summer 2006)

2.5 The Regulation 17 stage represents the final formal period of consultation for the Greenspace Strategy prior to its adoption by the Council. A Regulation 17 Draft was produced that drew on the responses to the earlier stakeholder draft and subsequent officer contributions. It was also influenced by the feedback obtained on the Greenspace Strategy Sustainability Appraisal, which had been used to test and refine the document. A draft of the Regulation 17 version of the Greenspace Strategy was placed before the Council's Local Development Framework Working Party (comprising seven Councillors and serviced by Strategic Planning Officers) on 24 May 2006. Following debate, the document was agreed for publication and consultation, subject to minor text changes. This decision was authorised by the Strategic Director for Community Services and the Cabinet Member for Community Services under the Council's scheme of delegated powers.

- 2.6 The Greenspace Strategy was published for a six week public participation period between 19 June and 28 July 2006, together with the related Sustainability Appraisal. Consultation took place in the context of Regulation 2 (1). This process involved sending a letter together with the Greenspace Strategy SPD, Sustainability Appraisal, Sustainability Appraisal Non-Technical Summary, Greenspace Strategy Summary Leaflet, Greenspace Strategy 'What is it?' leaflet and Sustainability Appraisal 'What is it?' leaflet to approximately 65 'specific consultation bodies', inviting comments on the SPD. An illustration of leaflets used is set out in **Appendix 1**. As well as the bodies specified in Regulation 2(1), the Council has included as 'specific' consultees a number of additional bodies considered to be of particular relevance, including the Torbay Strategic Partnership and the twelve Ward Partnerships, to ensure that appropriate formal links are maintained with preparation of the Torbay Community Plan.
- 2.7 A Notice of Regulation 17 Public Participation was published in the formal notices section of the local newspaper (Herald Express) on Friday 16 June and Friday 23 June 2006 (**see Appendix 2**). A Notice of Supplementary Planning Document Matters and Statement of Availability were also produced in accordance with the Regulations (**see Appendices 3 and 4**).
- 2.8 In addition, about 410 'general consultation bodies' were also sent notification letters, together with the relevant Summary Leaflet and What is it? leaflets. An internal Memorandum and relevant documents and leaflets were sent to twenty one officers, including those on the LDF Officer Steering Group. Reference copies were made available at Torbay Council's Community Services Offices in Torquay, and in Libraries and Council Connections Offices throughout Torbay. Documents were made accessible via the Torbay Council Local Development Framework website www.torbay.gov.uk/ldf . Comments were invited by email via a dedicated email address greenspace@torbay.gov.uk or by use of an on-line questionnaire available from the Local Development Framework website. For those unable to access electronic means of communication, representations were also invited by letter or fax. Documents were highlighted as being available in different formats and languages on request.

2.9 Details of 'specific' and 'general' consultees can be obtained on request, together with copies of standard letters sent out.

2.10 A News Release was produced for the local media to publicise the launch of the SPD and to outline its contents (*see Appendix 5*).

2.11 The Greenspace Strategy was presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Board (an LDF 'consultee') for discussion on 21 June 2006.

3. REGULATION 17 REPRESENTATIONS

Representations relating to the Supplementary Planning Document

Summary

3.1 Representations were received from 14 individuals and organisations, 5 of whom used the online questionnaire referred to above. 9 responses were submitted via email and letter. These representations in turn generated a total of about 65 individual comments.

3.2 The online questionnaire sought to focus comments on the following areas:

- Do you agree with the vision?
- Tell us why you agree or disagree with the vision.
- Is there anything you would like to add to the vision or anything which isn't clear?
- Rate the objectives in order you see as a priority for Torbay's green spaces.
- Tell us why you selected your top priority.
- Are there any issues not covered by these objectives?
- Do you have any suggested changes to these objectives?
- Do you have any other comments regarding the strategy or the Action Plan?
- Are there any further actions required to address your concerns about green spaces?
- Do you have any comments relating to the process of developing local Greenspace standards?

3.3 All representations received have been given careful consideration by the Council, together with the issues that they have raised. Where appropriate, amendments have been made and incorporated into the text of the Regulation 19 Adoption Version. Full details are set out in the schedule of representations attached at **Appendix 6**. A summary of comments and actions is set out below.

Outline of the main issues raised and how they have been addressed in the Greenspace Strategy proposed for adoption (Regulation 19 Adoption Version)

Comments received via questionnaires were as follows:

1. Mr J Pouney - LDF/501

- Would like to see off road cycle paths from Oddicombe to Hollicombe, Cockington to the seafront, along Torquay / Paignton seafronts and in all major parks.
- Cycle paths would promote inclusion and help to decrease pollution and increase exercise and action for all.
- Improve cycle paths and promote safe cycle paths for all.
- Free car parks should be available to encourage use of country parks.
- Give leaflets on our wooded walks to holiday makers.
- Blocks of flats should only proceed if a near play area is present.

Action Taken / Comments

Additional recommendation inserted under GS18 in Action Plan:
'Link Greenspace Strategy to the Cycling and Walking Strategy'.

2. Broadsands and Elbury Residents Association (Ms J Blake- LDF/394)

- People need green spaces for their health and well being.
- Car parking charges are an obstacle. Some green spaces have to be accessed by car. Present charges deter visitors from using the available car park.

Action Taken / Comments

Health and well being is mentioned in the strategy. Car parking policy is outside the scope and remit of the strategy.

3. Mr P Moores – LDF/502

- Torquay sea front should be properly repaired.
- More national footpaths should be reopened and claimed back from private land.

Action Taken / Comments

Repair of Torquay seafront is a Torbay Council Cabinet issue that is being addressed as part of the Council's asset maintenance programme. Opening more national footpaths is outside the scope of the strategy.

4. Hollicombe Action Group (Mr R Brewer – LDF/296)

- A South Devon National Park should be established.
- Existing measures for protecting the Coast and Countryside from housing development are too piecemeal.
- A national park would send a message to prospective visitors and residents that the area would not be ruined by inappropriate development.
- Agreed with strategic objectives and action plan. However, they would not be sufficient to withstand the pressure of housing.

Action Taken / Comments

No action taken as development of a South Devon National Park is a national issue that would need to be addressed through the relevant Act. Reference to pressure for the provision of housing is outside the scope of this strategy.

5. Miss N Paynton – LDF/499

- Maintain green spaces as places to be used.
- Keep Torbay beautiful. Break up areas of buildings. Keep green spaces for children to enjoy.
- Protect wildlife, plant trees and the biodiversity balance.
- Distribute leaflets to neighbourhoods informing of progress and intentions.

- Raise awareness with local schools regarding public health issues of dropping litter and graffiti damage.
- Selling green spaces is contrary to the overarching strategy theme of protecting green spaces. Insufficient communication to the public that green spaces could be lost.
- Include checking of preservation orders in action plan.

Action Taken / Comments

Greenspace Strategy progress reports could be included in Ward Partnership leaflets / Torbay View publication.

It is current Council policy to sell of surplus unwanted small areas of green spaces and / or green spaces of poor quality in order to reinvest in other green spaces.

'Check preservation orders' added to Action Plan GS 36

Comments received via email or letter were as follows:

1. Devon County Council (Mr D Parsons – LDF/16)

- Devon County Council happy to work with Torbay Council officers and provide relevant data input, especially related to climate change, biodiversity, landscape and marine issues.
- Page 29 'Minimum Acceptable Size Components' - first two paragraphs repeat themselves.
- Too many 'develops' under sports strategy objectives.
- A marine bill currently going through parliament may have relevance later as it refers to the area between land and sea.

Action Taken / Comments

'Working with Devon County Council' added to Action Plan GS34.

Wording in 'Sports Strategy Objectives' and 'Minimum Acceptable Size Components' paragraphs amended.

2. Friends of Furzeham Green (Mr D Lilley – LDF/402)

- Agrees with central strategy aim to 'Encourage greater use of green spaces by local people' and accompanying set of objectives. Unclear on the applicability of 'Promotion of green spaces as drivers for economic activity'

- Recognises the categorisation of Furzesham Green within the Low Quality / High Value quartile of the quality value matrix.
- Agrees with recommended policy to enhance and protect green spaces and the Greenspace vision.
- Green Flag criteria chosen for the site audit very relevant.
- Approves of the need to integrate the strategy with other supporting strategy.
- Higher quality appearance engenders pride in the public asset and should trigger many other themes and objectives.
- Discreet measures to stop unwanted occupation of green spaces e.g. travellers.
- Supports development of site specific management plans.

Comments

General observations made have been noted.

3. English Nature (Mr D Appleton – LDF/6)

- English Nature concerned about lack of wildlife and biodiversity references in strategy. Torbay has important habitat and species which contribute to the enhancement of the area. Partly recognised by the recognition of Countryside and Wildlife and Green Corridors within typologies but have been omitted from standards subsequently listed.
- No recognition of the role Local Nature Reserves as accessible green space.
- Biodiversity objectives need strengthening and promoting.
- The strategy does not consider the implications of the Habitat Regulations. Strategy contains insufficient detail as to the locations in which actions in the plan will be carried out therefore the impact on European sites cannot be established.

Action Taken / Comments

Strategic and operational management of Local Nature Reserves are the responsibility of Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust.

'Recognise, protect and enhance the biodiversity value of green space' was added to the Strategic objectives as a result of community involvement and the original sustainability appraisal process.

'Ensure training courses include information on biodiversity for designated and designated sites' has been added to Action Plan GS7.

'Recognise, protect and enhance the diversity value of Greenspace' and 'Use the planning and development control process to encourage developers to build in biodiversity initiatives' added to Action Plan GS 12.

4. Torbay Voluntary Services (Ms C Schneider – LDF/48)

- Vision fine. Focuses on local people and promotes the use of green space. May like to emphasise beneficial use and not anti social use.
- Strategic objectives fine. Priorities should be improving appearance of green space and challenging people's perceptions. Consider better signposting of green spaces. Action Plan GS32 refers to establishing best practice guidance for setting up groups. This is already available. Torbay Change Up Consortium has invested in material and resources which support and inform on this. Web portal will contain guidance and good practice material. Torbay has a local compact and Code of Practice which underpins the relationship between public bodies and voluntary / community sector. This already defines the relationship of the friends groups to the Council.
- Action Plan GS 4 refers to best practice for working with volunteers. This is already available and will be on the web portal using Volunteering England and Change Up National Hub for volunteers as the standards we want to see in Torbay.
- Would be sensible to engage with the Change Up consortium and Torbay Voluntary Service who have the led the way in promoting good practice for volunteering in England.
- Action Plan GS15 refers to access policy. There is a need to engage with Torbay Access Group.
- Action Plan GS41 - Add Community / Friends of Groups to Key Partners section.

Action Taken / Comments

'Establish best practice guidance for setting up new groups' and 'establish best practice guidance for working with volunteers' deleted from action plan.

Reference to linking with Torbay Access Group has not been included as the group has recently disbanded.

'Community / Friends of Groups added to 'Key Partners' section of Action Plan GS41.

5. South West Regional Assembly (Ms J Macey – LDF/3)

- Draft Regional Spatial Strategy submitted to Secretary of State. Formal public consultation is underway with the EIP scheduled for spring 2007. The draft Regional Spatial Strategy will carry greater weight the closer it gets to publication.

Comments

General observations made have been noted .

6. South Devon AONB (Mr R Toogood – LDF/38)

- Welcomes production of strategy. Endorses strategic objectives. Inventory of sites, site quality assessment and action plan table useful.
- Document at times seems undecided about its scope and what categories of land falls under the heading 'green space'. Inconsistent use of titles for categorising different types of green spaces. This situation would be helped by more consistent use of terminology and titling throughout the strategy.
- There are green space categories which drift in and out of view during the strategy e.g. coastal amenity Greenspace. I would have expected this to be developed further given that a significant proportion of the entire coast path corridor represents a particular popular and well used linear coastal amenity green spaces which also serves as a wildlife and conservation corridor.
- Other significant categories of specialised green space which should be referred to in the strategy but are omitted e.g. golf courses.
- Would be helpful if the strategy could establish some clearer linkages with development control policy, by setting out some guiding principles for protecting and enhancing green spaces.
- One of the stated tasks is to provide clarity to developers about where deficiencies in green space will need to be addressed through the planning process. These deficiencies are indicated but not clearly stated in one place.

- The strategy identifies nearly three quarters of the green space as 'failing'. This clearly highlights a massive investment requirement to bring the sites up to a reasonable standard. It is unfortunate that this is not developed further by the strategy.
- Some of Torbay's green spaces score highly in the condition assessment but are still in need of investment to lift them to the category of excellent.
- Action plan is extensive and ambitious but is vague and lacking prioritisation, timescales and targets. Consideration should be given to rationalising and focusing the action plan into a more manageable set of objectives which can be realistically achieved.
- A few AONB Management Plan priority actions related to the strategy i.e. creation of new green space and conservation area as planning gain associated with the redevelopment of the former Dolphin Holiday Camp.

Action Taken / Comments

Table 7.1 'Typology Standards' has been removed from the strategy.

Coastal Amenity Greenspace is referred to several times in the document.

Golf courses are a source of healthy exercise. However, they are privately managed. As such the Council has no influence on their management.

The strategy is linked to development control policies via several parts of the action plan i.e. GS 25.

Maps and ward statistics are separate parts of the document.

Park investment is linked to the available budgets and the new emerging Community Plan.

Investment into areas like Groves Woods and Berry Head Countryside Park is under the jurisdiction of Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust.

The action plan is challenging but realistic and achievable.

7. Tim and Helen Ridehalgh Long - LDF/500

- General comments regarding need for care over Torre Marine redevelopment (former South Devon College site)
- Reference to importance of green spaces as a setting for buildings and the different roles green spaces can play in a community
- Supports objective of enhancement of biodiversity value of green spaces

Action Taken / Comments

Comments on Tor Marine noted (forwarded to Development Control team dealing with scheme)

Importance of green spaces in community and link with biodiversity is referred to in Sections 4 and 6 respectively of the Greenspace Strategy

8. Brunel Woods Group (Mr D Smith)

- General observations on understanding gained from mapping
- Need to ensure aims and objectives are more specific and prioritised
- Link management plan budgets with priorities in aims and objectives
- General comments on cost of Design Guidelines, financial priority of projects and health issues relating to dog walkers.

Action Taken / Comments

These issues are largely addressed in the Management Plan and in the Action Plan

9. National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (Mr M Parsons)

- Allotments contribute to well-being of society (health, education, community development etc)
- Allotments have an important nature conservation / biodiversity role

Action Taken / Comments

Comments noted - Section 4 relating to importance of green spaces amended accordingly

Representations relating to the Sustainability Appraisal

Summary

3.4 A Sustainability Appraisal was published alongside the Greenspace Strategy Regulation 17 Draft and was available for consultation for a period of six weeks. Two main comments arose from this document, as described below.

Outline of the main issues raised and how they have been addressed by the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) for the Greenspace Strategy proposed for adoption (Regulation 19 Adoption Version)

3.5 All representations received have been given careful consideration by the Council, together with the issues that they have raised. Where appropriate, amendments have been made and incorporated into the text of both the Regulation 19 Adoption Version SPD and the related SA.

1. English Nature (Mr D Appleton – LDF/6)

- English Nature echoed concerns identified in the Sustainability Appraisal regarding insufficient coverage of biodiversity.

Action Taken / Comments

These concerns have been addressed in the Regulation 19 Adoption Version of the Greenspace Strategy by inserting a section outlining the important biodiversity features of Torbay's green spaces (including reference to Local Nature Reserves previously lacking).

In addition to this, biodiversity has become a more prominent consideration in the Action Plan. Links to biodiversity have been made more explicit in relation to access to information on biodiversity for the public and those responsible for the physical maintenance of the site. In particular the main report now provides much greater detail on the site management requirements which should be attained through the Management Plan process for each individual green space (including a clear need to consider biodiversity).

Concerns raised regarding the lack of information on European designated sites have been addressed through the Appropriate Assessment process, to which the SA makes reference.

2. Torbay Development Agency

- Concern was raised by the TDA regarding the narrow focus of the economic section of the baseline on the tourism element.

Action Taken / Comments

Whilst the consideration of economic issues is obviously an important component of sustainability, the baseline should only consider economic issues of greatest relevance to the Greenspace Strategy in order to create a streamlined document. Broader economic issues such as fishing and manufacturing are considered in broader scoping work relating to the LDF as a whole rather than this particular SPD. No further action has been taken in relation to these two issues. It is recognised that knowledge based industries have been omitted from the overarching Scoping Study as noted by the TDA. This is an important economic issue which will be considered within other LDF documents in future. It is not referenced in the appraisal of the Greenspace Strategy as it is not of direct relevant to this SPD.

3.6 The issues raised as a result of all the SA consultation throughout the plans evolution are detailed further in Appendix C of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Regulation 19 Adoption Version of the Greenspace Strategy. Amendments made to the SPD as a result of the Sustainability Appraisal are outlined in the mitigation section (Section 7) of the same report.

Conclusions

3.7 Consideration of the representations received on the Regulation 17 SPD and the accompanying SA has led to further refinement and subsequent amendment to the SPD. This process has resulted in the production of a Draft of the final Regulation 19 Adoption Version to be submitted for adoption.

4. COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI)

- 4.1 The Council's Statement of Community Involvement (Regulation 26 Draft) was published for consultation purposes during April / May 2006. Section 4 relates specifically to the consultation process for Local Development Documents. The consultation process employed for the Greenspace Strategy SPD has accorded with the consultation principles and practice advocated in the SCI. These procedures have also complied with the Torbay Council Corporate Consultation and Engagement Strategy.
- 4.2 The Regulation 28 Submission Draft of the SCI, due for publication in November 2006, reaffirms compliance with the consultation approaches advocated for Local Development Documents.

5. ADOPTION PROCESS

- 5.1 The LDF Working Party met on 27 October 2006 to receive the Draft Adoption Version of the Greenspace Strategy. It considered the amendments to the Greenspace Strategy set out in Appendix 6 of the Draft Statement of Representations that had been fed in to the Draft Adoption Version.
- 5.2 Following debate, Members recommended that the Greenspace Strategy Draft Adoption Version be forwarded to Cabinet as amended, with the recommendation that it be adopted by the Council as a Supplementary Planning Document, in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 and the approved Torbay Local Development Scheme.

APPENDIX 1

Illustration of Greenspace Strategy SPD Summary Leaflet, Sustainability Appraisal Summary Leaflet and related 'What is it?' Leaflets.

The structure of the Local Development Framework

June 2006

TORBAY

Greenspace Strategy

Supplementary Planning Document

What is it?

A guide to the enhancement and management of green spaces

LDD8

What is it?

The Greenspace Strategy will provide a strategic, focused and co-ordinated approach to green spaces in Torbay over the next ten years. This Strategy will form a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in the emerging Local Development Framework for Torbay (LDF). It is currently undergoing the final stage of consultation.

This Greenspace Strategy outlines how the Council in association with the community intends to deliver and maintain high quality green spaces which enable equal access and opportunity for all, as well as protecting and enhancing the local environment.

The Strategy supports community priorities. It will also help improve Torbay's biodiversity and reduce crime, litter and graffiti.

The Greenspace vision is to:

- Encourage greater use of green spaces by local people.
- In order to achieve this, nine objectives have been put forward:
 - Improving appearance of green space.
 - Improving accessibility, especially for the disabled.
 - Challenging people's perceptions of green spaces as areas to visit and use more often.
 - Improving facilities and attractions.
 - Increasing numbers of events/entertainments.
 - Develop opportunities for using green spaces for learning.
 - Promote and protect the heritage assets of Torbay's green spaces.
 - Promotion of green spaces as drivers for economic activity.
 - Recognise, protect and enhance the biodiversity value of green space.

The Greenspace SPD links and process

As part of the new planning system, any SPD adopted as part of the LDF (see the LDF structure diagram) will be subject to formal 'Sustainability Appraisal'. The Appraisal is also available for consultation.

The Greenspace Strategy will also provide evidence in support of the Planning Contributions and Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (LDD 6).

Where can I find out more about it?

For further information on the work carried out so far on the Greenspace Strategy or to view the sustainability appraisal which accompanies this report please visit www.torbay.gov.uk/df (click on sustainability appraisal) or use the contact details below to view a hard copy.

How can I become involved?

To become involved in the Local Development Framework process, you can also register your details and we will keep you informed. A register of interest form is available on the above web page. You can also provide your details by phoning the Strategic Planning team on 01803 208804 or by e-mailing us at LDF@torbay.gov.uk

You can also write to us at: Strategic Planning Group, Community Services, Torbay Council, Floor 3, Roubuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5TF

The document will be published for a formal six week public consultation in June - July 2006. Your views will feed into the preparation of the final document, which will be published later this year. Consultation details will be published on our website www.torbay.gov.uk/df

Please get involved... green spaces have a major effect on the quality of our lives.

What is it?

A document which compares the sustainability of each of the plan options being proposed

A detailed appraisal of the chosen plan option

At the end of the process, a statement will be produced which will outline how the sustainability appraisal and related consultation has been taken on board during the development of the plan.

All of these documents will be made available on the website at www.torbay.gov.uk/df or upon request from the Strategic Planning Group, Torbay Council (Tel 01803 208804) or e-mail sag@torbay.gov.uk

TORBAY

Sustainability Appraisal

February 2006

What is it?

February 2006

Strategic Planning Group
Community Services
Roubuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5TF

What is it?

Under the new planning system Local Authorities must produce a Sustainability Appraisal alongside any Planning Document that is part of the Torbay Local Development Framework.

It is important to appraise planning documents for sustainability as the allocations made and overarching policies it contains can have far reaching effects on a range of social, economic and environmental issues. The appraisal will ensure that due consideration is given to these potential impacts during plan formulation.

Where can I find out more about it?

The progress of the sustainability appraisals for each of the documents within the Local Development Framework can be identified by visiting the following website www.torbay.gov.uk/df and clicking on 'Sustainability Appraisal'.

How can I become involved?

Consultation is essential to ensure that all the relevant issues in Torbay are considered and potential impacts of the plan proposed have been identified. The sustainability appraisal involves a number of stages of consultation on three main reports which will be produced at various stages of the process:

- A scoping report which includes existing sustainability issues identified in Torbay, a summary of sustainability objectives to consider and formulation of a framework by which to test the plan for sustainability at a later stage.

The structure of the Local Development Framework

June 2006

TORBAY

What is it?

February 2006

Strategic Planning Group
Community Services
Roubuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5TF

The Greenspace Strategy SPD Links and Process

This document will form a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in the emerging Local Development Framework for Torbay (LDF). As part of the new planning system, any SPD which is part of the LDF has to go through a specific progression process. Figure 2 (shown below) indicates the stage that this document represents in the process.

The Greenspace Strategy will also provide the evidence base for Section 106 contributions (contributions paid by developers towards the provision of infrastructure required by their development in relation to public space).

It will therefore feed into the Planning Contributions and Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (LDD 6).

A Sustainability Appraisal has been undertaken in parallel to the development of the Strategy which is also available for consultation.

How to find out more and how to become involved

For further information on the work carried out so far on the Strategy or to view the sustainability appraisal which accompanies this report please visit www.torbay.gov.uk/df (click on sustainability appraisal) or use the contact details below to view a hard copy.

To become involved in the Local Development Framework process, you can also register your details by phoning the Strategic Planning team or by e-mailing us and we will keep you informed. A register of interest form is also available on the web page below.

We also have a register of interest in the Greenspace Strategy which will be available for six weeks. A hard copy consultation form is available on Friday 20th July 2006. Your comments must be received by the Strategic Planning Group (details below) by 4pm on Friday 20th July 2006. Your comments will feed into preparation of the Local Development SPD, which will be subject to the Council's decision in the process.

Please complete the hard copy consultation form and your comments using the paper proforma wherever possible by post to us. You can also email us (see below).

Strategic Planning Group, Community Services, Torbay Council, Floor 3, Roubuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5TF

Tel: 01803 208804 Fax: 01803 208882
e-mail: sag@torbay.gov.uk
LDF e-mail: LDF@torbay.gov.uk
LDF website: www.torbay.gov.uk/df

TORBAY

Greenspace Strategy

Supplementary Planning Document

SUMMARY LEAFLET

Regulation 17 Draft

LDD8

June 2006

Purpose of this Summary

The Greenspace Strategy will form a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in the emerging Local Development Framework for Torbay (LDF). It is currently undergoing the final stage of consultation. The Strategy sets out the strategy and sets out some of the key issues for consideration in the consultation.

What is the Greenspace Strategy?

This Strategy will form a planning document providing a strategic, focused and co-ordinated approach to green spaces in Torbay. The document is split into two parts. Part 1 sets out the background, vision and strategy for our green spaces over a 10 year period. Part 2 forms an Action Plan that sets out how the strategy will be put into practice and covers a 5 year time horizon which will need to be extended at the end of the period to cover the period 2012-2016.

What's all about?

Many people in Torbay appreciate the benefits which green spaces bring to their lives. There is increasing concern and public awareness of the value of good quality parks, playing fields, the sea and other green spaces in regeneration, improving health and well being and providing recreational and other opportunities for all residents.

However, not everyone has access to or even a local park or green space which meets their needs and interests. In some cases there are conflicts of interest between different user groups. Decisions have to be made about priorities.

The quality of today's green spaces needs to be maintained and in some cases improved. Torbay's Greenspace Strategy sets a vision and objectives to regenerate and maintain these green spaces so that they continue to offer attractive, accessible, safe and well used opportunities.

This Greenspace Strategy outlines how the Council in association with the community intends to deliver and maintain high quality green spaces which enable equal access and opportunity for all, as well as protecting and enhancing the local environment.

The Strategy supports community priorities. In addition, it will help improve Torbay's biodiversity and reduce crime, litter and graffiti. The Strategy also:

- Provides a series of action plans that describe what the Council will do to deliver green spaces that have been provided.
- Provides a strategic framework for the provision and management of green spaces for Torbay for the next ten years.
- Advocates support for and advocates the benefits of green spaces within and outside the Council.
- Encourages continuing community and stakeholder involvement and partnership.

Responsibility for achieving the action outlined in the Strategy and having no artificial limitation to parks and green spaces primarily with the Urban Sector and Street Services & Waste Division.

The Vision and Objectives

Torbay Council set out a visionary strategy at the start of the process in 2003 which a small group of key players established an initial vision and developed a central aim for the Strategy. This is to:

"encourage greater use of green spaces by local people."

In order to achieve this, the group put forward objectives for investment into additional objectives have subsequently been incorporated in the Strategy (see progress).

Strategic objectives

- Improving appearance of green space
- Improving accessibility, especially for the disabled
- Challenging people's perceptions of green spaces as areas to visit and use more often
- Improving facilities and attractions
- Increasing numbers of events/entertainments
- Developing opportunities to use green spaces for learning
- Promoting and protecting the heritage assets of Torbay's green spaces
- Promotion of green spaces as drivers for economic activity
- Recognise, protect and enhance the biodiversity value of green space

Through community involvement and the sustainability appraisal process the following objectives have been added:

- Challenging community perceptions of green spaces
- Improving facilities and attractions
- Increasing numbers of events/entertainments
- Developing opportunities to use green spaces for learning
- Promoting and protecting the heritage assets of Torbay's green spaces
- Promotion of green spaces as drivers for economic activity
- Recognise, protect and enhance the biodiversity value of green space

Local green space standards

In accordance with government planning policy, the Council is continuing to undertake a robust assessment of the existing and future needs of its communities for green spaces, sport and recreation. The standards which have been set are below represented in the evidence dashboard of the different types of green space, including sport and recreation, that should be available to meet the needs of people across Torbay.

Measures per thousand

Playing Pitches	MtN User Games Areas	Children's play facilities for children's young people	Green space
1.2	0.2	0.2	2.5

APPENDIX 2 - Notice of Regulation 17 Public Participation

Torbay Council

PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004
Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004

DRAFT GREENSPACE STRATEGY Notice of Regulation 17 Public participation

Torbay Council has prepared a **Draft Greenspace Strategy (GS)** for formal public participation under Regulation 17 of the above Regulations. This sets out the Council's vision and strategic objectives for the regeneration and maintenance of Torbay's green spaces. It outlines how the Council, in association with the community, intends to deliver and maintain high quality green spaces that enable equal access and opportunity for all. The Greenspace Strategy is a Supplementary Planning Document and forms part of the Torbay Local Development Framework (LDF). It is accompanied by a **Greenspace Strategy Sustainability Appraisal (GSSA)**, which considers the environmental, economic and social impacts of the Strategy. A **Greenspace Strategy Consultation Statement (GSCS)** has also been published for information, setting out the issues arising from consultations undertaken during its preparation. The Local Development Framework will eventually form the basis for decisions on spatial planning within Torbay to 2016.

The Council is consulting the public on the Strategy and Sustainability Appraisal documents to ensure that all participants in this process have an opportunity to make their views known. **The consultation period runs from 19 June to 28 July 2006.**

Copies of the GS, GSSA and GSCS are available for public inspection, free of charge, from 19 June on the Council's web site www.torbay.gov.uk/ldf and at the following locations during normal opening hours:

Community Services Directorate, Roebuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5TF
Connections (Torquay), Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay TQ1 3DR
Connections (Paignton), 56 Palace Avenue, Paignton TQ3 3HF
Connections (Brixham), New Road, Brixham TQ5 8TA
Torquay Reference Library, Lymington Road, Torquay TQ1 3DT

Paignton Library, **Courtland Road, Paignton TQ3 2AB**

Churston Library, Broadsands Road, Paignton TQ4 6LL
Brixham Library, Market Street, Brixham TQ5 8LZ

These documents may be downloaded from the above website free of charge or purchased from the above locations, priced £5.00 including postage.

Representations in support of or in objection to the Greenspace Strategy and Sustainability Appraisal should be sent in writing to the Strategic Planning Group, Community Services, Torbay Council, Floor 3, Roebuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5TF. You can send comments by completing the on-line questionnaire, or by using the official paper questionnaires that are available at the above locations. You can also email your views (Greenspace@torbay.gov.uk) or fax them to 01803 208882. If you have any queries, telephone 01803 208804. **Your comments must be received by 4.00pm on Friday 28 July 2006.**

In making a response to the Greenspace Strategy, a request may also be made to be notified at a specified address when the Strategy has been adopted.

Michael Yeo, Strategic Director of Community Services.

Torbay Council June 2006

APPENDIX 3 - Notice of Supplementary Planning Document Matters

Torbay Council GREENSPACE STRATEGY

NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT MATTERS

In accordance with Regulation 17 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, the following details form part of the arrangements relating to consultation on the Council's Greenspace Strategy Supplementary Planning Document:

Title of Document:	Regulation 17 Draft Greenspace Strategy
Proposed subject matter:	The Greenspace Strategy (GS) sets out the Council's vision and strategic objectives for the regeneration and maintenance of Torbay's green spaces so that they become more attractive, accessible safe and well used by everyone. It outlines how the Council, in association with the community, intends to deliver and maintain high quality green spaces that enable equal access and opportunity for all. <i>(The GS Supplementary Planning Document is one of a series of Local Development Documents that will form part of the Torbay Local Development Framework when adopted. The LDF will eventually form the basis for decisions on spatial planning and land use within the administrative area of Torbay).</i>
Area of Document:	The Greenspace Strategy relates to all of the administrative area of Torbay Council
Consultation period:	Representations in support of or in objection to the GA are invited during the statutory consultation period which runs from 19 June to 28 July 2006. Responses should be received by 4.00pm on Friday 28 July 2006.
Address to which responses should be sent:	Representations should be sent in writing to the Strategic Planning Group, Community Services, Torbay Council, Floor 3, Roebuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5TF. You can send comments by completing the on-line questionnaire (via www.torbay.gov.uk/ldf), or by using the official paper questionnaires available at the consultation locations. You can also email your views (via Greenspace@torbay.gov.uk or fax them to 01803 208882. <i>(If you have any queries, please telephone 01803 208804).</i>
Requests to be notified:	In making a response to the Greenspace Strategy, a request may also be made to be notified at a specified address when the Strategy has been adopted.

Torbay Council (June 2006)

APPENDIX 4 - Statement of Availability

Torbay Council

GREENSPACE STRATEGY

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY

In accordance with Regulation 17 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, the following details form part of the arrangements relating to consultation on the Council's Greenspace Strategy:

The Regulation 17 **Draft Greenspace Strategy**, related **Sustainability Appraisal** and **Consultation Statement** are available for public inspection free of charge during the consultation period, which runs between 19 June and 28 July 2006, at the following locations:

Community Services Directorate,
Roebuck House, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5TF
(9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, 9.00am to 4.00pm Friday, except Bank Holidays)

and

Connections (Torquay), Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay TQ1 3DR

Connections (Paignton), 56 Palace Avenue, Paignton TQ3 3HF

Connections (Brixham), New Road, Brixham TQ5 8TA

Torquay Reference Library, Lymington Road, Torquay TQ1 3DT

Paignton Library, Courtland Road, Paignton TQ3 2AB

Churston Library, Broadsands Road, Paignton TQ4 6LL

Brixham Library, Market Street, Brixham TQ5 8LZ

(Please check individual Connections Offices and Libraries for details of normal opening arrangements)

Copies of the Greenspace Strategy, Sustainability Appraisal and Consultation Statement may also be viewed and downloaded free of charge on the Council's website www.torbay.gov.uk/ldf. Further information relating to availability of documents, prices (where appropriate), the Notice of Advertisement and the Notice of Supplementary Planning Document Matters can also be viewed or downloaded at this website.

Torbay Council (June 2006)



COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, Devon TQ1 3DR
Main Switchboard (01803) 201201
Direct Lines (01803) 208850 /51
Fax (01803) 299878 • DX 59006

NEWS RELEASE

4 July 2006

For Immediate Release

Greenspace blueprint maps out future for Torbay

The views of Torbay residents and organisations are being sought on the draft Greenspace Strategy for Torbay.

In 2004 Torbay Council received free assistance from an expert consultant to help develop a new strategy for managing its green spaces, and in partnership with the Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust and Groundwork, members of the public were invited to give their views.

Results from the initial consultation have now been written into a 70 page draft strategy, detailing the visions and objectives for the final strategy, and residents have a final opportunity to have their say during a six-week consultation process.

Cabinet Member Councillor Jeanette Richards, said: "Greenspaces not only encourage good health but also a sense of community, they improve the quality of our lives.

"Torbay is fortunate to have a fabulous microclimate to grow exotic plants in our parks and green spaces. We want to listen to the views of local people and make sure that we make the best use of the Bay's greenspaces by improving their appearance and increasing facilities and attractions.

"I hope that many residents and groups take part in this important consultation to ensure that their comments are taken on board and considered for inclusion before the final strategy is finalised."

The main theme supporting the strategy is 'Getting more use from green space by local people and will provide a blueprint of how Torbay Council intends to safeguard, improve and promote the quality and provision of parks and green spaces in Torbay, meeting the needs and interests of both residents and visitors to the area. The strategy is a supplementary planning document that forms part of the council's Local Development Framework. This will guide development in Torbay over the next ten years from 2006-2016

The deadline for comments on the Greenspace strategy is 4pm on Friday 28th July, 2006. It is planned that the final strategy will be adopted by November 2006.

The draft Greenspace Strategy is available from Strategic Planning Group, Roebuck House, Abbey Road, Torbay, TQ2 5TF. It can also be viewed or purchased from the council's libraries and Connections offices.

The document is also available from the council's website www.torbay.gov.uk/ldf.

Ends

For further information please contact: Nicola Moorhouse, Communications Officer on 01803 208850

APPENDIX 6 – Schedule of Representations received on Regulation 17 Draft

Torbay Local Development Framework. Greenspace Strategy LDD8 Reg.17 Consultation (19 th June to 28 th July 2006) Responses & Actions												
Date Rcvd:	Electronic Y/N or Rep form?	LD Form	Form/Letter & Comment No.	From	Status	Document section /subsection/ Paragraph	DPD Test of Soundness	Comment	Nature of Response	TBC Response	TBC proposed action and additional notes	Date action taken
16/07/06	RepForm	LDF/901	LDD8/1/1	Mr John Pouney	General	Theme 2. Action Plan Recommendation GS18.		Q1. Disagrees with the Greenspace Strategy Vision	Objection	Noted	<i>Mr Pouney appears to disagree that the Vision encourages greater use by local people because of the issues he raises below rather than the vision itself</i>	October 2006
			LDD8/1/2			Objectives/General		Q2 & 3. Wheelchair users /cyclists excluded from recreation areas in Torbay. Proper off road paths and other green spaces (such as the seafront) and free sports facilities would promote inclusion for more groups such as teenagers. Cycle paths would promote inclusion for teenagers, especially boys and promote leisure for families. It would also help to decrease pollution and increase exercise and access for all.	Amend	Noted	Cycle paths are generally supported and the Council has produced a Cycling and Walking Strategy. Comments relating to Sporting facilities are not directly related to the Greenspace Strategy and are more relevant to the emerging Sport's Strategy for Torbay. Comments will be forwarded to the Cultural Services Team. Additional recommendation has been inserted in the Action Plan Under GS18 in the Action Plan. Link green space strategy to the cycling and walking strategy	October 2006
			LDD8/1/3			Objectives		Q4 Top objective –Improving accessibility, especially for the disabled	Support	Noted	<i>Noted See Comments above and Amendments to the Action Plan</i>	October 2006
			LDD8/1/4			General		Would like to see wooded off road cycle path from Occombe to Hollicombe Beach and Cockington to the seafront and off road cycle paths along Torquay/Paignton seafronts and all major parks. These would double up as wheelchair access.	Amend	Noted	<i>Recreational Cycle paths identified in the Adopted Torbay Local Plan (1995-2011). Comments forwarded to Cycling Officer Strategic Transportation team.</i>	October 2006
			LDD8/1/5			Objectives/ Action Plan		Improve accessibility for disabled and excluded groups i.e. disabled and excluded groups such as teenagers/teenage boys and those without money.	Amend	Agree	<i>Noted See Comments above and Amendments to the Action Plan</i>	October 2006
			LDD8/1/6			General/ Objectives/ Action Plan		Improve cycle paths and promote safe cycle paths as a leisure activity.	Amend	Agree	<i>Noted See Comments above and Amendments to the Action Plan</i>	October 2006
			LDD8/1/7			General		Free car parks should be available to encourage country park use.	Amend	N/A	Country Park car parks are used to generate income for Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust.	October 2006
			LDD8/1/8			General		Leaflets should be given to holiday makers on our wooded walks etc.	Amend	Noted	Woodland Walk leaflets are available from Tourism Information Centres and Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust.	October 2006

Torbay Local Development Framework. Greenspace Strategy LDD8 Reg.17 Consultation (19 th June to 28 th July 2006) Responses & Actions												
Date Rcvd:	Electronic Y/N or Rep form?	LD Form No.	Form/Letter & Comment No.	From	Status	Document section /subsection/ Paragraph	DPD Test of Soundness	Comment	Nature of Response	TBC Response	TBC proposed action and additional notes	Date action taken
			LDD8/19			General		Building of blocks of flats for families should only go ahead if a nearby play area is present.	Amend	Noted/ N/A	Building of flats is a planning issue. The need for adequate amenity space is considered as part of the planning application process. The Greenspace Strategy will seek to support the provision of new and improved greenspaces to accompany new development where appropriate.	October 2006
			LDD8/1/10			Section 7		Q8. Local green space Standards Mr Pouney disagrees with the process of developing local standards –he would like to see Local standards developed by users and potential users	Objection	Noted	The Greenspace Strategy involved consultation with user groups in developing local standards.	October 2006
27/07/06	N repform	LDF/384	LDD8/2/1	Ms J Blake – Broadsands and Elbury Residents Association	General	All		Q1. Agrees with the Greenspace Strategy Vision	Support	Noted	Noted Support	October 2006
			LDD8/2/2			Section 2 Strategic Objectives.		Q2. People need green spaces for their health and well being.	Support	Noted	The benefit to well being has been emphasised in Section 4 of the Strategy	October 2006
			LDD8/2/3			Objectives		Q4 Top Priority –Improving accessibility, especially for the disabled	Support	Noted	Noted Support	October 2006
			LDD8/2/4			General		Q5 Car parking charges are an obstacle, where walking is not an option for the able bodied and there is no bus link. Some green spaces have to be accessed by car and the present charges deter visitors from using the available car park.	Support	Noted	Officers need to ensure that there is appropriate links and consideration of the Greenspace Strategy with the Torbay Local Transport Plan and the Walking and Cycling Strategy.	October 2006
			LDD8/2/5			Section 7		Q10.-Process of developing green space standards. ...Considers that the standards are appropriate	Support	Noted	N/A	October 2006
18/07/06	N- RepForm	LDF/502	LDD8/3/1	Mr P Moores	General	Vision		Q1 Strongly agrees with vision to Encourage Greater use of green spaces by local people	Support	Noted	N/A	October 2006
			LDD8/3/2			Action Plan GS 6		Q3.Addition to the vision? Torquay sea front should be properly repaired.	Amend	Noted	Repair of Torquay sea front is being evaluated by the Mayor and the cabinet.	October 2006
			LDD8/3/3			Vision		Q3.Addition to the vision? More national footpaths should be reopened and claimed back from private land.	General Observation	Noted	Comments will be forwarded to the officers dealing with the THAAP and Torbay ROWIP	October 2006

Torbay Local Development Framework. Greenspace Strategy LDD8 Reg.17 Consultation (19 th June to 28 th July 2006) Responses & Actions											
Date Rcvd:	Electronic Y/N or Rep form?	LD Form/Comment No.	From	Status	Document section /subsection/ Paragraph	DPD Test of Soundness	Comment	Nature of Response	TBC Response	TBC proposed action and additional notes	Date action taken
		LDD8/3/4			Objectives		Q4 Top objective- Improving appearance of green space	Support	Noted	N/A	October 2006
07/08/06	N-RepForm	LDD8/4/1	Mr R Brewer		Vision		Q1. Agrees with the Greenspace Strategy Vision	Support	Noted	N/A	October 2006
		LDD8/4/2			Vision and Aim		Q2. The overall aim of the strategy would be best realised by taking active steps toward establishing Torbay as the core of a South Devon National Park under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949	General observation./Amended	Noted	A South Devon National Park is a national issue. The Local Planning Authority does not have the power to designate National Parks. See response above. Addition Landscape Designations such as the AONB, AGLV and CPA are accompanied by Policies in the Adopted Torbay Local Plan (1995-2011) which seek to protect the Special Landscape character of these areas. Section 6 of the Greenspace Strategy set out the importance of Torbay's Landscape and its designations.	October 2006
		LDD8/4/3			General	Q3 The existing measures for protecting the Coast and Countryside from housing development are too piecemeal and weak to achieve the objective.. A South Devon National Park from the Exe to the Tamar is achievable but would require a radical rethink by the council.	General	Noted			
		LDD8/4/4			General	Q5 A national park sends a clear message to prospective visitors and residents that this is a beautiful area which is not going to be ruined by inappropriate development.	General	Noted			
		LDD8/4/5			General	Q6 Objectives should include the Conservation and Enhancement of AONB	General	Noted			
		LDD8/4/6			Objectives		Q4. Prioritisation of Greenspace Strategy Objectives- Promotion of green spaces as drivers for economic activity is seen as the lowest priority	General	Noted		October 2006
		LDD8/4/7			Objectives/ General		Q7. All of the strategic objectives are worthwhile but the council's treatment of the Dolphin holiday camp site and the Hollicombe gas works site does not bode well for the future unless there is a radical re think.	General observation.	Noted	Both Dolphin Holiday Camp in Brixham and Hollicombe, Paignton are sites identified for Residential Development in the Adopted Torbay Local Plan (1995-2011). The associated Landscape designations are material considerations in both the Local Plan allocation and in the Planning Application Process..	October 2006
		LDD8/4/8			General		Q8 The strategy and the action plan are alright in themselves but they will not be sufficient to withstand the pressure of housing. What is required is the sort of strong legal framework that comes with National Park status.	General observation.	Noted	See response above Re. National Parks	October 2006
04/08/06	N-RepForm	LDD8/5/1	Miss N Payton	General	Vision		Q1. Strongly agrees with the Greenspace Strategy Vision	Support	Noted	N/A	

Torbay Local Development Framework. Greenspace Strategy LDD8 Reg.17 Consultation (19 th June to 28 th July 2006) Responses & Actions												
Date Rcvd:	Electronic Y/N or Rep form?	LDF Rep.	Form/Letter & Comment No.	From	Status	Document section /subsection/ Paragraph	DPD Test of Soundness	Comment	Nature of Response	TBC Response	TBC proposed action and additional notes	Date action taken
			LDD8/5/2			Vision		Q2 1) I feel it is important to maintain green spaces as places to be used. It gives a small part of the countryside on our doorsteps, allowing time to enjoy fresh air, walking, playing sports and attending functions that help to improve quality of life.	General observation.	Noted	The contribution green spaces have for general well being are emphasised in Section 4 of the strategy.	
			LDD8/5/3			Objectives		Q4. Prioritisation of Greenspace Strategy Objectives- Promote and protect the heritage assets of Torbay's green spaces	Support	Noted	Included in Action Plan-GS12	
			LDD8/5/4			General		2) Keep Devon i.e. Torbay beautiful, breaking up areas of buildings, keeping the green spaces for children to enjoy and hopefully their children. Protecting wildlife, plants, trees, and the biodiversity balance.	General observation.	Noted	Green spaces will be maintained for future generations in line with the available budget. Progress reports could be included in ward partnership leaflets/Torbay view Related to Action Plan item GS23.	
			LDD8/5/5			Objective		Q6. Include the objective of protecting wildlife/fauna and historic background.	Support	Noted	Included in Action Plan-GS12	
			LDD8/5/6			General		Q8. Theme3-Distribute leaflets to neighbourhoods informing of progress and intentions.	Support	Noted	Included in Action Plan-GS12	
			LDD8/5/7			General		Theme 1 and 3- Raise awareness with local schools regarding public health issues of dropping litter and graffiti damage.	Support	Noted	Included in Action Plan-GS12	
			LDD8/5/8			Action Plan		Action Plan-GS28. Selling green spaces. Isn't this contrary to the overarching strategy of protecting green spaces. To widely publish the fact that green spaces could be lost, or that they form part of change of use. I don't think there is sufficient communication to the public of these changes. Not everyone sees the notices on lampposts.	Object	Noted	It is current policy to sell of surplus small areas and/or green space of poor quality in order to obtain capital funding to reinvest in other green spaces.	
			LDD8/5/9			Action Plan		Action plan, GS36-Include 'check preservation orders'.	Amend	Agree	Added to Green Space Action Plan GS 36	October 2006
31/07/06	N-Letter	LDF/500	LDD8/6	Mr Tim & Helen Ridehalgh Long		Page 2 Strategic objectives		Resident of Oak Hill Road and a neighbour of the projected Torre Marine development. Would like to see great care taken with the redevelopment of this site.	General observation	Noted	N/A Comments copied to Development And Planning Services Section	October 2006
						N/A		The merit of a building is not only its location but also the land and green space in occupies and has access to as well as providing places for residents, quiet commune, childrens play areas, or events	General observation	Noted	The importance of green spaces is extolled in Section 4 of the strategy	October 2006

Torbay Local Development Framework. Greenspace Strategy LDD8 Reg.17 Consultation (19 th June to 28 th July 2006) Responses & Actions												
Date Rcvd:	Electronic Y/N or Rep form?	LDf Rep.	Form/Letter & Comment No.	From	Status	Document section /subsection/ Paragraph	DPD Test of Soundness	Comment	Nature of Response	TBC Response	TBC proposed action and additional notes	Date action taken
						Objectives		Supports the strategy theme 'Recognise, protect and enhance the biodiversity value of this green space.	Support	Noted	Section 6 of the Greenspace Strategy highlights the importance that green spaces have for Nature Conservation. The Biodiversity section has been enhanced. Biodiversity also a Greenspace Objective.	October 2006
25/07/06	Y-e-mail	LDf/16	LDD8/7	Mr D Parsons Devon County Council	Specific	Page 8 'Cross Boundary Working' Paragraph 2		Under 'Cross boundary working' Devon County Council will be happy to work with you and assist with any relevant data inputs if we are able. Climate change (e.g. now have two dedicated officers), nature conservation, biodiversity, landscape and marine issues come in mind.	Support	Noted	Working with Devon C.C to be included in Action Plan and in paragraph on cross boundary working on page 8 Added to Action Plan item GS34 1)	October 2006
						Page 29 Paragraphs 2/3		Page 29- 'Minimum Acceptable Size Component'-The first two paragraphs seem to repeat themselves, and the second doesn't seem to make sense.	Correction required	Agree		
						Page 48 Paragraphs 4/5		Under sports strategy objectives, I don't understand bullet point three ! Too many 'develops' ?	Correction required	Agree	Relevant paragraphs to be amended. Paragraphs reworded	
						General		A Marine Bill is currently making its way through parliament and may have some relevance later as it refers to the area between land and sea.	Observation	Noted	The Marine Bill will be considered as part of the Review Process	
06/07/2006	N-Letter	LDf/402	LDD8/1	Mr D Lilley		Vision		Agree with central aim to 'Encourage greater use of green spaces by local people and the accompanying set of objectives. Unclear on the applicability of 'promotion of green spaces as drivers for economic activity' etc.	General observation/Support.	Noted	No Change	October 2006
			LDD8/2			Objectives		Top objective-Improving the Appearance of green spaces because high quality appearance engenders pride in the public assets and should trigger many other themes and objectives.	General observation/Support.	Noted	N/A	
			LDD8/3			Section 7		Recognises the categorisation of Furzeham Green within the Low Quality/High Value quartile of the quality value matrix.	General observation.	Noted	N/A	
			LDD8/4			Vision		Agree with recommended policy to enhance and protect green spaces and the Greenspace vision.	General observation.	Noted	N/A	
			LDD8/5			Section 7		The Green Flag criteria chosen for site audit looks very relevant.	General observation.	Noted	Noted	October 2006
			LDD8/6			Section 3		Approves of the need to integrate the strategy with other supporting strategies.	General observation.	Noted	Agree with respondents comments.	October 2006

Torbay Local Development Framework. Greenspace Strategy LDD8 Reg.17 Consultation (19 th June to 28 th July 2006) Responses & Actions												
Date Rcvd:	Electronic Y/N or Rep form?	LDF Rep.	Form/Letter & Comment No.	From	Status	Document section /subsection/ Paragraph	DPD Test of Soundness	Comment	Nature of Response	TBC Response	TBC proposed action and additional notes	Date action taken
			LDD8/87			Objectives		Green space is the prime attractor/motivator for local people and for local visitors to use and appreciate that green space. High quality appearance engenders pride in the public asset and should trigger many other theme and objectives.	General observation.	Noted	Noted	October 2006
			LDD8/88			Objectives		Accessibility objective-need to ensure that discreet measures carried out to stop unauthorised encampments	General observation	Agree	Management Plan guidance amended	
			LDD8/89			Conclusions Section 8		Supports development of site specific management plans.	General observation./Support	Noted	Noted	
			LDD8/10			Section 7 Developing Local Standards		Support methodology used in developing Local Standards	Support	Noted	N/A	
10/07/06	N-Letter	LDF/6	LDD8/91	Mr D Appleton – English Nature		General		English Nature are concerned about the lack of wildlife and biodiversity references in the document. A fair proportion of the identified green space within Torbay has important habitats and species which significantly contribute to the enhancement of the area. This has been partly recognised by the recognition of Countryside and Wildlife and Green Corridors within the typologies for Torbay but they have been omitted from the standards subsequently listed. This also appears to have been identified as a failing of the strategy in the accompanying sustainability appraisal.	Amend	Agree	The sustainability appraisal highlighted areas of the strategy which required strengthening. This includes several issues related to biodiversity. The Greenspace Strategy has been amended Accordingly.	October 2006
		LDD8/92			General (Objective 9)		There seems to be no recognition of the role of Local Nature Reserves as green accessible space and these present an idea opportunity of linking many of the objectives of the strategy.	Amend	Agree			
			LDD8/93			General (Objective 9)		In relation to the strategic objectives for the plan English Nature consider that the biodiversity objective needs strengthening and promoting.	Amend	Agree		
			LDD8/94			General (Objective 9)		Following the recent direction that all LDF documents will be required to consider the implications of the Habitats Regulations this strategy does not contain sufficient detail as to the locations in which actions in the plan will be carried out and therefore the impact on European sites cannot be established. To facilitate this process it is necessary to increase the information with the action plan section to include site based actions.	Amend	Agree		
September	N-Letter	LDF/7	LDD8/101	Mr Derek Smith-Brunel Woods (no contact details provided)		General		Mapping of greenspace, assessment and characterisation useful and provide reader with good basis of understanding	General Observation/Support	Noted	Noted	
			LDD8/102			Aims and Objective		All aims and Objectives desirable to some extent But need to be more Specific and Prioritised	General Observation/Amend	Noted	Objectives translated in to Prioritised Actions in the Action Plan (Part 2)	October 2006

Torbay Local Development Framework. Greenspace Strategy LDD8 Reg.17 Consultation (19 th June to 28 th July 2006) Responses & Actions											
Date Rcvd:	Electronic Y/N or Rep form?	LD Form/ Letter & Comment No.	From	Status	Document section /subsection/ Paragraph	DPD Test of Soundness	Comment	Nature of Response	TBC Response	TBC proposed action and additional notes	Date action taken
		LDD8/10/3			Conclusions		Management Plans for all green spaces sound but need to be budgeted in accordance with the priorities laid down in the Overall Aims and Objectives	General Observation/Amend	Noted/ Agree	Management Plan should reflect overall aims and objectives. The Content advice in Section 8 has been modified to reflect SA comments.	October 2006
		LDD8/10/4			General/ Action Plan		Design Guidelines helpful but value needs to be weighed against cost of production	General Observation	Noted	Noted Guidelines identified in Action Plan.	October 2006
		LDD8/10/5			General		Need to make it clear what projects will get financial priority. Place themes in order of priority and have an officer to ensure money spent according priorities.	General Observation/Amend	Noted	Action Plan will reflect financial priority. The action Plan will be reviewed on a regular basis in which the Success of Actions will be assessed.	October 2006
		LDD8/10/6			General		Issue of public health and dog walkers	General Observation	Noted	Part of wider appearance of green spaces and the separation of waste identified in Management Plans and in the Action Plan.	October 2006
29/06/06	Y-email	LD F/48	LDD8/11/1		Ms C Schneider – Torbay Voluntary Service	Vision	The vision is fine. It focuses on local people and promotes the use of green spaces. However you may like to emphasise beneficial use not and anti social use.	Support	Noted	Noted	
		LDD8/11/2			Objectives		Strategic objectives are fine. Priorities should be improving appearance of green space and challenging people's perceptions. May like to consider better signposting or information about green spaces given that people can't use them if they are unaware they exist.	Support	Noted	Action Plan incorporates signage issues	October 2006
		LDD8/11/3			Action Plan		Action Plan-GS2 refers to establishing best practice guidance for setting up group. This is already available and has been a long time in Torbay. More recently the Torbay Change up Consortium has invested in material and resources that support and inform on this and the web portal will contain guidance and good practice reference material. Given that Torbay has a local Compact and Code of practice that underpin the relationship between public bodies and voluntary/community sector. This already defines the relationship of the friends groups to the Council. Government is now looking to further build on local compacts and the current consultation indicates that compacts may be measurable target re performance locally. The Torbay Change up consortium is also trying to introduce quality standards across the VCS using PQASSO model. It would be sensible to work together on this rather than have different standards operating within the VCS in Torbay.	Amend	Agree	Establish best practice guidance for setting up new groups deleted from Action Plan GS2	October 2006
		LDD8/11/4			Action Plan		Action Plan –GS4 refers to best practice for working with volunteers. Again this is something that is already available and will be on the VCS web portal using Volunteering England and Change Up National Hub for volunteering as the standards we want to see in Torbay. Again it would be sensible to engage with the Change Up Consortium and specifically Torbay Voluntary Service who have led the way in promoting good practice re volunteering in Torbay. TV's also maintains the local section of the national database www.Do-it.org which is an online system to promote volunteering and provides a tool for volunteers to search out volunteering opportunities and organisations to promote their volunteering opportunities.	Amend	Agree	Establish best practice guidance for working with volunteers deleted from GS4	October 2006
		LDD8/11/5			Action Plan		Action Plan-GS15 refers to access policy-need to engage with Torbay Access group.	Amend	Agree	Reference to Torbay Access group added to Action Plan GS15	October 2006

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			LDD8/11/6			Action Plan		Action Plan-Section 106. Given that consultation is also out re planning contributions/affordable housing which suggests changes to allocations etc. Would it make sense to include community involvement in the key partners re these recommendations.	Amend	Agree	Community/Friends of Groups added as Key Partners to Action Plan GS41.	October 2006
07/08/06	N/Letter	LD/38	LDD8/12/1	Robin Toogood – SD-AONB Manager		Vision & objectives		I welcome the production of this strategy and would endorse the strategic objectives set out. The inventory of sites is particularly useful, as is the quality site assessment site exercise. This presents an overview of the distribution and condition of the major green spaces of Torbay. The action plan table is also useful	Support	Noted	Noted	
			LDD8/12/2			Section 7		At times, the document seemed undecided about its scope and what categories of land fall under the heading 'green space'. This was not helped by the inconsistent use of titles for categorising different types of green space. For example, the names given in table 7.1 for typology standards for different types of green space is different from the set of category titles which follow in text paragraphs A-L on pages 24 and 25, and these differ again from the distance threshold categories on page 26, the working hierarchy categories on page 27 and the GIS layers on page 27 and 28. This situation would partly be helped by a more consistent use of terminology and titling throughout the document	Amend	Agree	Amend. Table 7.1 Typology standards has been removed from the text	October 2006
			LDD8/12/3			Section 7		There are green space categories which drift in and out of view during the document. For example coastal amenity green space is quite rightly listed on page 24. One would therefore expect this to be developed further on in the document given that a significant proportion of the entire coast path corridor represents a particular popular and well used linear coastal amenity green space which also serves as a wildlife and conservation corridor. This is critical part of the Torbay Green Space inventory, and parts of the corridor are in need of significant management and improvement works. However, this category seems to disappear after page 24 and does not find itself into the inventory or action plan. I would recommend that this is addressed in the next version of the document	Amend	Noted	Coastal amenity green space is mentioned several times in the strategy. See comments above.	October 2006
			LDD8/12/4			Section 7		There may be other significant categories of specialised green space which should be referred to in this document but are omitted. I am thinking particularly of golf courses which function as a significant recreational and healthy exercise asset for Torbay's adult population. It might be argued that these (and, for that matter, parts of the coast path corridor referred to in the paragraph above) do not belong in this document because they are in private ownership and not under the direct control of the Council.	Amend	Noted	Golf courses are a source of healthy exercise. However, they are privately managed. As such the Council has no influence on their management	October 2006
			LDD8/12/5	Robin Toogood - Continued				With the latter point in mind, it would be helpful if this document could establish some clearer linkage with development control policy, by setting out some guiding principles for protecting and enhancing these green spaces. For example, one way in which the quality of experience and amenity for users of green space can be protected is by setting out a presumption against developments of neighbouring land adjoining the green space which would have a detrimental impact on the green space, such as obscuring views into and out of the green space, or by generating noise and disturbance which detracts from the tranquillity of the green space. Indeed, one would hope to see development control policies making a determined effort to improve the quality of green spaces by ensuring that the development on adjoining land which acts as a backdrop to the green space actively serves to enhance the setting of the green space, for example by the intelligent use of boundary treatments. I appreciate that these are matters for a different plan document, but it would be helpful to establish a signpost from this document as a way of establishing clear linkage	Amend	Noted	Strategy linked to development control policy via various parts of the action plan i.e. GS 25	October 2006

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			LDD8/12/6					One of the stated tasks of this document is to provide clarity to developers about where deficiencies in green space will need to be addressed through the planning gain process. These deficiencies are indicated but not clearly stated in one place. For example, the maps on page 62 and 64 identify potential areas of new green space and playgrounds and pages 10 and 11 of the action plan list a number of wards and sites where new playground and green space is needed. It would however, be helpful if all these deficiencies and identified sites for new provision could be listed in one place together in the main text of the document	Amend	Noted	The maps and ward statistics are separate parts of the document	October 2006
			LDD8/12/7					The document identifies nearly three quarters of the green space as 'failing' on page 31 as a result of the site assessment process This clearly highlights a massive investment requirement to bring the sites up to a reasonable standard. It is unfortunate that this is not developed further by the document and that the process of prioritising and developing an investment strategy is deferred as a job to be undertaken through the action plan. It is a shame that the consultation process in developing the Green Space Strategy could not be used to sound out views on how the green spaces should be prioritised for remedial works. For example, should the Council be focusing on investing resources on the most heavily used, high profile and accessible sites, or should it be seeking to spread lower levels of investment more broadly across a wider range of neighbouring green lane sites ?	Amend	Noted	Park investment is linked to the available budget and the new emerging community plan. It is part of the action plan to do a investment strategy	October 2006
			LDD8/12/8					It is particularly striking that some of the Torbay green space sites I am most familiar with (Berry Head, Sharkham Point and the Grove) score highly in the condition assessment but are still in need of further major investment to lift them to the category of excellent and to derive best value from these assets in the long term. This is a point which the document should acknowledge	Amend	Noted	Investment into these are controlled by Torbay coast and Countryside Trust	October 2006
			LDD8/12/9					The action plan is extensive and ambitious but is also vague and lacking prioritisation, timescales or targets. With some recommendations and actions, it is hard to see why they are included and what they are trying to achieve. Consideration might therefore be given to rationalising and focusing the action plan into a more manageable set of priorities which can realistically be achieved	General Observations /Amend	Noted	The action plan is challenging but realistic and achievable	October 2006
			LDD8/12/10					I would draw your attention to the following AONB Management plan priority actions which relate to the Torbay Green Space Strategy. One relates to the creation of new green space and conservation area as planning with the redevelopment of the former Dolphin Holiday Camp and it is pleasing to acknowledge that this action is well in hand. Secondly, the further enhancement of Berry Head National Nature reserve is identified as a priority, and here the Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust is working steadily towards this end by assembling a major Heritage Lottery funding bid. Thirdly, a programme of access and management improvements to the Grove Woods is listed, and again a significant improvement to this site has been accomplished over the last three years as a result of the work of the Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust with funding support from Torbay Council and the Countryside Agency. Fourthly, the St Mary's bay area is identified as an area for enhancement in response to pressures from traffic and visitors, intensive tourism development, unsightly boundaries and invasive foreign plants. This remains a priority green space corridor requiring a concerted effort of improvement.	General Observations	Noted	The Council will work with Torbay coast and Countryside Trust to progress the development of the Dolphin and Berry Head	October 2006
28/07/08	Y-e-mail	LDf/3	LDD8/13/1	Jane Macey –South West Regional Assembly	Note			The Draft RSS has been submitted to the Secretary of State and the formal public consultation is currently underway with the EIP scheduled for Spring 2007. The draft RSS will carry greater weight the closer it gets to publication.	General Observation	Noted	N/A	
10/10/06	Y-e-mail	LDf/650	LDD8/14/1	Mr M Parsons-The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners	General			Allotments can provide a value to well being in a number of ways, they are recognised by the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners for their contribution to therapeutic, educational, health, community development and healthy eating qualities. They also serve an important function for nature conservation and bio-diversity.	General Observations/Amend	Noted	Section 4 on the importance green spaces amended to incorporate these comments	October 2006
October	N/A	Internal SA	LDD8	Sustainability Appraisal Amendments	All			See accompanying Sustainability Appraisal –Section 7	Amend	Agree	Amended accordingly	October 2006