Planning Future Cornwall: Cornwall Local Plan Strategic Policies 2010 - 2030
Addendum to Sustainability Appraisal

Update to Submission Draft Report

January 2013

Cornwall Council
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1. Introduction


These reports should also be read in conjunction with the Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report published in June 2010.

2. Policy Evolution

The policy intent for some policies have evolved since Cornwall Council carried out the Sustainability Appraisal in August 2012. Table 1 shows how the policies have changed.

Table 1: Policy Changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Policy Intent (Local Plan July 2012)</th>
<th>Policy Intent (Local Plan January 2013)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Strategy (formerly called Strategic Policy)</td>
<td>Paragraph 3: Helps provide for 48,000 homes to meet, in appropriate locations, the full range of need particularly affordable housing and Gypsy and Traveller needs.</td>
<td>Paragraph 4: Provide for 45,300 homes over the plan period at an average rate of about 2,040 homes per year between 2010 and 2018 and about 2,430 per year between 2018 and 2030 to help deliver sufficient new housing of appropriate types to meet future requirements in particular meeting affordable housing and Gypsy and Traveller needs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Affordable Housing

The target amount and mix of affordable housing is defined in zones and mapped (to be kept under review);

1. Over 40%
2. Over 30%
3. Over 20%

The following provision on site will be sought for affordable housing:

- Zone 1 & 2: 50%
- Zone 3, 4 & 5: 40%

### Renewable & Low Carbon Energy

**Paragraph 1a:**

Contribute towards a renewable energy target of at least 1427 megawatts of installed electricity generation capacity and at least 190 megawatts of installed useable heat energy generation capacity through a range of onshore / low carbon technologies by 2030.

Removal of following target from policy wording and inclusion of it in the supporting text instead:

Contribute towards a renewable energy target of at least 1427 megawatts of installed electricity generation capacity and at least 190 megawatts of installed useable heat energy generation capacity through a range of onshore / low carbon technologies by 2030.

### 3. Appraisal Findings – Implications of Local Plan Policy Changes

Whilst not undertaken as a formal SA assessment, this light touch assessment indicates the following implications:

**A reduction in the Housing Numbers**

The changes to lower targets in the Local Plan from approximately 49,000 to approximately 45,300 is likely to result in specific negative effects for the Local Plan in terms of:

- Reduced ability to deliver affordable housing requirements
- Reduced ability to meet overall housing demand

These have knock on effects for a variety of social and economic criteria but should result in lessening negative effects on the environment.

**A flat rate 50% Affordable Housing Target**

Delivery of affordable housing is currently coupled to the delivery of general market housing. Therefore a reduction in the housing target and an increased desire to deliver a higher percentage of affordables, raises questions as to viability and how much affordable housing can actually be delivered and the spatial distribution of this.

Indirectly as a result of viability issues this could also negatively effect the design and quality of built new development locking people into inefficient and expensive to maintain housing.

Viability constraints may also indirectly result in an inability to require associated infrastructure or environmental enhancements (landscaping, biodiversity, multi use trails, green infrastructure) that could be used to mitigate against the negative impacts of development both for existing and new residents.

Should the overall target for housing provision reduce further, then these impacts will be amplified proportionally.

**Removal of Renewable Energy targets**

The removal of specific and ambitious targets associated from the Local Plan policy and supporting text is likely to weaken the ability to maximise the installation of renewable energy and usable heat which could then result in negative effects for the Local Plan as a result of:

- Inability to meet greenhouse gas emissions targets for Cornwall and as a contribution to UK and global targets
- Limits the ability to mitigate against Climate Change and meet climate change targets
- Limits Cornwall’s ability to become more energy secure and increase dependency on fossil fuel based technologies
- Does not facilitate decoupling economic growth from fossil fuel based economic development and therefore increases vulnerability to global economic shocks, fuel price hikes etc
- Limits the growth in the renewable sector in Cornwall and associated green jobs and skills development
• Creates uncertainty within the sector and could lead to a loss of investment both for Cornwall and to aid communities through community benefit.

• Reputational issues to the Council and Cornwall from promoting Cornwall as a green peninsular and exemplar schemes.

• Inability to meet high design standards within development and could indirectly increase fuel poverty.

In terms of specific positive impacts the loss of set targets within the Local Plan could result in:

• Significantly lessening visual impacts to the landscape and historic environment.

• Lessening the impacts to amenity space for recreation and walking as less sites are given over to renewables.

• Lessening the impacts from land taken for renewables in particular soil and biodiversity.

• Lessening the cumulative impacts of development as a whole.

Most of these are likely to be fairly insignificant and in some cases will be offset by changes brought about by continuing reliance on fossil fuels and climate change.

The policy changes were re-appraised and the updated appraisal findings are summarised in Table 2 which shows the total plan impacts (Appendix 1).

4. Significant Effects

4.1 The changes to policies within the Planning Future Cornwall: Cornwall Local Plan are unlikely to result in any changes to the significant effects identified and contained within the Authority Monitoring Report (see Appendix 1 of SA Report).
If you would like this information in another format please contact:

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Telephone: 0300 1234 100

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Environment</th>
<th>Social</th>
<th>Economic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Policy 1 - Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development</td>
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<td>-/+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy 2 - Spatial Strategy</td>
<td>+/-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy 3 - Role and Function of Places</td>
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<td>Policy 4 - Shopping, Services and Community Facilities</td>
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<td>Policy 5 - Jobs and Skills</td>
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<td>Policy 6 - Housing Mix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy 7 - Housing in the Countryside</td>
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<td>Policy 10 - Managing Viability</td>
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<td>Policy 11 - Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople</td>
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<td>Policy 13 - Development Standards</td>
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<td>Policy 14 - Renewable and Low Carbon Energy</td>
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<td>Policy 15 - Safeguarding Renewable Energy</td>
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**Management Facilities**

- **Policy 21 - Best Use of Land and Existing Buildings**
  - Waste: N/A
  - Minerals & Geodiversity: +
  - Soil: +/-
  - Air: +/-
  - Water: N/A
  - Biodiversity: +/--
  - Landscape: ++/--
  - Maritime: +/--
  - Historic Environment: +/--
  - Design: N/A
  - Social Inclusion: Ind
  - Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour: +
  - Housing: N/A
  - Health, Sport & Recreation: +/-
  - Economic Development, Regeneration & Tourism: N/A
  - Education & Skills: N/A
  - Transport & Accessibility: N/A
  - Energy: N/A

- **Policy 22 - Natural Environment**
  - Waste: N/A
  - Minerals & Geodiversity: +
  - Soil: Ind
  - Air: N/A
  - Water: N/A
  - Biodiversity: ++
  - Landscape: +/+
  - Maritime: +/+
  - Historic Environment: Ind
  - Design: N/A
  - Social Inclusion: +/-
  - Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour: N/A
  - Housing: N/A
  - Health, Sport & Recreation: +
  - Economic Development, Regeneration & Tourism: N/A
  - Education & Skills: N/A
  - Transport & Accessibility: N/A
  - Energy: N/A

- **Policy 23 - Historic Environment**
  - Waste: N/A
  - Minerals & Geodiversity: +/-
  - Soil: Ind
  - Air: N/A
  - Water: N/A
  - Biodiversity: ++
  - Landscape: --
  - Maritime: +
  - Historic Environment: N/A
  - Design: N/A
  - Social Inclusion: +/-
  - Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour: N/A
  - Housing: N/A
  - Health, Sport & Recreation: +
  - Economic Development, Regeneration & Tourism: N/A
  - Education & Skills: N/A
  - Transport & Accessibility: N/A
  - Energy: N/A

- **Policy 24 - Green Infrastructure**
  - Waste: N/A
  - Minerals & Geodiversity: +
  - Soil: Ind
  - Air: N/A
  - Water: N/A
  - Biodiversity: N/A
  - Landscape: N/A
  - Maritime: N/A
  - Historic Environment: Ind
  - Design: N/A
  - Social Inclusion: +/-
  - Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour: N/A
  - Housing: N/A
  - Health, Sport & Recreation: ++
  - Economic Development, Regeneration & Tourism: N/A
  - Education & Skills: N/A
  - Transport & Accessibility: N/A
  - Energy: N/A

- **Policy 25 - Flood Risk Management and Coastal Change**
  - Waste: N/A
  - Minerals & Geodiversity: +
  - Soil: N/A
  - Air: N/A
  - Water: +/-
  - Biodiversity: ?
  - Landscape: ?
  - Maritime: ?
  - Historic Environment: N/A
  - Design: Ind
  - Social Inclusion: +/-
  - Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour: N/A
  - Housing: Ind
  - Health, Sport & Recreation: N/A
  - Economic Development, Regeneration & Tourism: Ind
  - Education & Skills: N/A
  - Transport & Accessibility: N/A
  - Energy: N/A

- **Policy 26 - Transport and Accessibility**
  - Waste: N/A
  - Minerals & Geodiversity: +/-
  - Soil: +/-
  - Air: +/-
  - Water: +/-
  - Biodiversity: ++
  - Landscape: +/+
  - Maritime: +/+
  - Historic Environment: N/A
  - Design: N/A
  - Social Inclusion: +/-
  - Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour: N/A
  - Housing: Ind
  - Health, Sport & Recreation: +
  - Economic Development, Regeneration & Tourism: N/A
  - Education & Skills: N/A
  - Transport & Accessibility: N/A
  - Energy: N/A

- **Policy 27 - Infrastructure**
  - Waste: +/-
  - Minerals & Geodiversity: +/-
  - Soil: +/+
  - Air: +/-
  - Water: N/A
  - Biodiversity: +/+
  - Landscape: +/-
  - Maritime: +/+
  - Historic Environment: N/A
  - Design: +/-
  - Social Inclusion: +/-
  - Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour: N/A
  - Housing: +/+
  - Health, Sport & Recreation: +/+
  - Economic Development, Regeneration & Tourism: N/A
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