

# Getting Your Community Plan Noticed

The following information is drawn from the Regional Framework for Embracing Community Led Planning and guides you towards ensuring that your 'Parish Plan' is considered by decision makers and service providers.

The Framework starts from the premise that every local community, working in association with local partners, should have the opportunity to prepare a community-based plan setting out its vision for its area and the necessary action needed to achieve it.

So long as these plans meet certain quality criteria, they should be used to inform:

- **Regional spatial and service delivery strategies and policies**
- **Community Strategies for county, unitary and appropriate districts.**
- **Policy decisions and the planning and delivery of services**
- **The allocation of resources**
- **The statutory land use planning system**

## QUALITY STANDARDS FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY-LED PLANS

To ensure that your 'Parish Plan' is included in these processes you must be capable of demonstrating that it achieves certain criteria of quality. Therefore your plan should either:

- demonstrate that it has been undertaken with the guidance of an external facilitating organisation who themselves, are prepared to endorse the process adopted (for example the plan meets the required standards of the Community Council For Devon or District Community Planning Team, or
- can demonstrate that it has been undertaken by a group that is; committed to genuinely representing the issues and needs of the whole community
- Is holistic, in the sense of addressing social, economic and environmental issues and concerns, in the round;
- be based on thorough and socially inclusive local consultation in relation both to establishing the key issues for consideration and to deciding the policies and action points to be pursued;
- contain a plan of action that flows clearly from the earlier analysis of issues and that is clear and realistic in terms of 'what, why, how and by whom?'
- have local legitimacy, for example by being formally ratified / adopted by the local community forum or parish or town council.
- and, have taken cognisance of District, Unitary, County and Regional priorities.

The Community Council for Devon working with your District Community Planning officers and others can guide you through the process of developing and delivering your 'Parish Plan'.

The 'reward' for meeting the criteria is that your 'Plan' will be received and processed using responsive protocols developed by many of your service providers.