



# One Planet Dartmoor: The Dartmoor Low Carbon Strategy

**Chapters 1-5: One Planet Dartmoor**

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**Authors:**

Andy Rowell  
Andrew Shadrake (editor)  
Edward Sowerby  
Francis Macnaughton  
Nicky Scott  
Paul Baker  
Richard Gomme  
Richard Pymm

T: 01822 801 822  
F: 0845 625 0849  
E: [andrew.shadrake@dartmoorcircle.org.uk](mailto:andrew.shadrake@dartmoorcircle.org.uk)  
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## **The Dartmoor Low Carbon Strategy:**

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## **Chapters 1-5 One Planet Dartmoor**

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## Foreword

This strategy forms part of the One Planet Dartmoor Initiative. It shows how people on and around Dartmoor can improve their standard of living, and quality of life, by acting together to reduce carbon emissions.

The strategy is full of examples from Dartmoor, the UK and overseas, of projects which are already succeeding. The writers hope that people will be inspired to copy the projects which interest them, or to create their own.

Dartmoor Circle will do whatever it can to make such projects succeed. In January 2011, it produced the Dartmoor Low Carbon Delivery Plan, which listed the projects it would try to support over the following 12 months. Those projects have been put forward by member climate change groups, and most of them are to do with renewable energy, food or waste – the sectors which Dartmoor Circle has identified as able to offer immediate results. The Delivery Plan is available to download from [www.dartmoorcircle.org.uk](http://www.dartmoorcircle.org.uk)

This strategy and the delivery plan have been created for the people on and around Dartmoor, to help them improve their quality of life while reducing carbon emissions. If you would like to join in any of the projects, or suggest new ones, a good place to start is your local climate change group. Their names and websites are below. If there is no group near you, please consider starting one – to find out how to do this, email [andrew@dartmoorcircle.org.uk](mailto:andrew@dartmoorcircle.org.uk), or leave a message on 01822 801 822.



Andrew Shadrake  
Chair  
Dartmoor Circle

### Dartmoor Circle member groups

Ashburton Futures	<a href="mailto:tatidennehy@gmail.com">tatidennehy@gmail.com</a>
Bovey Climate Action	<a href="http://www.boveyclimateaction.org.uk">www.boveyclimateaction.org.uk</a>
Buck the Trend	<a href="http://www.buckthetrend.info">www.buckthetrend.info</a>
Greener Teign	<a href="mailto:mary@greener-teign.org.uk">mary@greener-teign.org.uk</a>
Moretonhampstead Action Group on Sustainability	<a href="mailto:JohnGDodds@aol.com">JohnGDodds@aol.com</a>
Proper Job (Chagford)	<a href="http://www.proper-job.org">www.proper-job.org</a>
PI21 (Ivybridge)	<a href="http://www.transitiontowns.org/Ivybridge/">www.transitiontowns.org/Ivybridge/</a>
Sustainable South Brent	<a href="http://www.sustainablesouthbrent.org.uk">www.sustainablesouthbrent.org.uk</a>
Transition Tavistock	<a href="http://www.transitiontavistock.org.uk/">www.transitiontavistock.org.uk/</a>
Westden (Tavistock)	<a href="http://www.westden.wordpress.com">www.westden.wordpress.com</a>

# 1. Introduction: One Planet Dartmoor and the Dartmoor Low Carbon Strategy

Humanity faces a number of challenges, each more serious than any it has faced in recorded history. These challenges are presented by climate change, peak oil, peak population, peak resources, peak food and peak water.<sup>1</sup> The dangers presented by each are now widely accepted, and the only question is how quickly each will be upon us, and whether we have the ability and commitment to minimise their effects.

The challenges can be met, and their effects can be minimised, but doing so will require a transformation in the way we live. Achieving that transformation depends upon urgent action from individuals, communities, businesses and governments across the world.

There are various approaches which are being applied which can help achieve that transformation. Some of them are:

1. **Contraction and Convergence.** This is the idea that while overall carbon emissions must fall, the per capita emissions for each country should also become the same. This requires those of more developed countries to fall faster than those of less developed ones. The second element of the approach requires that poorer countries' economies be allowed to grow, as richer ones contract.
2. **Transition.** This approach suggests we should start now to prepare for a post-fossil fuel world (following "Peak oil"), and for climate change. It proposes a response within communities, developing local resilience and sustainability, and offers tools to help them develop their response. It has inspired many people, and there are now Transition communities across the world.
3. **"One Planet Future".** This approach has been developed, and is being championed, by WWF.<sup>2</sup> One Planet Future's central tenet is that each of us should consume no more than our fair share of the world's natural resources, and generate only our share of the carbon emissions which the planet's natural systems are able to absorb.

All of these approaches have great value. Contraction and Convergence has been adopted by many developing countries in international negotiations. It is also the

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<sup>1</sup> The "peak" in each of these is the point at which the maximum achievable rate of production or extraction is reached. Thus, 'Peak Oil' means the point at which the maximum oil extraction rate is reached; 'Peak Population' the maximum rate of population growth; 'Peak Resources' the maximum extraction rate for the natural resource (copper, iron) being discussed; 'Peak Food' the maximum level of food production, and 'Peak Water' when maximum rate of water abstraction is exceeded by demand.

<sup>2</sup> See [www.wwf.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/about\\_us/building\\_a\\_one\\_planet\\_future.cfm](http://www.wwf.org.uk/what_we_do/about_us/building_a_one_planet_future.cfm)

basis of the work being undertaken by the Converging World<sup>3</sup> to use the income from wind turbine operation in developing countries for enterprise development for poorer people there, as well as for renewables projects in the UK. It does require a strong focus on international links and cooperation, however, while the vision of this strategy is Dartmoor-focused.

The transition movement is led from Devon, and some of Dartmoor Circle's members are transition groups, while others have had training in transition approaches. Its primary, though not exclusive, focus is on local action.

One Planet Future provides wide scope for both national and regional lobbying activity, as well as for local projects. The value of the concept is that it incorporates the need to manage all the world's finite resources, rather than merely reduce carbon emissions from one resource – fossil fuels.

This presents a particular challenge for each of us, because, on average, we each consume roughly three times our share of resources and generate three times our share of carbon emissions. Thus, if everyone in the world consumed at the rate of the average Briton, we would need three planets to provide the necessary resources. The One Planet approach implicitly includes 'equity and fair trade' as one of its 10 principles, and contraction and convergence is an excellent model for fulfilling that principle.

#### The Three Footprints of One Planet

The One Planet approach assesses the impact on the planet of an individual, a community or a country in terms of three footprints:

##### The Ecological Footprint

The Ecological Footprint is defined as; "the total area of productive land and water ecosystems required to produce the resources that the population consumes and assimilate the wastes that production produces, wherever on Earth that land and water may be located" (Rees, 2000). Ecological footprinting allows us to quantify how far the world's resources are being used against how many are available, which is invaluable information for those attempting to design policy for a sustainable future.

##### The Carbon Footprint

The Carbon Footprint indicator allows for a comprehensive assessment of human contribution to climate change which is consistent with standards of economic and environmental accounting. It offers an alternative angle for international policy on climate change as it complements the territorial-based approach used by the UNFCCC.

##### The Water Footprint

The Water Footprint of a country is the total volume of freshwater consumed and polluted for the production of goods and services consumed by citizens in the country (Hoekstra et al 2009). Consumption is defined as water permanently removed from a water body in a catchment, which happens when water evaporates, returns to another catchment area or the sea or is incorporated into a product.<sup>4</sup>

Most global resources (apart from water, which is measured separately, see case study) are usually measured in terms of a person's ecological footprint, measured in

<sup>3</sup> [www.theconvergingworld.org.uk](http://www.theconvergingworld.org.uk)

<sup>4</sup> One Planet Economy Network (2009) *The new Industrial Evolution* p.5 at [www.oneplaneteconomynetwork.org/resources/OPEN\\_Introduction\\_2009.pdf](http://www.oneplaneteconomynetwork.org/resources/OPEN_Introduction_2009.pdf)

global hectares (gha). The fair ecological footprint for each person is 2.1 gha. At the moment, in the UK, each person's ecological footprint from food alone is 1.63 gha. This leaves only 0.38 gha available for all our other needs – including heating and transport, which are very ecologically intensive – as well as for everything else we consume or waste. We clearly have a long way to go.

### **1.1 The One Planet Future Approach**

One Planet Future proposes reducing resource consumption and emissions by following ten sustainability principles. These principles are;

1. Zero Carbon
2. Zero Waste
3. Sustainable Transport
4. Local and Sustainable Materials
5. Local and Sustainable Food
6. Sustainable Water
7. Natural Habitats and Wildlife
8. Culture and Heritage
9. Equity and Fair Trade
10. Health and Happiness

A number of people and agencies on Dartmoor and its surrounding communities have come together to develop a strategy for local actions based on One Planet Future, called the One Planet Dartmoor.

### **1.2 One Planet Dartmoor**

One Planet Dartmoor will deliver actions addressing each of the ten sustainability principles. All those activities are developed from the understanding that One Planet Dartmoor will improve people's quality of life, not reduce it. It can increase people's incomes, not reduce them. It can increase the amount of time people can spend with their family and friends. It can help people enjoy better food, and understand where it comes from.

Dartmoor National Park Authority and its partners are committed to supporting One Planet Dartmoor. Different agencies have the skills to deliver different targets, related to different principles. Dartmoor Circle and its member groups are well placed to deliver carbon reduction actions. They will do this through the Dartmoor Low Carbon Strategy.

### **1.3 The Low Carbon Dartmoor Strategy**

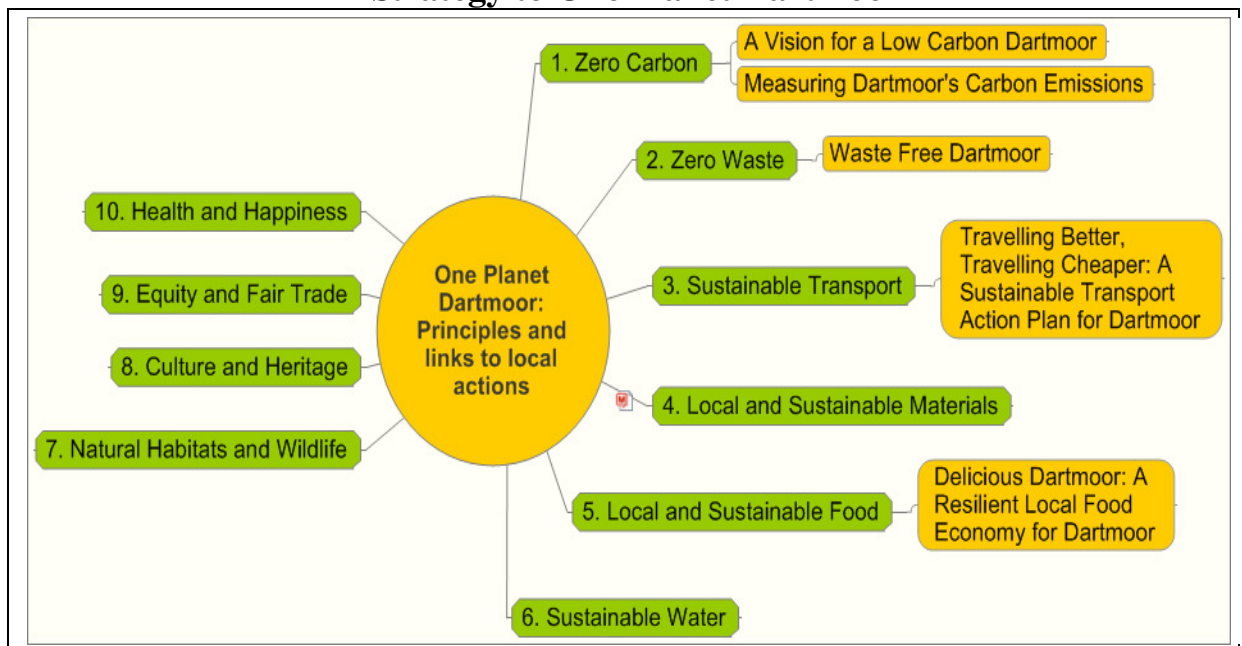
This document forms the Dartmoor Low Carbon Strategy, and has been produced by Dartmoor Circle.<sup>5</sup> The strategy covers several sectors, and so addresses several

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<sup>5</sup> Dartmoor Circle is a social enterprise, made up of community based climate change groups on and around

of the sustainability principles of One Planet Dartmoor, as shown in Introduction Figure 1.

**Introduction Figure 1: The Contribution of the Dartmoor Low Carbon Strategy to One Planet Dartmoor**



In the above figure, each of the yellow oblong panels represents a chapter of the Dartmoor Low Carbon Strategy, and is linked to the relevant sustainability principle.

Delivering actions in accordance with those principles is one of the two aims of the Low Carbon Dartmoor Strategy. The other is to help the Dartmoor National Park Management Strategy Board deliver the carbon reduction targets in the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan, so far as this is realistic. These require a carbon emission reduction of 5% in excess of government targets by 2012. This is not realistic but new targets can be prepared for the next edition of the plan.

The next section of this plan lays out the vision for a Low Carbon Dartmoor. It then looks at what is meant by "Dartmoor" for the purposes of this plan, and examines how Dartmoor's baseline and future carbon emissions can be measured. After this, it offers sub-plans in respect of food, waste, transport, energy efficiency, business and renewables.

The conclusion draws all these plans together, shows how they can be delivered together for maximum effect, and provides an indication of costs and funding sources.

## 2. A Vision for a Low Carbon Dartmoor

Dartmoor is a managed landscape, formed by the community living on the moor, and in the towns and villages around it, over thousands of years. The community's economy has, historically, been equally centred on and around the moor.

Over time, the economy has become less focused on Dartmoor, and has become integrated more and more with the United Kingdom and global economies. This has brought some great benefits, in terms of materials goods, increased incomes, and variety of products and services. Ultimately, however, it is unsustainable, which is the message of this Strategy's first chapter.

There is now an opportunity for the Dartmoor community to develop a new, sustainable, resilient local economy, with Dartmoor at its core, and a high quality of life for its members as its output.

The vision for a Low Carbon Dartmoor reflects this. It does not try to re-create a purely agrarian economy, but recognises that food and farming lie at the heart of any strategy for a sustainable future.

It also recognises that while reducing carbon emissions is vital, that is not what motivates most people most of the time. Most people living on and around Dartmoor are much more concerned about meeting more immediate challenges, such as keeping a job, in making ends meet, and looking after their family...

Many of the activities which reduce carbon emissions also improve people's quality of life. For example, people who install loft and cavity wall insulation will find that it saves them money. Similarly, parents who link with others to share the burden of driving children to school will save time. More fundamentally, local food is more often fresher, and can be cheaper, than an imported alternative.

Here is a vision for a Low Carbon which reflects these things:

### ***Vision for the Low Carbon Dartmoor Strategy***

*Dartmoor in 2020 is a community of people enjoying a high quality of life for themselves, their families and communities, within a fair, resilient and local economy, based on food and farming.*

This vision is very ambitious, of course. It will not be achieved by a few projects led by a few agencies. It can be achieved by inspiring and helping many people, to set up and deliver their own projects and programmes. This strategy is designed to provide inspiration, and help.

The rest of this strategy is laid out in a way which will make this easier. The next chapter describes the overall Dartmoor One Planet Economy, and forms the heart of the whole strategy. It is followed by chapters on food, waste, transport, home

energy efficiency, business and renewables. Each of these has its own objective – when all of the objectives have been achieved, the vision will have been achieved.

The final chapter of this strategy draws all the objectives, and their activities, together. It shows how they can often be achieved best as part of one project. It also gives an idea of costs, of how they might be funded, and of when they can start and be completed.

The Strategy will be complemented by annual delivery plans. These will show which activities should be supported each year, and give the cost, funding sources, and timetable for delivering them.

### 3. Where is Dartmoor?

This is a Dartmoor Low Carbon Strategy – it is concerned with reducing carbon emissions on Dartmoor. For the purposes of this strategy, Dartmoor is defined as the area within the Dartmoor National Park.

Dartmoor does not exist in isolation, of course. It helps sustain, and is sustained by, its surrounding towns, and has been for centuries. The stannary towns of Tavistock, Ashburton and Plympton just outside the park boundary, are good examples of this. As all of those communities form part of the Dartmoor local economy, so it follows that carbon reduction on the moor (a product of social and economic activity) will depend on carbon reduction in the surrounding towns.<sup>6</sup> For this reason, many of the actions proposed in this strategy and its delivery plans will take place wholly or partly in the surrounding communities.

As well as Dartmoor's physical location, it is worthwhile considering the cultural concept of "Dartmoor". The word evokes different images in different people: of a place to explore, on foot or by bicycle; of a wilderness of tor and bog, wreathed in mist; of its ancient barrows and later mine-workings, with their history recorded in stories, verse and songs. All of these things evoke Dartmoor in a way which can draw people together, making it possible to feel part of a common Dartmoor community. It is as important to recognise this cultural essence of Dartmoor as its physical geography, if a One Planet Dartmoor economy is to be realised.

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<sup>6</sup> A fact recognised by the Dartmoor National Park Authority, which uses a "Dartmoor +" classification to include Ivybridge, Bovey Tracey, Chudleigh, Okehampton and Tavistock, see for example [www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/dartmoor\\_economy\\_\\_1994-2004.pdf](http://www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/dartmoor_economy__1994-2004.pdf)

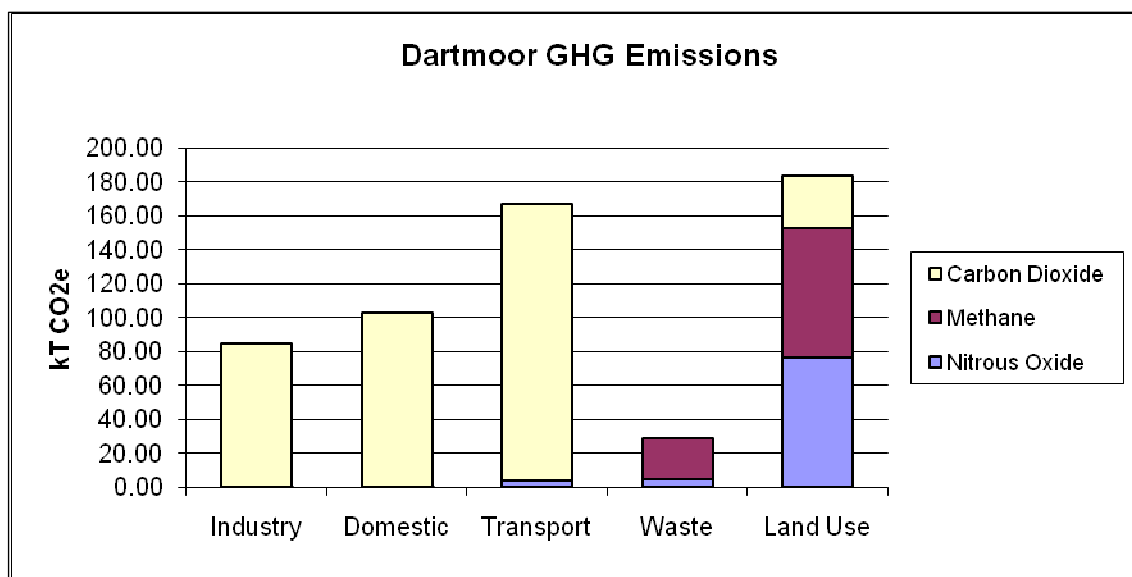
## 4. Measuring Dartmoor's Footprint

To measure this strategy's success in reducing carbon emissions and ecological footprint, baselines are needed. This section assesses the baselines for each, in turn.

### 4.1 Dartmoor's Carbon Footprint

Work completed for the English National parks Association<sup>7</sup> in 2010 concluded that the total emissions of the main kinds of greenhouse gas for that year was 566 kilotonnes. Footprinting Figure 1 shows the relative significance of different sectors.

**Footprinting Figure 1: Dartmoor Greenhouse Gas Emissions<sup>8</sup>**



The table shows that when all greenhouse gases are included, land use sector is the greatest emitter, though its carbon dioxide footprint is relatively small. On the other hand, the greatest carbon dioxide emissions come from transport.<sup>9</sup>

Researchers working on this report attempted to obtain a more detailed breakdown of industry and transport emissions, and cross-check the totals, by extrapolating the likely emissions from Dartmoor based on those of its nearest equivalent district. Footprinting Table 1 shows the districts by land area and population.

### Footprinting Table 1: District Council Area in Dartmoor National Park, by

<sup>7</sup> ENPAA (2010) Combined Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Nitrous Oxide Emissions - English NPs English National Parks Association

<sup>8</sup> ENPAA (2010) *above*

<sup>9</sup> There is a range of methodological issues which make any assessment of carbon dioxide or total greenhouse gas emissions very hard and the results must therefore carry a caveat that there is a considerable margin of error. One example of this is the figure for waste, which has almost no carbon emissions. In fact, waste can have considerable carbon dioxide emissions, if the carbon cost of manufacture is taken into account.

**Area and Population Density<sup>10</sup>**

Authority	Land area with DNP		Population Density
	sq km	% of DNP	p hectare
West Devon Borough	520	55	0.4
South Hams District	222	23	0.9
Teignbridge District	158	17	1.8
Mid Devon District	899	6	0.84
Dartmoor National Park	55	100	0.31

It is clear from the table that the district most similar to Dartmoor, by these measures, is West Devon. The researchers took the emissions figures for that district, reduced them to an average per hectare, and multiplied the result by the area of the national park, to give the approximation shown in Footprinting Table 2.

**Footprinting Figure 2: Estimated Carbon Emissions from Dartmoor National Park**

Source of emissions	Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>
Electricity use	97,666
Gas use	40,664
Other fuels (not transport)	37,976
Agriculture	26,523
Road Transport	145,680
<b>Total emissions</b>	<b>348,510</b>

Note: This data does not take account of sequestration or emissions from Land Use Change and Forestry

The table only includes carbon emissions, not those of other greenhouse gasses. If this is taken into account, then the two figures appear broadly compatible, though they do not corroborate each other. Total carbon based emissions in Footprinting Table 2 of 346kt, plus land based non-carbon dioxide emissions from Figure 1 of 153 Kt, equals 499kt. This is 67 Kt less than the ENPAA total of 566 Kt. This report will take the ENPAA total as correct.

**4.2 Dartmoor's Ecological Footprint**

It is difficult to measure the ecological footprint of its average Dartmoor resident. Fortunately, considerable work has been done to map the ecological footprint of the average resident in the South West. This is shown in the next table.

<sup>10</sup> Sources:

Land Area:

<http://www.westdevon.gov.uk/cat.asp?cat=933>

[http://www.southhams.gov.uk/index/council\\_index/ksps\\_council\\_vacancies/sp-council-app\\_guidance/sp-council-living\\_working.htm](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/index/council_index/ksps_council_vacancies/sp-council-app_guidance/sp-council-living_working.htm)

[http://ww2.teignbridge.gov.uk/lp/Interactive\\_Written\\_Statement\\_Adopted\\_Teignbridge\\_LP.htm](http://ww2.teignbridge.gov.uk/lp/Interactive_Written_Statement_Adopted_Teignbridge_LP.htm)

Population density:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/profiles/>

**Footprinting Table 3: The Ecological Footprint of South West Residents by Component, 2001<sup>11</sup>**

Component	Ecological footprint (gha)	% of total ecological footprint	Per person ecological footprint (gha)	UK per person ecological footprint (gha)
<b>Total ecological footprint</b>	<b>27,418,442</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5.56</b>	<b>5.45</b>
<i>of which...</i>				
Direct energy*	4,956,057	18%	1.00	0.92
Materials & waste	10,424,357	38%	2.11	2.09
Food	8,055,179	29%	1.63	1.55
Personal transport	2,638,717	10%	0.53	0.57
Water	47,800	<1%	0.01	<0.01
Built land	1,296,333	5%	0.26	0.32

\* Includes domestic and services energy.      Note: Totals may differ due to rounding.

While the figure of 5.56 gha per person for South West residents (at the top of column 4) may not be exactly that of the average Dartmoor resident, it does provide a starting point. It shows the great scale of reduction needed to reach the fair share of the world's resources represented by 1.9gha. It shows the relative importance of actions to reduce waste of materials, and of food, from an ecological point of view.

<sup>11</sup> N. Jenkin & Stentiford, C. (2005) Stepping Forward: A resource flow and ecological footprint analysis of the South West of England: Ecological Footprint Analysis and Sustainability Assessment Best Foot Forward Ltd p.11

## 5. Enabling a One Planet Economy for Dartmoor: People, businesses and communities working together

The vision for a One Planet Dartmoor laid out in Chapter 2 describes a future underpinned by an economy based on food and farming. It will reflect the sustainability principles of the One Planet model, and so be a One Planet Economy. A good deal of work has been done to work out what such an economy is, and what its underlying characteristics should be. This section looks briefly at that work, and suggests how it suits some current trends in community development, including the coalition government's Big Society initiative.

It concludes that the One Planet Economy approach provides a unifying framework within which the work in different sectors can fit. It proposes an objective, and some activities, which will draw that work together, and allow much of it to be delivered through a small number of projects.

### 5.1 The Nature of a One Planet Economy

A One Planet Economy is: "an economy that respects all environmental limits and is socially and financially sustainable, enabling people and nature to thrive."<sup>12</sup>

To achieve such an economy, research suggests we need to manage the present assets of the region and community in question, and its liabilities. We need to plan to take advantage of future opportunities, while preparing for future risks, both short and long term.<sup>13</sup> We also need to be responsible to suppliers, who include local farmers, for example, and to customers, who include everyone living on and around the moor.

Because a One Planet approach incorporates the principle of equity and justice, we also need to be fair to people who are comparatively disadvantaged, both in our own community, and outside.<sup>14</sup> While doing all of these things, we should remember, and publicise, that we are doing these things so that we can achieve social and economic well being, using our fair share of the planet's resources.

This seems, at first glance, to be an impossibly tall order. It will be difficult, but there are a number of approaches, and tools, which can help. One of these is the coalition government's "Big Society" initiative, and another is co-production. These are examined in the next two sections.

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<sup>12</sup> One Planet Economy Network (2009) *The New Industrial Evolution* p.4. at [www.oneplaneteconomynetwork.org/resources/OPEN\\_Introduction\\_2009.pdf](http://www.oneplaneteconomynetwork.org/resources/OPEN_Introduction_2009.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> Unlike the conventional plc business model in the UK, in which short-term shareholder value is by far the most important governor of company behaviour.

<sup>14</sup> For example, where food and other goods are sourced from developing countries, this should be from Fair Trade suppliers, so far as possible.

## 5.2 *The Big Society and the One Planet Economy*

The “Big Society” is being promoted by government, and will be a central part of its work to localise decision-making, pass delivery of services to the third sector, and encourage volunteering.<sup>15</sup>

One summary of the “Big Society, by nef,<sup>16</sup> says:

“It aims to put more power and responsibility into the hands of families, groups, networks, neighbourhoods and locally-based communities, and to generate more community organisers, neighbourhood groups, volunteers, mutuals, co-operatives, charities, social enterprises and small businesses: the idea is that all of these will take more action at a local level, with more freedom to do things the way they want.”<sup>17</sup>

This matches the One Planet Economy well. There was, at the time of writing, limited clarity about exactly how the government would achieve this, as well as considerable debate about how it could be achieved in a time of cuts to public services and the voluntary and community sector. It was clear, though, that the following would be involved:

1. A move to enabling, rather than providing.
2. Championing the role of volunteers.
3. Promoting local decision-making.
4. Promoting social enterprise, including cooperatives, and mutuals.
5. Financing local social enterprises through the Big Society Bank.<sup>18</sup>

As the content of the Big Society approach becomes clearer, its initiatives might be used to help deliver this strategy, if funding cuts do not undercut the charities and social enterprises which will be needed to deliver them.

## 5.3 *Co-production and the One Planet Economy*

A second trend is towards “co-production” (see boxed text). Co-production can

<sup>15</sup> Its detractors suggest that the Big Society is a way to help justify shrinking the public sector. They point out that: enabling means little if there is no money; most people do not have time to volunteer, or to take part in local decision-making (and that those who do tend to be middle-aged, middle-income and middle-class); local decision-making may be undemocratic and that social enterprises succeed where they are created by a set of people inspired to deliver a social objective, not when they are used as a way of externalising public services. Nevertheless, it is the discourse of present government, and can help create a One Planet future.

<sup>16</sup> Formerly known as the New Economics Foundation, an independent economic think-tank.  
[www.neweconomics.org](http://www.neweconomics.org)

<sup>17</sup> nef (2010) *Ten Big Questions about the Big Society* p.1  
[http://www.neweconomics.org/sites/neweconomics.org/files/Ten\\_Big\\_Questions\\_about\\_the\\_Big\\_Society.pdf](http://www.neweconomics.org/sites/neweconomics.org/files/Ten_Big_Questions_about_the_Big_Society.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> This will provide loan funds, with details not clear at time of writing, but expected to include capital of £60 million in 2011-12 and more thereafter. <http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/news/Article/1017009/Big-Society-Bank-will-start-60-100m-unclaimed-assets-say-government-advisers/>

strengthen local economies by:

- Recognising people as assets, because people themselves are the real wealth of society.
- Valuing work differently, to recognise as work everything that people do to raise families, look after people, maintain healthy communities, and deliver social justice and good governance.
- Promoting reciprocity, because giving and receiving builds trust between people, and fosters mutual respect.
- Building social networks, because people's physical and mental well-being depends on strong, enduring relationships.<sup>19</sup>

#### Co-production: "An Idea Whose Time Has Come"

"Co-production"<sup>20</sup> is a particular way of getting things done, where the people who are currently described as "providers" and "users" work together in an equal and reciprocal partnership, pooling different kinds of knowledge and skill. Co-production taps into an abundance of human resources and encourages people to join forces and make common cause. It builds local networks and strengthens the capacity of local groups. It draws upon the direct wisdom and experience that people have about what they need and what they can contribute, which helps to improve well-being and prevent needs arising in the first place.

By changing the way we think about and act upon "needs" and "services" this approach promises more resources, better outcomes and a diminishing volume of need. It is as relevant to third-sector bodies as to government institutions and public authorities.<sup>21</sup>

## 5.4 Tools to help create the One Planet Economy

There are many useful tools which can help create a One Planet Economy, but two are worth mentioning in particular. One is the range of legal structures available, and other is the internet.

### 1. Appropriate Legal Structures

The range of legal structures which can be used to promote the community action

<sup>19</sup> Boyle and Harris (2009) p.14 at <http://www.nesta.org.uk/library/documents/Co-production-report.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> Co-production was developed as a model of delivering public services by seeing professionals, users, families and neighbours as equals, working together. See the detailed report on co-production: D Boyle and M Harris (2009) *The Challenge of Co-production* (London: NESTA) at <http://www.nesta.org.uk/library/documents/Co-production-report.pdf> It is, however, an equally valid approach to apply to any community development activity.

<sup>21</sup> nef (2010) *ibid.* p.5

includes Companies limited by Guarantee, Community Interest Companies, and Industrial and Provident Societies.<sup>22</sup>

All have their place, the choice of legal structure depends on what a group wishes to achieve. Industrial and Provident Societies, for example, permit people to own “community shares” – shares in community owned businesses. They are a way of:

- Engaging people from local communities, who become members, as volunteers, customers, service users, experts, directors and investors
- Increasing the competitive advantage of social enterprises, though the customer loyalty they engender, and the low cost of capital, and
- Raising local investment for local enterprise.<sup>23</sup>

### Community Shares: Cooperation, participation and ownership of local social enterprises

“From Findhorn in the North of Scotland to Hastings on the south coast local people are voting with their wallets by buying shares in local community enterprises. Whether it is renewable energy, pubs, shops, football teams, rural optic fibre networks or cycle co-ops people are attracted by investment opportunities which provide a direct impact on the quality of their lives”.<sup>24</sup>

Community shares allow people to invest (sometimes as little as £20), in a community business. They are democratic, because everyone has one vote, no matter how large their shareholding. There has been a sharp rise in the number of such businesses in the last two years, because people have lost confidence in existing investments, such as banking, since the financial sector crash.

Community share businesses include pubs, football clubs, wind, hydro and solar PV businesses, land and food co-operatives and a cycle workshop.<sup>25</sup>

## 2. A web-based information, collaborative networking and finance mechanism.

Co-production requires information for all participants, and cooperation between producers, distributors and consumers. Community investment needs a way for people to invest as easily and cheaply as possible, and to participate in decision-making by the enterprise they co-own. Local economies benefit from ways to make money recirculate locally, rather than being exported. These things, and more, can be facilitated using the internet, and other communications technology.

<sup>22</sup> These are to be renamed “Co-operative & Community Benefit Societies” under the Co-operative & Community Benefit Societies and Credit Unions Act 2010, at a date to be announced.

<sup>23</sup> Jim Brown, Baker Brown Associates, presentation, Thornbury, 15 September 2010

<sup>24</sup> [www.communityshares.org.uk/news/government-backed-research-shows-strong-growth-community-shares](http://www.communityshares.org.uk/news/government-backed-research-shows-strong-growth-community-shares)

<sup>25</sup> [http://www.communityshares.org.uk/case\\_studies?page=7](http://www.communityshares.org.uk/case_studies?page=7)

Of course, internet-based systems exclude some people, usually those who are older, or poorer or both. It is important to develop alternatives which include them. This can be done by using existing, trusted networks, such as lunch clubs for older people, as ways of reaching and working with them.

## **5.5 Creating a One Planet Economy**

All of the above approaches and tools can facilitate a One Planet Dartmoor Economy, and so help to unify activities taken in different sectors. For these reasons, this chapter proposes the following objectives to underpin a One Planet Dartmoor economy:

### **One Planet Dartmoor Economy Objective**

*To create an enabling infrastructure which will help people, businesses and communities to work together to achieve its vision*

This will be delivered through the following actions:

#### **1. Community-led development**

Adopt a community development approach in all activities which recognises that successful programmes are those which are developed by the people they designed to assist. This means providing people with opportunities and resources to design actions which reflect their needs. It can be achieved by, for example, holding local public meetings which encourage people to become involved, and using the volunteering opportunities promoted by the government to design and deliver programmes.

Such community-led activity needs to be supported with advice and finance. Dartmoor Circle will help groups to access both.

#### **2. Work with partners**

Work with government and third sector enabling organisations, to identify and take advantage of opportunities arising from the Big Society, as well as the co-production approach, to underpin local community development and the local economy.

The following chapters look at different sectors, and describe the work that they propose, which will be enabled and made more efficient and effective through the actions described above.