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**Sent:** 18 November 2002 11:05  
**Attach:** [Updated Priorities Table.doc](#)

Please find attached the updated priorities table to accompany report 7A of the agenda for today's LSP meeting.

Many thanks

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# MENDIP STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

## BASELINE INFORMATION SUBGROUP - PRIORITIES FOR MENDIP

Priority	Brief description and any supporting data	Targets in current strategies or plans	Matching Quality of Life Indicator (Audit Commission)
<b>Economic</b>			
<b>Transport</b>	<p>Transport issues include modes of travel, traffic volumes, road safety and accessibility.</p> <p>Traffic volumes in Somerset are increasing by an average of 2.5% per year. (<i>W S Atkins data</i>)</p> <p>If current trends continue, deaths from Road Traffic Accidents are expected to reach 3000 in Somerset by 2004 (1% of total deaths).</p> <p>10% of RTA deaths are children. (<i>W S Atkins data</i>).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local Transport Plan for Somerset</b> Travel plans must be developed as a conciliation for planning consent.</li> <li>• 150km of cycle routes in Somerset towns, from existing level of 50km.</li> <li>• 100km of 'Quiet Roads' for cycling and walking to be identified and designated.</li> <li>• To achieve the 1981 levels of walking and cycling to work (combined) in Somerset towns by 2011 – and to be halfway to achieving this target by 2006.</li> <li>• 50% increase in bicycles parked in main urban areas.</li> <li>• 25% increase in bicycles parked in market towns.</li> <li>• 25 environmental traffic calming schemes implemented.</li> <li>• 21 secondary schools, 6 middle schools, 90 primary schools, and 6 further education colleges to have completed the Safe Routes to school process (i.e. 70%, 70%, 40% and 100% of the county's schools/colleges respectively).</li> <li>• Reduce proportion of secondary school children travelling to school by car from 36%</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL34:</b> Percentage of highways that are either of a 'high' or 'acceptable' standard of cleanliness.</p> <p><b>QoL35:</b> Annual traffic flow per 1000 km of principal roads.</p> <p><b>QoL36:</b> Percentage of residents surveyed who used different modes of transport, their reasons for, and distance of travel.</p> <p><b>QoL37:</b> Percentage of children travelling to (a) primary school, and (b) secondary school by different modes.</p>

		<p>to 25%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce proportion of primary school travelling to school by car from 48% to 38%.</li> <li>• Percentage of users satisfied with local provision of public transport information (Best Value P1103) to increase to 45% by 2004/05.</li> <li>• 35% increase in passenger journeys on voluntary/ community transport by 2006 (from 205,000 in 99/00).</li> </ul> <p><b>Mendip District Local Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development will only be permitted if it does not cause traffic or environmental problems over the wider transport network</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Pockets of economic deprivation</b></p>	<p>The unemployment rate for Mendip currently stands at 1.9%, higher than the County rate of 1.6%. While Mendip compares favourably with the national figure of 3.1%, there are areas of the district with higher rates, which are often hidden when looking at a district-wide picture. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glastonbury has an unemployment rate of 5%.</li> <li>• Mendip has the highest long-term unemployment rate (1+ years) in the County of 15%, just 1 percentage point below the national average.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mendip District Council's Area Development Service Plan objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To devise and implement area regeneration programmes in Frome, Shepton Mallet and Glastonbury.</li> <li>• In conjunction with the South West Regional Development Agency, devise and implement a programme of activity to progress the regeneration of the Saxonvale/ Garsdale are of Frome.</li> <li>• Within the framework agreed by the South West regional Development Agency, to coordinate the overall participation of the Council in the regeneration of the Morland site in Glastonbury to create a sustainable mixed use development</li> <li>• Subject to successful bid outcome, to coordinate, manage and implement a wide ranging programme of community action and engagement under the market and Coastal Towns Initiative to assist with the regeneration of Shepton Mallet and its rural</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL1:</b> Proportion of people of working age in employment.</p> <p><b>QoL2:</b> Proportion of people claiming unemployment benefit who have been out of work for more than a year.</p>

		<p>hinterland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the effective implementation of the Glastonbury SRB Programme</li> <li>Implement an integrated programme of rural development activities</li> </ul>	
<b>Economic Regeneration</b>	<p>Over ½ the population in Mendip is employed in non-manual jobs, despite manufacturing accounting for almost 1/5 of the Districts employment. Employment in the tourism sector is slightly higher than the Somerset average and Mendip has the second highest proportion of employment in the primary industries (agriculture, water and minerals).</p> <p>Mendip has only four major employers (employing over 500 people), these are: C &amp; J Clark, The Furniture Factory Ltd, Millfield and Racal-Thorn Systems Ltd. However, Somerset has higher proportion of people employed in small business (employing under 10 people), than the regional and national average. (<i>Somerset County Council data</i>)</p>	<p><b>Mendip District Council's Area Development Service Plan objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver a focused business support service to local and incoming businesses to include: enquiry handling, selective grants support, site promotion and development and 'green' business initiatives.</li> <li>Provide partnership funding to secure specialist services for Mendip businesses, including monthly business start up advice in each of the Mendip Towns</li> <li>Provide shopping guide and update town promotion via the Mendip Council website.</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL5:</b> Percentage increase or decrease in the total number of local jobs.  <b>QoL4:</b> Percentage increase or decrease in the total number of VAT registered businesses in the area.</p>
<b>Education and skills levels</b>	<p>There are particular skill shortages in the Somerset economy, especially in engineering, printing &amp; packaging and food &amp; drink/food technology.</p> <p>There are also concerns about the lack of generic skills, such as communication, problem solving</p>	<p><b>A cleaner healthier better Somerset:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of students attaining 5 or more GCSE's in 2010 to be 65%.</li> </ul> <p><b>Learning and skills Council, Local Strategic Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80% of 16-18 year olds in structured learning.</li> <li>60.3 % of 19 year olds to NVQ level 3 by</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL3:</b> Proportion of young people (18-24 year olds) in full-time education or employment.  <b>QoL9 BVPI:</b> (a) Proportion of 19 year olds with Level 2 qualifications (that is 5 GCSE's A*-C or</p>

	<p>and organisation.</p> <p>Attainment at age 16 is higher in Somerset than the regional or national average. The number of Somerset pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grade A*-C was 54.6% on 2001, (compared to 52.2% in the South West).</p> <p>Rates of achievement of NVQs level 1,2 and 3 are higher than the regional average, but achievement of NVQ level 4 is lower at 25.8% compared to 28 for the South West.</p> <p>University admissions of Mendip residents went down by 7% between 1997 and 1998. There are practical and social barriers to engaging people in education and training after the age of 16, especially for those with low literacy or numeracy. <i>(Learning and skills Council, Local Strategic Plan.)</i></p>	<p>2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 51% of economically active adults to NVQ level 3 by 2004</li> </ul>	<p>NVQ equivalent). (b) Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local authority achieving 5 or more GCSE's at grades A*-C or equivalent.</p>
<p><b>Literacy/ Numeracy levels</b></p>	<p>1 in 4 Somerset adults have literacy problems. And a similar number have problems with numeracy. This is similar to the national figures.</p>	<p><b>Learning and skills Council, Local Strategic Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To raise the literacy and numeracy levels of 750,000 adults nationally.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Decline in farming</b></p>	<p>The decline in farming has highlight 3 main issues: mental health, skills and training (diversification or re-learning traditional/organic skills) and changes in land use.</p> <p>Mendip has seen a reduction in agricultural employment of 18% between 1981 and 1991 Census. In 1992, 51% of farm holdings in Mendip were so small they would realistically only be suitable for part time farming. <i>(MAFF Agricultural Census, 1992, quoted in District Local Plan)</i></p>	<p><b>A cleaner better, healthier Somerset:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To get 10% of Somerset’s agricultural land farmed organically by 2010.</li> <li><b>Mendip District Local Plan Policies:</b> Development to allow for the diversification of employment or income generating activity on a farm will be permitted where an existing building or buildings are re-used or adapted where available, and were the proposal is complementary to the agricultural operation on the farm and is operated as part of a farm holding.</li> </ul>	
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**Social**

<p><b>Youth provision</b></p>	<p>The Mendip population has a younger age profile than other districts in Somerset, especially in the under 20s age group.</p> <p>However this is within the context of a higher than average rate of aging in the District, so the difference in the age profile between Mendip and the County as a whole is expected to even out over the next decade. <i>(Population Estimates, Somerset County Council)</i></p>	<p>No targets yet identified by the subgroup</p> <p>Somerset County Youth Service is developing Youth Service Plan for Mendip. A draft should be available in November.</p>	<p><b>QoL21:</b> Facilities for young people. Indicator(s) – under development, will be added in the future.</p>
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<p><b>Teenage pregnancy</b></p>	<p>It is recognised that teenage mothers are more likely to experience poor health and reduced educational, social and economic opportunities. However, it is a mute point that pregnancy in older teens is necessarily</p>	<p><b>A cleaner, healthier, better Somerset:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The national target is to halve the rate of teenage pregnancies from women aged 15-17, to 17 per 1000 women by 2010.</li> </ul> <p><b>Somerset Teenage Pregnancy Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the rate of pregnancies among</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL12:</b> Rate of conceptions among girls’ aged less than 18 years.</p>
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	<p>unwanted or undesirable.</p> <p>Definitions of teenage pregnancy vary. It is generally acceptable to talk of teenage pregnancy in terms of 'under age conception' (ie under 16), however Somerset targets relate to under 18s conception rates.</p>	<p>under 18s by 50% by 2010 (ie from 38.7 per 1000 to 19.4 per 1000).</p>	
<b>Accidents</b>	<p>Deaths of young men as a result of accidents are higher in Mendip than the national average. (<i>HIMP</i>)</p> <p>Accidents in farming and domestic accidents among children are also highlighted as areas of concern.</p>	<p><b>Local Transport Plan for Somerset:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BV99</b> To reduce the number of road accident casualties per 100,000 population, from 545 in 98/99 to 255 in 2004/5.</li> <li>• Reduce number of people killed or seriously injured in RTAs from 376 (1994-98 average) to 286 by 2006, and to 226 by 2010.</li> <li>• Reduce number of children killed or seriously injured in RTAs from 34 (94-98 average) to 23 by 2006, and to 17 by 2010.</li> <li>• Reduce number of 16-24 year olds killed or seriously injured in RTAs from 98 (94-98 average) to 70 by 2006, and to 49 by 2010.</li> <li>• Reduce rate of slight injuries from RTAs to 16-24 year olds from 28 per 100 million vehicle-kms (94-98 average) to 24 by 2006, and to 21 by 2010.</li> <li>• 250 road safety schemes implemented from 2001-2006.</li> <li>• 15% reduction in speed at sites.</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL10:</b> Death rate by cause (standardised mortality rate per 100,000 population in the following categories):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer in under 75s</li> <li>• Circulatory diseases in under 75s</li> <li>• Suicide and</li> <li>• determined injury – all ages</li> <li>• All accidents – all ages</li> </ul>
<b>Suicide</b>	<p>33.5% of adults in Somerset suffer some kind of stress-related illness, more than twice the national average of 15.5% However, only one in five of those suffering mental distress actually seek help from their GP.</p>	<p><b>Mendip Health Improvement and Modernisation Plan 2002/5 selected targets:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Mental Health care link workers in all practices in Mendip</li> <li>• Work with schools mental health worker around deliberate self harm</li> <li>• Pilot an anxiety management programme</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL10:</b> Death rate by cause (standardised mortality rate per 100,000 population in the following categories):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer in under 75s</li> <li>• Circulatory diseases</li> </ul>

	<p>Suicide rates and deliberate self-harm are significantly higher than average in rural and coastal areas of the county. However, the local suicide rate fell gradually over the five years between 1995 and 1999.</p> <p>Suicide among farmers and young males is of particular concern. <i>(Somerset Health Authority data)</i></p>	<p>with the Somerset Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish the provision of 24 hour access to mental health services for people with severe mental health difficulties</li> </ul>	<p>in under 75s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suicide and determined injury – all ages</li> <li>All accidents – all ages</li> </ul>
<b>Relative poverty and debt</b>	<p>There are several indicators of relative poverty and debt, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Glastonbury St Benedict's ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the County in terms of the 2000 Index of Multiple Deprivation.</li> <li>All settlements in Mendip have clusters of households with incomes of less than £10,000 per annum. However, Frome Keyford and certain wards in Glastonbury rank in the highest category (34-44%) for low income households.</li> <li>Beckington and Rode ranks in the top 5 for deprivation in the Somerset Health and Social Needs Analysis</li> <li>25% of clients of Mid Somerset Citizens' Advice Bureau present with debt problems (2000/01 figures).</li> </ul>	No targets yet identified by Subgroup	<p><b>QoL6:</b> Proportion of the population who lives in wards that rank within the most deprived 10% and/or 25% of wards in the country.</p> <p><b>QoL7:</b> Percentage of population of working age who are claiming key benefits.</p> <p><b>QoL8:</b> Proportion of children under 16 who live in low-income households.</p>
<b>Affordable housing</b>	The number of households in Mendip is growing, and is expected to increase by 23.2% over the next	<p><b>Better Homes Better lives. Housing Strategy 2002-2005/6:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop at least 100 affordable homes per</li> </ul>	<b>QoL13:</b> Affordable housing (house price/earnings)

	<p>decade. Mendip has the second highest rate of household growth in Somerset (Taunton Deane is higher). This is due partly to an increasing population, and partly due to smaller household sizes.</p> <p>Affordable housing should make up 40% of the total housing stock; however, there is an estimated shortfall of affordable housing in the district 345 units. <i>(Better Homes, Better lives, Mendip's Housing Strategy 2002-05/6)</i></p>	<p>year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop 2 rural affordable housing schemes per year</li> <li>• Bring back into use at least 25 empty properties each year</li> <li>• Develop and implement 'model' section 106 agreement affordable housing</li> <li>• Develop and implement Supplementary planning guidance on low-cost home ownership.</li> </ul>	<p>affordability ratio).</p>
<p><b>Access to health services/ information</b></p>	<p>Improved access to health services, both mental and physical is a priority area for action in Mendip. In particular, NHS waiting times and access to services commissioned by Mendip PCT.</p>	<p><b>Mendip Health Improvement and Modernisation Plan selected targets:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 90% of patients to have access to a health care professional in 245 hours and to see a GP within 48 hours by April 2003 (currently at 75%)</li> <li>• To reduce the maximum waiting time for 1<sup>st</sup> outpatient appointment to 5 months by 2003, to 4 months by 2004 and to 3 months by 2005</li> <li>• To reduce the maximum waiting time for elective surgery to 12 months by 2003 and to 5 months by 2006</li> <li>• All suspected cancer cases to be referred to district hospitals within 24 hours</li> <li>• 100% single telephone call access through NHS direct by March 2004.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Coronary heart disease</b></p>	<p>Death rates from Coronary Heart Disease in Mendip are above the national average. <i>(HIMP)</i></p> <p>One quarter of all Somerset deaths are highly preventable through</p>	<p><b>20 indicators of sustainability in Somerset:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce the death rate from heart disease and stroke by a third from the 1996 figures by 2010.</li> </ul> <p><b>Health Improvement and Modernisation Plan</b></p>	<p><b>QoL10:</b> Death rate by cause (standardised mortality rate per 100,000 population in the following categories):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer in under 75s</li> </ul>

	<p>better diet, improved fitness stress reduction and quitting smoking.</p>	<p><b>for Mendip 2002/5: selected targets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Response target of 75% of Category A calls responded to within 8 minutes</li> <li>• Reduce waiting time for coronary revascularization (CAGB/angioplasty) to 6 months by 2005</li> <li>• Provide automated defibrillators in public places</li> <li>• Develop community echocardiogram service using portable equipment in Wells and Frome</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circulatory diseases in under 75s</li> <li>• Suicide and determined injury – all ages</li> <li>• All accidents – all ages</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social exclusion</b></p>	<p>Access to local services is a key factor in social inclusion. If services are not available locally, then good transport links are essential. Some examples of the key issues for social inclusion in the district are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been a decline in village shops in Somerset since 1983 (<i>Community Council for Somerset data</i>).</li> <li>• Supported housing for special needs groups promotes independence and social inclusion. There is a shortage of supported housing, particularly in Glastonbury and Street</li> <li>• Wells has the highest number of pensioners living alone in Somerset</li> </ul>	<p><b>Local Transport Plan for Somerset 2001-2006.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BV98</b> The percent of pedestrian crossings with facilities for disabled people. From 70% now to 82% by 2004/5</li> <li>• To increase percentage of pedestrian crossings with facilities for disabled people from 70% to 82%.</li> <li>• Proportion of households in rural areas living within about 10 minutes walk of an hourly bus service to increase by one-third by 2010 over 2000 levels (baseline data for Somerset to be established).</li> <li>• 100% of rural settlements and parishes to have access to voluntary and community transport schemes for people whose transport needs are not met by conventional transport by 2006.</li> <li>• 100% of taxis to be wheelchair-accessible.</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL18:</b> Percentage of residents surveyed who are satisfied with their local area as a place to live.</p> <p><b>QoL19:</b> Percentage of residents who consider that their local area is getting worse.</p> <p><b>QoL22:</b> (a) Percentage of residents surveyed finding it easy to access key local services. (b) Actual distance to key local services.</p> <p><b>QoL23:</b> Percentage of adults surveyed who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area.</p> <p><b>QoL24:</b> Percentage of voluntary/ community organisations functioning in a specified locality per 1000 residents that</p>

			<p>performed well in the past year.</p> <p><b>QoL25:</b> Percentage of people surveyed who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously.</p> <p><b>QoL26:</b> (a) Percentage of people surveyed who have carried out any of a list of actions, unpaid, for someone who is not a relative in the past 12 months.</p> <p>(b) Percentage of people surveyed who have received any of a list of actions, unpaid, by someone who is not a relative in the past 12 months.</p>
<p><b>Crime prevention/reduction</b></p>	<p>Crime levels in Mendip, compared to national figures are generally low. Within this context there are issues around burglaries and distraction burglaries, vehicle crime and substance misuse, as well as under reporting of all crime, and attempted crime.</p> <p>Mendip has a Crime Reduction Unit, which operates in a close relationship with the Community Safety Partnership.</p>	<p><b>Mendip Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2002-05:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce dwelling burglary per 1,000 households in Mendip by 17% by 2002-03.</li> <li>• To reduce vehicle crime per 1,000 population in Mendip by 5% by 2002-03.</li> <li>• To reduce levels of repeat offending amongst drug misusing offenders by 25% by 2005 and 50% by 2008</li> <li>• To increase the participation of problem drug misusers in drug treatment programmes to 100% by 2008</li> <li>• To reduce vehicle crime by 30% by 2004</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL16:</b> Crimes committed: Domestic burglaries (per 1,000 households) violent offences and vehicle crimes (per 1,000 population).</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce domestic burglary by 25% by 2005</li> <li>Reduce the rate of offending of 'Looked After' Children to 5%</li> </ul>	
<b>Fear of crime</b>	<p>The fear of crime in Mendip is highly disproportionate to the reality of crime. This greater fear of crime is often the result of a lack of awareness-raising of low crime rates and good practice in crime prevention.</p> <p>Community based initiatives delivered through Crime Prevention Officers support victims of crime, as well as community groups. They give advice about home security, talks in schools about, bullying, mobile phone and personal security.</p>	<p><b>Mendip Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wherever possible, Mendip Housing will seek to obtain "Secured by Design" Certification for new development or major refurbishments</li> <li>Ensure that 70% of victims by 2004 who have been consulted or participated in the restorative process are satisfied or very satisfied or very satisfied with the outcome</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL15 BVPI:</b> (a) Percentage of residents surveyed who 'fairly safe' or 'very safe' after dark whilst outside in the local authority area. (b) Percentage of residents surveyed who feel 'fairly safe' or 'very safe' during the day whilst outside in the local authority area.</p>

## Environmental

<b>Waste management</b>	<p>The volume of household waste going to landfill in Somerset has increased over the last decade.</p> <p>The proportion of household waste recycled is increasing each year, but is affected by changing markets for recyclable, as well as access to facilities/services. (<i>Somerset County Council data.</i>)</p>	<p><b>A cleaner, healthier better Somerset:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the amount of household waste sent for disposal at landfill by 1% per year.</li> <li>To achieve household waste recycling rates of 36% by volume [including composting element] by 2005.</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL32 BVPI:</b> Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste that has been: Recycled, Composted, Used to recover heat, power and other energy sources or Landfilled.</p>
<b>Climate</b>	Climate change can lead to	National/Government target is to reduce carbon	

<p><b>change</b></p>	<p>increased incidents of flooding and summer water shortages.</p>	<p>dioxide emissions to 20% below 1990 levels by 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Environment Agency Draft Corporate Strategy 2003 – 227.</b> Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Agency regulated processes (proportionate to the progress needed to achieve the Governments target of reducing emissions greenhouse gases by 12.5% below 1990 levels between 2008 &amp; 2012.)</li> <li>• Promote the Government’s efficiency programme (e.g. through planning process &amp; exemplar projects such as Morlands re-development.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Biodiversity</b></p>	<p>The national Biodiversity Action Plan identifies several species for action, a proportion of which occurs in Mendip. In addition, issues specific to Mendip have been identified as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farming and biodiversity</li> <li>• Education/awareness raising and community involvement</li> </ul>	<p><b>The Mendip Biodiversity Action Plan</b> is currently under review, and actions are being implemented or planned for the following species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-eared owl</li> <li>• White-clawed crayfish</li> <li>• Barn owl</li> <li>• Bats (esp. lesser horse-shoe)</li> <li>• Cowslip</li> <li>• Water vole</li> <li>• Marsh Fritillary butterfly</li> </ul> <p>Actions are also being developed in a ‘Farming and Biodiversity Action Plan’, and a ‘Long-eared owl action plan’</p> <p><b>Mendip District Local Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development will only be permitted where provision is made for landscaping of the scheme... (to include)... respect for local</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL38:</b> The area of land designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and that is in ‘favourable condition’. The number and hectares of land designated as a SSSI in a local authority area. Percentage of assessed area in favourable and unfavourable recovering condition, within SSSIs. Area of Local Nature Reserve per 1000 population (ha). Local species count, for example wild birds, amphibians, water voles and so on.</p>

		ecology	
<b>Flooding</b>	<p>The frequency of flood events is increasing, mainly due to climate change.</p>	<p><b>Environment Agency's 5 year Plan (Local Contribution)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that 75% of residents in flood areas will take effective action</li> <li>• Improve the coverage of flood warning services to 77.5% of properties in flood risk areas</li> <li>• Prevent 100% of inappropriate development inside floodplain</li> </ul> <p>More specific actions relating to the above are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of local communities with active flood warning schemes.</li> <li>• Encourage community groups to develop local community flood action plans.</li> </ul>	
<b>Mineral extraction</b>	<p>The Carboniferous Limestone of the Mendip Hills is of national significance as a strategic resource of hard rock aggregates, essential to the construction industry in the south of England.</p> <p>In 1996, the total output of aggregate materials from the Somerset aggregate quarries, which are almost exclusively located in the Mendip Hills, was 10.8M tonnes; a fall in output of 46% against the 1989 peak of 20M tonnes.</p> <p>2,580 jobs in 1995 were directly and indirectly dependent on the quarrying industry in the Mendip Hills. Within the total figure, 1,846 (6%) were directly employed in the</p>	<p><b>A cleaner, better, healthier Somerset:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15% of energy used in Somerset should come from renewable sources by 2015.</li> </ul>	

	<p>quarrying industry, whilst 734 jobs were created indirectly.</p> <p>This must be balanced against the environmental conservation element of sustainable development, with the inherent conflict of extracting a non-renewable resource and the impact mineral extraction can have on interests of acknowledged importance. <i>(Extracts from Somerset Minerals Local Plan 1997 – 2011)</i></p>		
<p><b>Pollution</b></p>	<p>River quality in Mendip is generally high. However, there are threats to that quality, mainly from diffuse pollution.</p> <p>Air quality can be affected by developments, thorough industrial processes, domestic heating systems or through vehicle emissions. There tends to be a cumulative impact, and can create ‘pockets’ of poor air quality.</p> <p>Noise is a factor that can affect people’s quality of life, and is considered a ‘pollutant’.</p> <p>There is also growing concern about the issue of light pollution, from outdoor lighting, particularly in AONBs. Light pollution can cause the loss of dark night skies, and can disrupt the sleeping and feeding patterns of wildlife.</p>	<p><b>A cleaner, better, healthier Somerset:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce to less than 5% of days annually registered as poor air quality.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Transport Plan for Somerset: Outcome Target 6:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet National Air Quality Strategy objectives.</li> <li>12% reduction in CO2 emissions on 1990 levels by 2011.</li> </ul> <p><b>Environment Agency Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maintain 92% compliance with River Quality Objectives</li> <li>Reduce diffuse pollution &amp; the impact of eutrophication</li> <li>200 farms will have nutrient management plans</li> <li>Promote sustainable Urban Development Schemes, especially in urban areas and for roads</li> <li>Work with agriculture by continuing to support &amp; develop partnership projects with</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL17:</b> Percentage of residents surveyed who are concerned about different types of noise in their area.</p> <p><b>QoL27:</b> air pollution. (a) Number of days per year when air pollution is ‘moderate’ or ‘higher’ for PM10. (b) Annual average nitrogen dioxide concentration. (c) For rural sites, number of days per year when air pollution is ‘moderate’ or ‘higher’ for ozone.</p> <p><b>QoL28:</b> Carbon dioxide emissions by sector (tonnes per year) and per capita emissions (tonnes).</p> <p><b>QoL29:</b> Percentage of main rivers and canals rated as ‘good’ or ‘fair’</p>

		<p>the Farming &amp; Wildlife Advisory Group</p> <p><b>Mendip District Local Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development will not be permitted where it would create or contribute to local air pollution at the statutory level which would warrant the designation of an Air Quality Management Area</li> <li>• Noise generating development will not be permitted if it would be liable to significantly increase the level or disruptive character of noise experienced in any area to the detriment of its character, or be liable to increase the noise experienced by the users of existing or proposed noise-sensitive development to the detriment of those users.</li> <li>• Noise sensitive development will not be permitted if its users would be adversely affected by noise from existing or proposed noise-generating uses.</li> <li>• Development which will include the provision of outdoor lighting or floodlighting will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that the lighting has been designed to minimise the escape of light upwards and into areas where it is not required and that the visual amenity of the area will not be adversely affected.</li> <li>• Floodlighting of buildings, other than buildings of public interest, outside development limits and in villages will not be permitted.</li> </ul>	<p>quality.</p>
<p><b>Contaminated land and land use</b></p>	<p>Brownfield sites are preferred for development. However, because it is land that has previously been used, it may be contaminated, and</p>	<p><b>Mendip District Local Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where development is proposed on or near a site where there is known to be, or there is reason to believe there may be,</li> </ul>	<p><b>QoL33:</b> (a) Proportion of land stock that is derelict. (b) Percentage of new housing development on</p>

	<p>so will need to be made safe in order to make it suitable for further use. Contaminants can be a health risk to people working or living on the site, as well as potentially pollutants to local water courses, land, buildings or the air.</p> <p>There are two significant sites in Mendip that present a contaminated land issue, namely the Morlands site in Glastonbury and the old Cuprinol site in Frome</p>	<p>contamination, a site assessment will be required prior to the grant of planning permission in order to establish the nature and extent of the contamination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development will not be permitted unless sufficient information is provided and practicable and effective measures are taken to treat, contain or control and contamination</li> </ul>	<p>previously developed land.</p>
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**Other Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators (not included in above table)**

**QoL11:** Infant mortality (number of deaths of infants under a year old and number of stillbirths – per 1,000 live births)

**QoL14:** Number of unfit homes per 1,000 dwellings.

**QoL20:** Number of childcare places per 1,000 population aged 0-5 not in early education.

**QoL30:** Household energy use (gas and electricity) per household.

**QoL31:** Water leakage rate from main and customer pipes.

**Contact Details**

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