

Statements of Environmental Opportunity

- **SEO 1:** Protect and manage the coastal and estuarine landscape with its diversity of cliffs, geology, geomorphology, historic features, habitats and associated wildlife, contributing to the livelihoods, enjoyment and education of people.
- **SEO 2:** Protect and extend the mosaic of semi-natural habitats within a mixed-farm, productive and versatile landscape of high scenic quality, rich in biodiversity. Increase the connectivity of habitats by expanding and enhancing the network of traditional, floristically diverse hedgebanks and river valley woodlands.
- **SEO 3:** Protect and manage the nationally recognised and distinctive character of the landscape, the natural beauty, scenic quality, archaeological resources and historic features, such as maritime military sites, geological features and mining heritage. Enhance recreational resources, access to nature and heritage assets, particularly along the coast, to ensure public benefit and enjoyment.

Additional opportunities

1: Use and enhance the existing strong landscape framework that forms the context to the major settlements of Plymouth, Torbay and Newton Abbot in planning high quality growth within a green infrastructure network delivering multiple benefits.

For example, by:

- Creating new accessible, natural greenspace and links to help integrate new areas of development around Torbay, Plymouth and Newton Abbot, providing a range of natural and cultural benefits through the implementation of the Plymouth area, and Torbay Green Infrastructure Delivery Plans.
- Significantly extending woodland north of Plymouth and replanting areas affected by phytophthora, helping to contain and integrate built development in close proximity to Dartmoor National Park.
- Using the traditional character of the nationally recognised natural beauty of the South Devon AONB and Tamar Valley AONB as a foundation for new development.
- Promoting the use of sustainable and locally sourced materials and the integration of renewable energy technologies as part of new low-carbon developments.
- Ensuring contact and access to nature and open spaces providing local opportunities for education, play, exercise and quiet enjoyment.
- Supporting sustainable transport connections to major existing visitor attractions, notably around Torbay (the 'English Riviera') and Plymouth (Saltram House) as well as along the distinctive rias and salmon and trout fishing rivers.
- Developing and improving the network of public rights of way and promoting open access land that provides more opportunities for informal recreation, access to nature and public enjoyment.