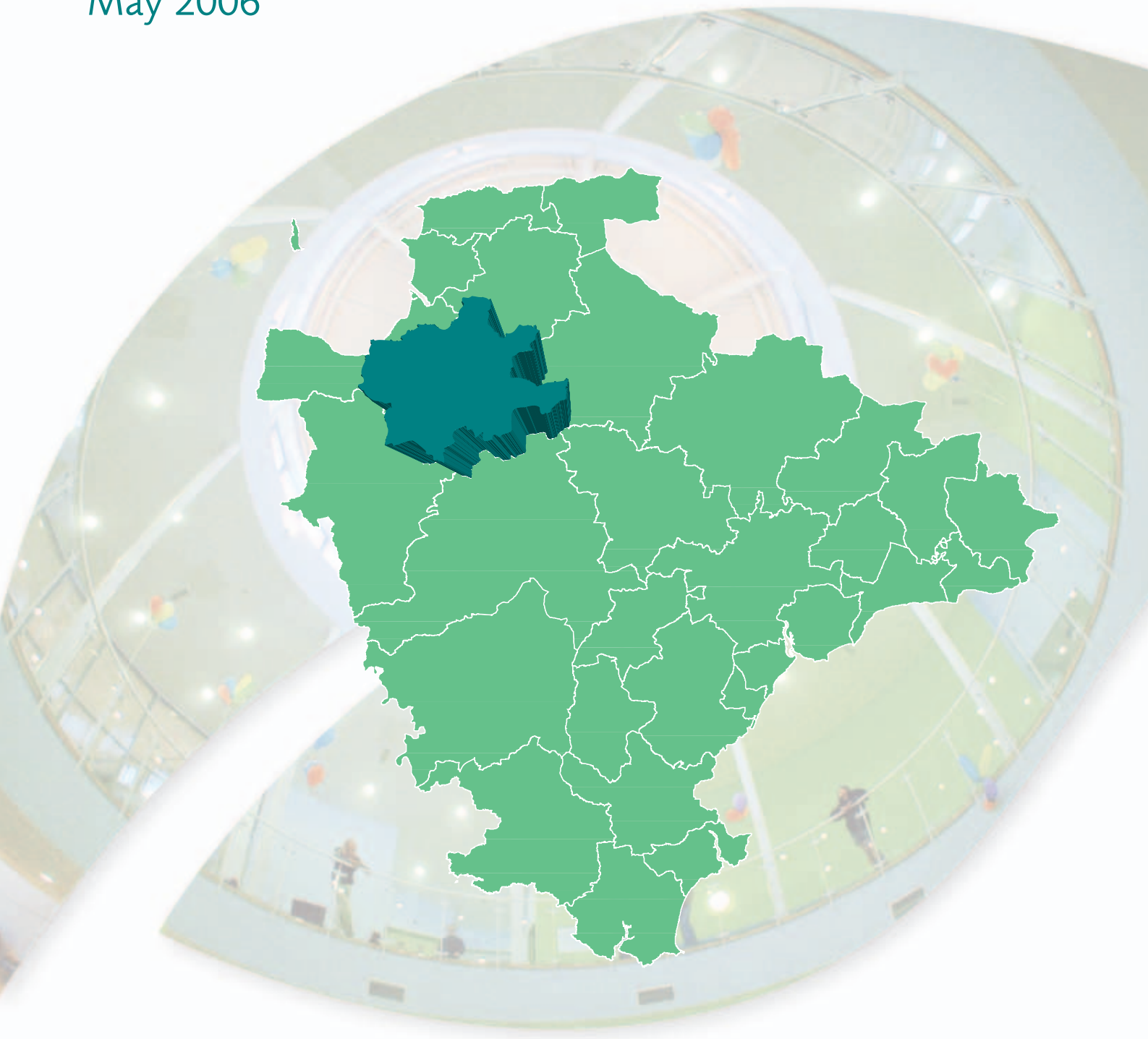


Great Torrington

Devon Town Baseline Profile

May 2006

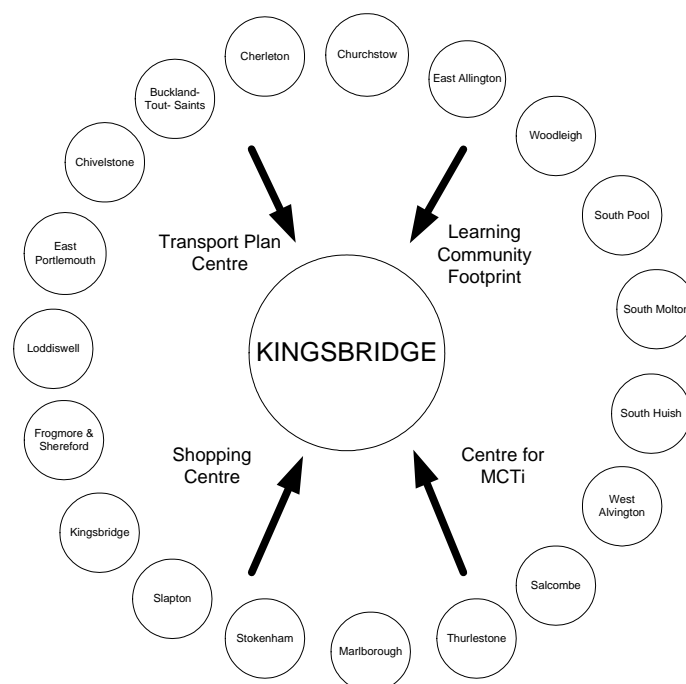


Identifying Devon Towns

The main factor that decides a town's hinterland is provision of services; the place that the hinterland looks to in order to provide the things it needs to survive. In order to identify the 28 Devon Towns, analysis of the following services and other relevant factors have been taken into account:

- Local Travel Plans – which are based on public consultation and map local travel patterns, the majority of which are short ones in and around local communities as part of people's daily lives.
- Shopping catchment areas – which are the service most frequently accessed by people.
- Learning Community catchment areas – which have a major influence on where people look to for services. Learning Community catchments do not always follow district or even county boundaries, but are based on a collection of feeder primary schools.
- Market and Coastal Towns Initiative areas - The Market and Coastal Towns Initiative was started after recognition that the health of a market town is vital to the well being of its hinterland, and that many of Devon's market towns were in need of regeneration. It is a Central Government initiative, administered by the RDAs. Over half of Devon is included in the Market and Coastal Towns Initiative.
- Parishes - The boundary definitions are shown in terms of parishes, as they are traditionally the smallest area used for 'clustering'.

The diagram below is an illustration of how this works for one Devon Town: Kingsbridge.



Exeter also provides a similar or related "market town" function as well as being a sub regional centre with a larger sphere of influence.

Foreword

In Devon, we want a county for everyone.

We want all to share in our economic prosperity, to have access to the best possible public services and to enjoy a good quality of life.

Our county is made up of many small and scattered communities built around larger market and coastal towns and the vibrant city of Exeter.

To make sure that the County Council and other agencies provide a good service to all these diverse communities and can meet their future needs, we need to fully understand and take into account the local situation and any local issues.

We call this initiative “Connecting with Communities” and it is a key part of our Strategic Plan for the future of Devon.

To help, we have produced a local profile of each of the key market and coastal towns in Devon and their surrounding area.

Based on key facts and figures, these profiles are just a starting point for local discussion about the real needs and priorities of each of our communities.

I hope you find this information useful and that it proves an invaluable resource in all future local planning.

Councillor Des Hannon
Executive Support Member for Improvement and Customer Service
Devon County Council



Introduction

This profile, one of 29 covering the area of Devon County Council, has been generated by the County Council's Corporate Information Service and is an important resource contribution to local community planning work.

Each profile provides a statistical overview, based on a series of facts and figures, of what life is like in each "Devon town" area. The profile contains a baseline of information and is intended to provide the basis for further discussion and development within the County Council and with partners.

In light of these discussions the profile can grow into a more rounded picture describing "how things are" for each area, as well as to set out the likely future actions that will be needed to redress any gaps in service or unmet needs.

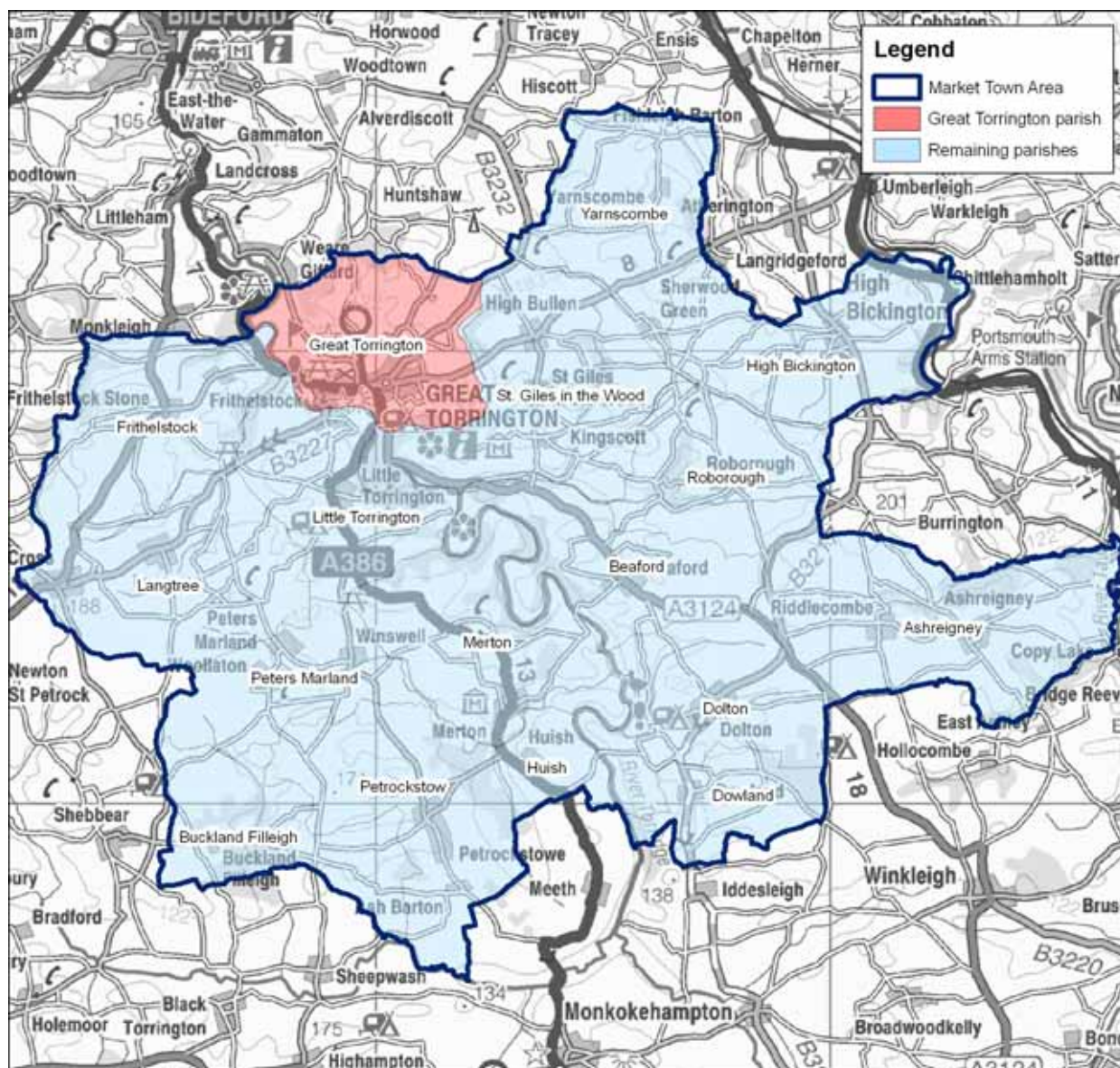
The profile is structured around a series of themes to cover social, economic and environmental well being. This is a starting point in producing profiles about our "Devon town" areas in which considerable effort has been made to provide a comprehensive series of data. Further data will be added to subsequent editions as they become available to provide a more complete picture and monitor trends.

The profiles are available on the County Council website – www.devon.gov.uk

Area definition

Market town areas have been defined as aggregations of parishes. The following 17 parishes make up the Great Torrington market town area:

Ashreigney	Frithelstock	Little Torrington	St. Giles in the Wood
Beaford	Great Torrington	Merton	Yarnscombe
Buckland Filleigh	High Bickington	Peters Marland	
Dolton	Huish	Petrockstow	
Dowland	Langtree	Roborough	



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As much of the data included in this profile is produced at a ward level, a 'best-fit' of wards is also used. Wards are included in one market town area if more than 60% of the population of that ward live within the market town boundary. If between 40% and 60% of a ward's population falls within a market town area it will be included, but may also be included in another area.

The wards that comprise the market town area in this profile are as follows:

Clinton	Torrington
Three Moors	Two Rivers

All four wards fall completely inside the market town boundary. The following wards were considered for the market town area but not enough of the population in each ward lived inside the market town boundary, as such these wards will not be used for a 'best fit' for the purpose of this profile: Monkleigh & Littleham (27% of population – included in Bideford), Shebbear & Langtree (38% - Holsworthy) and Winkleigh (24% - Okehampton).

Each market town area is comprised of a centre (coloured red) and its surrounding hinterland (referred to as the “Remaining parishes” throughout this document). The centre for this profile is considered to be the parish of Great Torrington or the ward of Torrington.

Some national datasets are released using a new geographic hierarchy – Super Output Areas. The lowest level – Lower Super Output Areas (or LSOAs) – is about one third the size of a ward. These are aggregated to form Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs). Where data are only available at Super Output Area a best-fit approach has been adopted. There are 10 LSOAs that fall either fully or partially inside the market town area, four of which form Great Torrington parish. There are two MSOAs in the market town area, one of which covers the same area as Great Torrington parish. The other will be used as a best fit for the remaining area.

Additional information has been included to provide some comparisons. All tables have data for the Torridge district and the area administered by Devon County Council – where reference is made to the county of Devon this refers to the area covered by Devon County Council, which does not include Plymouth or Torbay. Where possible data are also included at a national level, either for England or England & Wales.

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This profile makes use of data from the 1991 and 2001 Censuses. All such data is acknowledged as Crown Copyright.

Population

Summary

The age structure in the market town area is subtly different to that of the county. Great Torrington tends to have a slightly higher proportion of people in the under 45s age bands but less in the 45 to 74 age bands. The surrounding hinterland have a larger proportion of people in the older 45 to 74 age bands.

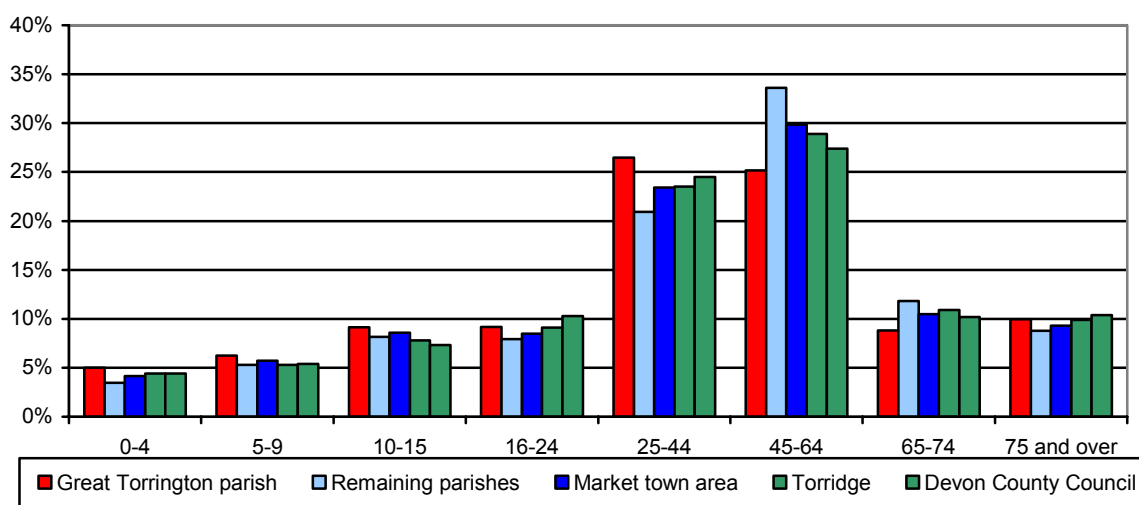
There has been significant population growth since 1991 in the parish of Great Torrington. This increase is greater than the growth in the county.

The proportion of people from minority ethnic groups in the market town area is below the district and county averages.

The level of households occupied by individuals in the market town area as a whole is significantly below the county and national averages. There is a noticeable difference between the centre parish of Great Torrington and the surrounding hinterland.

Percentage of population by age band (2004)

Area	Total population	Age band							
		0-4	5-9	10-15	16-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75 and over
Great Torrington parish	5,337	5.0%	6.2%	9.1%	9.2%	26.5%	25.2%	8.8%	10.0%
Remaining parishes	6,630	3.5%	5.3%	8.2%	7.9%	20.9%	33.6%	11.8%	8.8%
Market town area	11,967	4.2%	5.7%	8.6%	8.5%	23.4%	29.8%	10.5%	9.3%
Torrige	62,899	4.4%	5.3%	7.8%	9.1%	23.5%	28.9%	10.9%	9.9%
Devon County Council	742,911	4.4%	5.4%	7.3%	10.3%	24.5%	27.4%	10.2%	10.4%



Source: South Devon Health Informatics Service (FHSA data)

Population change (1991 to 2004)

Area	1991	2001	2004	% change 1991-2004
Great Torrington parish	4,493	5,278	5,337	18.8%
Remaining parishes	5,851	6,166	6,630	13.3%
Market town area	10,344	11,444	11,967	15.7%
Torrige	52,129	58,965	62,899	20.8%
Devon County Council	646,903	704,493	742,911	14.8%

Source: 1991 Census, 2001 and 2004 South Devon Health Informatics Service (FHSA data)

Ethnicity (2001)

Area	All people	Ethnic group:			
		White	% White	Black and minority ethnic	% Black and minority ethnic
Great Torrington parish	5,278	5,230	99.1%	48	0.9%
Remaining parishes	6,166	6,149	99.7%	17	0.3%
Market town area	11,444	11,379	99.4%	65	0.6%
Torrige	58,965	58,391	99.0%	574	1.0%
Devon County Council	704,493	696,590	98.9%	7,903	1.1%
England	49,138,831	44,679,361	90.9%	4,459,470	9.1%

Source: 2001 Census

Household composition (2001)

Area	All households	Single person households		Households comprising of more than one person	
		Number	%	Number	%
Great Torrington parish	2,201	639	29.0%	1,562	71.0%
Remaining parishes	2,477	545	22.0%	1,932	78.0%
Market town area	4,678	1,184	25.3%	3,494	74.7%
Torrige	24,870	6,935	27.9%	17,935	72.1%
Devon County Council	298,574	86,890	29.1%	211,686	70.9%
England	20,451,427	6,150,264	30.1%	14,301,163	69.9%

Source: 2001 Census

Deprivation

Summary

There are ten Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) that make up the market town area. Whilst none of them are in the top 25%, eight of them feature in the most deprived 50% nationally.

The principal source of deprivation data is currently The Indices of Deprivation 2004. This is a Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level measure of multiple deprivation and is made up of seven domains. A LSOA is an area of around 1,500 people and has been devised to standardise statistical geography across the country. The seven domains are:

- Income Deprivation
- Employment Deprivation
- Health Deprivation and Disability
- Education, Skills and Training Deprivation
- Barriers to Housing and Services
- Living Environment Deprivation
- Crime

There are two supplementary Indices (Income Deprivation Affecting Children and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People).

The model which underpins the Index of Deprivation 2004 is based on the idea of distinct dimensions of deprivation which can be recognised and measured separately. These are experienced by individuals living in an area. Where possible, the indicators relate to 2001.

The information will help target policies and funding, reinforcing the Government's drive to improve the quality of life in disadvantaged communities.

There are over 32,000 LSOAs in the 2004 index, replacing the 8,500 wards used to construct the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000. The LSOA boundaries were determined nationally with no local input.

The 2004 index was developed from academic research undertaken by Oxford University.

The table below compares the areas in Devon ranked in the most deprived 25% nationally, in terms of the number of wards in 2000 and the number of LSOAs in 2004, together with the population of these areas.

Comparison of IMD 2000 and ID 2004

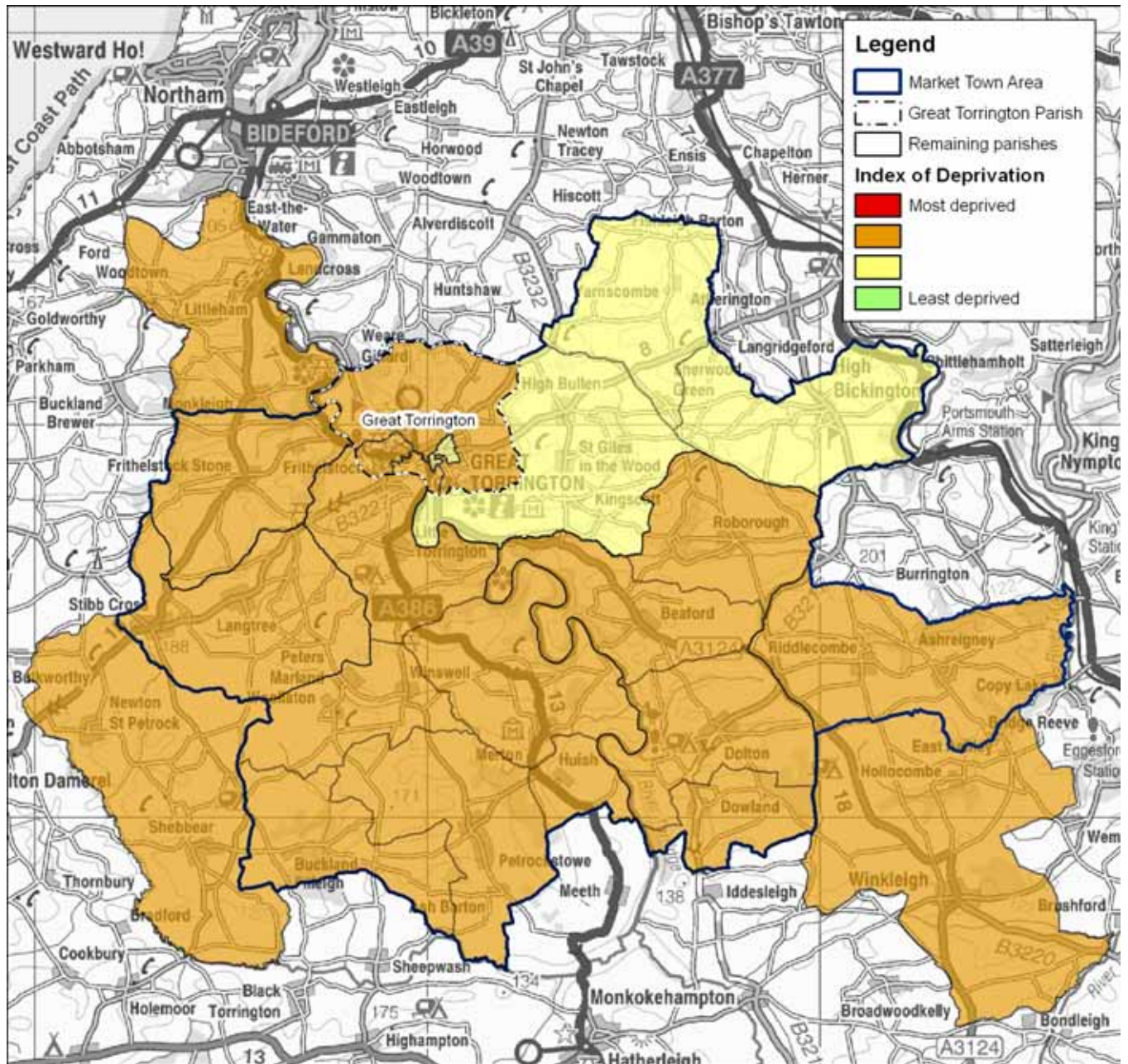
Area	IMD 2000		ID 2004	
	Number of wards	Population	Number of LSOAs	Population
East Devon	1	3,901	0	0
Exeter	3	17,070	14	22,057
Mid Devon	0	0	1	1,652
North Devon	6	21,409	10	14,158
South Hams	1	5,458	0	0
Teignbridge	6	24,408	6	8,918
Torridge	10	22,217	3	5,731
West Devon	1	1,483	0	0
Devon County Council	28	95,946	34	52,516

Source: Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and South Devon Health Informatics Service (FHSA data)

Application of the new index reduces the population in Devon perceived to be living in the most deprived areas by around 45%. This is probably due to the addition of crime and the living environment to the index, which in both cases the area covered by Devon County Council would have scored well compared to the national average. The reduced weighting given to the access to services domain may also be a contributing factor.

There are ten LSOAs that fall either completely or partially within the area covered by this profile. None of these are classified as being in the most deprived 25% of LSOAs nationally. Eight of which fall into the next 25% - three of these are located in Great Torrington parish. The remaining two LSOAs feature in the 50- 75% category of LSOAs nationally.

Map of Index of Deprivation 2004



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Source: Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

The Local Economy

Summary

Unemployment levels in the market town area are below the national average.

Economic activity rates as a whole within the market town area are about average. Self-employment levels in the surrounding hinterland are significantly higher than the county and national averages and conversely the level of full-time employment is lower.

Claim rates for Income Support are quite high in Great Torrington parish approaching the national average. Claim rates for Job Seekers Allowance follow a similar trend.

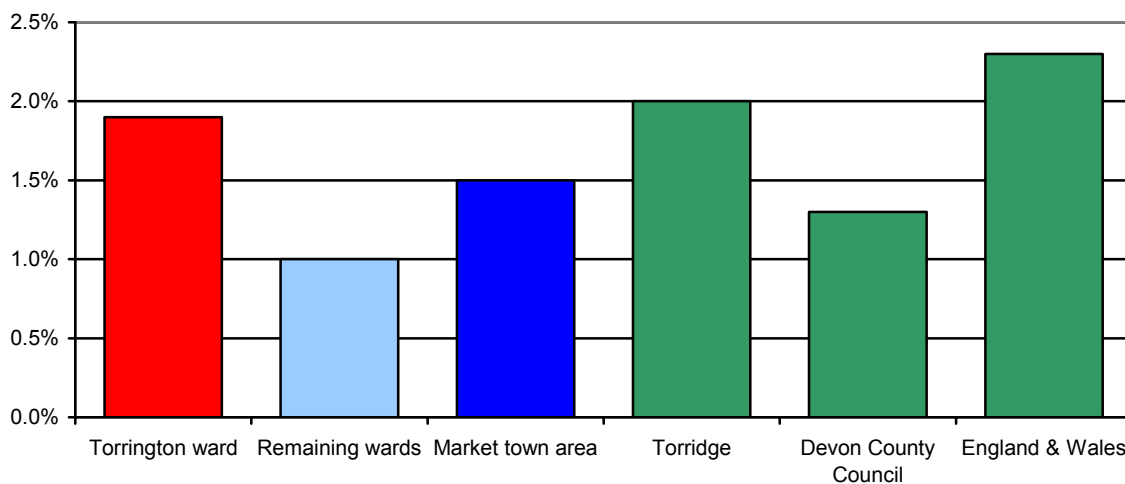
More than 50% of households in the parish of Great Torrington have an annual income of less than £20,000 which is significantly higher than district and county averages.

The percentage of employment by industry sector of those living in the market town area highlights the main sectors of employment as manufacturing and wholesale & retail. This represents nearly a third of employment in the market town area.

The largest number of businesses in the market town area are within the manufacturing, education, wholesale & retail and health & social work sectors – representing about 55% of businesses.

Unemployment as a proportion of working age resident population (April 2005)

Area	Number unemployed	% working age population
Torrington ward	57	1.9%
Remaining wards	28	1.0%
Market town area	85	1.5%
Torrige	724	2.0%
Devon County Council	5,445	1.3%
England & Wales	752,758	2.3%



Source: Office for National Statistics

Economic activity (2001)

Area	People aged 16 to 74	Total economically active	Economically active	Employed part-time	Employed full-time	Self-employed	Unemployed	Students
Great Torrington parish	3,681	2,453	66.6%	21.3%	54.5%	14.9%	6.4%	2.9%
Remaining parishes	4,514	2,950	65.4%	18.5%	42.7%	32.6%	3.6%	2.6%
Market town area	8,195	5,403	65.9%	19.8%	48.0%	24.6%	4.8%	2.7%
Torrige	42,353	27,145	64.1%	20.5%	48.3%	23.2%	5.7%	2.3%
Devon County Council	503,212	328,379	65.3%	20.5%	52.6%	19.3%	3.9%	3.6%
England	35,532,091	23,756,707	66.9%	17.7%	61.0%	12.4%	5.0%	3.9%

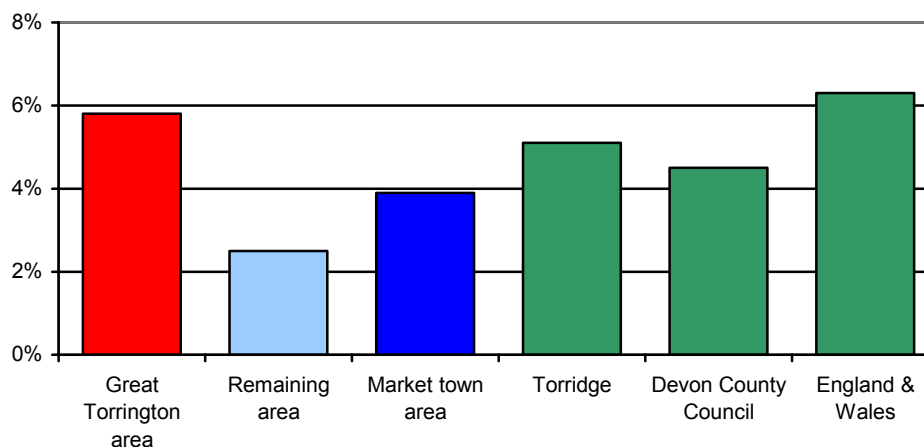
Source: 2001 Census

The benefit data below are based on a best fit of Middle Super Output Area (MSOAs). There are two MSOAs in the market town area, one of which covers the same area as Great Torrington parish. The other will be used as a best fit for the remaining area.

Income Support and Job Seekers Allowance claim rates (2004)

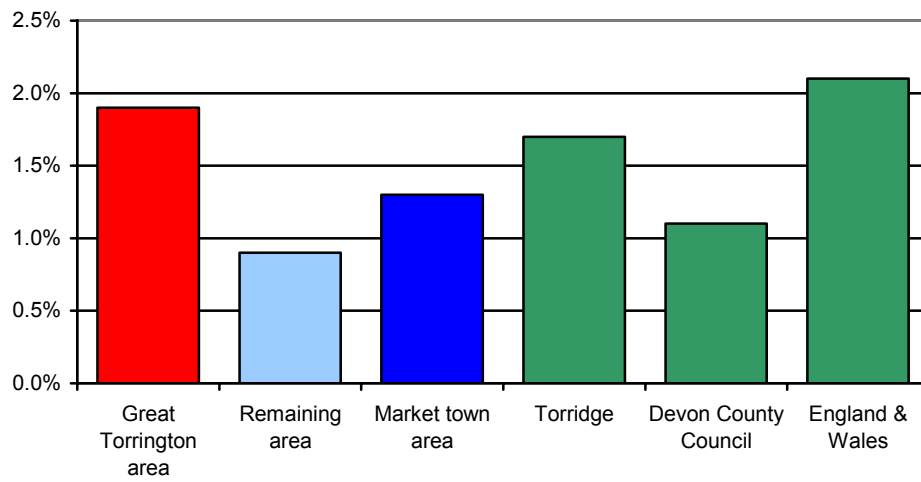
Area	Income Support			Jobseekers Allowance		
	Population aged 16 to 59	All claimants	Claim rate	Population aged 16 to 64	All claimants	Claim rate
Great Torrington area	2,917	170	5.8%	3,194	60	1.9%
Remaining area	3,588	90	2.5%	4,098	35	0.9%
Market town area	6,505	260	4.0%	7,292	95	1.3%
Torrige	32,299	1,635	5.1%	36,031	630	1.7%
Devon County Council	388,926	17,530	4.5%	429,574	4,765	1.1%
England & Wales	30,694,973	1,946,020	6.3%	33,239,665	689,810	2.1%

Income Support claim rates (2004)



Source: Department for Work and Pensions

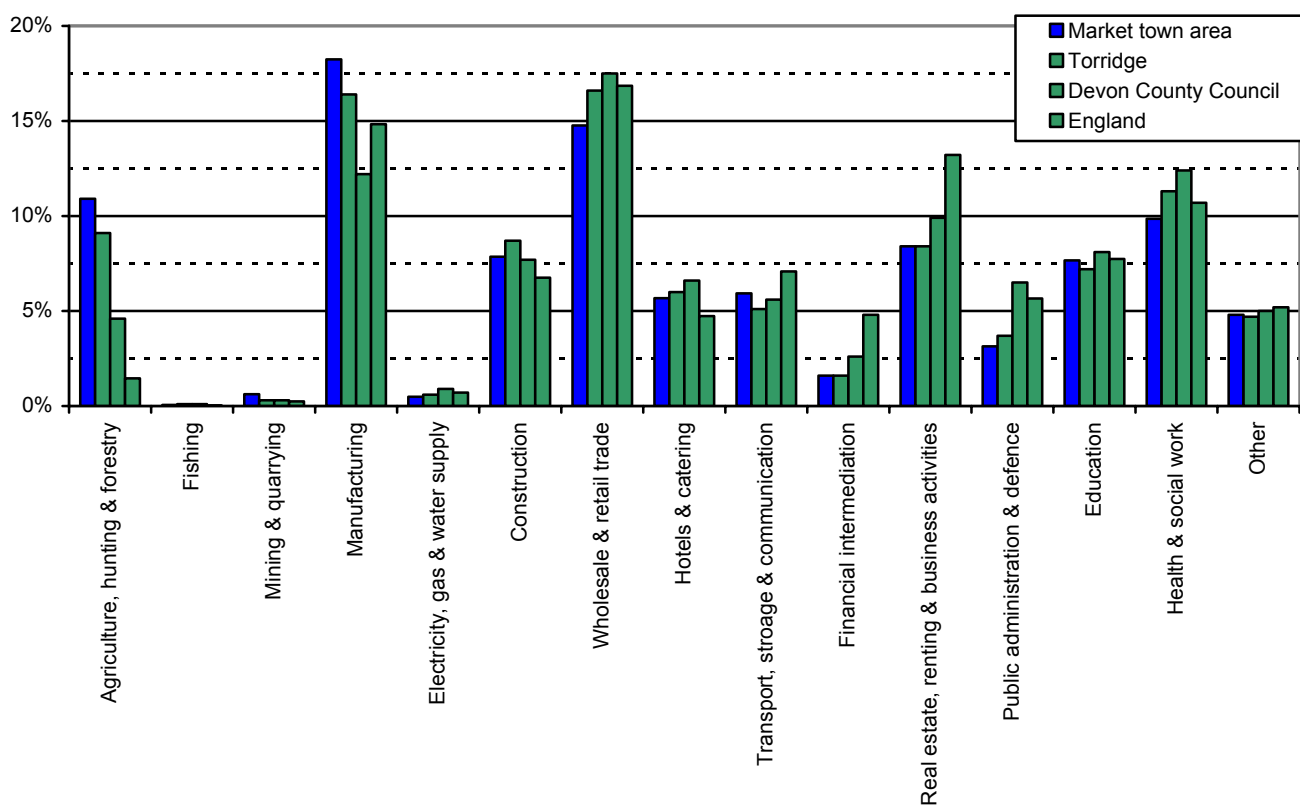
Job Seeker Allowance claim rates (2004)



Source: Department for Work and Pensions

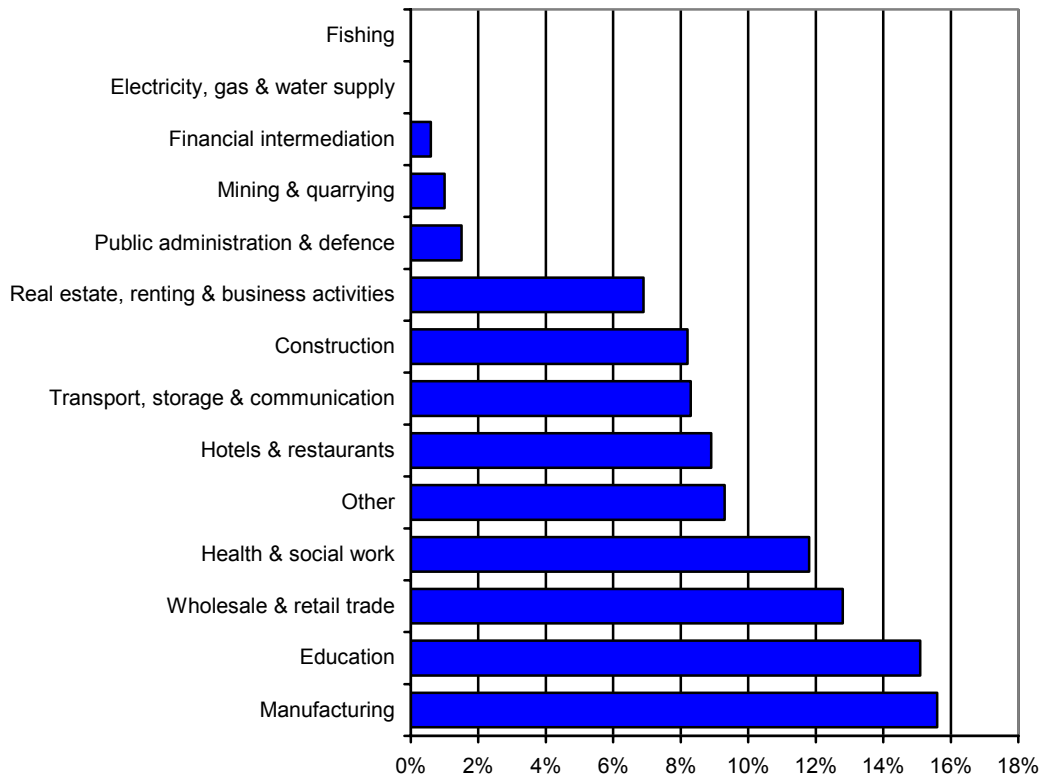
Employment of people living in the area by industry (2001)

Sector	Great Torrington parish	Remaining parishes	Market town area	Torrige	Devon County Council	England
Agriculture, hunting & forestry	3.6%	16.8%	10.9%	9.1%	4.6%	1.5%
Fishing	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Mining & quarrying	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%
Manufacturing	23.8%	13.8%	18.2%	16.4%	12.2%	14.8%
Electricity, gas & water supply	0.7%	0.4%	0.5%	0.6%	0.9%	0.7%
Construction	8.8%	7.1%	7.9%	8.7%	7.7%	6.8%
Wholesale & retail trade	15.8%	13.9%	14.8%	16.6%	17.5%	16.9%
Hotels & catering	6.0%	5.4%	5.7%	6.0%	6.6%	4.7%
Transport, storage & communication	6.2%	5.7%	5.9%	5.1%	5.6%	7.1%
Financial intermediation	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	2.6%	4.8%
Real estate, renting & business activities	7.0%	9.6%	8.4%	8.4%	9.9%	13.2%
Public administration & defence	3.1%	3.2%	3.1%	3.7%	6.5%	5.7%
Education	7.8%	7.5%	7.7%	7.2%	8.1%	7.7%
Health & social work	10.6%	9.3%	9.8%	11.3%	12.4%	10.7%
Other	4.4%	5.1%	4.8%	4.7%	5.0%	5.2%



Source: 2001 Census

Percentage of businesses in profile area by Standard Industrial Classification (2004)



Source: Annual Business Inquiry

Skills and Learning

Summary

Key Stage 2 results in the profile area for all subjects are above the national comparison. Pupils living in the parish of Great Torrington had slightly higher levels of attainment compared to those living in the surrounding hinterland.

Achievement rates for GCSEs at grades A* to C and A* to G were better than average. Pupils living outside of Great Torrington parish achieved higher results than pupils in the centre parish.

Whilst the overall level of qualification within the market town area is broadly similar to the district and county averages, the proportion of people with no qualifications is noticeably higher in the centre parish with a reciprocal smaller proportion in the highest level of qualification (Level 4).

Number and percentage of pupils achieving at least Key Stage 2 Level 4 (2004)

Area	Total pupils	English		Maths		Science	
		Number	% pupils	Number	% pupils	Number	% pupils
Great Torrington parish	72	55	76.4%	52	72.2%	69	95.8%
Remaining parishes	67	51	76.1%	51	76.1%	61	91.0%
Market town area	139	106	76.3%	103	74.1%	130	93.5%
Torridge	640	466	72.8%	462	72.2%	554	86.6%
Devon County Council	7,781	6,030	77.5%	5,766	74.1%	6,803	87.4%
England			75.0%		73.0%		86.0%

Source: Children and Young People's Services, Devon County Council

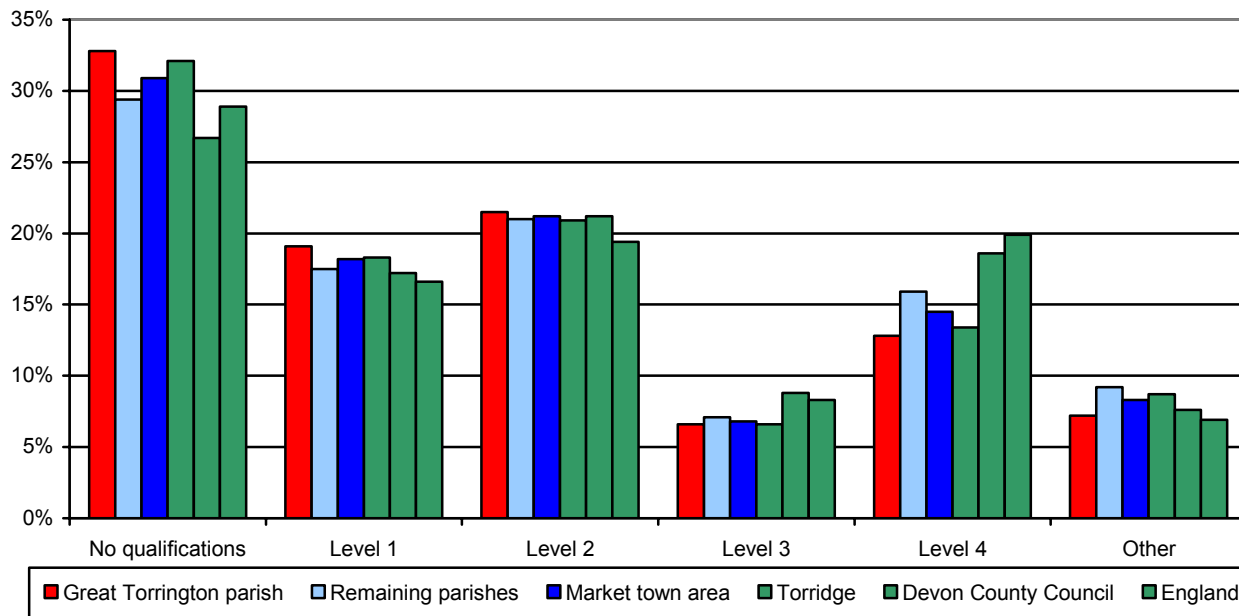
GCSE attainment (2002/03)

Area	Number of students	Students achieving five or more A*-C	% students achieving five or more A*-C	Students achieving five or more A*-G	% students achieving five or more A*-G
Great Torrington parish	47	26	55.3%	44	93.6%
Remaining parishes	69	46	66.7%	67	97.1%
Market town area	116	72	62.1%	111	95.7%
Torridge	566	293	51.8%	529	93.5%
Devon County Council	6,955	3,741	52.6%	6,484	90.6%
England			52.9%		88.8%

Source: Children and Young People's Services, Devon County Council

Highest level of qualification (2001)

Area	No qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Other
Great Torrington parish	32.8%	19.1%	21.5%	6.6%	12.8%	7.2%
Remaining parishes	29.4%	17.5%	21.0%	7.1%	15.9%	9.2%
Market town area	30.9%	18.2%	21.2%	6.8%	14.5%	8.3%
Torrige	32.1%	18.3%	20.9%	6.6%	13.4%	8.7%
Devon County Council	26.7%	17.2%	21.2%	8.8%	18.6%	7.6%
England	28.9%	16.6%	19.4%	8.3%	19.9%	6.9%



Source: 2001 Census

Note:

Level 1: 1+'O' level passes, 1 CSE/GCSE any grades, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ.

Level 2: 5+'O' level passes, 5+CSE's (grade A-C), School Certificate, 1+'A' levels/'AS' levels, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ.

Level 3: 2+ 'A' levels, 4+'AS' levels, Higher School Certificate, NVQ level 3, Advanced GNVQ.

Level 4: First degree, Higher degree, NVQ levels 4 and 5, HNC, HND, Qualified Teacher Status, Qualified, Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife, Health Visitor.

Health, Care and Wellbeing

Summary

Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance claim rates are noticeably below all three comparisons in the market town area. This is mirrored when you look at Disabilities Living Allowance claim rates.

The rate of people living with a limiting long-term illness within the market town area is similar to the district and county averages.

People that said their health was poor in the profile area is below all three comparisons.

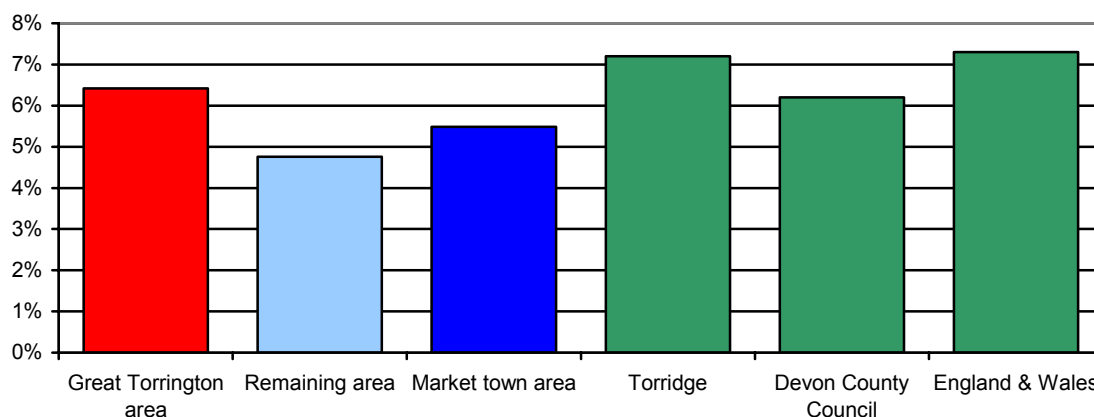
The benefit data below are based on a best fit of Middle Super Output Area (MSOAs). There are two MSOAs in the market town area, one of which covers the same area as Great Torrington parish. The other will be used as a best fit for the remaining area.

Incapacity Benefit & Severe Disablement Allowance and Disability Living Allowance claimant rates (2004)

Area	Incapacity Benefit & Severe Disablement Allowance			Disability Living Allowance		
	Population aged 16 to 64	All claimants	Claim rate	Total population	All claimants	Claim rate
Great Torrington area	3,194	205	6.4%	5,268	195	3.7%
Remaining area	4,098	195	4.8%	6,585	175	2.7%
Market town area	7,292	400	5.5%	11,853	370	3.1%
Torrige	36,031	2,585	7.2%	58,965	2,435	4.1%
Devon County Council	429,574	26,670	6.2%	704,510	25,645	3.6%
England & Wales	33,239,665	2,421,940	7.3%	52,042,019	2,341,615	4.5%

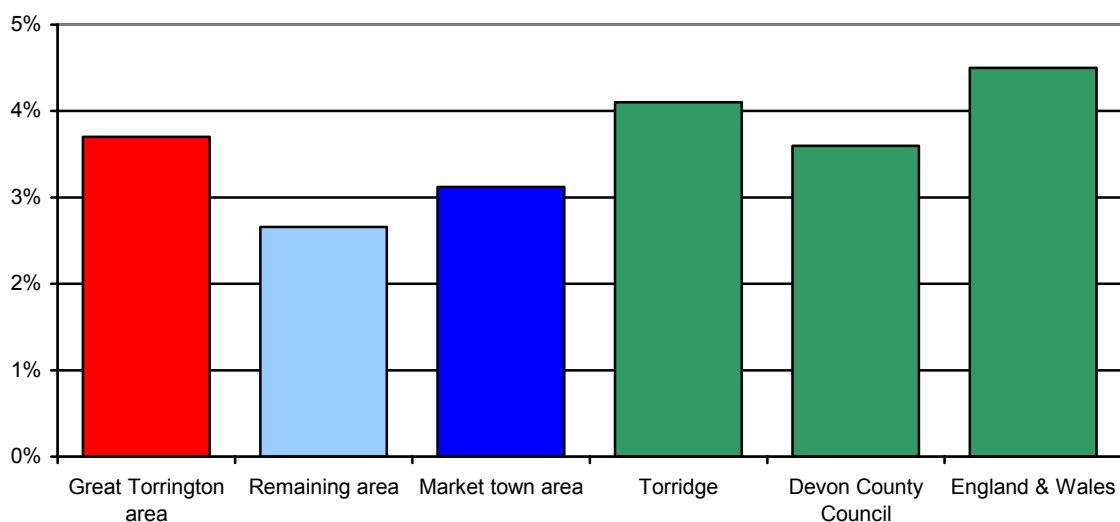
Source: Department for Work and Pensions

Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance claimant rates (2004)



Source: Department for Work and Pensions

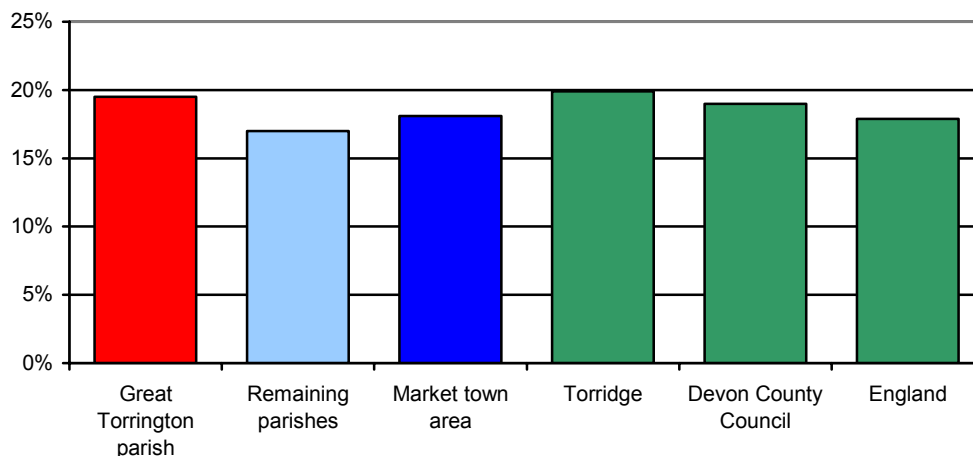
Disability Living Allowance claimant rates (2004)



Source: Department for Work and Pensions

Percentage of people living with a limiting long-term illness (2001)

Area	All people	People living with a limiting long-term illness	% people living with a limiting long-term illness
Great Torrington parish	5,279	1,027	19.5%
Remaining parishes	6,171	1,049	17.0%
Market town area	11,450	2,076	18.1%
Torridge	58,965	11,731	19.9%
Devon County Council	704,493	133,756	19.0%
England	49,138,831	8,809,194	17.9%



Source: 2001 Census

General health (2001)

Area	All people	People describing their health as good or fairly good		People describing their health as not good	
		Number	%	Number	%
Great Torrington parish	5,279	4,764	90.2%	515	9.8%
Remaining parishes	6,171	5,711	92.5%	460	7.5%
Market town area	11,450	10,475	91.5%	975	8.5%
Torridge	58,965	53,313	90.4%	5,652	9.6%
Devon County Council	704,493	643,988	91.4%	60,505	8.6%
England	49,138,831	44,702,955	91.0%	4,435,876	9.0%

Source: 2001 Census

Older People

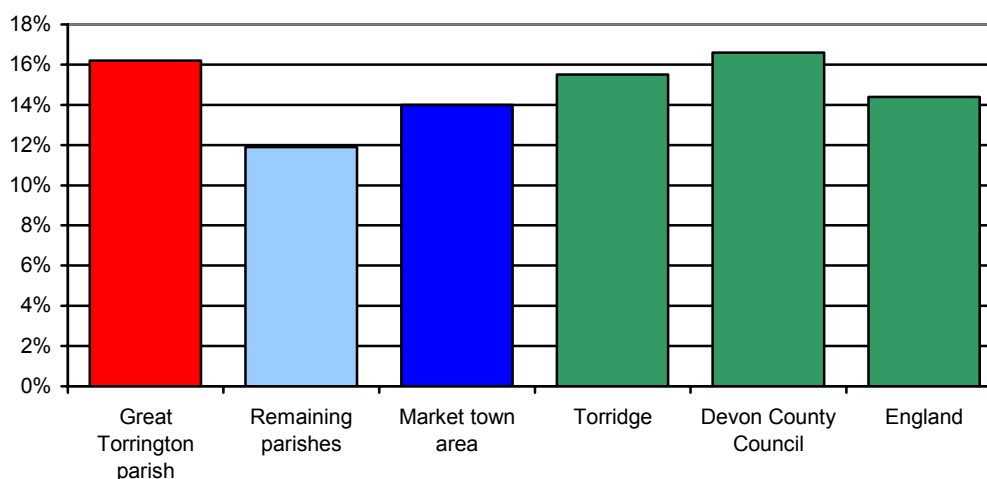
Summary

14% of households in the market town area are occupied by lone pensioners, which is slightly below the district, county and national averages.

The rate of Social Service clients is significantly higher in the centre parish compared to its surrounding area. Looking at the market town as a whole all age groups apart from the 85 plus cohort have a rate that is below the county average.

Percentage of lone pensioner households (2001)

Area	Total households	Households occupied by lone pensioners	% households occupied by lone pensioners
Great Torrington parish	2,201	357	16.2%
Remaining parishes	2,477	296	11.9%
Market town area	4,678	653	14.0%
Torrige	24,870	3,854	15.5%
Devon County Council	298,576	49,466	16.6%
England	20,451,427	2,939,465	14.4%



Source: 2001 Census.

Number of Social Services clients per 1,000 population (2004)

Area	Clients by age group per 1,000 population of the same age group			
	50-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over
Great Torrington parish	16.3	51.0	180.4	548.6
Remaining parishes	4.6	17.9	68.3	534.9
Market town area	8.9	30.3	120.0	542.1
Torrige	16.2	38.4	149.8	543.1
Devon County Council	14.9	40.6	142.0	460.3

Source: Adult and Community Services, Devon County Council

Children and Young People

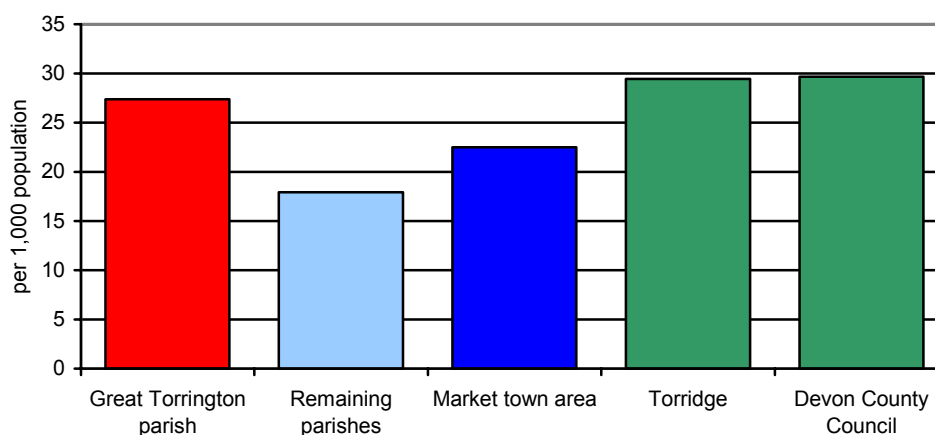
Summary

The proportion of children in need in the market town as a whole is below the district and county average.

The proportion of young offenders is significantly higher in the Torrington ward compared to the surrounding hinterland. The profile area saw an increase in offenders from 2000 to 2002.

Children in need aged 0 to 17 years per 1,000 population aged 0 to 17 years (2003/04)

Area	Number of children aged 0 to 17	Number of children in need aged 0 to 17	Children in need aged 0 to 17 per 1,000 population aged 0 to 17
Great Torrington parish	1,205	33	27.4
Remaining parishes	1,284	23	17.9
Market town area	2,489	56	22.5
Torrige	12672	373	29.4
Devon County Council	145,459	4,317	29.7



Source: Children and Young People's Services, Devon County Council

Young offenders aged 10 to 17 years per 1,000 population aged 10 to 17 years (2000 to 2002)

Area	2000	2001	2002
Torrington ward	5.8	26.1	25.2
Remaining wards	8.2	3.9	14.1
Market town area	7.0	15.3	20.0
Torrige	8.6	13.2	14.6
Devon County Council	14.2	20.0	19.3

Source: Youth Offending Team

Community Safety

Summary

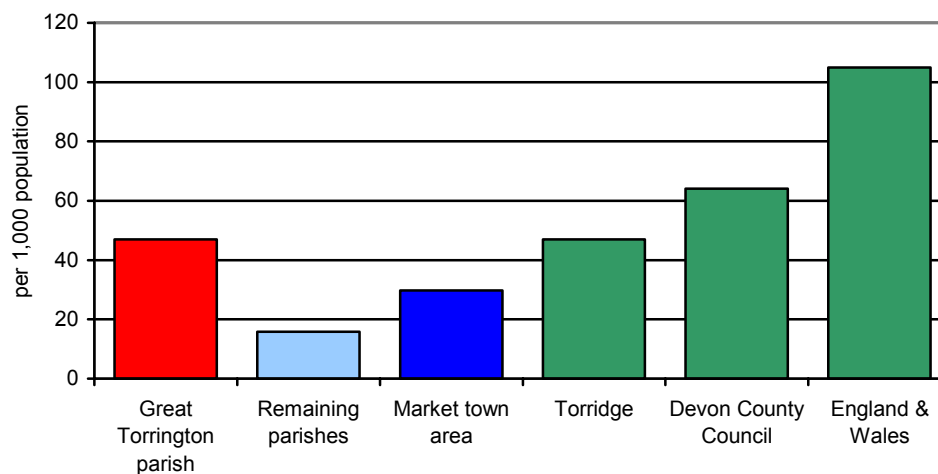
Total crime rates in the profile area are below all three comparatives but the rate of crime in Great Torrington parish can be quite high, especially drug crime.

The remaining parishes area has low rates in all crimes.

Data comprises addressable data only, and as such rates are based on approx 92% of all crime.

Total crime per 1,000 population (2004/05)

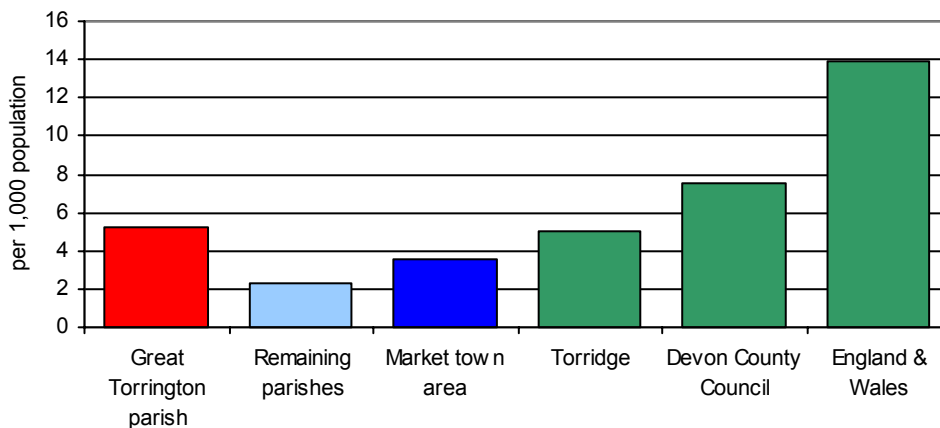
Area	Population	Total number of crimes	Crimes per 1,000 population
Great Torrington parish	5,337	251	47.0
Remaining parishes	6,630	105	15.8
Market town area	11,967	356	29.7
Torrige	62,899	2,957	47.0
Devon County Council	742,911	47,612	64.1
England & Wales	53,045,600	5,562,700	104.9



Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Vehicle crime per 1,000 population (2004/05)

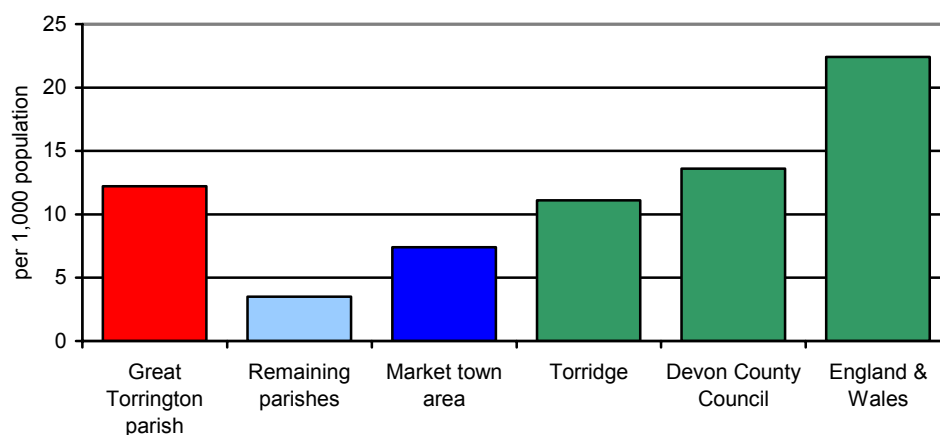
Area	Population	Number of vehicle crimes	Vehicle crimes per 1,000 population
Great Torrington parish	5,337	28	5.2
Remaining parishes	6,630	15	2.3
Market town area	11,967	43	3.6
Torrige	62,899	313	5.0
Devon County Council	742,911	5,594	7.5
England & Wales	53,045,600	738,500	13.9



Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Violent crime per 1,000 population (2004/05)

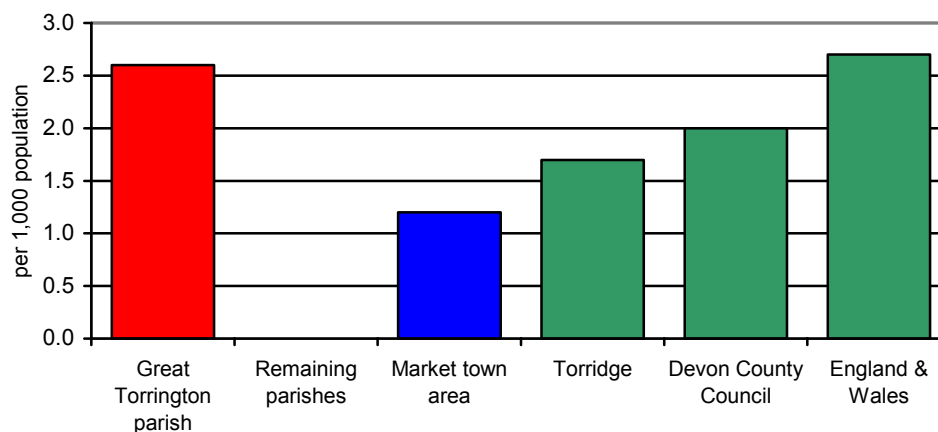
Area	Population	Number of violent crimes	Violent crimes per 1,000 population
Great Torrington parish	5,337	65	12.2
Remaining parishes	6,630	23	3.5
Market town area	11,967	88	7.4
Torrige	62,899	701	11.1
Devon County Council	742,911	10,138	13.6
England & Wales	53,045,600	1,185,700	22.4



Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Drug offences per 1,000 population (2004/05)

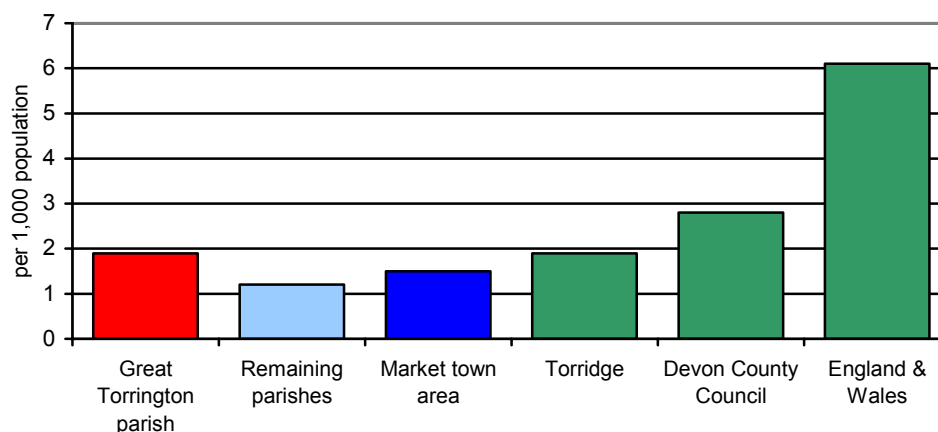
Area	Population	Number of drug offences	Drug offences per 1,000 population
Great Torrington parish	5,337	14	2.6
Remaining parishes	6,630	0	0.0
Market town area	11,967	14	1.2
Torrige	62,899	107	1.7
Devon County Council	742,911	1,492	2.0
England & Wales	53,045,600	142,300	2.7



Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Dwelling burglaries per 1,000 population (2004/05)

Area	Population	Number of dwelling burglaries	Dwelling burglaries per 1,000 population
Great Torrington parish	5,337	10	1.9
Remaining parishes	6,630	8	1.2
Market town area	11,967	18	1.5
Torrige	62,899	117	1.9
Devon County Council	742,911	2,046	2.8
England & Wales	53,045,600	321,500	6.1



Source: Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Amethyst)

Housing

Summary

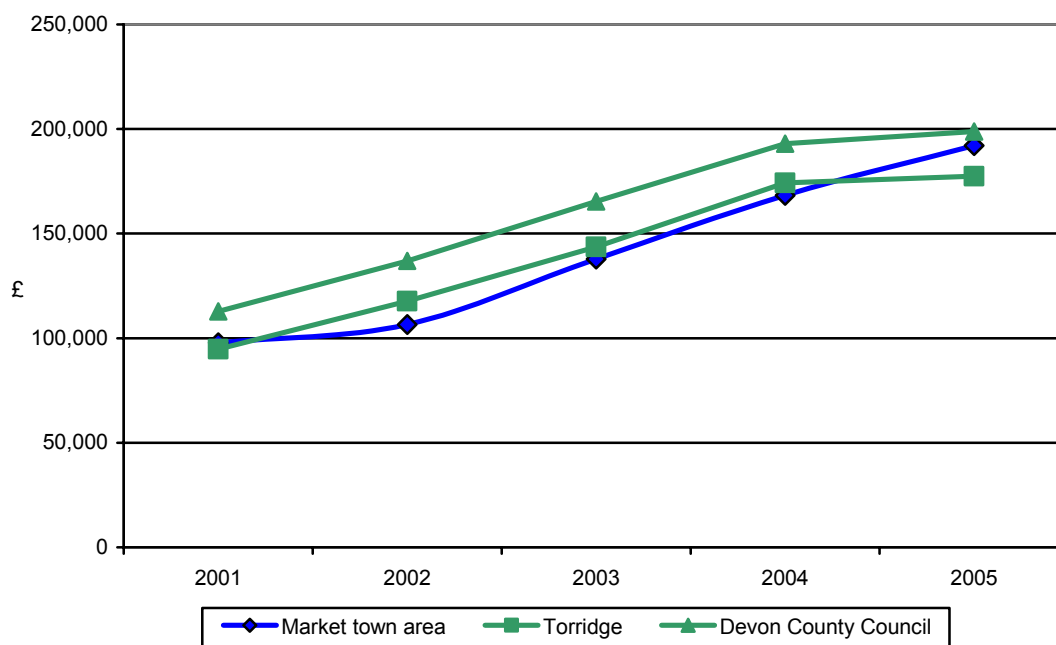
House prices outside of Great Torrington parish were around 30% higher than those in the parish for 2004. The average house price in the market town area has increased by around 96% in the four years from 2001 to 2005.

In 2005 the overall average house prices within the market town area was significantly below the national average.

The level of owner occupied dwellings in the remaining parishes area was higher than the district, county and national averages whilst local authority renting is comparatively high in Great Torrington parish.

House price change (2001 to 2005)

Area	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	% change 2001 - 2005
Great Torrington parish	£81,190	£92,308	£130,315	£146,104	£157,657	94.2%
Remaining parishes	£119,201	£133,272	£147,716	£190,536	£221,930	86.2%
Market town area	£97,846	£106,453	£137,773	£168,173	£192,089	96.3%
Torridge	£94,687	£117,657	£143,667	£174,274	£177,418	87.4%
Devon County Council	£112,752	£136,982	£165,267	£193,056	£198,835	76.3%



Source: Land Registry

Note: Data comprises sales between April and December 2001, all sales in 2002, 2003 and 2004 and from January to March 2005.

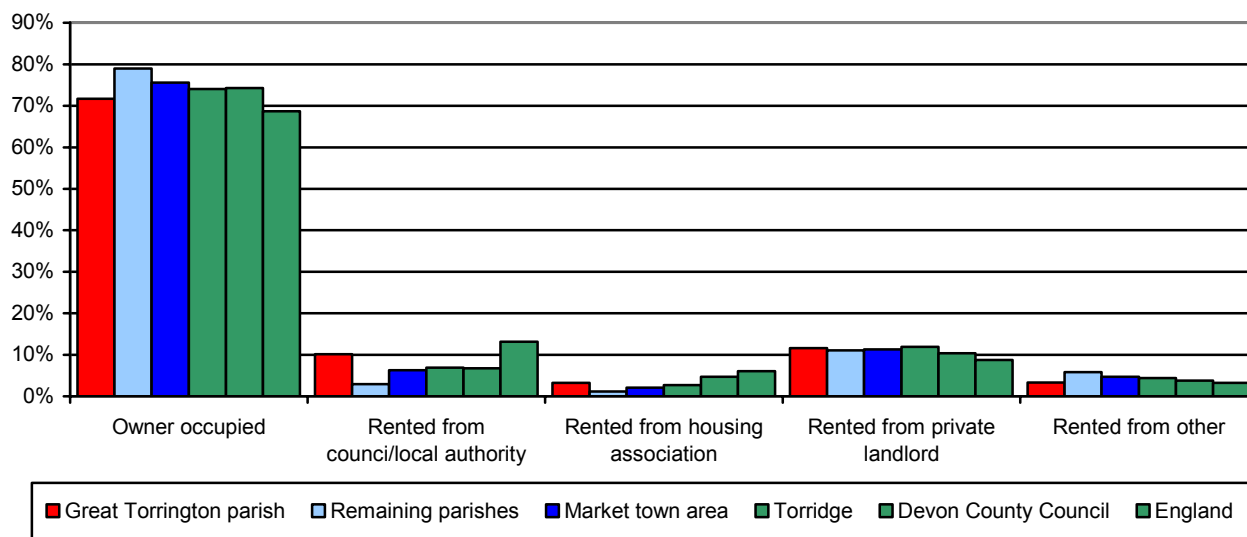
Average house price (2004)

Area	Detached	Semi-Detached	Terraced	Flat/Maisonette	Overall
Great Torrington parish	£183,684	£152,707	£127,900	£108,000	£146,104
Remaining parishes	£209,719	£155,217	£130,700	-	£190,536
Market town area	£203,769	£153,413	£128,647	£108,000	£168,173
Torridge	£221,478	£153,635	£136,248	£125,878	£174,274
Devon County Council	£266,940	£180,252	£157,985	£138,260	£193,045
England & Wales	£270,745	£162,379	£136,862	£168,298	£178,504

Source: Land Registry

Percentage of dwellings by tenure (2001)

Area	All households	Owner occupied	Rented accommodation			
			Local authority	Housing association	Private	Other
Great Torrington parish	2,201	71.7%	10.1%	3.2%	11.6%	3.3%
Remaining parishes	2,493	79.0%	2.9%	1.1%	11.1%	5.9%
Market town area	4,694	75.6%	6.3%	2.1%	11.3%	4.7%
Torrige	24,870	74.1%	6.9%	2.7%	11.9%	4.4%
Devon County Council	298,576	74.3%	6.8%	4.7%	10.4%	3.8%
England	20,451,427	68.7%	13.2%	6.1%	8.8%	3.2%



Source: 2001 Census

Transport

Summary

There are higher levels of multi car ownership outside Great Torrington parish. Nearly a quarter of Great Torrington parish households do not have access to a car.

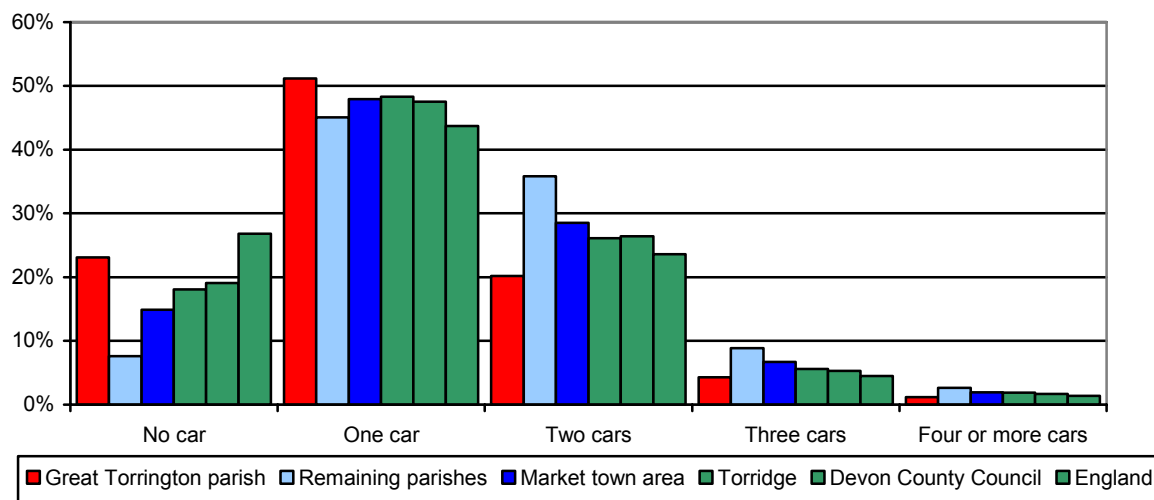
Around 20% of people living in the market town area work from home; this is higher in the remaining parishes and above all three comparisons. Within Great Torrington parish 23% of people travel to work either on foot or by bicycle which is noticeably higher than the district, county and national averages. Use of public transport is low.

In the surrounding hinterlands the percentage of households who can access a shop or GP within 30 minutes by public transport is significantly below the district, county and national averages.

Access to an acute hospital by public transport within an hour is not possible but this is the case for the vast majority of Torrington.

Car ownership (2001)

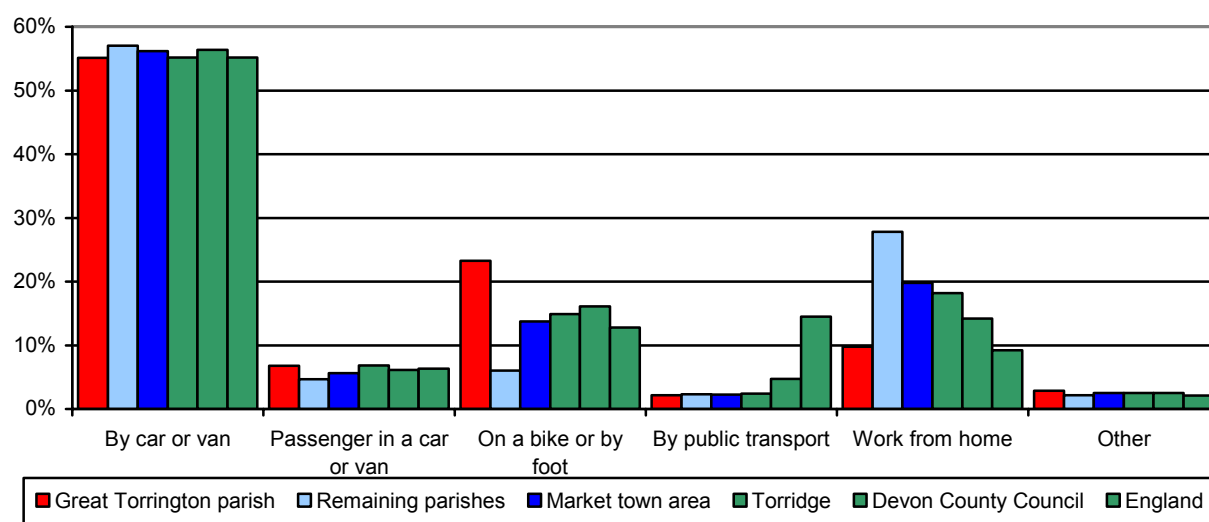
Area	All households	Households with:				
		No car	One car	Two cars	Three cars	Four or more cars
Great Torrington parish	2,201	23.1%	51.2%	20.2%	4.3%	1.2%
Remaining parishes	2,486	7.6%	45.1%	35.8%	8.8%	2.7%
Market town area	4,687	14.9%	47.9%	28.5%	6.7%	2.0%
Torrington	24,870	18.1%	48.3%	26.1%	5.6%	1.9%
Devon County Council	298,576	19.1%	47.5%	26.4%	5.3%	1.7%
England	20,451,427	26.8%	43.7%	23.6%	4.5%	1.4%



Source: 2001 Census

Mode of travel to work (2001)

Area	All 16-74 year olds in Employment	Percentage of population by mode of travel to work					
		By car or van	Passenger in a car or van	On a bike or by foot	By public transport	Work from home	Other
Great Torrington parish	2,298	55.1%	6.8%	23.3%	2.1%	9.8%	2.9%
Remaining parishes	2,850	57.0%	4.7%	6.0%	2.3%	27.8%	2.2%
Market town area	5,148	56.2%	5.6%	13.7%	2.2%	19.8%	2.5%
Torrige	25,522	55.2%	6.8%	14.9%	2.4%	18.2%	2.5%
Devon County Council	314,267	56.4%	6.1%	16.1%	4.7%	14.2%	2.5%
England	23,627,754	55.2%	6.3%	12.8%	14.5%	9.2%	2.1%



Source: 2001 Census

The data below relating to accessibility by public transport are based on a best fit of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs).

Accessibility by public transport (2005)

Area	Number of households	Percentage of households that can access:		
		Acute hospital within 60 minutes	GP within 30 minutes	Shops within 30 minutes
Great Torrington parish	2,198	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Remaining parishes	3,898	0.0%	45.4%	37.0%
Market town area	6,096	0.0%	65.1%	59.7%
Torrige	24,848	0.5%	74.6%	70.6%
Devon County Council	298,578	66.7%	86.6%	85.2%
England	17,436,116	82.8%	95.2%	94.4%

Source: Department for Transport

Note: Acute hospitals are establishments which provide at least minimal medical, surgical or obstetrical services for inpatient treatment and/or care, and which provide round-the-clock comprehensive qualified nursing service as well as other necessary professional services. Most patients require a relatively short stay.

The Environment – Landscape

Main Issues

In 2002 Devon County Council undertook and published a landscape appraisal of the county which included a landscape character assessment. The result of this assessment was the division of the County into 32 Landscape Character Zones. The Great Torrington market town area contains two Landscape Character Zones

Landscape Character

Landscape character is defined as a distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occur consistently in a particular type of landscape. Character makes each part of the landscape distinct, and gives each its particular sense of place.

Landscape character has an important role to play in that it informs the Devon County Structure Plan's fundamental landscape policy (CO1), requiring that development should be informed by and sympathetic to the landscape character of the area.

In 2002 Devon County Council undertook and published a landscape appraisal of the County which included a landscape character assessment. The result of this assessment was the division of the County into 32 Landscape Character Zones (LCZs), each with their own description and distinctive key characteristic features. The Great Torrington market town area contains parts of two of these LCZs; some of the key characteristics are outlined below

High Culm Ridges

Location - This zone comprises two separate areas in north central Devon, separated by the Torridge Valley. The more easterly occupies an area between the valleys of the Taw and the Torridge, crossing the Taw in its higher course towards the River Dalch. In the north this part of the zone also crosses the Taw to include the prominent landmark of Codden Hill as well as the valley of the Venn Brook and its headwaters which flow through Swimbridge and Landkey. This LCZ covers most of the market town area, with the exception of the Torridge Valley and its immediate surroundings.

Designations - Most of the zone, including all of it within the market town area, is uncovered by any landscape designation.

Key Characteristic Features

- Vast catchment area of streams and rivers, including Roadford Reservoir.
- High rainfall, heavy soils, wet pastures, unimproved grassland.
- High land dominated by views of Dartmoor and, more distantly, Bodmin Moor.
- Extensive coniferous plantations with pockets of wet pasture and secondary woodland.
- Individual hedgerow trees and oak-lined field boundaries.
- Sparsely populated "frontier" area.
- General features interrupted by softer, lush river valleys.

Taw and Torridge River Systems

Location - This zone is in the north central part of the County, comprising the middle and lower valleys of the Taw and Torridge rivers and the valleys of some of their most notable tributaries, including the Mole, the lower Little Dart and the Mully Brook (tributaries of the Taw), and the Yeo, Duntz and Langtree Lake (tributaries of the Torridge). The zone comprises two discrete parts, centred on the two major rivers, separated by an area of High Culm ridges. The Torridge Valley and its immediate surroundings, forming the central north-south section of the market town area, falls within this zone.

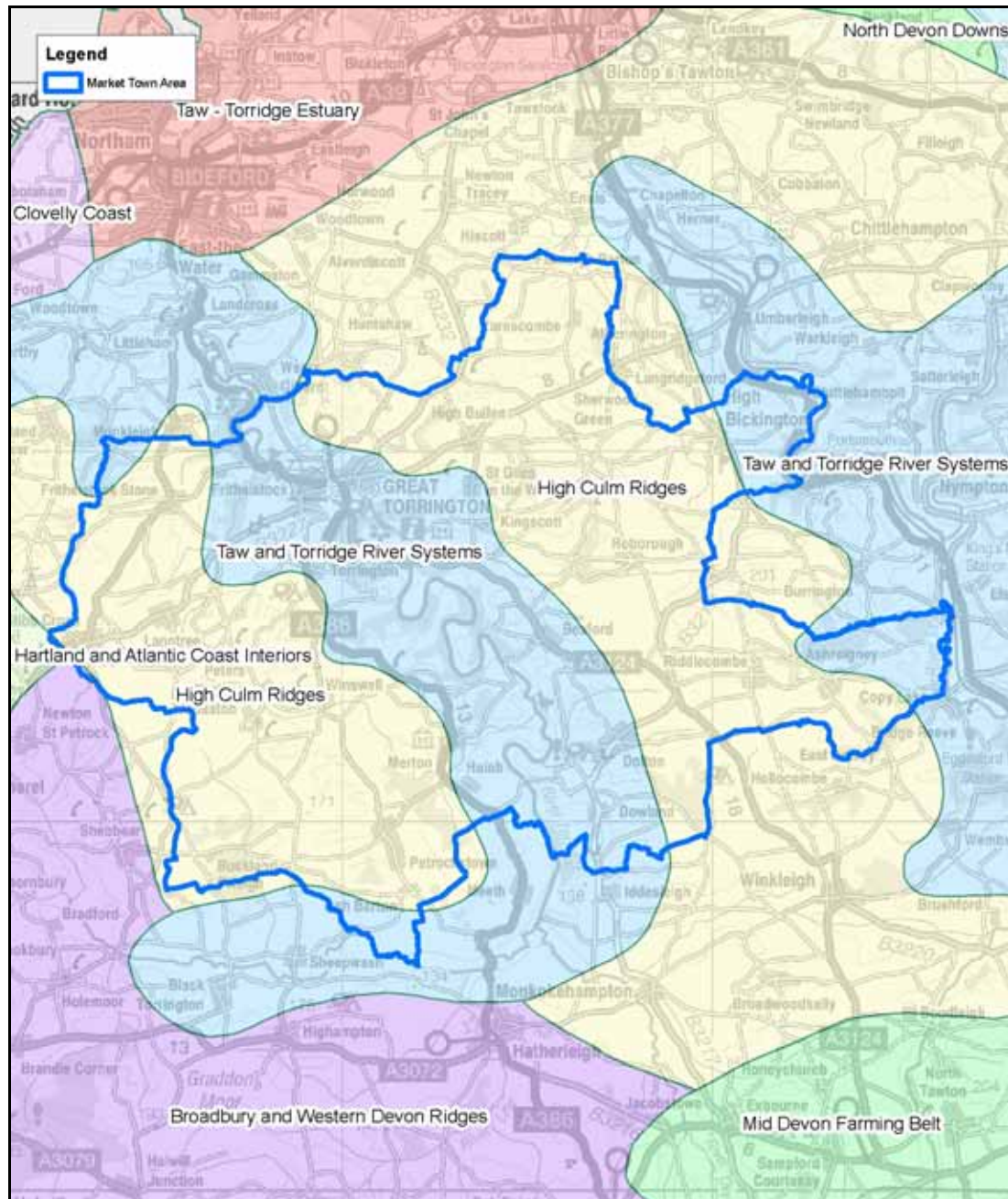
Designations - The majority of the zone has been designated as an Area of Great Landscape Value, reflecting its landscape importance in the County context. This includes almost all of the zones within the market town area. There are some minor excepted areas on the peripheral land flanking the valley as well as a small section in the extreme south.

Key Characteristics Features

- Natural river form, tree lined banks and associated water features.

- Substantial woodland, broadleaved and coniferous, emphasising the distinctive landform and creating enclosure.
- Open valley floor with pastoral and sometimes parkland character.
- Roads, railways and bridges along the length of the valleys, few routes across the valley floors, steep wooded winding routes out of the valleys.
- High villages and farms overlooking the valleys.

Landscape Character Zones within the market town area



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The Environment – Wildlife and Geology

Summary

The last 60 years have seen many dramatic changes within the English countryside, with increasing urbanisation and shifting patterns of agriculture. Devon has fared better than most, however, being protected by its remoteness and undulating terrain.

There remains much wildlife and geology to enjoy and conserve, and many opportunities exist throughout the County to enhance the natural environment. Landowners, industry and, of course, local communities all have the chance to contribute to the conservation of Devon's rich natural history.

The area around Great Torrington is home to much wildlife. This farmed landscape with its small woodlands and important networks of hedgerows supports a wealth of wildlife such as farmland birds. The valley of the River Torridge supports wet grasslands and species-rich ancient woodlands, including several of national importance. However, of particular interest is that this part of Devon still contains many remnants of Culm Grassland. These areas of wet, acidic heath, rushes and grassland are of tremendous importance for wildlife. Once common, they have declined considerably in extent during recent decades in response to changing agricultural practices.

These habitats support a range of plants and animals. For example, otters are present on the River Torridge and dormice can be found in the woods and hedges. The Culm Grasslands have their own unique flora and fauna, characteristically supporting plants such as purple moor-grass, heather, Devil's-bit scabious, bog asphodel and heath spotted orchid along with rarities such as whorled caraway. Among the animal life can be found, in particular, many interesting invertebrates, such as the narrow-bordered bee hawkmoth and the marsh fritillary, Europe's fastest declining butterfly.

Key sites

The table below contains information on the key features of some of the most important wildlife sites of this part of Devon. A map is also included to illustrate these.

Site name	Interest	Designation
Beaford Moor	Culm Grassland.	SSSI
Common Moor, Langtree	Culm Grassland.	SSSI
Halsdon	River, floodplain meadows and ancient oak woodland with a good fauna including many breeding birds.	SSSI & Devon Wildlife Trust reserve
Hunshaw Wood	Ancient semi-natural oak woodland.	SSSI
Stapleton Mire	Species-rich Culm Grassland.	Devon Wildlife Trust reserve

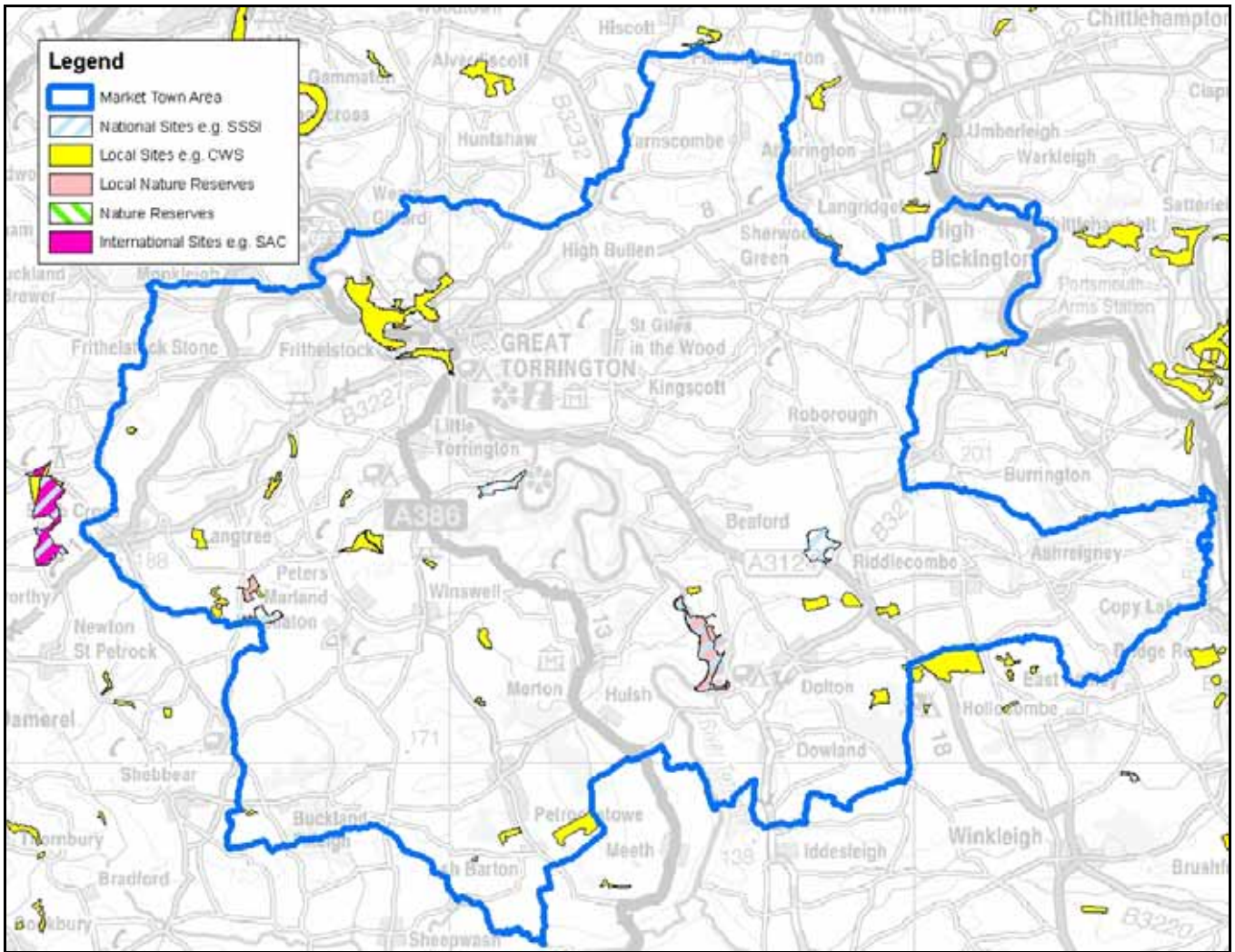
In addition to the table above, the Great Torrington area has **24 County Wildlife Sites**. These mainly represent areas of Culm Grassland and broadleaved woodland.

Key:

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): these sites are notified because of their national importance for wildlife or geological features (gSSSI, above). SSSI is a statutory designation with legal implications. SSSI status does not confer any right of access to the public.

County Wildlife Sites (CWS): these are sites of county importance for wildlife. CWS is not a statutory designation and does not have any legal status, though CWSs are usually included in district planning documents. CWS recognition places no formal obligation on the landowner, but may increase eligibility for land management grants. There are also County Geological Sites of a similar standing.

Key sites within the market town area



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