



## Land Management (LM)

*'Viable land management practices will continue to play an essential role in conserving Dartmoor's special qualities'*

Headline Indicators	Monitoring Period	Latest Data	Condition
<b>Land Management (LM)</b>			
% of Dartmoor GVA generated by forestry and farming	1996-2006 (annual)	6.4% of GVA	
% of National Park managed in line with NPA conservation objectives	2004-2008 (annual)	7.6% of NP area	
% of Common Land managed through agri-environment schemes	2008 (annual)	83% of common land	

### Viable land management

Dartmoor is a working landscape; farming and forestry play an essential role in conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the National Park. Dartmoor is a harsh landscape, however, and sustaining land management practices which are economically viable is almost impossible. The importance of upland farming on Dartmoor is discussed under *Cross Cutting Themes: Upland Farming*.

In the National Park 3,616 ha of woodland is under active management through the Forestry

Commission Grant Scheme, the English Woodland Grant Scheme or under felling licence; a further 1,681 ha of land is owned and managed by the Forestry Commission (about 5% of its total land ownership in the region). This equates to approximately 55% of Dartmoor's woodland under active management. A downturn in the global timber market may have an impact on woodland management; targeting new markets for wood and timber products is therefore important in making sure that woodland management continues to provide maximum environmental benefit on Dartmoor.

Local schemes designed at adding value are currently underway on Dartmoor. This work aims to bring together commercial activities on Dartmoor such as forestry, farming, food and tourism and link their value with the special qualities of the National Park as a Dartmoor brand.

### Conserving Dartmoor's special qualities

83% of Dartmoor's 35,203 ha of common land is under active management through agri-environment schemes. In addition to this, a further 35,176 ha of land outside of common land is under active management through agri-environment schemes. This gives a total of 68% of the National Park area managed through agri-environment schemes. Levels of moorland grazing are essential for the conservation and enhancement of Dartmoor's special qualities; further information can be found under *Ecology and Wildlife*, and *Archaeological Heritage*.



The Defra Agricultural Census shows a decline in cattle stock on Dartmoor of around 15,000 animals since 1990, to just over 41,000 animals in 2006. Data on farming is difficult to gather, however, and there is no robust evidence on the change to the number of farms or total farmed area on Dartmoor. The monitoring of agri-environment schemes therefore plays a vital role in establishing the state of land management on Dartmoor.





## Community Well-being (CW)

*'Thriving Dartmoor communities will have a range of local services, amenities, housing and employment opportunities'*

Headline Indicators	Monitoring Period	Latest Data	Condition
<b>Community Well-being (CW)</b>			
Net annual change in primary/secondary services and facilities within classified settlements	2005-2007 (annual)	-1 service/facility	
Housing Affordability (ratio of average household income to average house price)	2004-2007 (annual)	House prices 9.1 times average income	
% of DNP population working mainly at or from home	1991-2001 (10 yearly)	20% of working population	

### Affordable Housing

The remoteness of many of Dartmoor's communities means it is challenging to make them sustainable places to live and work. Housing affordability in particular is a key issue on Dartmoor; house prices have risen by an average of 13% per year over the past decade, a significantly faster rate than the growth of household incomes. As such the average priced home on Dartmoor is 9.1 times the average household income, this compares with 6.8 for rural England as a whole<sup>7</sup>.

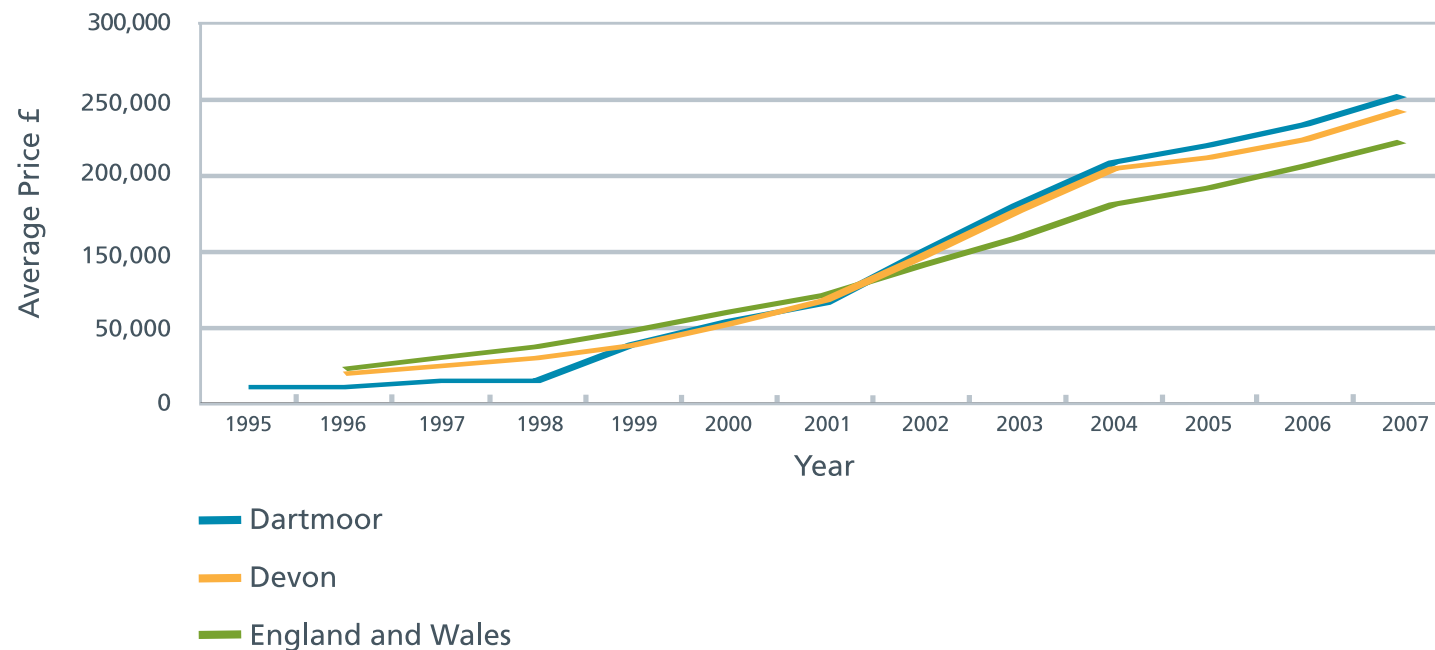
The average Dartmoor house price was £252,852 in 2007; the latest data shows this has fallen slightly in the first half of 2008. The proportion of affordable homes completed in the National Park has fallen slightly over the past 2 years to 12% in 2007/08. At 3% Dartmoor does not have the significant proportion of second/holiday homes that other National Parks have (such as Exmoor at 10%, and the Lake District at over 20%).

### Local Services and Employment Opportunities

Quality of life and sustainability are strongly affected by the availability of local services. In order to promote more sustainable communities 70% of new housing permitted on Dartmoor was within the eight largest settlements (Local Centres) in 2007/08. The loss of local services and facilities is closely monitored; the loss of village shops on Dartmoor is of particular concern. The number of mobile services has increased however. The proposal for Post Office closures on Dartmoor is a further concern in Dartmoor's smaller settlements. 90% of the population of Dartmoor live in a parish with a primary school, and 53% in a parish with a GP/health centre.

Self-employment on Dartmoor is higher than the national average. The National Park also has a higher than average proportion of people working from home (20%). Dartmoor's unemployment rate has remained consistently low (an average of 1.2%<sup>8</sup>). See *Economic Activity* for more information.

Figure 13. Average house prices in the Dartmoor National Park 1995-2006 (Source: Land Registry)



<sup>7</sup> Ratio calculated using postcode level house sales data (Land Registry) and output area level household income data (CACI). Rural England figure from CRC State of the Countryside 2008.

<sup>8</sup> This is the JSA claimant rate for March 2008. It is an accepted measure of unemployment but can miss areas of 'hidden' unemployment where people are not claiming benefits





## Economic Activity (EA)

*'Broad ranging economic activity will support Dartmoor's special qualities, provide local sources of employment and use local supply chains, with added value retained in the local economy'*

Headline Indicators	Monitoring Period	Latest Data	Condition
<b>Economic Activity (EA)</b>			
Self-employed as % of labour force	1996-2004 (annual)	31.2% of working population	
Annual % change in GVA of Dartmoor	1996-2006 (annual)	6% growth per year	
DNP per capita GVA as % of national	1996-2006 (annual)	90% of national GVA	

### Broad-ranging economy

Professional and business services is the largest sector on Dartmoor totalling over 25% of the National Park's economy. The tourism industry is reliant on Dartmoor's special qualities as an asset; tourism related businesses total 10% of economic output (about 8% in Devon as a whole). Wholesale/ retail, construction, and manufacturing are also significant industries on Dartmoor.

Beyond the National Park boundary to the peripheral towns the economy is slightly more broad-ranging with less reliance on the largest sectors.

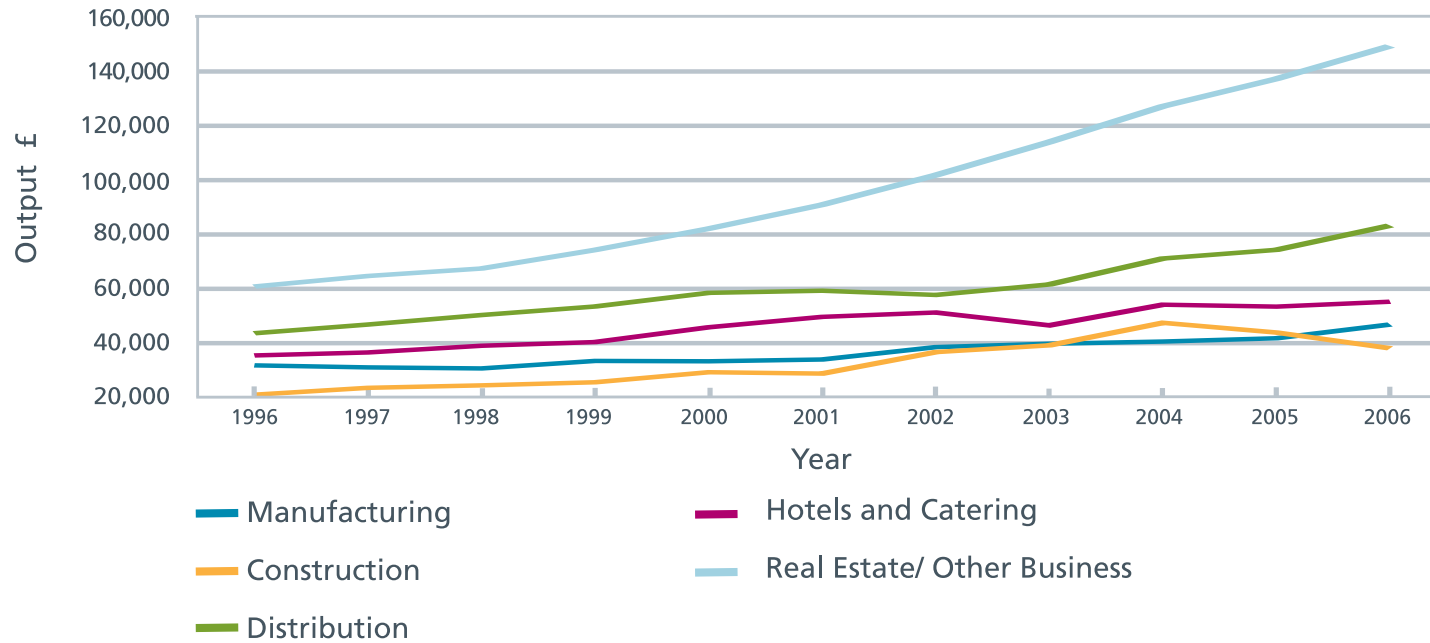
### Supporting Dartmoor's special qualities

Whilst the landscape of Dartmoor is reliant on agriculture it totals just 6% of Dartmoor's economic output and 6% of employment. The agricultural sector is relatively volatile but has seen steady decline in its contribution to the Dartmoor economy over the past decade. See *Land Management* for more information.

### Local sources of employment

At 31% self-employment levels are significantly higher than the rest of the Devon (19%), and the UK as a whole (12%). There is also a high proportion of residents working from home (20%). A survey of employment land on Dartmoor identified 37 individual areas of land, focussed within the Local Centres. The availability of employment land is healthy and an average of approximately 1,100 m<sup>2</sup> of floor space for employment use has been completed annually in the National Park over the past 5 years. Plans for a Dartmoor brand linking agriculture and tourism business are currently in development. Such projects aim to 'plug the leaks' in the local economy by reducing the amount of money being spent outside of the area. More detail can be found under *Land Management*.

Figure 14. Growth of top 5 sectors in Dartmoor economy 1996-2006 (Source: Dartmoor economic model)





## New Development (ND)

*'New development will positively contribute to local distinctiveness. It will also be constructed with high standards of design and energy efficiency'*

Headline Indicators	Monitoring Period	Latest Data	Condition
<b>New Development (ND)</b>			
Net additional dwellings completed annually	2001-2008 (annual)	67 dwellings	
Amount of new floorspace developed for employment annually	2005-2008 (annual)	600 m <sup>2</sup> new floor space	
% of planning applications granted annually	2004-2008 (annual)	77% approved	

### Levels of development

Since 2001 the level of housing development completed within the National Park has averaged almost twice the indicative figure set out in the Devon Structure Plan of 60 new dwellings per year; the draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) sets out a revised figure of 50 dwellings per year. See *Community Well-being* for more information on affordable housing.

In 2007/08, 84% of new dwellings were completed on previously developed ('brownfield') land; the regional target is to achieve at least 50%<sup>9</sup>, this proportion has increased from 52% 2004/05. An average of 1,100m<sup>2</sup> of floorspace for employment use has been provided in the National Park each year since 2005.


### Decision making

The Authority receives around 1,000 applications for planning permission each year. 84% of applications received in 2007/08 were granted; this figure has remained steady since 2001/02. Whilst the number of appeals against decisions made by the Authority has risen slightly over the past 5 years the number of appeals allowed has fallen to 29% in 2007/08 (compared with 24% nationally).

### High quality design

The historic built environment makes a significant contribution to the local distinctiveness of the National Park. This is protected through the designation of Conservation Areas and Listed Building status; more detail can be found under *Historic Built Environment*. It is essential that all new development both respects and enhances the high quality built environment.

The quality of the design of the built environment is a particularly difficult field to monitor given it is, to a great extent, subjective.



Some Authorities will monitor the quality of design through use of a design panel; the *Dartmoor National Park Management Plan 2007-2012* aims for the achievement of a national award in recognition of high quality design. Other measures of design quality include the availability of advice on design issues (Best Value indicator BV205 - for which the DNPA scored 89% in 2007). Decision and policy monitoring can be used as a proxy, for example between 2005-2008 28% of planning applications which failed to get permission were refused on the grounds of design issues (citing Local Plan Policy BL1 as a reason for refusal). Whilst this may demonstrate a desire for good quality design it is also important to ensure applicants are aware what good design is; as such the DNPA is preparing a Design Guidance Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which will offer more detailed advice to the public and professionals.

### Energy Efficiency

The energy efficiency of new development is increasingly important. No data currently exists in this area for the National Park; the Authority intends to improve the provision of data in order to gain a better understanding of the energy efficiency of new development. Some information on the energy efficiency of the local housing stock is collected by District Councils and the use of this is being pursued. More information can be found under *Energy*.

<sup>9</sup> As set out in the Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West 2006-2026





## Energy (E)

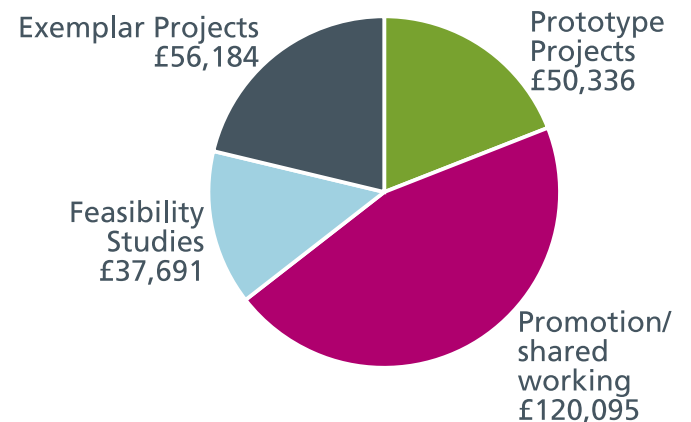
*'Dartmoor will be an exemplar of low energy consumption and the production of renewable energy from sources compatible with Dartmoor's special qualities'*

Headline Indicators	Monitoring Period	Latest Data	Condition
<b>Energy (E)</b>			
Number of permissions granted (and total number of applications) for micro-renewable energy development annually	2006-2008 (annual)	18 approved (2 refused)	
Per capita carbon footprint for Dartmoor	2008 (annual)	Not yet available	

The Dartmoor Sustainable Development Fund (DSDF), funded by Defra, has been set up to encourage innovative sustainable development projects that help improve the quality of life for current and future generations on Dartmoor. The fund is administered by the National Park Authority and since 2002 has awarded nearly £265,000 worth of grant aid towards energy efficiency and renewable energy projects worth nearly £1.2m.

Projects include feasibility studies, the testing of prototype equipment, exemplar projects demonstrating new ideas or ways of working, and projects which promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, or shared working. These 41 projects represent 21% of the total grant award to date.

Figure 15. Energy project funding by Dartmoor Sustainable Development Fund 2002-2008 (Source: DNPA)



There is currently not much information on the level of renewable energy production on Dartmoor or on the energy efficiency of existing homes and businesses. In 2007 RegenSW (the South West renewable energy agency) completed a survey indicating 3.35 mw of installed commercial renewable electricity and heat projects on Dartmoor. This is 2% of the regional total.



This is the most comprehensive survey currently available of commercial capacity on Dartmoor. The Authority monitors the number of domestic planning permissions granted each year by type of micro-renewable energy development. This has been between 15 and 20 installations each year since 2005/06. A recent change in legislation however, means more domestic installations such as solar thermal and solar electrical, can be completed without the need for planning permission and are therefore increasingly difficult to monitor.

A study by the Centre for Sustainable Energy in 2004 estimated 36% of Dartmoor households to be of solid walled construction, and 55% of properties off mains gas connection. This gives an indication of the efficiency of many Dartmoor homes, and of the number potentially reliant on electricity, bottled gas and oil central heating.

Local authorities are currently benefiting from carbon footprint calculations undertaken using REAP (Resources and Energy Analysis Programme); National Park Authorities have not been provided with this data. The Authority is currently undertaking work in partnership with the Environment Agency to calculate a carbon footprint for Dartmoor using the REAP model.





## Military Training (MT)

*'All military training taking place on Dartmoor will be consistent with national park purposes, and Defence Estates land is managed as an exemplar of conservation and recreational opportunity'*

Headline Indicators	Monitoring Period	Latest Data	Condition
<b>Military Training (MT)</b>			
% of land open to public access which can be closed for live firing	2003-2007 (annual)	17.5% of access land	
Number and % of days each year that range danger areas may be closed to the public (published closure)	2003-2007 (annual)	59 days (16%) 161 days (44%)	
Okehampton		110 days (30%)	
Willsworthy			
Merrivale			
Number and % of days each year that range danger areas were actually closed to the public (actual closure)	2003-2007 (annual)	49 days (13%) 129 days (35%)	
Okehampton		103 days (28%)	
Willsworthy			
Merrivale			

Dartmoor has been used for military training since the Napoleonic wars of the early 1800s. Today the remoteness, challenging terrain and changeable climate of the National Park offers a demanding location for training for light armed forces such as the Royal Marines. The principle licence for the military to train on Dartmoor expires in 2012 and a process of negotiation is underway.

### Recreational opportunity

9,487 ha (10%) of the National Park is used for live firing by the military. This, and a further 3,712 ha (4%), is used for dry training (using blank ammunition). The public is informed of access restrictions to range danger areas via a firing notice published 6 weeks in advance. In 2007 firing took place for approximately 85% of the days which were advertised; this figure has improved significantly from around 63% in 1990. The Okehampton, Willsworthy and Merrivale Ranges (live training areas) were unavailable for public access for a total of 49, 129 and 103 days respectively in 2007.

### Conservation opportunity

The military training areas are in important areas of the National Park; 69% of the ranges is SSSI and 95% is identified on the Section 3 map of moor, heath and woodland (see Landscape for more information). The Ministry of Defence operates an environmental management system and Integrated Land Management Plan (ILMP) for its responsibilities, which aim to reduce the military's impact on the moor and have regard for National Park purposes.

Figure 16. Summary of Dartmoor military training areas (Source: DTA)

Training Area <sup>10</sup>	Training Rights	Range Danger Area	Guaranteed Public Access each year <sup>11 12</sup>	Actual firing as % of published firing (2008)	
Okehampton	6,336 ha	Licensed	4,966 ha	247 days	83%
Willsworthy	1,553 ha	Freehold	1,010 ha	120 days	80%
Merrivale	3,756 ha	Licensed	3,511 ha	190 days	94%
Cramber	849 ha	Leasehold	0 ha	365 days	n/a
Ringmoor	596 ha	Licensed	0 ha	365 days	n/a
Sheepstor	84 ha	Licensed	0 ha	365 days	n/a
Other	24 ha	Licensed	0 ha	365 days	n/a
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,198 ha</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,487 ha</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<sup>10</sup> MOD also has rights to train in other areas within the Dartmoor National Park and makes arrangements for the use of other land when specific training objectives require.

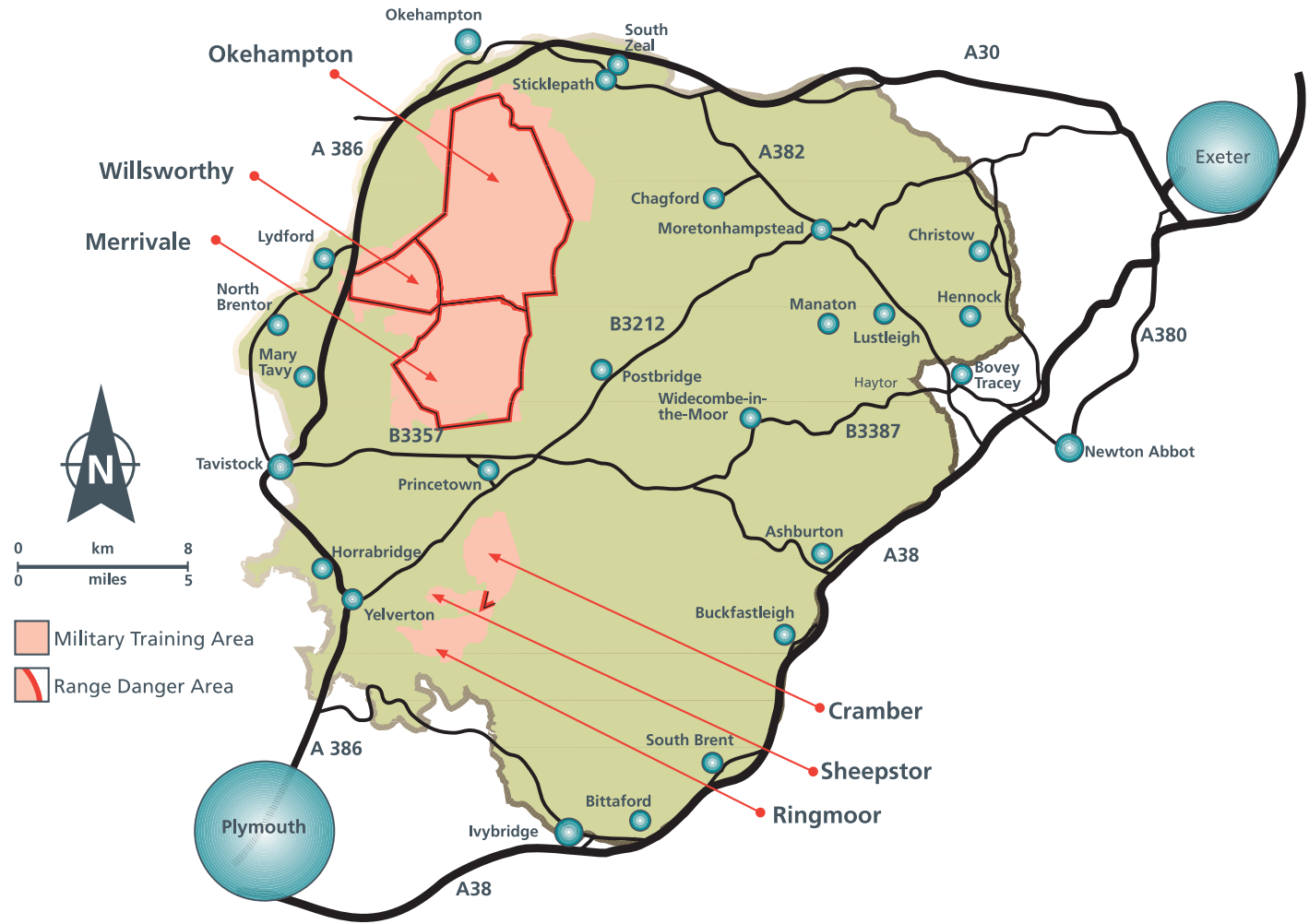
<sup>11</sup> The number of days of Guaranteed Public Access varies each year depending on when Public Holidays fall.

<sup>12</sup> Only the Range Danger Areas are closed for public safety. Notification was increased from 2 to 6 weeks in 2006 to improve the certainty of public access and enable forward planning.





Figure 17. Military training areas on Dartmoor (Source: DTA)



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## COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESS

### Key data sources and further information

- *Centre for Sustainable Energy: Study of hard to treat home (2004)*  
[www.cse.org.uk](http://www.cse.org.uk)
- Defra: Agricultural Census  
[www.defra.gov.uk/esg/work\\_htm/publications/cs/farmstats\\_web/default.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/esg/work_htm/publications/cs/farmstats_web/default.htm)
- DNPA: Dartmoor Economic Model  
[www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/dartmoor\\_economy\\_\\_1994-2004.pdf](http://www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/dartmoor_economy__1994-2004.pdf)
- DNPA: Dartmoor Sustainable Development Fund
- Natural England: Environmental Stewardship
- DNPA: *Forward Planning and Community Service: Annual Monitoring Report 2007*  
[www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/pl-amr.htm](http://www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk/pl-amr.htm)
- DNPA: Natural Environment Service
- Land Registry: UK house prices
- Ministry of Defence (DTA)  
[www.dartmoor-ranges.co.uk](http://www.dartmoor-ranges.co.uk)
- NOMIS: Official labour market statistics  
[www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)
- Office for National Statistics (Census)  
[www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk)
- RegenSW: Survey of renewable electricity and heat projects in south west England  
[www.surveys.energysw.com](http://www.surveys.energysw.com)

