

Wiltshire Council Information – Item 7a

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| Subject: | Wiltshire and Swindon State of the Environment report 2012 |
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| Weblink: | Wiltshire Intelligence Network Environment section: www.intelligencenetwork.org.uk/environment |
| Further details available: | Full report available online or in hard copy and more detailed data on the Wiltshire Intelligence Network. |

Summary of announcement:

The State of the Environment report is the first of its kind for Wiltshire and Swindon, published in May 2012 and funded by NHS Wiltshire and Wiltshire Council. It provides a strategic assessment of Wiltshire's environment and forms the basis of the JSA environment section.

The report gives an overview of facts and figures relating to a wide range of issues, including land use, wildlife, climate change, waste, air quality, water resources and the historic environment. It highlights key themes and trends over time and in relation to the South West and the UK as a whole.

More detailed data is available in a new environment section of the Wiltshire Intelligence Network. This website gives easy access to up-to-date environmental information and online links to a wide range of sources.

The report and website provide an environmental evidence base to inform policy and decision-making by local authorities and others, and will help to inform the development of the new Wiltshire and Swindon Local Nature Partnership (a separate briefing on this will be available from August onwards).

Detailed information about the state of the environment in each Community Area can be extracted from these resources. For example, maps are available on the website of environmental designations (such as protected wildlife sites) and agri-environment schemes in each Community Area.

Any questions, comments or requests for further information can be addressed to Jenny Hawley (contact details above).