

Institution	Presence in Totnes area			
Businesses	<p>Ethical' businesses There are a businesses across a range of sectors which purport to have a specific ethical focus, for example, green printers, green funerals, green publishing, green builders. There is also a cluster of fair trade related businesses and food businesses which assert particular ethics, e.g. 'local' or 'organic'.</p>	<p>Independent businesses Totnes has retained a centre which has a strong independent sector (see section 3.1 below). The area also has high levels of self-employment.</p>	<p>Workers Co-operatives Some experimentation with co-operatives but the area has not become a significant site of co-operative activity. In the late 1970s there were some co-operatives such as the Devon Organic Growers, Green Shoes, and Conker Shoes both artisan shoemaking businesses. Neither Green Shoes or Conker are now structured as co-operatives. In the late 1970s there was also a plan to turn one of Dartington's businesses (Dartington Tweeds) into a co-operative but this was not pursued. There are some contemporary agricultural co-operatives in the area. Most notably the South Devon Organic Producers which supplies the Riverford Organic Vegetables business (see section 3.2).</p>	
Economic Focused Community enterprises	<p>Totnes Involvement in Local Trading (TILT) TILT was a local loan fund that ran between 1989 and 1996. It was intended to provide finance for local businesses and enterprises that could not access finance elsewhere. It can be regarded as a pioneering form of Community Development Finance Initiative (CDFI), community investment institutions which have grown in significance since the 1990s (McGeehan 2007).</p>	<p>Totnes Development Trust the Totnes Development Trust which was established in 1998. One of the key instigators of the project was Michael Kendall who moved to Totnes in 1994 with the intention of linking his green conferencing business (Green Paths) with Dartington [59]. TDT has yet to develop an 'asset base' with which to support employment and education. Having developed a project for shared artist workspace it spent several years attempting to secure premises without success.</p>		<p>Devonlane Credit Union Initial plans for a Totnes Credit Union were developed in the late 1990s and evolved into a merger with the existing Devonlane Credit Union. The Credit Union has an office and collection point in Birdwood House at the centre of Totnes and around a 100 members from the Totnes area.</p>
Alternative Food Initiatives	<p>Organic Box schemes The Riverford Organic Vegetables box scheme originated in the area in the early 1990s. This followed previous experiments with box schemes. There is also a smaller Natures Round scheme which co-exists with Riverford.</p>	<p>Farm shops There are a number of farm shops in the Totnes area including one run by the Riverford family in Dartington.</p>	<p>Markets There are popular markets on a Friday and Saturday which provide an outlet for small scale growers. A monthly farmers market ran for 6 years until October 2008 when it was forced to close due to poor custom.</p>	<p>Community Supported Farming schemes The area has seen several attempts at experimenting with Community Supported Farming schemes in the area (see section 3.3)</p>
Currencies	<p>LETS The first LETS in Totnes was started in 1986 following a visit to the area by Michael Linton, inventor of the system. This made it one of the earliest schemes in the UK. The first iteration of the scheme folded but it was relaunched in Sept 1991. The second scheme built up a sizable membership, 181 in 1993 including several businesses. It was researched by Williams (1995) who suggested it was one of the largest rural schemes in the UK. However, in the following years it struggled for resources and administration and folded in 2006. Recently there has been some effort to restart the scheme.</p>			<p>Totnes Pound The Totnes Pound was launched in March 2007 under the auspices of the Transition Town Totnes initiative. It became a high profile currency which has inspired further currencies elsewhere (see Longhurst 2010).</p>
Social markets	<p>A number of different social markets are highly visible in the town. E.g. fairtrade, organic, 'local', 'green'. This is reflected not only by the presence of specialist businesses in these markets but also the presence of such products in non-specialist retailers.</p>			

Table 7.1: Postcapitalist institutions in the Totnes area