

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

2 November 2018

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LDS)Report of the Head of Forward Planning and Economy**Recommendation : That Members adopt the Local Development Scheme with immediate effect.****1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a public statement of the Dartmoor National Park Authority's local plan preparation programme. It sets out the 'timetable' for preparing the Local Plan.
- 1.2 It is important that the Local Development Scheme remains up to date and clearly reflects the programme of document preparation and consultation. A copy of the latest version of the LDS, which includes a small number of updates around document programming and the overall Local Plan timetable, is appended to this report. It is also available on the Authority's web site at: <http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/planning/pl-forwardplanning/pl-localdevframework/pl-localdevscheme>; this page will be kept up to date in order to inform the public of the state of the Authority's compliance with this timetable.

2 Programme of plan preparation

- 2.1 A Development Plan Document, such as the Local Plan, must follow a process of adoption set out by government Regulations. On the Agenda alongside this report Members are considering the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which sets out the planning consultation and engagement process, and a report on the consultation on the first draft (Regulation 18) Local Plan.
- 2.2 The Local Plan review will follow these key steps:
- Evidence gathering and Issues (complete)
 - First draft (Regulation 18) Local Plan consultation (From December 2018)
 - Revised draft (Regulation 19 or '*Publication*') Local Plan consultation
 - *Submission* to the Secretary of State
 - Examination
 - *Adoption*
- 2.3 The LDS sets out the following programme for the Local Plan review.

Local Development Document	Public participation on the scope and content of the document*	Publication	Submission	Adoption
Local Plan (DPD)	2016/17	2019/20	2019/20	2020/21

3 Conclusion

- 3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework, together with recent appeal decisions nationally, highlights the importance of maintaining an up to date development plan and evidence base.
- 3.2 This LDS establishes an important continued commitment from the Authority to maintain a robust and up to date development plan, giving it the ability to make clear, justified and defensible decisions on planning applications within the National Park.

4 Financial implications

- 4.1 The adoption of the LDS sets a timetable for plan preparation. The delivery of this scheme therefore has resource implications for the Authority in respect of staff resource (principally forward planning) for document preparation, consultation and examination; staff resources relating to specialist input; specific research or appraisal requirements; publicity and publication; and the examination process and inspectors fees. This work is budgeted for on the basis of the programme described in section two, above.

DAN JANOTA



Local Development Scheme (LDS)

November 2018





Dartmoor National Park Authority

Local Development Scheme (LDS)

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a public statement of the Dartmoor National Park Authority's local plan preparation programme, and will guide the establishment of the documents which form part of the local plan for the Dartmoor National Park.

This includes:

- *Development Plan Documents* (containing formal policies, for example the Core Strategy);
- *Supplementary Planning Documents* (more 'informal' advice which adds to adopted policy, such as Design Guidance)
- *Other documents, including Local Development Documents* (including more 'procedural' documents such as the Local Development Scheme or Statement of Community Involvement)

1. Context

- 1.1. The 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act ('the 2004 Act') brought in 'Local Development Framework' as a new structure to local planning. Local Development Frameworks include:
 - *Development Plan Documents 'DPDs'* (containing formal policies, for example the Core Strategy);
 - *Supplementary Planning Documents 'SPDs'* (more 'informal' advice which adds to adopted policy, such as Design Guidance)
 - *Other documents, including Local Development Documents* (including more 'procedural' documents such as the Local Development Scheme or Statement of Community Involvement)
- 1.2. Whilst the current government prefers the term 'Local Plan' to 'Local Development Framework' (LDF) the structure remains. Regional Spatial Strategies (brought in by the 2004 Act) have since been removed through 2011 Localism Act ('the 2011 Act') which also brought forward key provisions relating to the Duty to Co-operate and the Neighbourhood Plans.
- 1.3. Government guidance has also been rationalised significantly, with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) replacing the portfolio of Planning Policy Statements in 2012 and updated in 2018, and the National Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014 which has formed part of the governments 'red tape challenge'. It is also important to note that Government considers that the National Parks Circular¹ should set the context for the local plan coverage of the English National Parks.
- 1.4. Under section 67(1) of the Environment Act 1995, Dartmoor National Park Authority (NPA) is the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for the entire area of the National Park. Those responsibilities include the mineral and waste planning functions for the area. The Authority also prepares the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan; these are the over-arching strategic documents for the National Parks and set the vision and objectives to guide the future of the Parks over a 10 to 20 years period. The adopted 2014-2019 Dartmoor National Park Management Plan ('Your Dartmoor') establishes important principles for consideration in local planning policy and links closely with the adopted Core Strategy.

2. Current plans in Dartmoor National Park

- 2.1. The local plan for Dartmoor National Park comprises the Core Strategy (2008), and Development Management and Delivery DPD (2013), together with the saved policies of the Minerals Local Plan (2004). These documents are supported in their implementation by the Design Guide SPD and the Affordable Housing SPD. These documents set the spatial planning strategy, policies and guidance for Dartmoor National Park in the planning period up to 2026. An overview of the documents which currently form part of the local plan for Dartmoor National Park are set out in Table 1.

¹ English National Parks and the Broads. UK Government Vision and Circular 2010. Defra, March 2010.

Document name	Current status	Pre-submission consultation	Submission	Public examination	Adoption
Core Strategy (Development Plan Document) Sets out the vision, aims and strategy for spatial development in the Dartmoor National Park. Provides the background for the formulation of the generic development control and site specific policies.	Adopted	2005 - 2007	2007	2007	2008
Development Management and Delivery (Development Plan Document) A suite of subject related development management policies to guide and control spatial development within Dartmoor National Park. Site specific policies set the planning framework for particular areas and land uses. Certain sites will be allocated for specific uses or purposes.	Adopted	2012	2012	2012- 2013	2013
Minerals Local Plan (Development Plan Document) Policies to control minerals development within the Dartmoor National Park.	Saved policies ²	-	-	-	2004
Design Guidance (Supplementary Planning Document) Guidance to encourage a high standard of design appropriate for Dartmoor National Park	Adopted	2011	n/a	n/a	2012
Affordable Housing (Supplementary Planning Document) Guidance to make clear the Authority's expectations and support the delivery of affordable housing in Dartmoor National Park.	Adopted	2014	n/a	n/a	2014
Statement of Community Involvement Sets out the scope and arrangements for consultation and participation for each local development document	Adopted (Revised 2018)	-	-	-	2018
Local Development Scheme The timetable for local plan preparation	Current (Revised 2018)	-	-	-	2018

Table 1. Current local planning document prepared by Dartmoor National Park Authority

² Annex to the Core Strategy indicates which of the saved policies Local Plan still remain in force and which are superseded.

3. Local Development Scheme

- 3.1. The 2016 LDS confirmed the Authority's intention to prepare a single local plan document. This LDS review includes minor updates which reflect refinements to the programme for the local plan review and timetable as it has been considered in more detail. It reflects additional stages in the process to enable further engagement with parish and town councils, and allowance for a gap in staffing over winter 2016/17. .
- 3.2. The LDS is a statement of Dartmoor National Park Authority's local development document preparation programme. Whilst this document will include commentary on the range of documents the Authority intends to prepare and review, it is important to note that the required scope of the LDS is the preparation of DPDs; Statements of Community Involvement and Supplementary Planning Documents do not need to be included.
- 3.3. The Authority intends to prepare the following documents within the timeframe of this LDS. Key milestones for their preparation are set out in Table 4.

3.4. Local Plan Review (Development Plan Document)

The Authority recognises the statutory need to maintain an up to date development plan. The Authority's Core Strategy was adopted in 2008. Whilst it is considered consistent with the NPPF it is recognised that the economic and statutory context of this plan has moved forward. The Development Management DPD was adopted in 2013, after the publication of the NPPF and demonstrates a continued integrity to the overarching strategy and evidence which supports the Authority's local plan.

The review of the local plan will focus upon strategic housing policy, strategic economic development policy, and settlement strategy matters. The scope and extent of other potential areas of change will be determined through early engagement with stakeholders. The review will lead to a consolidated single 'local plan' for the National Park. This document will cover the whole of Dartmoor National Park.

The Dartmoor National Park Authority is the Minerals Planning Authority for the National Park and as such this is a statutory function. The NPPF says Minerals Planning Authorities should "identify and include policies for extraction of minerals resource of local and national importance" and "define Minerals Safeguarding Areas". The local plan will include as necessary, minerals policies for the whole of Dartmoor National Park.

3.5. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

The Authority has two adopted SPDs, the Design Guide (2011) and Affordable Housing SPD (2014).

A revised Affordable Housing SPD was prepared in response to changing government policy around affordable housing, including funding for affordable housing, starter homes, and thresholds for S106 contributions. However there continued to be uncertainty around the threshold for affordable housing, and the implementation of Starter Homes policy, which was then followed by a review of the NPPF and NPPG. Given that DNPA had by that time started the review of the Local Plan the view was taken to pause any further work and consultation on the Affordable Housing SPD until such a time as greater policy certainty existed.

Revision of the SPD would fall outside the necessary scope of this LDS.

The Authority is also working with partners on a jointly prepared South Hams SAC SPD (Supplementary Planning Document). This SPD will provide specific formal guidance on development in or affecting the South Hams Special Area of Conservation (Greater Horseshoe Bats). It is being prepared jointly by DNPA, Natural England, Devon County Council, Teignbridge District Council, South Hams District Council and Torbay Council. The draft SPD was published for consultation in spring 2018. Comments received are currently being considered and it is intended to adopt the joint SPD in 2019.

3.6. Statement of Community Involvement

2004 Act requires that LPAs produce a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The Authority prepared a new SCI – Planning: Having Your Say, which was adopted in January 2016. Following new regulations regarding Neighbourhood Plans it has been necessary to revise the SCI. This revised version (November 2018) is adopted alongside this LDS. No further work is planned on the SCI within the timeframe of this SCI.

3.7. Joint working and other plans

Although joint development plan documents can be prepared with other planning authorities, there is no intention to prepare joint planning documents. In April 2016 the Authority agreed³ not to enter formally into joint local plan arrangements with Plymouth, West Devon and South Hams; or with Exeter, Teignbridge, Mid-Devon and East Devon. It has committed to work closely with both groups, however, in respect of evidence gathering and meeting the Duty to Co-operate.

The Authority is in close liaison with Devon County Council, which is the mineral planning authority for the rest of Devon outside Plymouth and Torbay, in preparing evidence to inform minerals policies within the local plan.

3.8. Strategic Environmental Assessment/Sustainability Appraisal

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires local development documents to be prepared with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. Local planning Authorities must also comply with a

³ Authority Report April 2016 http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0007/739609/20160401-Authority-Reports.pdf

European Union Directive on the Strategic Environmental Assessment of certain plans and programmes that are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

The Authority will continue to take a robust approach in the preparation of an environmental report which informs and supports the different stages in the preparation of a DPD.

3.9. Key milestones in the production of a development plan document

Table 3 sets out key milestones in the preparation of a DPD.

Initial Evidence Gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate initial aims and objectives for local plan • Begin evidence gathering process • Identify relevant environment, economic and social objectives to inform Sustainability Appraisal
Initial consultation and continued work on evidence gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with local communities, businesses and other interested parties (Regulation 18) • Take into account representations received from consultation process in line with (Regulation 18) • Engage with Duty to Cooperate partners • Ensure compliance with the SCI • Continue evidence gathering • Test emerging options through Sustainability Appraisal
Publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft plan published for representations for a minimum of 6 weeks (Regulations 17 and 19)
Submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan submitted for examination, along with Sustainability Appraisal, evidence base and a statement of representations and main issues (Regulation 22)
Examination of submitted plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Inspector assesses plan to determine whether it has been prepared in line with the Duty to Cooperate, other legal requirements and whether it is sound in line with section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Regulations 23/24. • Local Planning Authority can ask Inspector to recommend main modifications to make plan sound or comply with other legal requirements • Inspector issues report at end of examination • Exceptionally, the Inspector will recommend the draft plan is withdrawn if it has not been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate or if it is likely to be found unsound
Adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft plan formally adopted by the local planning authority in line with section 23 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 • Monitoring of implementation of Local Plan policies required in line with Regulation 34.

Table 3. Local Plan Development - taken from National Planning Policy Guidance (Regulations refer to *Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012*)

Local Development Document	Public participation on the scope and content of the document*	Publication	Submission	Adoption
Local Plan (DPD)	2016/17	2019/20	2019/20	2020/21

Table 4. Dartmoor National Park Authority Local Development Scheme – Programme 2016-2021

* This includes consultation with the statutory bodies on the scope of the sustainability appraisal.

With reference to the above formal LDS timescales, it is anticipated that the preparation of the local plan will take place as follows.

Phase 1 – Evidence and Issues

This phase will include:

- The main evidence gathering
- An Issues Paper for public consultation, designed to stimulate stakeholder engagement.
- Parish / Town Councils consultation regarding the development strategy and policy approach for their areas.

This phase ran from winter 2016 to winter 2018/19.

Phase 2 – Draft Plan Issues and Options (Regulation 18)

A key aspect of the Draft Plan Issues and Options stage is to

- Confirming the scope of the plan
- Confirming the key issues for the plan to address
- Identifying potential options for addressing the issues
- Publishing a Sustainability Appraisal which examines different options
- Preparing the Draft Plan for consultation

This phase is planned for winter 2018/19

Phase 3 – Pre-submission version (Regulation 19)

Consultation on this version will include general communication with the complete list of statutory and other consultees, depending on the extent of area specific issues (e.g. land allocations) events or material targeted at specific communities, with opportunities to promote and discuss, could be appropriate.

This phase is anticipated in Autumn/winter 2019

Phase 4 – Submission and Examination

This phase will include:

- Submission of the plan to the Secretary of State, for examination
- Public hearing
- Inspectors report
- Consultation on modifications as required
- Adoption

It is anticipated that examination and adoption will take place through 2020/21.

4. Monitoring and review

4.1. Legislation requires local planning authorities to produce an annual monitoring report to assess progress on the implementation of the LDS.

4.2. Monitoring systems should also assess:

- whether policies in local development documents are being implemented effectively, and whether targets or milestones are being met
- the impact of the policies with regard to national, regional and local targets
- the effectiveness of the policies and proposals with regard to the achievement of strategic objectives, and whether modification or replacement is required.

Where policies or proposals need to be changed, the annual review should indicate how that will be achieved.

4.3. A robust monitoring framework is now set out in the Authority's Annual Monitoring Report published in Spring/Summer of each year. The review and monitoring of community plans and strategies and the Dartmoor National Park Management Plan also provides evidence and material for assessing the documents in the local plan. Development Plans will be revised/reviewed on a 5 year timescale; Supplementary Planning Documents will be reviewed on a 5-10 year timescale or in both cases, as required in response to other material matters arising from ongoing monitoring.

4.4. A State of the Park Report is also prepared as a supporting element of the Management Plan, which will also be a useful source of monitoring information.

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

2 November 2018

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTReport of the Assistant Forward Planner

Recommendation: **That Members adopt the updated Statement of Community Involvement with immediate effect**

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report introduces a revised 'Statement of Community Involvement' (SCI) which has been updated in order to reflect new legislation brought in by the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017. It is recommended that this document be adopted with immediate effect. The SCI is a requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004). The local plan must be prepared in a way consistent with the approach set out in the SCI.

2 Background

- 2.1 The SCI is a procedural document which makes up part of the local plan. It describes the way we engage with communities, businesses, organisations and individuals about planning. This SCI sets out our plans for involving the public in considering planning applications and preparing the Local Plan for Dartmoor National Park.
- 2.2 The revised SCI is appended to this report (Appendix 1). It is also available on the Authority's website at: <http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/living-and-working/planning/planning-policy/background-evidence> (see tab 'preparing the local plan' and heading 'Updated Statement of Community Involvement - Consultation 2018').

3 Contents of the SCI

- 3.1 The structure of the revised SCI remains the same. It is split into seven sections and contains a number of helpful tips in coloured boxes which aim to provide further detail. The principles of good communication and engagement and the aims of the SCI, both found in section 1, also remain unchanged.
- 3.2 Changes to the document principally respond to changes in legislation surrounding Neighbourhood Planning, with two other small amendments, as summarised below:
- **Neighbourhood Development Plans** (sections 4.2 and 4.3; pp.8-9)
The process to follow and the support available to Neighbourhood Planning Groups wishing to make a Neighbourhood Development Plan is specified. The responsibilities of DNPA in this process are also made clear. Neighbourhood Planning Groups are added to the list of Specific Consultation bodies (p.7), and

will be notified of relevant planning applications, or changes to them, within their Neighbourhood Development Plan area (p.8).

- **Engagement with ‘hard to reach’ groups (sections 3 and 4.1; pp.6-7)**
Examples are given of particular hard to reach groups within Dartmoor and the most appropriate methods of engaging with them, including online channels, face to face events, the production of large print and screen-reader-compatible documents.
- **Electronic documents (section 3; p.6)**
A more electronic way of working is promoted throughout the document, with the aim of moving away from producing large numbers of printed documents. This will include a principally web-based local plan with printed copies at designated locations, and Parish Councils notified of relevant planning applications by email with links to view them online.

4 Consultation

4.1 Although regulations do not require a set period of consultation for the SCI we ran a formal period from 04 September to 15 October 2018. We notified our Local Plan consultee list that the SCI was published for consultation. We received written responses from two Town Councils, but none which required further action or changes to the SCI. We received no other comments during the consultation period.

4.2 Below is a summary of the two comments received:

- Buckfastleigh Town Council confirmed they had reviewed the draft and noted the changes, and found it to be clear and concise, with no further comments to make.
- Tavistock Town Council confirmed they had considered the document at the Town Council’s Development Management & Licensing Committee and that the document was noted but no feedback was given.

5 Conclusion

5.1 The SCI will be reviewed every five years, or before if changes to regulations or circumstances require.

5.2 The updated SCI reflects new Neighbourhood Planning legislation, the Local Development Scheme and current best practice. It has been designed to give flexibility but reflect current resources.

6 Equality and sustainability impact

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken using the Authority’s proforma. It highlights the risk of excluding some members of the community. However by using a variety of consultation methods the potential for exclusion is reduced. It does not identify any necessary amendment or action.

7 Financial Implications

- 7.1 No financial implications apply to the production of this document. However, following the principles set out in the document will result in significant cost savings compared with our previous approach to local plans. These include reduced print costs due to documents being primarily available on-line, and 'front-loading' engagement at early stages of document production in order to increase public buy-in, reduce objections and minimise potential delays.

SASSIE TICKLE

Attachments: Appendix 1 – Revised Statement of Community Involvement

20181102 ST Community Statement of Involvement



Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

Draft – September 2018



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All our planning policy documents and their supporting evidence are available on our website. [View Local Plan Documents](#)



1. Introduction and key principles

Dartmoor National Park Authority recognises the importance of good communication and engagement. This isn't just how we tell you what we're doing, or ask for your views, but also how we listen to you and how we explain the reasons for the decisions we have made.

We have principles of good communication and engagement which state:

- We will be clear about how people can be involved, and ensure that our processes are understandable
- We will be open about what can and cannot change and why, and ensure we provide information to help people understand
- We will be responsive to peoples' concerns and demonstrate how we have listened to these concerns in our decisions
- We will communicate our decisions clearly

This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out the main ways in which we engage with communities, businesses, organisations and individuals around planning. It sets out our plans for involving the public in considering planning applications, neighbourhood planning and preparing the Local Plan for Dartmoor National Park. The SCI has the following aims:

- To ensure that everyone has the maximum opportunity to participate in and contribute to the review and preparation of planning policy and other planning guidance
- To consult in a way which meets the needs of different groups so that public participation is helpful, effective and relevant
- To target engagement to ensure the appropriate statutory consulted parties and interest groups are involved

It is important to get involved in Local Plan consultation as Local Plan documents are the foundation of all our decisions on planning applications within Dartmoor National Park



2. What do we actively engage on?

2.1 Planning Policy

Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) is the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for the whole of the National Park and has to prepare and maintain an up to date 'Local Plan' for the area. The policies in the Local Plan are the basis for making decisions on planning applications in the National Park. Other documents and plans at a local level such as [Supplementary Planning Documents](#) and community plans (e.g. Parish Plans) are also important in linking with the Local Plan, and can be relevant or 'material considerations' in decision making. There are three different types of local planning documents:

- **Development Plan Documents** (e.g. the Local Plan): are formal planning documents containing policies and objectives for development within Dartmoor National Park. These documents are formal plans subject to rigorous procedures including several consultation stages and an independent examination. They also require a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) – an assessment of the economic, social and environmental impacts of a plan.
- **Neighbourhood Development Plans:** Communities have the opportunity to supplement the Local Plan with their own Neighbourhood Development Plans. Neighbourhood Development Plans are normally led by Town/ Parish Councils and enable communities to play a greater role in determining the future of their area. They are examined by an independent examiner and are also subject to a community referendum before being formally 'made' and form part of the Dartmoor Local Plan.
- **Supplementary Planning Documents:** provide additional guidance on the implementation of Local Plan policies. These need to be consulted on and are agreed by the Authority without the need for independent examination.

2.2 Planning and related applications¹ (Development Management)

Planning Applications relate to specific, detailed decisions being made about what happens to a building or piece of land. Applications are judged against the relevant adopted policies in the local plan, neighbourhood development plans, guidance in any supplementary planning documents, government guidance on policy and any other matters 'material' to the application.

You can sign up for planning alerts for Dartmoor or a specific area of Dartmoor on our website.
[Sign up now](#)

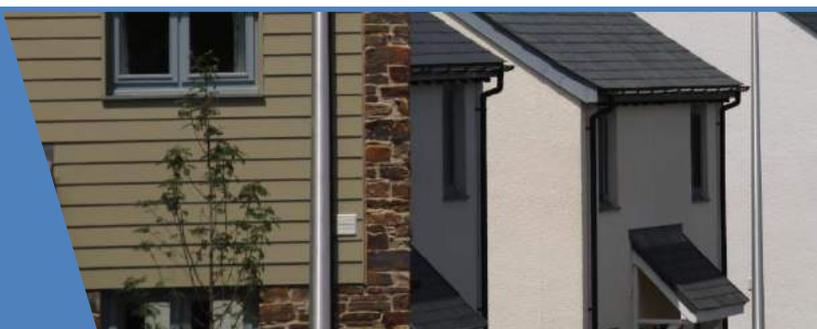


¹ Planning Applications include; applications for planning permission, listed building consent, change of use and certificates of lawfulness

2.3 Dartmoor National Park Local Plan structure



The Local Development Scheme sets out the timetable and processes for the Local Plan review



3. How and when do we engage?

	General news	Planning Policy	Planning or listed building applications	Masterplan or Development Brief	Neighbourhood planning	
Website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	www.dartmoor.gov.uk/planning
Print copies		✓		✓	✓	The Local Plan will be largely web-based, however we will provide a printed copy for public viewing to Parish Councils and local libraries
News release	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Sign up to our news releases or contact us to receive email notifications about planning policy consultations and other planning news
Social media	✓	✓		✓	✓	Follow us on Twitter and Facebook : @dartmoorplan
Direct mail			✓	✓		Planning applications: we will write to properties adjoining the proposal site and may write to others affected by the proposal. It is possible to sign up for bespoke planning alerts
Specific Newsletter		✓		✓		We may prepare newsletters for some specific pieces of work or consultations
Email/mail circulation		✓	✓	✓	✓	We will hold a list of names and address of people who wish to be notified about a specific issue
Public meeting or exhibition		✓		✓	✓	We will sometimes hold meetings or exhibitions to raise awareness and get public views. These will be advertised locally
Formal consultation		Min. 6 weeks	21 days	Min. 4 weeks	Min. 6 weeks	Some planning applications or policy documents will have a formal consultation period
Special interest groups		✓	✓	✓		Certain local or national groups, organisations or agencies will be notified of issues which we think may be relevant to them
Parish Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Parish Councils will be notified or consulted, principally electronically, on a range of issues in their area
Authority Member	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Authority members will be notified or made aware of a range of issues
Hard to reach groups	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Using the most appropriate methods to engage with hard to reach groups, including the production of large print and screen reader-compatible documents

4. Who do we engage with?

Who we engage with depends on the type of planning document or application being considered. There are a number of bodies that the Authority is required to engage with and invite to participate.

4.1 Planning Policy

- Those on the [Local Plan Regulations](#) list must be consulted at certain key stages of plan production, these are known as the 'specific consultation bodies'. The list below is not prescriptive but shows the broad range of organisations, groups and people that are consulted.
- There are many other groups and organisations that may have an interest. Listed are some of the bodies and organisations that we will keep informed and involve at key stages as appropriate, these are known as the 'general consultation bodies'.

Specific Consultation Bodies

- ✓ *The Coal Authority*
- ✓ *Local Enterprise Partnership*
- ✓ *Environment Agency*
- ✓ *Historic England*
- ✓ *Natural England*
- ✓ *Network Rail Infrastructure Limited*
- ✓ *Highways England*
- ✓ *Relevant Telecommunications Companies*
- ✓ *Relevant utility companies*
- ✓ *Clinical Commissioning Group*
- ✓ *Homes England*
- ✓ *Local Authorities (Devon, Teignbridge, Mid Devon, South Hams, West Devon)*
- ✓ *Parish and Town Councils within or next to Dartmoor National Park*
- ✓ *Neighbourhood Planning Groups*

General Consultation Bodies

- ✓ *Developers and Planning Agents*
- ✓ *Environmental groups (local and regional)*
- ✓ *Voluntary bodies*
- ✓ *Business groups and forums*
- ✓ *Sport and open space organisations*
- ✓ *Transport representatives and organisations*
- ✓ *Local civic and amenity societies*
- ✓ *Fire and Police services*
- ✓ *Youth organisations*
- ✓ *Community Groups/ Organisations*

- We are committed to involving a wide range of other individuals and organisations, including 'hard to reach' groups. 'Hard to reach' groups within Dartmoor National Park include, in particular:
 - Young people (specifically aged 16-24)
 - People with disabilities (including people with learning disabilities)
 - People from socially deprived areas (including areas of rural deprivation)
 - Black and Minority Ethnic groups (including Gypsies and Travellers)
 - People with no or limited internet access
- We will employ a variety of consultation methods to facilitate engagement with 'hard to reach' groups, including the use of a variety of online channels and face to face events, and the production of screen reader-compatible documents and large print (where requested).

- We will maintain a database of individuals, groups and other interested parties wishing to be informed when documents are published, which will be updated regularly. To add your information to this list please [contact us](#).

4.2 Planning Applications

- We are required to consult various organisations and bodies and are advised to consult others depending on the type of application². A complete list can be accessed on the [Government's website](#).
- Officers will use their professional judgement to contact the relevant organisations for specific planning applications.
- We will notify the Neighbourhood Planning Body of relevant planning applications, or changes to relevant planning applications, if there is a Neighbourhood Development Plan in place in that area.

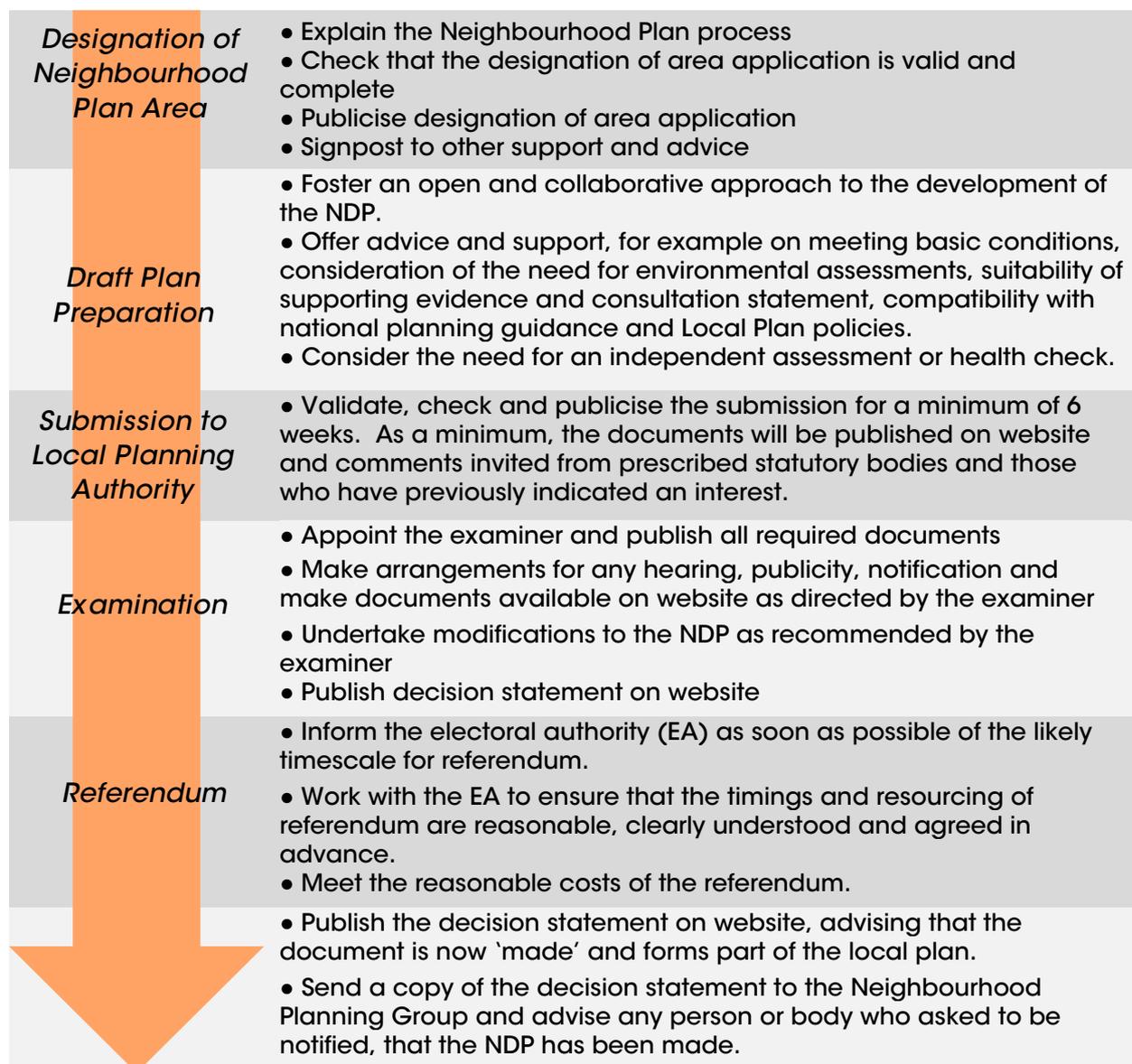
4.3 Neighbourhood Development Plans

- Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) are prepared by communities for their own parishes or areas with advice and support from their Local Planning Authority (LPA).
 - NDPs will be brought forward by a Neighbourhood Planning Group. This could be formed by a Town or Parish Council, or where there is no recognised council, a Neighbourhood Forum.
 - Dartmoor National Park will act as the lead LPA for Neighbourhood Plan Areas wholly within the Dartmoor National Park boundary,
 - Where a Neighbourhood Plan Area falls partly within Dartmoor National Park and partly within a neighbouring District or Borough Council, the LPA with the main centre or majority of population within its boundary will act as lead³.
- Community engagement and consultation undertaken by the Neighbourhood Planning Group will take place throughout its preparation. In addition, there are several key formal consultation stages that a NDP must go through before it is 'made' and becomes planning policy:
 - The Neighbourhood Planning Group will carry out consultation for a minimum of 6 weeks on the early stages of the NDP. A Consultation Statement must then be submitted to Dartmoor National Park along with the draft NDP indicating what consultation has been carried out and how it has informed the preparation of the draft NDP.
 - Dartmoor National Park is then required to consult on the NDP for a further minimum period of 6 weeks once it has been submitted to them and before it is submitted for examination.
 - Finally, a referendum will allow those in the area to vote on whether they want to accept or reject the proposed NDP.
- Post-examination, the NDP becomes a material consideration when making decisions on planning applications within the area covered by the NDP. After the referendum stage, the NDP forms part of the Local Plan.

² As set out in the [Town and Country Planning \(Development Management Procedure\) \(England\) Order 2015 \(DMPO\)](#)

³ [Protocol for joint working on Neighbourhood Planning](#) (Dartmoor National Park Authority, West Devon Borough Council, South Hams District Council, Teignbridge District Council and Mid Devon District Council).

- As lead LPA, Dartmoor National Park will undertake the following to support the production of NDPs⁴:



- As the lead LPA, Dartmoor National Park will also assist in modifying existing NDPs.

Visit the [community planning pages](#) of our website for support for preparing a NDP or to find out which areas of Dartmoor are already preparing NDPs

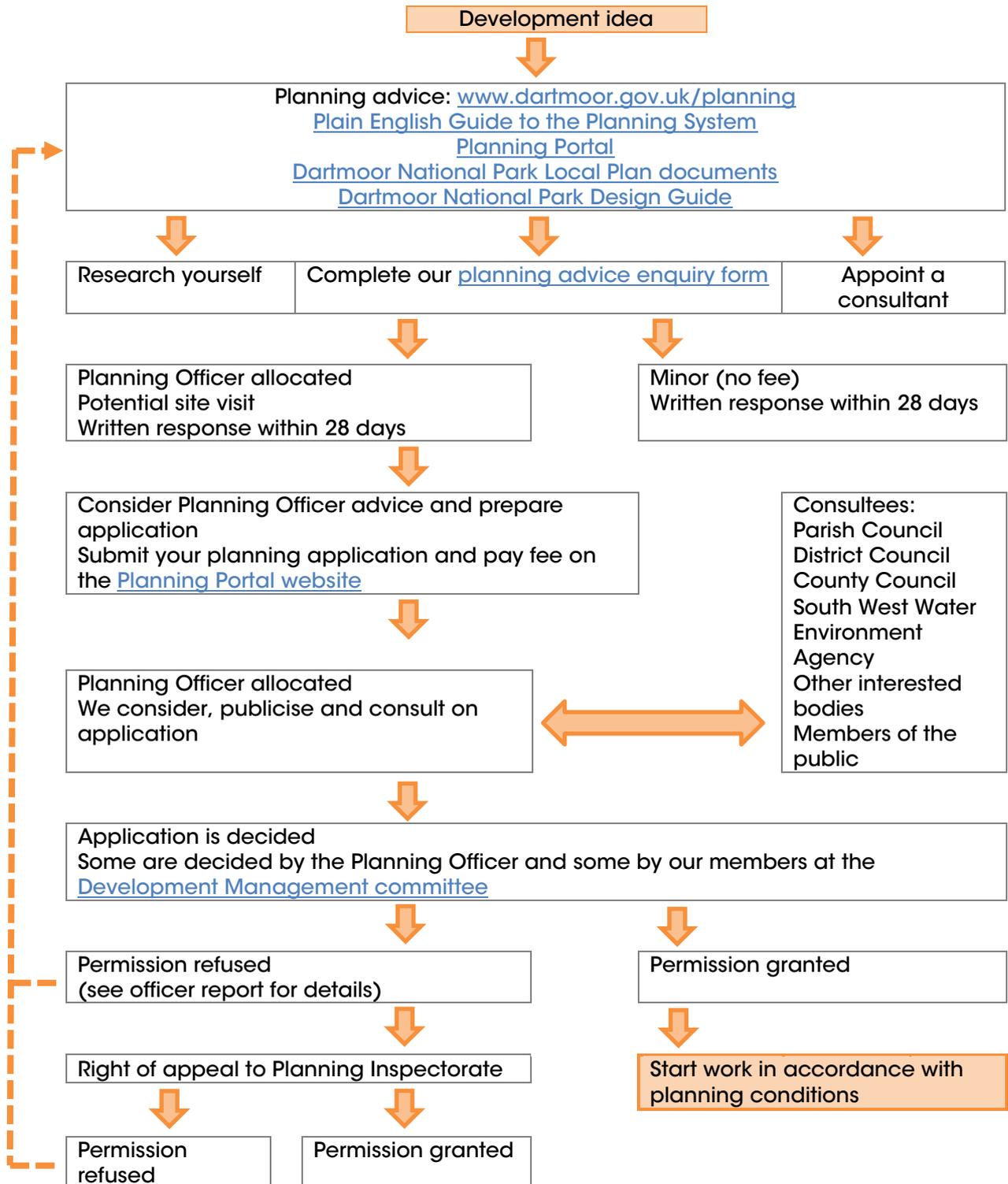


⁴ This advice and assistance also applies to Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders (in the absence of any other specific agreement)

5. Preparing Planning Policy

	What is it?	Who is consulted?	How does consultation happen?	What is the outcome of the consultation?
Stage 1 Issues (Topic Papers)	A continuous process of informal discussion on the topic papers	Specific groups will be targeted depending on the topic paper being considered. Everyone who wants to get involved should do so at this stage; it is important to raise issues early in the process	Topic papers will be published in stages; there is no statutory timescale	A full range of issues is considered to make sure all the important spatial planning issues are highlighted
Stage 2 Preferred Options Stage	A wide-ranging public consultation exercise on a first draft Local Plan. The approach and detail of the relevant Local Plan document will be clear	All organisations and individuals on our Local Plan consultee list, including Statutory Consultees (contact us to be added to this list)	See Section 3 and Section 4 . For a minimum of 6 weeks from publication	Comments received will be formally registered and considered before changing the document as necessary. If significant changes are required, further consultation may be needed before moving to the next stage
Stage 3 Submission Stage	We publish a revised draft of the Local Plan for consultation, then formally submit the document to the Secretary of State	All organisations and individuals on our Local Plan consultee list, including Statutory Consultees (contact us to be added to this list)	For a minimum of 6 weeks from publication. The document is then submitted to the Secretary of State together with any comments received	The comments received will be considered as part of the examination
Stage 4 Examination in Public	The plan is examined by an independent Planning Inspector (there may be public hearings)	The Examination is publicised and those who submitted a formal representation at the submission stage will be notified	Notifications will be sent at the start of the Examination	If the Planning Inspector finds the Local Plan sound, the Plan can be adopted

6. The main stages in considering a planning application



- It is important to make comments on planning applications if you support or object to something which affects you. Comments should consider 'material' planning considerations; including for example:
 - Amenity (e.g. loss of sunlight, outlook, privacy and overshadowing)
 - Highway issues (e.g. traffic generation, vehicular access, highway safety)
 - Capacity of physical infrastructure (e.g. in the public drainage or water systems)
 - Deficiencies in social facilities (e.g. spaces in schools and health facilities)
 - Environmental Health (e.g. noise, disturbance, smells, hazardous materials)
 - Loss or effect on trees
 - Adverse impact on natural conservation interests and biodiversity opportunities
 - Effect on listed buildings and conservation areas
 - Layout and density of building design, visual appearance and finishing materials

Examples of issues that are not planning considerations include the loss of value on a property or the loss of a person's private view.

We recommend using our pre-application planning advice service before submitting a planning or related application. Advice on small scale development is often free of charge, however we do operate [a charging system](#) for more significant proposals.



7. Are we doing what we promised?

We are committed to meaningful and useful engagement and providing opportunities for you to be involved in shaping planning within Dartmoor National Park. If you have any comments about our engagement please get in touch with the Forward Planning team at forwardplanning@dartmoor.gov.uk.

If you feel we have not been doing what we promised and would like to send us a complaint, please see our complaints procedure which is available on our [website](#). Before making a formal complaint we would encourage you to discuss your concerns with a senior manager of the Planning Team.

We will review the Statement of Community Involvement every 5 years. However it may be reviewed sooner if necessary.

Contact us

Forward Planning
Dartmoor National Park Authority
Parke, Bovey Tracey,
Newton Abbot,
TQ13 9JQ

Tel: (01626) 832093
Email: forwardplanning@dartmoor.gov.uk
Website: www.dartmoor.gov.uk/planning
Facebook: [@DartmoorPlan](#)
Twitter: [@DartmoorPlan](#)

Where can I get further help?

The Planning Portal

The Planning portal is the Government gateway to planning information throughout the UK. It provides information on plans, appeals applications, contact details and research areas. You can access the Planning Portal online: www.planningportal.co.uk

Planning Aid

Planning Aid offers free and independent professional planning advice to community groups and individuals who cannot afford to pay professional fees. You can contact Planning Aid England (general enquiries) at:

Helpline: 020 7929 8338
Email: advice@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk
Web: www.rtpi.org.uk/planning-aid

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

2 November 2018

LOCAL PLAN – CONSULTATION DRAFT (REGULATION 18)Report of the Head of Forward Planning and EconomyRecommendation: That Members:

- (i) **Agree to publish the draft Local Plan (Regulation 18) for consultation (Appendix 1 (printed for Members only));**
- (ii) **Note the appraisal reports (SA/SEA, HRA, EqlA) (Appendix 2); and**
- (iii) **Endorse the Duty to Co-operate Statement of Common Ground (Appendix 3) and delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman, authority to make minor changes to the Statement if considered necessary following discussion with other signatories**

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the Authority to publish the draft Local Plan (Regulation 18) for public consultation.
- 1.2 The Local Plan is the starting point for all planning decisions made in the National Park. The review of the Local Plan started in 2016. Officers considered with Members a range of options for the review, including joint plan making arrangements with adjoining planning authorities, the scope of the review (e.g. partial review), and the overall need to review at this stage. The outcome is a review of the development plan in its entirety, leading to a single local plan for the National Park covering strategic, local and site specific policies, as well as minerals and waste.
- 1.3 This draft Local Plan (Regulation 18) is the first formal step in the review of the development plan; it will in time replace the Core Strategy (2008) and Development Management and Delivery DPD (2013). It is consistent with national policy (the 2018 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)) and reflects a range of other relevant legislation and guidance, in particular that specific to National Park designation. Most crucially, this Local Plan is a key way in which we pursue National Park purposes, and the duty. The Local Plan sits alongside the National Park Management Plan, which is a key document setting out a shared vision for the National Park and how joint strategy and partnership working will shape Dartmoor in the future.
- 1.4 The overall strategy, and the policies contained within the Local Plan must strike a careful balance between:
- pursuing National Park purposes;
 - supporting the duty to foster social and economic wellbeing of communities;
 - delivering sustainable development;
 - meeting the aims of government policy and guidance; and

- supporting and engaging local communities and all with an interest in Dartmoor, in how decisions are made and places are changed to meet their needs.

2 The Review Process

2.1 The review process to date has been supported by a Local Plan Member Steering Group. This Group initially considered a project plan and the programme for the Local Plan Review. It has met monthly and provided overview and scrutiny of the evidence and research prepared, and discussed potential options and alternatives around strategy and policy response. It has served as a sounding board prior to consideration of documents by the full Authority, including the Issues consultation, the Direction of Travel paper, and this draft Local Plan for consultation.

Issues consultation

2.2 In autumn 2016 we published an Issues Paper which gave stakeholders, including Members, the opportunity to identify issues and confirm the scope of the Local Plan. This was an informal consultation stage, which sought to understand the scope of the review, and enable communities to feed in early to the process.

2.3 A report of that consultation was published online. This consultation formed the foundation for the structure of the draft Local Plan, the key issues to consider and the likely scope of any changes.

Evidence gathering

2.4 A local plan must be founded on robust and appropriate evidence. Government recognises evidence should be 'proportionate', though evidence is critical to the understanding of issues, locally, and the way policy responds to this.

2.5 The range of evidence which supports this Local Plan is considered the most comprehensive DNPA has produced. The issues revealed by the evidence, and through the initial consultation process are discussed in more detail below. Key areas of evidence include:

- Topic Papers, produced largely in-house, and including Design, Spatial Strategy, Natural Environment, Historic Environment, and Minerals and Waste.
- Detailed housing evidence provided by professional consultant support on housing numbers and projections, viability, and policy support.
- An economy Topic Paper informed by professional consultant support through an Economic Development Needs Assessment, Employment Land Review and local economic analysis.
- Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Sensitivity Assessment.
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan.
- Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study.
- Land Availability Assessment – including a call for sites alongside the Issues consultation, which provided a list of available sites from which to consider potential site allocations, and additional consultant support on considering potential allocated sites.
- Settlement Profiles providing summary information for each classified settlement.

- 2.6 Evidence has been published as it has been completed, made available online and publicised through the Newsletter and the evidence 'quick guide'. This enabled those interested to provide feedback which we have responded to in subsequent revisions.

Community involvement

- 2.7 Officers have been keen to promote from the outset a Local Plan which is clear and accessible. The Issues Paper marked a step change in language and document size, with a focus also on presentation, clear graphics and online availability. Feedback on this document was positive. Evidence has been published openly online, and a series of 'Quick Guides' and Local Plan Newsletters have been well received. The draft Local Plan continues this approach, reducing the development plan as a whole by around 100 pages, the number of policies from 78 to 55, and providing simple diagrammatic summaries of more complex policy areas, and an upfront 'user guide'.
- 2.8 Initial community involvement in the Local Plan review came via the Issues Paper in Autumn 2016. As part of this consultation we held 15 events attended by approximately 350 people. We received 1,717 individual written comments from 172 different individuals and organisations. A summary of the consultation was published online. This informal consultation also served as a 'test run' and we invited feedback on how best to engage.
- 2.9 In summer 2017 we invited Parish and Town Councils to comment on the information we held about their community. We published a set of Settlement Profiles. Parish and Town Councils were encouraged to scrutinise and comment on the information held by us about, in particular, public open space, community assets, services and facilities, and any infrastructure requirements. These comments were reviewed and a final set of Settlement Profiles published online. This work informed revisions to the Settlement Profiles, the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study, and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.
- 2.10 In autumn/winter 2017 we met with the Parish/Town Councils covering the 8 current Local Centres, in public, to discuss the outcome of the Land Availability Assessment, and seek their steer on any preference on sites which might be considered to meet local housing needs in the next Local Plan. Around 400 councillors and members of the public attended these meetings. Whilst this was helpful in raising awareness of the review and offering some guidance on process, the consultation had a mixed outcome, as many communities were unable to offer much positive direction on their preferred sites from the options available.
- 2.11 A number of communities are pursuing a Neighbourhood Plan for their area. Neighbourhood Plans must be consistent with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. Neighbourhood Plans which are in force will be a material planning consideration when making decisions on planning applications. Neighbourhood Plans can be an effective way of communities influencing planning decisions in their areas, though many are recognising the significant time and resource effort which must go into these. Officers have therefore sought to work with Neighbourhood Plan groups to understand the issues they are seeking to address, and include these where possible within the Local Plan.

- 2.12 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), adopted alongside this Report, sets out DNPA's approach to engagement on planning matters. The consultation and engagement approach to this draft will follow that set out in the SCI. Members have also considered, at the Steering Group and Planning and Sustainable Development Panel, the more detailed strategy for community engagement for the Draft Local Plan. Members supported the approach of a document which will be available largely online, with responses preferred online and a focus of the Forward Planning team's limited resources on awareness raising events and workshops, as opposed to extensive community drop in sessions.

Duty to co-operate

- 2.13 The Duty to Cooperate is a legal test that requires co-operation between local planning authorities and other public bodies to maximise the effectiveness of strategic policies in local plans. The Local Plan has been prepared taking into account the Duty to Co-operate, with strategic cross-boundary issues considered jointly with neighbouring Local Planning Authorities. We also seek to influence adjoining Authorities in pursuit of National Park purposes through the Local Plan, and leveraging the 'Section 62 Duty' for Authorities to have due regard to National Park purposes.
- 2.14 Members will be aware of the Recreation Impacts study undertaken through the SWEEP project with Exeter University, which is being incorporated into Duty to Co-operate discussions with adjoining planning authorities. This study helps us to better understand the impact new development outside the National Park, may have on increased recreational pressure within it.
- 2.15 A Duty to Co-operate Scoping Report was prepared in 2017, and we sought agreement from the Duty to Co-operate partners on the scope and content of this paper. Government has subsequently brought in a requirement for a 'Statement of Common Ground' for the Duty to Co-operate. The Scoping Report has therefore evolved to meet this requirement, and Members are asked to endorse this Statement.

3 Appraisal and Assessment

- 3.1 The Local Plan has been subject of a number of appraisal/assessments. Whilst these may be viewed simply as technical or legal requirements, they are genuinely useful and important assessments in adding value to the plan-making process, ensuring specific issues are taken into account in the drafting of policy. The use of external consultants for this process also adds value through independent third party scrutiny by professionals in their field. The following areas of appraisal have been completed:

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 3.2 The purpose of a Sustainability Appraisal is to promote sustainable development through assessing the extent to which an emerging plan will help to achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives. SA is an iterative and ongoing process that informs plan-making by assessing developing elements of the plan, evaluating and describing the 'likely significant effects' of implementing the

plan, and suggesting possibilities for mitigating significant adverse effects and enhancing positive effects.

- 3.3 A non-technical summary of the SA is appended to this report. It provides an outline of the SA process and findings, including how the SA has influenced the development of the draft Plan, and in accordance with the requirements of the NPPF, the European SEA Directive, and UK guidance on SA/SEA. The SA report incorporates Strategic Environment Assessment and Health Impact Assessment. The full SA/SEA report is available online.
- 3.4 Overall, the implementation of the policies and proposals presented in the draft Local Plan were found to have significant positive sustainability benefits, reflecting the iterative and ongoing inputs from the SA, the wider evidence base, and comments received through public and community consultations. Alongside the positive effects, some minor negative effects were also identified - as a result of the overall, cumulative effect of increased housing, employment and associated infrastructure development on the outskirts of the plan area through the Plymouth & SW Devon Joint Local Plan and the emerging Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP). Potential negative effects have been mitigated through strong policies that protect the natural environment and promote sustainable communities, whilst managing the Special Qualities of the National Park. The SA suggested that a Strategic Mitigation Plan could be considered with others that seeks to address such potential cumulative negative effects through a shared and equitable approach.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- 3.5 HRA is required to consider whether a plan or proposal will impact on the integrity of European habitat.
- 3.6 The HRA considered the likely effects on air quality, disturbance from recreational pressures, changes in water levels or quality, and habitat loss or fragmentation – from the draft plan individually, or in combination with effects from other plans and projects. The HRA screening assessment found that the mitigation provided through draft Local Plan Policies was sufficient such that there were no likely significant effects alone as a result of the implementation of the Plan. There was some uncertainty for in-combination effects from recreational pressures with other plans, particularly with regard to the South Hams Special area of Conservation (SAC). However, DNPA continues to collaborate with other plan-makers and the environmental regulators; research studies are ongoing, and it is considered that a strategic mitigation approach is in place that can avoid/mitigate in-combination adverse impacts on the integrity of protected sites. Nonetheless, the situation will continue to be investigated as plan-making and the HRA process continue

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) Screening

- 3.7 The equalities screening assessment has found that the draft Local Plan is unlikely to have negative effects on protected characteristics or persons identified under the Equality Act 2010 and thus a full EqIA will not be required. Overall, effects were compatible and positive, or not applicable, with regard to protected persons; no negative effects were identified.

4 Key Issues and Policy Thrust

4.1 The principal issues which have emerged through the review process are:

- National Policy, and National Park purposes – the need throughout the Local Plan to strike an appropriate balance, achieving a strategy which is best for Dartmoor, its environment, and its communities;
- Demographic change – in particular the pressures of an ageing population, and a loss of younger working age people;
- Settlement Strategy – there is the potential to review the current strategy and enable increased opportunity for small scale change in some smaller settlements in response to views from communities at the Issues consultation;
- Housing – in particular an overall indicative housing target/strategy, but also affordable housing, barn conversions, tenure mix, sites and second home ownership;
- Business and employment – with a particular focus upon the range of opportunities through the Local Plan for new businesses in a greater range of locations;
- Infrastructure – in particular highways and parking within settlements, which many rural communities consider to be a significant constraint to change, and broadband provision throughout the National Park.

4.2 The principal areas where draft policies are moving away from the current adopted Local Plan are as follow:

Indicative housing delivery figure

4.3 Population projections have been carried out as part of the housing evidence, which aim to understand Dartmoor's future demographic change. This evidence has highlighted in particular, the ageing population, and loss of working age people within the National Park. A reducing average household size, and an increase in second or holiday homes, has meant that the build rate of 50 homes per year has meant the National Park population has remained relatively static over recent years.

4.4 Whilst the emphasis is to remain on the delivery of affordable housing to meet identified local needs in the National Park, evidence indicates that an increase from current indicative figure of 50 homes per year would avoid population decline, and lead to a small increase in the proportion of younger working age people. The Local Plan proposes an indicative housing delivery figure of 65 homes per year across Dartmoor. This is not a 'target' and is set locally rather than by Government. Having established this as the indicative figure the policies and allocations within the Plan must reasonably seek to achieve that amount of development. There remains, though, a strong emphasis on delivering for local needs, with larger development sites only coming forward where a need for affordable housing exists at that time.

Settlement Strategy

4.5 A new settlement strategy is proposed. This is based upon a 'hybrid' approach moving from a reliance on functional settlement hierarchy (based upon the availability of services and facilities in a particular settlement), to take on board also the sensitivity/character of a settlement. This means the 8 Local Centres are retained, but the current 34 Rural Settlements have been split into 16 Rural

Settlements, and 18 Villages and Hamlets. There are more permissive housing and employment policies within a middle tier, and the retention of a strong focus on affordable housing in those smallest and most sensitive villages.

Housing Policies

- 4.6 Alongside the indicative housing delivery figure (see paras 4.3 and 4.4), a number of more detailed policy tools are available to respond to demographic trends and the needs and desires of Dartmoor communities. In particular the delivery of affordable housing is critical, with Dartmoor ranking amongst the least affordable places to live when comparing average house prices with local earnings.
- 4.7 The Local Plan seeks to achieve 45% affordable housing on allocated and larger windfall sites. This is a small reduction from the current policy on the basis of viability appraisal. Members, and the public, have consistently encouraged a high proportion of affordable housing to meet local needs. Government defines affordable housing in the NPPF. The draft Local Plan will seek to achieve development which is tailored to meet local needs, and including a high proportion of affordable housing to rent.
- 4.8 Custom and Self-Build housing is an area of government policy which has emerged since the adoption of the current local plan, albeit small sites and small builders have always made an important contribution to Dartmoor's new housing stock. To encourage this area, and link with a community desire for more flexible opportunities within settlements, Local Needs Custom and Self Build housing can come forward, restricted to occupancy by a local person only, and to provide opportunities for local people who may not be in the highest levels of affordable need, but still struggle to buy a house on the open market.
- 4.9 Finally, extensions and replacement homes are an important part of housing policy on Dartmoor. Current policy avoids large house extensions for design reasons; inconsistencies currently exist between this policy and that for replacement homes. Draft policy seeks to more consistently limit the loss of Dartmoor's smaller homes through extension and replacement, for reasons of affordability, and with a view to maintaining the range of house sizes and affordability within the National Park, and encouraging a churn of property sales within communities.

Exception sites

- 4.10 Rural Exception Sites (sites for the delivery of affordable housing on the edge of a settlement to meet a specific identified need) will remain an important source of delivery, particularly for Dartmoor's smallest communities. In line with government policy a small element of cross-subsidy (market housing to fund the affordable units) is allowed. Taking a further step, and in response to a desire for a more flexible approach from communities, draft policy allows for a lower proportion of affordable housing (to be determined through further modelling) where necessary community infrastructure is provided. For example, this may enable a small affordable housing site to include a greater proportion of market housing in order to deliver local utility improvements, or a community car park.

Affordable Housing threshold

- 4.11 The wording of the affordable housing threshold in the revised NPPF (paragraph 63) remains open to interpretation. As a rural area it would appear that Dartmoor is able to set a lower threshold, and the evidence of affordable needs certainly supports this. Irrespective of this, an approach which seeks to maximise affordable housing delivery, but in a pragmatic way, would seem reasonable in the National Park context. The draft Plan enables smaller infill sites to come forward within the top two tiers of the settlement hierarchy, improving opportunities for small scale development, self/custom build and small local builders. These may come forward as Local Needs housing, or with an off-site (commuted sum) contribution rather than a requirement to provide affordable housing on-site. This flexibility recognises government's desire to take an enabling approach to small-scale development.

Barn conversions

- 4.12 In response to a community desire for change in emphasis, the conversion or reuse of redundant non-residential historic buildings outside classified settlements will encourage uses which have a low impact on the building, such as employment and community uses. However, subject to marketing, justification and suitability, may allow for higher impact uses, such as residential and holiday let. Financial contributions (commuted sums) may be taken in lieu of affordable housing on-site in order to achieve the most appropriate conversion.

Agricultural workers and diversification

- 4.13 Draft policy provides for greater opportunity to meet the accommodation needs of Dartmoor's farming community. In particular policy allows for a new house on a farm through barn conversion, as part of farm diversification. Where this is not possible or desirable, there is also the opportunity for a small agricultural annex to support in particular, the needs of younger or older members of farming families helping with farm succession.
- 4.14 Alongside this, draft policy provides for new agricultural workers' dwellings to be more clearly restricted in size to avoid large new unaffordable farmhouses in the open countryside. Restrictions will also tie new workers' dwellings and other new accommodation with the land, in order to avoid the breaking up of holdings, or justification on the basis of land which is then not retained with the property and therefore becomes an unviable farm unit.

Employment development

- 4.15 Draft policy increases the opportunity for employment development, including new businesses and the expansion of existing businesses.

Design and Sustainability

- 4.16 There is a continued drive towards improving the quality of design and construction, including the sustainability of new and converted/refurbished buildings. Increased opportunity for custom and self-build housing will allow for greater variety of design within settlements. Our ability to require higher levels of sustainability in line with the Government's aspirations for National Parks (the 2010 National Park Circular and

Vision), is however removed by Government's reliance upon Building Regulations rather than allowing Local Planning Authorities to set higher standards.

- 4.17 Recognising Dartmoor's generally poor public transport links and a heavy reliance on the private car, electrical vehicles present the most realistic option for more sustainable transport. A new draft policy sets out a requirement to provide electric car charging points alongside new off-street parking.

Site allocations (proposals)

- 4.18 The draft Plan sets out a series of site allocations in Local Centres. The purpose of site allocations is to provide communities with confidence in respect of areas of development, and to ensure that the overall strategy of housing delivery is deliverable. Perhaps inevitably, site allocations are the most contentious and emotive element of plan-making. As described above communities have been encouraged at an early stage to recognise the need for a proactive approach to meeting housing need, in order to ensure that the Local Plan is sound and DNPA can defend its decisions.

5 Financial implications

- 5.1 The review of the Local Plan is a significant project for DNPA. It is budgeted for within the earmarked reserves. This is on the basis of the project plan which provides for a single draft (Regulation 18) and then submission (Regulation 19) consultation leading to submission. The timescales for the examination and associated costs are estimated.
- 5.2 The project plan includes a risk assessment which considers costs. Significant alterations arising from consultation, procedural failures, national policy or legislative change could lead to variation from the expected programme. This could cause extension of timescales, resulting in additional officer resource requirements, and costs associated with the updating of evidence.
- 5.3 Whilst the risk cannot be fully mitigated, the project plan included early public engagement with the non-statutory Issues consultation, Member engagement through the Steering Group, workshop, and Direction of Travel paper, and careful programming through upcoming procedural stages.

6 Next steps

- 6.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) and Local Plan Regulations (2012) set the principal framework for the preparation of a development plan document.
- 6.2 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and Local Development Scheme (LDS), both of which have been revised and are adopted alongside this Report, set the local programme for preparing the Local Plan and how we engage with stakeholders through that process.
- 6.3 This draft Local Plan (Regulation 18) is the first formal stage in preparation. We need to publish and consult upon the Local Plan in accordance with the regulations and the SCI. Comments received will be treated as formal representations on the

Plan, they must be made in writing and when considered, comments may be given appropriate weight according to their relevance and any evidence or information supporting those views.

- 6.4 Following this consultation we will report on the representations received and make changes to the draft Local Plan as appropriate. We will then consult upon a revised draft (Regulation 19). Again formal representations are invited. Following this stage, if the Authority believes the document to be 'Sound' the Local Plan would be submitted to the Secretary of State together with the representations received and the associated supporting evidence. The Plan must be examined and found sound by an Inspector, before it may be adopted.

7 Status of the Draft Local Plan

- 7.1 The National Planning Policy Framework sets out that decision-takers may give weight to relevant policies in emerging plans according to their stage of preparation, the extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies, and their degree of consistency with policies in the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 7.2 On this basis the draft Local Plan (Regulation 18) would carry little weight at this stage as it is early in its preparation. The adopted Core Strategy and Development Management DPD must remain the principal policies for the consideration of planning applications.

8 Conclusions

- 8.1 The Local Plan has been prepared taking into account government guidance and the necessary procedural framework set nationally. Authority Members have been involved throughout the process. A comprehensive suite of evidence supports an understanding of the issues to be addressed through planning policy, and informs the policy response. Informal consultation with the Dartmoor community, as well as internal specialists, and other authorities and stakeholders has been completed in order to reinforce our understanding and inform our response.
- 8.2 Members are invited to agree to publish the draft Local Plan for a period of public consultation, to note the associated appraisals, and to endorse the Duty to Co-operate Statement.

DAN JANOTA

Attachments: **Appendix 1 – Draft Local Plan** (printed for Members only)
Appendix 2 – Appraisal Reports
Appendix 3 – Statement of Common Ground



DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

**SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL (SA)
(integrating Strategic Environmental
Assessment; Health Impact Assessment &
Equality Impact Assessment)**

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

October 2018

enfusion



DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL (SA) [Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA); Health Impact Assessment (HIA); Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)]

SA Report NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY (NTS) October 2018

<i>date:</i>	October 2018 Draft v01	
<i>prepared for:</i>	Dartmoor National Park Authority	
<i>prepared by:</i>	Owen Jeffreys Barbara Carroll	Enfusion
<i>quality assurance:</i>	Barbara Carroll	Enfusion

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SA NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY (NTS)

Contents

This is the NTS of the Sustainability Appraisal Report
The Dartmoor Local Plan Review (DLP)
Sustainability (Integrated) Appraisal: SA, SEA, HIA, EqIA, and HRA
Sustainability Characteristics of the Dartmoor National Park area & likely evolution without the Local Plan
Key Sustainability Issues, Problems and Opportunities
How has the DLP been assessed?
What reasonable alternatives have been considered & addressed?
What are the likely significant effects of the draft DLP?
How could negative effects be mitigated?
EqIA & HRA
Consultation
Monitoring Proposals
Next Steps

This is the NTS of the Sustainability Appraisal Report

1. This is the Non-Technical Summary of the Sustainability Appraisal Report documenting the processes of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) within an integrated appraisal for the draft Dartmoor Local Plan (DLP). This summary is an integral part of the SA Report that accompanies the Regulation 18 draft DLP for public consultation between 3 December 2018 and 4 February 2019. It provides an outline of the SA process and findings, including how the SA has influenced the development of the draft Plan, and in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the European SEA Directive, and UK guidance on SA/SEA.

The Dartmoor Local Plan (DLP)

2. The Dartmoor National Park Authority is undertaking a review of the Dartmoor Local Plan. The previous Core Strategy was adopted in 2008, with the Development Management and Delivery DPD adopted in 2013. A Minerals Plan was also included within the previous Local Plan. The New Local Plan will replace these separate Plans with a single document, including waste and minerals policies.
3. Fundamental to the review of the Local Plan are the two statutory purposes of the National Park designation:
 - to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage
 - to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public

Also, the duty of National Park Authorities in pursuing National Park purposes:

- to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities (within the National Park) by working closely with the agencies and local authorities responsible for these matters
4. The DLP has been prepared in accordance with national planning requirements and informed by various technical studies, the Sustainability Appraisal, and consultation with the public, stakeholders and the regulators. The DLP sets out the key challenges for the National Park area with the Vision for new development until 2018-2033. The Plan further comprises the Strategic Policies, including the Spatial Strategy appropriate to planning and caring for the National Park and meeting with its purpose and duty.
 5. The draft DLP is structured into 7 chapters with policies as follows:
 - 1 Vision, Spatial Strategy & Planning Applications [Policies 1.1-1.10]
 - 2 Environment [Policies 2.1-2.8]
 - 3 Housing [Policies 3.1-3.13]
 - 4 Communities, Services and Infrastructure [Policies 4.1-4.8]
 - 5 Economy [Policies 5.1-5.9]
 - 6 Minerals, Waste and Energy [Policies 6.1- 6.6]
 - 7 Towns, Villages and Development Sites [Policies 7.1-7.2 & Site Proposals 7.3-7.12, 7.14-7.20 & 7.22 with Site Policies 7.13, 7.21 & 7.23]

Sustainability Appraisal: SA, SEA, HIA, EqIA and HRA

6. The purpose of Sustainability Appraisal is to promote sustainable development through the integration of environmental, social and economic considerations in the preparation of Local Plans. This requirement for SA is in accordance with planning legislation and paragraph 32 of the National Planning Policy Framework. Local Plans must also be subject to Regulations for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Government advises that an integrated approach is taken so that the SA process incorporates the requirements for SEA – and to the same level of detail.
7. For the Sustainability Appraisal of the DLP, an integrated process has been undertaken that also addresses health and equality issues (to demonstrate compliance with the Equality Act, 2010), alongside the requirements of the Habitats Assessments Regulations. The summary findings of the health, equality, and habitats assessments have been integrated into the Sustainability Appraisal. The Dartmoor National Park Authority commissioned independent specialist consultants Enfusion to progress the appraisal work commencing in April 2017.
8. SA is an iterative and ongoing process that informs plan-making by assessing developing elements of the plan, evaluating and describing the likely significant effects of implementing the plan, and suggesting possibilities for mitigating significant adverse effects and enhancing positive effects. UK Guidance suggests a staged approach to SEA. Initially the scope of the SA is determined by establishing the baseline conditions and context of the area

by considering other relevant plans and objectives, and by identifying issues, problems and opportunities. From this the scope of the SA is prepared and includes an SA Framework of objectives for sustainable development relevant to the Dartmoor National Park area and which forms the basis against which the draft DLP is assessed.

Sustainability Characteristics of the Dartmoor National Park area and likely evolution without the Local Plan

9. The National Park is defined by the characteristics that contributed to its designation – special landscape, wildlife and historical features. The extensive upland moorland supports internationally important blanket bogs; deep-cut valleys steeped in woodland with rivers are a notable landscape feature, together with distinct granite tors. A large amount of the land is used for grazing of cattle, sheep and ponies. Dartmoor is considered to have a high level of tranquility and dark night skies. The built environment is largely limited to small settlements and individual dwellings with settlement characters varying between those on the High Moor and those on the periphery.
10. Within the National Park there are three European designated Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) as well as others outside the boundary but within Devon. There is a further rich variety of biodiversity that ranges in designation from nationally to locally important; however, the significance of this may extend far more than the known resource and is important to the wider network of green infrastructure of Devon and the South West. Visitors, recreational use, and farming practices can all have detrimental effects on key habitats and wildlife.
11. Dartmoor has a very rich variety of designated heritage assets, and the archaeological landscape of Dartmoor is extensive. Dartmoor has more Scheduled Monuments than any other National Park in England. Many of the historical features are integral parts of the landscape and may have local significance to communities and individuals, together with contributing to the character of places.
12. The granite on Dartmoor has been quarried for centuries and mining has also been a feature of Dartmoor landscape. The soils on Dartmoor are peat on the higher moors, and thin soils in the surrounding area. Most of the land is designated as Grade 5, least fertile, and farming is constrained to small areas. However, the soil resources of Dartmoor are still important, for non-intensive grazing and biodiversity.
13. Dartmoor is a major water catchment in the south west, supplying much of the water to Devon and Plymouth and with a surplus of water anticipated until 2040. Most waterbodies in the National Park are good-moderate ecological status; quality is mostly affected by pollution from agricultural run-off. Areas of medium to high flood risk (Zones 2-3) are largely located in steep sided valleys.

14. The population of Dartmoor is considered to be stable with little change since 2001. The National Park has a higher old age dependency ratio than the national average, creating issues for adaptable housing, pressures on local health services, and public transport. Each settlement on Dartmoor has its unique features and identity, and therefore each settlement has its own set of issues that are important to that specific community. Common issues across communities include access to local services/facilities, employment in settlements and rural areas, public transport and traffic. The fewer employment opportunities has resulted in people out-commuting for employment, a lack of opportunity for young people and weaker economies for local settlements.
15. The area is characterised by the vacancy rate, which is higher than both the Devon and England average, and is attributed to the number of second homes and holiday lets within Dartmoor. The ratio between average house prices and average earnings in the National Park is high. Young people, seasonal staff and part time workers, and other key workers are priced out of Dartmoor as they cannot afford accommodation. Enabling people to continue to farm whilst providing the highest status of protection to the landscape remains a key issue for the review of the Local Plan.
16. A number of key health statistics in Devon are below or in line with the national averages; Dartmoor also has a lower than average Index of Multiple Deprivation score. Overall, 48% of Dartmoor National Park is designated as Access Land for the public, and therefore all residents and visitors have access to this land to use for recreational purposes.
17. Employment has been growing at around 2.8% per annum and the local economy is remaining resilient and benefitting from a diverse economic base. Many of the jobs in Dartmoor are in agriculture, forestry and fishing. There is net out commuting for work from Dartmoor for about 23% of workers and a key factor is to increase opportunities for home working. In 2015, over 2.3 million tourists visited the National Park, of which 2.05 million were day visitors and 263,000 were staying visitors (a 17% increase on 2009 indicating a growing trend).
18. Dartmoor is bordered to the north by the A30, to the south by the A38 and to the west by the A386. The A30 and A38 to the east provide access to the M5 at Exeter. The main A roads such as the A386 suffer from congestion; and the mode of transport for local people is private vehicles such as cars and vans. The public rights of way network is extensive with footpaths, bridleways and byways located across the National Park.
19. Transport is the highest source of energy consumption due to the rural nature of the area. Overall the climate of Dartmoor is changing, becoming warmer and wetter with a longer growing season – affecting biodiversity and farming. Whilst almost 50% of waste within Dartmoor was sent to reuse, recycling or compost (higher than the national average), rubbish can be an issue as a result of increased visitor numbers.

20. Without the Dartmoor Local Plan to guide and manage new development, pressures on important landscape, heritage and biodiversity assets may cause adverse effects that are difficult to mitigate; housing and employment will not be located in the most sustainable locations with accessibility to transport and community services.

Key Sustainability Issues, Problems and Opportunities

21. Key sustainability issues, problems and opportunities include the following:

Key Sustainability Issues

- New development has the potential for an unacceptable effect on the landscape or settlement character & their settings; high quality design is needed
- Farming practises and forestry activities should not result in landscape deterioration
- Light pollution from peripheral towns and cities, and development within the National Park, threatening the dark night skies, should be minimised
- Change of farmsteads to residential or holiday lets can harm the integration of farmsteads with the landscape
- Need to protect the internationally, nationally and locally designated biodiversity and geodiversity that covers much of the area
- Managing access so that designated sites, priority habitat and priority species are not negatively affected by recreational activities
- Encouraging sustainable farming and forestry practises
- Need to protect the range of extensive historical and archaeological features, both designated and undesignated
- Protecting historic farmsteads and farm buildings, and promoting the reuse of derelict or abandoned buildings without adverse effects on the character and cultural heritage
- New proposals for mining or quarrying operations should not negatively affect the special qualities
- Contributing to water quality improvement & more sustainable management of water; avoiding development in areas of flood risk
- An ageing population
- The decline of some rural settlements due to limited opportunities for appropriate full-time employment
- New development should be focussed in areas that are the most sustainable and have the capacity for change
- Net out-commuting for work, which may increase as peripheral towns and cities grow
- Relatively low wages and high house prices which may deter/prohibit young workers living in the National Park
- Almost half of businesses are small or micro, and there is a high level of self-employment

- Relatively high employment in agriculture, but this is forecast to fall
- 20-30% of employment is in tourism, with large-scale expenditure in the local economy by tourists, dominated by day visitors
- High dependence on private vehicle use with poor and infrequent public transport services – a common feature in rural Devon
- Risk of congesting road network in vicinity of new major developments on outskirts of National Park area
- Promote sustainable transport in the National Park
- Mitigating and adapting to the effects of Climate Change through appropriate design and siting of development
- Avoid inappropriate waste management facilities in the National Park

How has the DLP been assessed?

22. The proposed scope of the Sustainability Appraisal was set out in the SA Scoping Report, including details of how the draft plan would be assessed. An SA Framework was compiled, including SA Objectives that aim to resolve the issues identified for development planning in the DLP area. This SA Framework, together with the baseline information, comprised the basis for assessment, and is summarised in the following table:

No.	SA Objective
1	To conserve and enhance the landscape and settlement character of Dartmoor National Park
2	To conserve & enhance the character, safety & sustainability, of the built environment by raising the quality of design and construction
3	To protect, enhance and manage biodiversity & geodiversity for net gain
4	To ensure the protection, conservation, and enhancement of the historic environment & its setting
5	To protect and conserve soil, land and minerals
6	To promote efficient water use and improve water quality
7	To reduce the risk of flooding from all sources and manage flood risk more sustainably
8	To maintain and enhance community and settlement identities distinctive to Dartmoor
9	To support the provision & accessibility of services & facilities
10	To ensure that the housing needs of all National Park residents are met
11	To improve the health and wellbeing of communities and reduce inequalities
12	To promote & support the economy , especially key business sectors of tourism, agriculture, leisure/recreation & small businesses
13	To help reduce congestion , particularly on outskirts of the National Park, and reduce associated indirect impacts on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions
14	To encourage a change to sustainable transport modes and to reduce the need to travel
15	To reduce waste & promote reuse & recycling

23. Each developing element of the draft DLP, including potential site options and policies to manage proposed development, was subject to SA. Using the SA Framework of Objectives and decision-aiding questions, the baseline information, and professional opinion, the likely effects of the emerging draft DLP were assessed. The SA considered positive/negative, short/long term, and cumulative effects where possible, and according to categories of significance as set out in the following table:

Categories of Significance for SA		
Symbol	Meaning	Sustainability Effect
- -	Major Negative	Problematical & improbable because of known issues; mitigation likely to be difficult and/or expensive
-	Minor negative	Potential sustainability issues: mitigation and/or negotiation possible
+	Minor positive	No sustainability constraints and development acceptable
++	Major Positive	Development encouraged as would resolve existing sustainability problem
?	Uncertain	Uncertain or Unknown Effects
0	Neutral	Neutral effect

24. The SA made suggestions to the plan-making team for mitigating any significant negative effects identified, where possible, and any possibilities for enhancement, where relevant. Sustainability Appraisal is informed by the best available information and data. However, data gaps and uncertainties exist and it is not always possible to accurately predict effects at the plan level. For example, specific significance of effects on biodiversity, heritage assets, or changes to local level traffic flows may depend on more detailed studies and assessments that are more appropriately undertaken at the next stage of planning - at the site level. Climate change impacts are difficult to predict as the effects are most likely to be the result of changes at a cumulative and regional or national level, and therefore a precautionary approach that seeks to deliver best practice mitigation and adaptation is the most appropriate approach.

What reasonable alternatives have been considered and assessed?

25. The SA investigated four options for the Spatial Strategy, as follows:

Option 1: Current Two-Tier approach with 8 Local Centres; 34 Rural Settlements; everywhere else defined as Open Countryside – based on current services & facilities

Option 2: Two-Tier approach based more upon size, overall role, & capacity/sensitivity to growth, as well as an element of settlement services & facilities

Option 3: As Option 2 but splitting into Three Tiers – Local Centres, Rural Settlements, and Villages & Hamlets, plus the remaining Open Countryside
Option 4: A Spatial or Clustered approach recognising 10 clusters: East Dartmoor 1 & 2; South East Dartmoor; South West Dartmoor; Teign Valley; Bovey Valley; Upper Teign; North East Dartmoor; West Dartmoor; High Moor

26. Potential options for housing and employment land were investigated through plan-making and the SA tested those options that were considered to be reasonable alternatives – suitable and deliverable. The SA considered cumulative effects and the inter-relationships between sustainability topics and made comments with regard to any significant effects identified, where possible. The outline reasons for selection or rejection of site options and progression as proposals was set out in the SA Report. The findings of the SA informed this selection but they are not the sole source of information to inform decision-making as part of the plan preparation.

What are the likely significant effects of the draft DLP? How has the SA influenced the draft DLP?

27. Overall, the implementation of the policies and proposals presented in the draft DLP were found to have significant positive sustainability benefits, reflecting the iterative and ongoing inputs from the SA, the wider evidence base, and comments received through public and community consultations. The key positive effects are as follows:
- Major long term and cumulative positive effects through seeking to meet the special housing needs of the Dartmoor area - will also support economic objectives through supporting local people to live and work in the National Park; good quality housing will have direct cumulative positive effects on health and well-being
 - Ensuring that new development is located where supported by community service and facilities will promote positive effects
 - Support for the economy and employment – will also have further positive effects for health and wellbeing; also, for the character and vitality of settlements and the wider countryside
 - Landscape, character, biodiversity and historic/cultural assets and their settings are protected with at least neutral effects and no major significant negative effects predicted
28. Alongside the positive effects, some minor negative effects were also identified - as a result of the overall, cumulative effect of increased housing, employment and associated infrastructure development on the outskirts of the plan area through the Plymouth & SW Joint Core Strategy and the emerging Greater Exeter Strategic Plan. The key potential negative effects are summarised as follows:
- Cumulative negative effects on biodiversity through increased recreational disturbance – on internationally designated sites; also, on the wider biodiversity network and assets

How could negative effects be mitigated?

29. A key aspect of the SA process is to provide advice and recommendations to help mitigate identified negative effects - and to suggest possibilities to enhance positive effects. The policies and proposals presented in the draft DLP include findings arising from SA work undertaken. The findings of the SA helped the selection of potential site allocations by avoiding locations that might have significant negative effects, for example on internationally protected biodiversity, and also suggesting some site-specific recommendations that could provide mitigation measures.
30. Potential negative effects have been mitigated through strong policies that protect the natural environment and promote sustainable communities, whilst managing the Special Qualities of the National Park. The potential for increased recreational access and use may result in negative effects on the landscape, biodiversity and historic environment that provides the very attributes and attraction for visitors. The SA raised some concern over the potential cumulative effects of the extensive new development proposed by other plans around the outskirts of the National Park. The SA suggested that a Strategic Mitigation Plan could be considered with others that seeks to address such potential cumulative negative effects through a shared and equitable approach.

EqIA & HRA

31. The equalities screening assessment has found that the draft DLP is unlikely to have negative effects on protected characteristics or persons identified under the Equality Act 2010 and thus a full EqIA will not be required. Overall, effects were compatible and positive, or not applicable, with regard to protected persons; no negative effects were identified.
31. The HRA screening identified that due to the small size and location of proposed new development in the DLP, and the limited potential environmental pathways for impacts to the European sites outside of the National Park, there were no Likely Significant Effects (LSEs) for air quality changes, disturbance, changes to water quality or levels, or habitat loss/fragmentation – alone or in-combination with other plans.
32. The screening assessment identified uncertainty with regard to the potential for LSEs associated with air quality, disturbance and habitat loss or fragmentation on the three SACs located within the DNPA boundary. This was investigated further through appropriate assessment that determined that due to the small size and location of the proposed new development, together with policy mitigation, significant adverse impacts on air quality and habitat loss or fragmentation can be avoided, alone or in-combination with other plans. However, due to the extensive new development planned around the outskirts of the National Park through the Plymouth & SW JLP and the emerging GESP, the HRA concluded that there some uncertainty

regarding in-combination effects on the integrity of SACs from recreational disturbance. The HRA recommended continuing liaison between the DNPA and neighbouring local planning authorities to develop further strategic mitigation measures.

Were there any difficulties encountered?

33. There were no significant technical difficulties encountered during the preparation of this SA. There are inherent difficulties in predicting the likely future baseline and assumptions were made using professional judgment. Some data gaps were identified – in particular for the significance of the wider biodiversity and historic resources.

Consultation

34. The proposed scope of the SA was consulted formally at the scoping stage in August 2017 with the statutory bodies (Historic England, Environment Agency, and Natural England) and through the DNPA's website for wider consultation with stakeholders and the public. Representations were received and minor amendments were made to the SA Scoping Report, including additional information for the baseline.
35. The Vision & Spatial Strategy Paper with the accompanying Initial SA Report (November 2017) were provided for consultation through the website in late 2017 for people to comment on if they wished. No specific comments on the SA, HRA or EqIA were received at this time. Consultation is a vital ongoing and iterative element of both the plan-making and the SA processes. The draft DLP and the accompanying SA Report (October 2018) reflect the findings of various technical studies and the responses received so far during consultation.

Monitoring Proposals

36. Local planning authorities are required to produce Monitoring Reports (MRs) including indicators and targets against which the progress of the Plan can be assessed. There is also a requirement to monitor the predictions made in the SA and Government advises Councils to prepare a monitoring strategy that incorporates the needs of the two processes to make best use of shared information and resources. Monitoring proposals will be progressed, including consultation, as the draft DLP progresses. The DNPA will prepare a monitoring strategy for the Local Plan that will include consideration of any specific requirements from the SA process.

Next Steps

37. The draft Dartmoor Local Plan to 2033 and this accompanying Sustainability Appraisal Report will be available for consultation between 3 December 2018 and 4 February 2019. Documents are available to download from the DNPA's website <http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/living-and-working/business/planning-policy/local-plan-review>
38. Comments received on this Regulation 18 consultation will be taken into account in the SA and the next stage of plan-making – preparation of the Pre-Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19) for consultation in 2019.

Dartmoor National Park Authority Local Plan Review 2018-2033 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Regulation 18 Consultation HRA Screening & Appropriate Assessment (AA) Summary Report

1. The DNPA is required to undertake a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Dartmoor Local Plan (DLP), in line with the HRA Regulations that transpose the EU Directive¹ into UK law, and in accordance with the NPPF². The aim of the HRA process is to assess the potential effects arising from a plan against the nature conservation objectives of any site designated for its nature conservation importance.
2. The Habitats Regulations aim to protect habitats and species of European nature conservation importance. The Directive establishes a network of internationally important sites designated for their ecological status. These are referred to as Natura 2000 sites or European Sites and comprise Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) which are designated under European Directive (2009/147/EC) on the conservation of wild birds [the Birds Directive].
3. The aim of the HRA process is to assess the potential effects arising from a plan against the nature conservation objectives of any site designated for its nature conservation importance. The process of HRA is based on the precautionary principle and evidence should be presented to allow a determination of whether the impacts of a land-use plan, when considered individually or in combination with the effects of other plans and projects against the conservation objectives of a European Site (and Ramsar site), would adversely affect the integrity of that site. If a risk of Likely Significant Effects (LSEs) is identified through the initial screening stage, then the process should progress to the Appropriate Assessment (AA) stage.
4. The HRA was undertaken in accordance with good practice guidance and in consideration of recent European Court Judgments. The HRA considered the characteristics of designated sites within the Dartmoor National Park and those nearby. The screening identified that there were no likely significant effects from the emerging DLP for the designated sites outside the DNPA boundary. However, there was the potential for adverse effects on air quality changes, recreational disturbance and habitat loss/fragmentation variously for the 3 designated sites within the boundary – the Dartmoor SAC, South Dartmoor Woods SAC, and the South Hams SAC – and this was progressed to the appropriate assessment stage.
5. The appropriate assessment determined that the mitigation provided through the relevant DLP Policies such as Policy 2.2 Biodiversity; the small size, location and site-specific requirements of certain site allocations; and the requirements in the emerging South Hams SPD, are sufficient to ensure that significant adverse impacts on air quality and habitat loss or fragmentation can be avoided, alone or in-combination with other plans. The assessment

¹ European Directive (92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (1992) Article 6.3

² NPPF (2018) paragraphs 176-177

also concluded that these mitigation measures were sufficient to ensure that significant adverse impacts arising from recreational disturbance can be avoided for the Dartmoor Local Plan alone.

6. Recent studies on the predicted recreational use of the National Park suggest that there could be significant adverse in-combination effects arising from disturbance on the three SACs within the Dartmoor boundary. This is due to the extensive new development planned around the outskirts of the National Park through the Plymouth & SW JLP and the emerging GESP. Whilst there is policy mitigation in the extant plans that should protect the European sites, this appropriate assessment suggested that the new evidence indicates that there is some uncertainty regarding in-combination effects on the integrity of the Dartmoor, South Dartmoor Woods and the South Hams SACs from recreational disturbance.
7. The HRA recommended continuing liaison between the DNPA and neighbouring local planning authorities to develop further strategic mitigation measures. Any comments received on the HRA Report during the Regulation 18 consultation, including the statutory body Natural England, will be taken into account in the preparation of the final HRA Report that will accompany the Pre-Submission Local Plan on Regulation 19 consultation.



Duty to Co-operate

Statement of Common Ground

Draft

October 2018



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Dartmoor National Park Local Plan

Statement of Common Ground

1 Introduction and context

1.1 Purpose of this Document

- 1.1.1 This document has been produced in response to the requirement in the National Planning Policy Framework that authorities ‘should prepare and maintain one or more statements of common ground, documenting the cross-boundary matters being addressed and progress in cooperating to address these’ (para 27).
- 1.1.2 Dartmoor National Park Authority is preparing a new Local Plan. At the start of the process, the Authority carried out a review of the strategic matters for co-operation under the Duty to Co-operate for the Dartmoor National Park Local Plan. This was documented in the Duty to Co-operate Scoping report which identifies who the Authority expects to engage with throughout the development of the new Local Plan, on what matters, and the ways the Authority will work with Duty to Co-operate partners. The Authority consulted Duty to Co-operate partners on the Scoping Report to confirm that the relevant strategic matters for co-operation had been identified. A few comments were received and the report was updated in the light of comments received.
- 1.1.3 This Statement of Common Ground provides a record of progress in addressing the cross-boundary issues affecting the Dartmoor National Park Local Plan to inform the consultation on the draft Plan (Regulation 18).
- 1.1.4 The assessment of strategic matters for co-operation will be kept under review throughout the plan preparation process and will updated as new issues arise or different bodies need to be involved in discussions.

1.2 Context

- 1.2.1 Dartmoor National Park was established in 1951 under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. The purposes of National Park designation are enshrined in national legislation. First set out in the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, and amended by the Environment Act 1995, the two statutory purposes of National Park designation are:
- **to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage;**
 - **and**
 - **to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public.**
- 1.2.2 When National Parks carry out these purposes they also have the duty to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Parks.

- 1.2.3 **Section 62 of the Environment Act 1995 requires Local Planning Authorities and other public bodies to have regard to the purposes for which National Parks are designated.**
- 1.2.4 At 954 square kilometres (368 square miles), Dartmoor is the largest open space in southern England. It has wild open moorland, granite tors and wooded river valleys. Dartmoor is an internationally renowned landscape, which has been shaped by thousands of years of human interaction with its demanding environment. It has a rich diversity of habitats resulting in part from non-intensive husbandry and land management.
- 1.2.5 The national status of the National Park is given great weight in national planning policy and has *'the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty'* [NPPF para 115].

2 Location and administrative areas covered by the statement Statement of Common Ground

- 2.1.1 Dartmoor National Park Authority is the local planning authority for the whole of the National Park; preparing a local plan and determining planning applications. The National Park Authority is also the minerals and waste planning authority for the National Park. It is not responsible for other matters such as transport, education, health or flood risk planning which are undertaken by Devon County Council. District Councils are responsible for other functions such as economic development, housing, and environmental health.



Map showing Dartmoor National Park and adjoining areas

3 Key Strategic Matters

3.1.1 The NPPF (para 156) sets out the strategic issues where cooperation might be appropriate including:

- the homes and jobs needed in the area
- the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development
- the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat)
- the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities
- climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape

3.1.2 The NPPF goes on to highlight the importance of joint working to meet development requirements that cannot be wholly met within a single local planning area – for

instance, because of a lack of physical capacity or because to do so may cause significant harm to the principles and policies of the NPPF.

- 3.1.3 The Strategic Matters for the Dartmoor National Park Local Plan review are described in section 6, below.

4 Signatories to the Statement of Common Ground

- 4.1 The following partners are signed up to this Statement of Common Ground The particular matters relevant to each Authority is noted in Appendix 2..

- Teignbridge District Council
- South Hams District Council
- West Devon Borough, Mid Devon District Council
- Plymouth City Council
- Devon County Council
- Torbay Council,
- Exeter City Council

- 4.1.1 Dartmoor National Park is located wholly within Devon County, and is split between Teignbridge District Council, South Hams District Council, West Devon Borough Council, and a small part of Mid Devon District Council. These Authorities are therefore important partners for the preparation of the Local Plan.

- 4.1.2 Plymouth City Council, Torbay Council and Exeter City Councils are nearby Authorities which are responsible for significant growth areas that will have important implications for the National Park, and as such are also important partners for the preparation of the Local Plan.

5 Other Duty to co-operate partners

- 5.1.1 The other bodies subject to the Duty to co-operate are listed in the legislation as:

- the Environment Agency
- the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (known as Historic England)
- Natural England
- the Mayor of London
- the Civil Aviation Authority
- the Homes and Communities Agency
- each clinical commissioning group established under section 14D of the National Health Service Act 2006
- the National Health Service Commissioning Board
- the Office of Rail Regulation (now called the Office of Rail and Road)
- Transport for London
- each Integrated Transport Authority

- each highway authority within the meaning of section 1 of the Highways Act 1980 (including the Secretary of State, where the Secretary of State is the highways authority)
 - the Marine Management Organisation.
- 5.1.2 A number of these organisations are not considered relevant to the Dartmoor National Park Local Plan, namely the Mayor of London, or Transport for London. Dartmoor does not have a coastline and no strategic matters for co-operation with the Marine Management Organisation have been identified.
- 5.1.3 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) are not subject to the requirements of the duty, but local planning authorities must cooperate with them and have regard to their activities when they are preparing their Local Plans, so long as those activities are relevant to local plan making. DNPA is actively involved in working with both the Heart of the South West LEP and the Devon Nature Partnership on areas of mutual interest.
- 5.1.4 A much wider range of bodies, not covered by the Duty to Co-operate, have an interest in the development of the Local Plan. Details of how DNPA will engage with them are set out in the Statement of Community Involvement.

6 Strategic Matters for Co-operation

- 6.1.1 Dartmoor National Park Authority has undertaken a review of the strategic matters where co-operation may be required during the preparation of the Local Plan. This has been informed by the statutory purposes and duty of the National Park along with the Devon-wide Duty to Co-operate Protocol.
- 6.1.2 The table in **Appendix 1** lists the strategic matters and provides an assessment of those where co-operation is required. **Appendix 2** provides a summary of which topics are relevant to each of the Duty to Co-operate partners.
- 6.1.3 In summary, the key strategic matters we have identified are:
- Conserving and enhancing the **natural beauty and cultural heritage** of the National Park and its setting (including landscape character and tranquillity);
 - Conserving and enhancing **biodiversity** (including ecological and green infrastructure networks);
 - The **spatial strategy** for managing development in the National Park and surrounding areas;
 - The delivery of new **homes**, including affordable homes, pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and the needs of an ageing population including residential care;
 - Support for the **rural economy** including the agricultural and forestry sectors and the promotion of sustainable **tourism**;
 - The sustainable management of **recreation** and associated infrastructure, with regard to demand arising from development in areas surrounding the National Park;
 - Provision of **community services** and **infrastructure** required to support sustainable development in Dartmoor (including education, health, transport,

telecommunications, flood risk management) where compatible with National Park purposes; and

- The sustainable management of **waste** and **minerals** development, bearing in mind the status and purposes of the National Park.

6.1.4 There may be other issues that become apparent through the Strategic Environmental Assessment / Habitats Regulations Assessment screening and scoping or other evidence base studies as we progress further with the preparation of the Local Plan.

7 Strategic Priorities

7.1.1 The following topics have been identified as the emerging strategic priorities for the Local Plan, and an issues consultation was carried out during October 2016 to January 2017:

7.2 *National Park Purposes, Natural and Historic Environment*

7.2.1 The national status of the National Park and the great weight given to this in national planning policy is a significant factor in the development of the local plan, and cross-boundary discussions regarding the scale and distribution of development. National Park status and statutory purposes constrain the scale and type of development that is appropriate within the National Park, meaning that this needs to be accommodated in adjoining areas. Local Planning Authorities have a duty under section 62 of the Environment Act 1995 to have regard to National Park purposes when coming to decisions or carrying out their duties which includes potential impacts on the setting of the National Park or historic environment designations from development outside the National Park.

7.2.2 The Environment section of the local plan review considers the Natural and Historic environment, considering the most appropriate policy approaches to protecting Dartmoor's nationally and internationally important landscapes, cultural heritage and biodiversity.

7.2.3 Strategic Policy 2.1 of the Local Plan seeks to ensure that development in the National Park's landscape respects Dartmoor's landscape character and the key characteristics of the relevant Landscape Character Types. Evidence has been prepared which is consistent with the overarching and adjoining Landscape Character Assessment. This area of policy is largely unchanged.

7.2.4 Strategic Policy 2.1 also requires the Authority to seek to ensure that proposals coming forward immediately outside the National Park, in its landscape setting, respects Dartmoor's landscape character. Reflecting our existing working relationship, this puts a requirement on the Authority to work with its neighbouring District Authorities and ensure that due regard is given to National Park purposes under Section 62 of the Environment Act.

7.2.5 Dartmoor National Park contains extensive habitats of international, national, regional and local importance. Habitats and ecological networks cross boundaries and co-

operation is needed to protect and enhance healthy, functioning ecosystems. There are opportunities to strengthen connectivity between habitats across boundaries, guided by Living Dartmoor (the National Park biodiversity strategy) and as part of green infrastructure networks. Living Dartmoor is consistent with neighbouring Authorities' identified cross-boundary habitat links. The Reg18 consultation provides an opportunity to update this in accordance with emerging evidence, particularly associated with the Teignbridge's emerging local plan. Strategic Policy 2.2 and its supporting text present a stronger emphasis on local natural networks and the value of cross-boundary connectivity.

- 7.2.6 The Authority identified the three European sites (Special Areas of Conservation) on Dartmoor (the Dartmoor SAC, South Hams SAC and South Dartmoor Woods SAC) as a strategic matter where co-operation is required regarding potential impacts on the SACs. The Authority has worked with Devon County Council, South Hams District Council, Teignbridge District Council and Torbay Council on the preparation of a joint Supplementary Planning Document for the South Hams SAC and specifically the Greater horseshoe bats for which the site is in part designated. This aims to ensure a consistent approach amongst the authorities in relation to the SAC, to ensure that development plans (including the Dartmoor National Park Local Plan) and planning decisions, meet requirements relating to the protection of the SAC. The SPD was consulted on during Spring 2018 and the authorities are working on a revised draft. It is anticipated that the SPD will be completed in 2019.

7.3 *Spatial Strategy*

- 7.3.1 The Local Plan will set out the spatial strategy which describes where different types of development are acceptable in different areas of the National Park. The draft Local Plan aims for most new development, such as housing and new business premises, to go in the 8 largest towns and villages. There is then more of a focus on local needs housing and expansion of existing businesses in smaller villages, these are split into two categories to reflect their function and ability to support development both in the context of infrastructure, and environmental effects. Outside of these towns and villages opportunities for new development are more limited, and focussed on farming activities and other development which needs to be in the open countryside. DNPA will work with adjoining authorities to enable wherever possible, a consistent policy approach for settlements which are split between two Local Plan areas or closely linked in terms of role and function. DNPA has also taken into account housing, employment, services, facilities and other infrastructure outside of the National Park in considering the spatial strategy.

7.4 *Housing*

- 7.4.1 There are four separate Housing Authorities covering Dartmoor. The National Park sits within two Housing Market Areas (HMAs) – the Plymouth HMA which includes the parts of West Devon and South Hams inside the National Park, and the Exeter HMA which includes the parts of Teignbridge and Mid Devon inside the National Park. The scale and distribution of housing across the Housing Market Areas is an important element of Duty to Co-operate discussions. DNPA has worked together with its partner authorities within the respective HMAs to understand the housing

needs of the National Park within the context of the two HMAs. The revised NPPF (2018) introduced a standard methodology for assessing housing need. There is no methodology for National Parks but instead the Authority “*may continue to identify a housing need figure using a method determined locally, but in doing so will need to consider the best available information on anticipated changes in households as well as local affordability levels.*” (Reference ID: 2a-013-20180913)

- 7.4.2 Both HMAs have joint / strategic plans in preparation outside the National Park. DNPA was invited to consider joint plan making arrangements but, in the context of the special purpose of the Authority took the decision to produce a standalone Local Plan for the National Park. The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan is currently at Examination. DNPA responded to the draft Joint Local Plan and appeared at the Examination hearings. The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP) is not as advanced, with an issues consultation taking place in 2017 and the draft Plan expected in 2019. DNPA has been involved in discussions at officer level regarding the scale and distribution of housing and also the Habitats Regulations Assessment of the strategic site allocations. There has also been extensive joint evidence gathering and an ongoing dialogue at officer level.
- 7.4.3 The policy approach to National Parks and their statutory purposes sets out that the National Park is not generally a suitable location for unfettered market housing development; a stance established by the 2010 Government Circular and Vision for National Parks and the Broads. Dartmoor National Park’s Local Plan policies therefore facilitate housing delivery in order to support local needs, subject to the landscape capacity to do so and the wider objectives of the National Park. Levels of need in the National Park are small compared to the overall housing needs of the HMAs.
- 7.4.4 DNPA is seeking to ensure that the Objectively Assessed Need for housing across the two HMA areas is met outside the National Park, with development inside the National Park focused on delivering local affordable housing need. This assumption has been accepted by / included in the technical work to support the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan¹, although this has not yet reached the draft Plan stage. The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan includes the assumption that around 600 homes will be built within the South Hams / West Devon part of the National Park during the plan period. This is consistent with levels of development in the National Park, and whilst accepted in principle by DNPA, representations were made to the Examination that these houses may be considered as additional to the OAN, and that this figure is indicative of the likely supply within the National Park based upon local need. The Inspector’s response to the Plan is still awaited.

¹ The Greater Exeter technical review of the SHMA and OAN is in draft form but the methodology assumes that there will be no allowance for needs within the HMA to be met within the National Park. It is assumed that housing delivery within the NPA will be included within the 6% flex in the housing number for windfalls, allocations etc

- 7.4.5 Key issues for housing in the Dartmoor National Park Local Plan review are: understanding local affordable housing need, development viability (at a strategic and site level), self-build/custom build housing, conversions and agricultural dwellings. DNPA has worked closely with district housing officers to inform the policy approach to these issues. This has included housing policy meetings and attendance at the viability workshop. DNPA has a Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) for housing on Dartmoor which has DNPA, Local Housing Authority membership at an officer and Member level, as well as attendance of Housing Enablers and Homes England.
- 7.4.6 Strategic Policy 3.1 describes the Local Plan indicate housing delivery figure for Dartmoor. Further detail on the rationale behind this approach is set out in the supporting text, and in more detail in the Housing Topic Paper (draft), together with joint evidence gathering. The distribution of this figure is set out broadly in the Local Plan, in respect of the settlement hierarchy, beyond this the distribution is responsive to local needs in line with the overarching strategy.
- 7.4.7 DNPA has also worked with Devon County Council and district councils on a joint Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment which indicated a very low level of need for Dartmoor National Park. Consequently, the Local Plan does not identify a pitch target for Gypsy and Traveller sites. Instead a criteria base policy is set out which enables suitable sites to come forward where a need is identified.

7.5 *Economy, Business and Leisure*

- 7.5.1 One of the key aims of the Local Plan review is to encourage a sustainable and diverse economic base for Dartmoor, which is both sensitive to the environment, and the needs of local communities. Key issues identified for the Local Plan include support for existing businesses to thrive and expand within the National Park, opportunities for new businesses appropriate for Dartmoor, tourism development and support for the agricultural sector, and home working. DNPA is not an economic development authority and so co-operation is required to help deliver strategic economic priorities in the National Park. As part of developing the evidence base for the Economy policies in the Local Plan, DNPA held a workshop with key partners including officers from Devon County Council, South Hams, West Devon, and Teignbridge District Councils. This did not identify any specific cross-boundary issues.
- 7.5.2 Tourism and recreation are a major part of Dartmoor's economy, and rely heavily on Dartmoor's special qualities, beautiful landscape and picturesque towns and villages. Around 2.31 million people visit Dartmoor each year, spending around £139.5m (DNPA tourism statistics). Planning policy needs to carefully balance the protection of Dartmoor, with the need to respond to changing visitor trends and demands. The growth of surrounding areas will likely place additional pressures on Dartmoor such as more traffic on Dartmoor roads, or additional visitors to popular Dartmoor 'honey pot' sites. This can have an impact upon wildlife, and/or tranquillity which are important to Dartmoor. Cross-boundary co-operation will be important to consider these pressures and how they can best be managed

7.5.3 The impact of large scale housing development close to the National Park has been subject of discussion in the context of the previous reviews of the National Park Management Plan. DNPA has worked with SWEEP at Exeter University to better understand the scale of growth around the National Park, and the impacts this may have in terms of increased recreational use. A report has been prepared which is subject of discussion with Duty to Co-operate partners.

7.6 *Sustainable Communities, Services and Infrastructure*

7.6.1 Dartmoor is a challenging environment to support robust and vibrant communities. Isolated rural villages can rely heavily on the private car, young people can struggle to stay in their local communities with difficulties to access housing, education and employment, services and facilities face challenges to remain viable. The Sustainable Communities section of the local plan review includes policies to enable communities to thrive and continue to be viable and sustainable places to live and work.

7.6.2 Many of the settlements on Dartmoor include local convenience stores, with some of the Local Centres having a wider range of shops. However the main retail offer is provided by the cities and larger settlements outside the National Park. Future retail requirements will be considered through District retail assessments and it is not anticipated that there will be any requirement for strategic retail development requiring cross-boundary co-operation.

7.6.3 Devon County Council is the Local Education Authority and is responsible for the provision of schools and school places. DCC has identified capacity issues at primary and secondary schools which have catchments within the National Park. These include primary schools at Ashburton, Ilsington, Horrbridge, Meavy, South Tawton, and Widecombe-in-the-moor, and Okehampton secondary school, where investment will be needed over the plan period. This will require co-operation with DCC in relation to the policy approach for educational facilities and allocation of sites where necessary. It will also require cooperation for ensuring that new development affecting schools which are under capacity make proportionate contributions to enhancements via s106 obligations. However individual site specific proposals may come forward that require co-operation - these will be considered on a site by site basis.

7.6.4 The provision of facilities and services to support health and wellbeing will require co-operation including meeting the needs of an ageing population and the provision of residential care. The provision of green infrastructure may also support health and wellbeing. No specific strategic cross boundary issues requiring co-operation have been identified. However individual site specific proposals may come forward that require co-operation - these will be considered on a site by site basis.

7.6.5 Transport and communications is another area where co-operation is required including the approach to traffic management, freight transport, telecommunications and the provision of routes for more sustainable modes of transport including walking and cycling. The provision of infrastructure across boundaries for mobile phone coverage, and roll out of super-fast broadband will also need to be considered. Whilst

the provision of infrastructure may include elements of partnership working on a case by case or project basis, there are currently no cross-boundary strategic issues.

- 7.6.6 The management of flood risk will require co-operation, particularly any further revision or update of the evidence base to support the Local Plan including the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and the Critical Drainage Areas identified on Dartmoor. No specific strategic cross boundary issues requiring co-operation have been identified. However, projects, or individual site specific proposals may come forward which require co-operation in relation to flood risk management - these will be considered on a site by site basis.
- 7.6.7 We do not usually see major infrastructure projects coming forward on Dartmoor National Park, however the Local Plan will consider the provision of infrastructure to support sustainable development. The preparation of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) included co-operation with prescribed bodies and infrastructure providers but has not identified any strategic cross-boundary infrastructure requirements required to support delivery of the Local Plan. Another consultation with prescribed bodies and providers will be conducted as part of the Reg18 consultation to update the IDP.

7.7 *Minerals, Waste and Energy*

- 7.7.1 Dartmoor National Park Authority is the Mineral and Waste Planning Authority for the area. Minerals and Waste operations within the National Park are limited however, and the Authority does not have a specialist minerals team like many authorities. The Authority therefore works closely with the adjoining mineral and waste planning authority, Devon County Council, in particular with regard to evidence and reporting. As such there will need to be co-operation with DCC and other Minerals Planning Authorities regarding the assessments of minerals demand and production, and assessments of waste arisings and disposal, bearing in mind National Park purposes. No need for new mineral workings identified. Local Plan includes Minerals Safeguarding Areas some of which cross are boundaries and consistent with the approach of the Devon Minerals Plan. Dartmoor National Park is included with the Devon Local Aggregate Assessment, and a member of the South West Regional Aggregates Working Party. The Resources section of the Local Plan includes discussion and policy for energy, and in particular renewable energy development in the National Park. There is already co-operation regarding policy advice and evidence on renewable energy developments through the Devon Landscape Policy Group. The Authority will continue to work with this group and neighbouring authorities to avoid impacts of renewable energy schemes on the special qualities and setting of the National Park. No specific strategic cross-boundary issues requiring co-operation in relation to energy policies for the Local Plan have been identified. Any site specific issues will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

8 **Adjoining Local and Strategic Plans**

- 8.1.1 Plymouth City Council, West Devon Borough Council and South Hams District Council are working on a joint local plan. This will be a single strategic plan dealing with land use and development across Plymouth, the South Hams and West

Devon. It will set out proposals that will balance the needs for housing, employment and the environment through to 2034. This Plan is now at the end of Examination and expected to be adopted in 2018/19.

- 8.1.2 The local authorities of East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon and Teignbridge and Devon County Council are working together, engaging with stakeholders and communities, to prepare a Greater Exeter Strategic Plan. This formal statutory document will provide the overall spatial strategy and level of housing and employment land to be provided up to 2040
- 8.1.3 At an early stage of these joint Plan processes there was discussion regarding the inclusion of Dartmoor National Park. A report (NPA/16/015) setting out the options was presented to the Dartmoor National Park Authority, which set out the rationale for not including the National Park within the Plymouth or Greater Exeter Strategic Plans and this was approved by members. The report proposed that instead, there would be positive engagement between the authorities in evidence gathering, and a clear position for each authority as a stakeholder in the preparation of the respective plans.

9 Governance arrangements for the cooperation process

- 9.1.1 There are a number of existing mechanisms to support co-operative working across boundaries. The following key principles illustrate how engagement and cross authority working is embedded in DNPA's approach to both plan-making and decision-taking:
- The National Park Authority comprises members of each of the key local authorities which cover the National Park area,
 - The National Park Management Plan, whilst led by DNPA is a shared plan for a range of stakeholders including; prescribed bodies such as Natural England, Environment Agency, Historic England, as well as local authorities and a range of other partners.
 - Section 62 of the Environment Act 1995 makes it a duty for all relevant authorities to have regard to national park purposes when coming to decisions or carrying out their duties. This duty means the DNPA has long established relationships with government departments and agencies and a range of other local and public bodies in delivering national park purposes.
 - The Authority's remit differs from a local authority, DNPA is a Local Planning Authority but does not have statutory responsibilities in, for example; housing, economic development, environmental health, education, and highways, beyond its planning role. This means we work closely with these local authority departments in both plan-making and decision-taking. This enables strong connection with other authorities at an officer level.
- 9.1.2 Officers continue to engage with other local authorities and agencies on the duty to co-operate around strategic issues for the area; this includes:

- Specific work on a duty to co-operate protocol led by Devon County Council to which DNPA is a signatory;
- Close involvement with the Plymouth, West Devon and South Hams Joint Local Plan;
- Close involvement in the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (Teignbridge District Council, Mid Devon District Council, East Devon District Council and Exeter City Council);
- Continued liaison with statutory bodies, for example with the Environment Agency and Historic England;
- Work with Devon County Council on economic development and infrastructure planning, and Minerals and Waste evidence base;
- Liaison over strategic matters and co-operation through the Devon Heads of Planning Group;
- Involvement in cross-Devon landscape policy through the Devon Landscape Policy Group;
- The Authority is an active member of the Devon Local Nature Partnership (LNP);
- Engagement with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) including joint work with Exmoor National Park on a Rural Productivity Plan; and
- Neighbourhood Planning support - liaison between officers supporting Neighbourhood Plans through the South West Neighbourhood Plans Officers network to support consistency and good practice.

- 9.1.3 A Devon-wide duty to co-operate protocol was agreed in 2014 to guide strategic planning across local boundaries. Dartmoor National Park Authority is a signatory to the protocol, along with the other local authorities and other partners including the LEP, LNP and statutory environmental agencies (Natural England and Environment Agency).
- 9.1.4 The protocol sets out a strategic framework to enable efficient, coordinated and consistent co-operation on agreed matters. This does not preclude co-operation arrangements between organisations on specific spatial issues as is appropriate. Such relationships will specifically operate between Authorities covered by the protocol and other neighbouring Councils. The protocol also identifies the topic areas which may require specific co-operation between some, or all, of the organisations listed.
- 9.1.5 Duty to Co-operate is an active and ongoing process. This Statement will be kept up to date and formally reviewed and revised at Regulation 19.

10 Timetable

- 10.1.1 The timetable for the Local Plan review is set out below, along with an indication of how engagement with duty to co-operate partners will be undertaken.

Stage	Timeframe	Engagement
Evidence gathering	2016 onwards	Informal consultation Joint working on evidence base studies Officer liaison meetings
Issues	Winter 2016/17	Consultation
Options	Summer/Autumn 2017	Consultation Officer liaison meetings
First draft Local Plan (Reg 18 consultation)	Summer 2018	Formal Consultation Follow up responses Officer liaison meetings
Revised draft Local Plan (Reg 19 consultation)	Summer 2019	Formal consultation Follow up responses Officer liaison meetings
Submission and Examination	Autumn 2019	Participate in Examination

Appendix 1: Assessment of Strategic Matters for Duty to Co-operate

g. a record of where agreements have (or have not) been reached on key strategic matters, including the process for reaching agreements on these; and

h. any additional strategic matters to be addressed by the statement which have not already been addressed, including a brief description how the statement relates to any other statement of common ground covering all or part of the same area.

Note references to Topic numbers in table below will have changed as taken out the ones not requiring cooperation

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
1. Population change/ demographic forecasting	To co-operate on assessing population change and demographics including housing need	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC ECC	Edge Analytics Understanding Data	Yes. Topics 1 & 2 require cross-boundary co-operation regarding the need for and distribution of housing
2. Housing need and provision	To provide a co-ordinated approach to the distribution of housing across the housing market area, including joint studies where appropriate. To co-operate on meeting objectively assessed needs across the Housing Market Areas, including accommodating the needs arising from the National Park in adjoining authorities where appropriate.	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC ECC HCA HA	SHMA (Plymouth) SHMA (Exeter) LAA Local Housing Needs Assessments Indirectly - Landscape Sensitivity Study	Yes. Topics 1 & 2 require cross-boundary co-operation regarding the need for and distribution of housing. See also No. 21 regarding Gypsy & Traveller provision and No. 19 health and wellbeing regarding the provision of housing needs for an ageing population.
3. Spatial	To ensure a consistent policy approach	TDC	Settlement strategy	Yes.

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
strategy / settlement strategy	for settlements which are split between two Local Plan areas or closely linked in terms of role and function	WDBC SHDC MDDC HA		Co-operation is required regarding a number of settlements, particularly in relation to Yelverton (WDBC), Ashburton and Buckfastleigh (TDC) and Cheriton Bishop (MDDC)
4. Economic development and employment strategy	<p>To co-operate on strategic issues across functional economic areas including the protection of existing employment land, support for key sectors including tourism and agriculture/forestry, and any proposals for strategic retail, leisure, industrial or other economic development.</p> <p>To work with the LEP to ensure that Local Plan policy framework and Strategic Economic Plan are consistent and mutually supportive.</p>	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC ECC HoSW LEP HA	GESP EDNA ELR SHLAA HoSW Strategic Economic Plan, Growth Plan Dartmoor/Exmoor Rural Productivity Plan	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Support for key sectors and provision of an appropriate policy framework require cross-boundary / agency co-operation</p>
5. Transport and communications	<p>To manage the impacts of transport and communications policy and provision of infrastructure across boundaries including the impact on the National Park of development in surrounding areas.</p> <p>To provide a consistent approach to traffic management, freight transport, telecommunications and the provision of routes for more sustainable modes of transport including walking and cycling.</p>	DCC HoSW LEP ORR CAA HA	DCC LTP IDP	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Transport policy and infrastructure provision including telecommunications and the promotion of sustainable transport require co-operation</p>
6. Education / skills	To ensure the provision of necessary infrastructure for education and skills to	DCC HoSW LEP	DCC IDP	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The provision of necessary educational</p>

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
	support the needs of local communities and businesses			facilities and infrastructure will be a matter for co-operation with DCC (see No.20). No specific strategic cross boundary issues requiring co-operation have been identified. However individual site specific proposals may come forward that require co-operation - these will be considered on a site by site basis.
7. Recreation, Leisure, culture and sport	To assess and avoid or mitigate impacts on the National Park from recreation and leisure pressure arising from housing development outside the National Park	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC ECC TC	OSS District assessments and relevant strategies DNP Access and Recreation Strategy	Yes. Co-operation is needed to consider cross-boundary impacts of development leading to increased recreational pressure in the National Park. This could be the impacts of specific development proposals but also the cumulative impact of the scale of growth in surrounding areas given the growth ambitions of Plymouth and the Greater Exeter area.
8. Green infrastructure	To support climate change mitigation and adaptation measures across boundaries, including ecological networks and green infrastructure.	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC ECC EA NE DLNP	IDP Living Dartmoor	Yes. Cross-boundary co-operation on ecological networks and green infrastructure. See also Topic no.14.
9. National Park purposes, special	To ensure that adjoining Local Plans include policies to protect designated areas, including the setting of the	All partners	State of the Park Report National Park Management Plan	Yes. Topic Nos. 10, 12 and 15 require co-operation as National Park status and

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
qualities and setting of the National Park	<p>National Park and historic designations.</p> <p>To ensure that strategic allocations and planning proposals in adjoining areas are consistent with National Park statutory purposes through appropriate consultation, location, master-planning, design, and landscaping.</p>			<p>statutory purposes constrain the scale and type of development that is appropriate within the National Park, meaning that this needs to be accommodated in adjoining areas. Local Planning Authorities have a duty under section 62 of the Environment Act 1995 to have regard to National Park purposes when coming to decisions or carrying out their duties which includes potential impacts on the setting of the National Park or historic environment designations from development outside the National Park</p>
10. Coastal and marine planning	<p>Dartmoor National Park does not have a coastline and consequently does not have any direct responsibility for coastal and marine planning. The National Park covers the headwaters of several major river catchments and the majority of waterbodies are classified as 'good' or 'moderate' under the Water Framework Directive.</p>	N/A	N/A	<p>No</p> <p>No strategic matters for co-operation have been identified relating to coastal and marine planning</p>
11. Landscape	See Topic 10 above	<p>DCC</p> <p>TDC</p> <p>WDBC</p> <p>SHDC</p> <p>MDDC</p> <p>PCC</p> <p>NE</p>	<p>National Park Management Plan</p> <p>Dartmoor Landscape Character Assessment</p> <p>Dartmoor Landscape Sensitivity Study</p> <p>Devon Landscape Character Assessment</p> <p>Devon Landscape Policy Group advice</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>See Topic 10 above</p>

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
12. Energy conservation, renewable energy and low carbon development	To support climate change mitigation and adaptation measures across boundaries, and to avoid impacts of renewable energy schemes on the special qualities and setting of the National Park.	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC	NE topic paper Devon Landscape Policy Group Advice	No. This would be covered under Topic 10 above. No specific strategic cross-boundary issues requiring co-operation have been identified in relation to energy development. Any site specific issues will be dealt with on a case by case basis.
13. Biodiversity, biodiversity networks and ecosystem services	Ensure a consistent approach to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity across boundaries, including ecological networks and green infrastructure.	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC TC NE DLNP	National Park Management Plan Natural Environment topic paper Living Dartmoor	Yes. Habitats and ecological networks cross boundaries and co-operation is needed to protect and enhance healthy, functioning ecosystems. There are opportunities to strengthen connectivity between habitats across boundaries, guided by Living Dartmoor (the National Park biodiversity strategy). Co-operation is also needed to ensure a consistent approach to statutory designations including SACs and protected species.
14. Heritage considerations	See Topic 10 above	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC HE	National Park Management Plan Historic Environment topic paper Conservation Area Appraisals	Yes. See Topic 10 above
15. Minerals	To ensure that a co-ordinated strategic approach is adopted to minerals and that strategic planning policies and proposals for minerals development are consistent with National Park purposes.	DCC	Devon Minerals Plan 2017 LAA (annual) Minerals research/topic papers (DCC)	Yes. Dartmoor National Park Authority is the Minerals Planning Authority for the National Park and the local plan will include policies relating to minerals for the whole of

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
	Given the limited scope for minerals exploitation within Dartmoor National Park, DNPA and Devon County Council will work together to co-ordinate local assessments of aggregate production.			Dartmoor National Park. As such there will need to be co-operation with DCC and other Minerals Planning Authorities regarding the assessments of demand and production, bearing in mind National Park purposes.
16. Waste	To ensure that a co-ordinated strategic approach is adopted to waste and that strategic planning policies and proposals for waste management are consistent with National Park purposes.	DCC	Devon Waste Plan 2014 Minerals and Waste Topic Paper	Yes. Dartmoor National Park Authority is the Waste Planning Authority for the National Park and the local plan will include policies relating to waste for the whole of Dartmoor National Park. As such there will need to be co-operation with DCC and other Waste Planning Authorities regarding the assessments of waste arisings and disposal, bearing in mind National Park purposes
17. Flood risk management	To manage flood risk particularly the cross-boundary upstream and downstream impacts of strategic planning and development	DCC EA	Dartmoor SFRA update Catchment Flood Management Plans	Yes. The preparation of the evidence base to support the Local Plan including the SFRA update and Critical Drainage Areas designated on Dartmoor will require co-operation with the Environment Agency and Devon County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority. No specific strategic cross boundary issues requiring co-operation have been identified. However individual site specific proposals may come forward that require co-operation - these will be considered on a site by site basis.
18. Health and	To ensure a consistent approach to	DCC	IDP	Yes.

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
wellbeing	considering health and wellbeing in the development of planning and infrastructure related policy	Clinical Commissioning Groups National Health Service Commissioning Board	SA/SEA DLNP Naturally Healthy initiative Devon Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Devon Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016 Devon transforming Care Partnership Plan 2016	The provision of facilities and services to support health and wellbeing will require co-operation including meeting the needs of an ageing population and the provision of residential care. The provision of green infrastructure which may support health and wellbeing is covered in No. 9, and the impacts of increased recreational pressure arising from development are included in No.8. No specific strategic cross boundary issues requiring co-operation have been identified. However individual site specific proposals may come forward that require co-operation - these will be considered on a site by site basis.
19. Infrastructure planning, funding, delivery, phasing and implementation	To ensure adequate and effective infrastructure provision with regard to for example, transportation, telecommunications, energy, waste water, water quality, water supply, education and health facilities for the communities of the respective authorities consistent with NP purposes	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC ECC EA NE HCA HA HoSW LEP DLNP	IDP	Yes. The preparation of the Infrastructure Development Plan will include co-operation with prescribed bodies and infrastructure providers to identify any infrastructure requirements required to support delivery of the Local Plan.
20. Gypsy and traveller policy	To ensure a consistent approach and evidence base for identification of the need for, and provision of, Gypsy &	DCC TDC WDBC	Devon GTAA assessment 2014 District and Joint Strategic	Yes. See Topic Nos 1 & 2.

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
(particularly regarding accommodation of need and provision)	Traveller sites	SHDC MDDC	Plan GTAAAs	
21. Neighbourhood Plans	To provide a consistent approach to supporting Neighbourhood Planning in Parishes that span two Local Plan areas	TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC		No. Neighbourhood Plans are required to be in conformity with the strategic policies of Local Plans and as such it is not expected that any additional strategic cross-boundary issues will arise. A Protocol is being developed between DNPA and the District Authorities to ensure effective support for Neighbourhood Planning groups where Plans cross boundaries.
22. Procedural considerations	To support co-operation, best practice and efficiency in plan making	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC ECC NE EA HE		No. This is not a cross boundary strategic planning issue. However DNPA will work with other prescribed bodies and partners to co-operate in relevant discussions regarding best practice and efficiency in Local Plan preparation. A report (NPA/16/015) setting out the rationale for not including Dartmoor National Park within the Plymouth or Greater Exeter Strategic Plans was approved by members.

Items not requiring co-operation

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
23. Retail	See 4 above	TDC	District retail assessments	No.

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
planning	Many of the settlements on Dartmoor include local convenience stores, with some of the local centres having a wider range of shops. However the main retail offer is provided by the cities and larger settlements outside the National Park.	WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC ECC HoSW LEP		No specific strategic cross boundary issues requiring co-operation have been identified.
24. Spatial strategy / settlement strategy	To ensure a consistent policy approach for settlements which are split between two Local Plan areas or closely linked in terms of role and function	TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC HA	Settlement strategy	Yes. Co-operation is required regarding a number of settlements, particularly in relation to Yelverton (WDBC), Ashburton and Buckfastleigh (TDC) and Cheriton Bishop (MDDC)
25. Transport and communications	To manage the impacts of transport and communications policy and provision of infrastructure across boundaries including the impact on the National Park of development in surrounding areas. To provide a consistent approach to traffic management, freight transport, telecommunications and the provision of routes for more sustainable modes of transport including walking and cycling.	DCC HoSW LEP ORR CAA HA	DCC LTP IDP	Yes. Transport policy and infrastructure provision including telecommunications and the promotion of sustainable transport require co-operation
26. Coastal and marine planning	Dartmoor National Park does not have a coastline and consequently does not have any direct responsibility for coastal and marine planning. The National Park covers the headwaters of several major river catchments and the majority of waterbodies are classified as 'good ' or 'moderate' under the Water Framework	N/A	N/A	No No strategic matters for co-operation have been identified relating to coastal and marine planning

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
	Directive.			
27. Energy conservation, renewable energy and low carbon development	To support climate change mitigation and adaptation measures across boundaries, and to avoid impacts of renewable energy schemes on the special qualities and setting of the National Park.	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC	NE topic paper Devon Landscape Policy Group Advice	No. This would be covered under Topic 10 above. No specific strategic cross-boundary issues requiring co-operation have been identified in relation to energy development. Any site specific issues will be dealt with on a case by case basis.
28. Biodiversity, biodiversity networks and ecosystem services	To ensure a consistent approach to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity across boundaries, including ecological networks and green infrastructure.	DCC TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC PCC TC NE DLNP	National Park Management Plan Natural Environment topic paper Living Dartmoor	Yes. Habitats and ecological networks cross boundaries and co-operation is needed to protect and enhance healthy, functioning ecosystems. There are opportunities to strengthen connectivity between habitats across boundaries, guided by Living Dartmoor (the National Park biodiversity strategy). Co-operation is also needed to ensure a consistent approach to statutory designations including SACs and protected species.
29. Neighbourhood Plans	To provide a consistent approach to supporting Neighbourhood Planning in Parishes that span two Local Plan areas	TDC WDBC SHDC MDDC		No. Neighbourhood Plans are required to be in conformity with the strategic policies of Local Plans and as such it is not expected that any additional strategic cross-boundary issues will arise. A Protocol is being developed between DNPA and the District Authorities to ensure effective support for Neighbourhood Planning groups where Plans cross boundaries.
30. Procedural considerations	To support co-operation, best practice and efficiency in plan making	DCC TDC WDBC		No. This is not a cross boundary strategic planning issue. However DNPA will work

Topic	Strategic Priorities for Dartmoor National Park Local Plan	DtC Partners	Evidence base	Assessment of co-operation
		SHDC MDDC PCC ECC NE EA HE		with other prescribed bodies and partners to co-operate in relevant discussions regarding best practice and efficiency in Local Plan preparation. A report (NPA/16/015) setting out the rationale for not including Dartmoor National Park within the Plymouth or Greater Exeter Strategic Plans was approved by members.

Appendix 2: Summary table of Duty to Co-operate topics and relevant partners

Topic	DCC	TDC	WDBC	SHDC	MDDC	PCC	ECC	TC	EA	NE	HE	HCA	HA	CAA	CCGs / NUSCP	ORR	HoSW LEP	DLNP
Population change/ demographic forecasting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X											
Housing need and provision	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X					
Spatial strategy / settlement strategy	X	X	X	X	X								X					
Economic development and employment strategy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X				X	
Retail planning		X	X	X	X	X	X										X	
Transport	X												X	X		X	X	
Education / skills	X																X	
Recreation, leisure, culture and sport	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X										
Green infrastructure	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								X
National Park	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Topic	DCC	TDC	WDBC	SHDC	MDDC	PCC	ECC	TC	EA	NE	HE	HCA	HA	CAA	CCGs / MUSCB	ORR	HoSW LEP	DLNP
purposes & special qualities																		
Landscape	X	X	X	X	X	X				X								
Energy conservation, renewable energy and low carbon development	X	X	X	X	X													
Biodiversity, biodiversity networks and ecosystem services	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X								X
Heritage considerations	X	X	X	X	X						X							
Minerals	X																	
Waste	X																	
Flood risk management	X								X									
Health and wellbeing	X														X			
Infrastructure	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X

Topic	DCC	TDC	WDBC	SHDC	MDDC	PCC	ECC	TC	EA	NE	HE	HCA	HA	CAA	CCGs / NHSCB	ORR	HoSW LEP	DLNP
planning																		
Gypsy and Traveller policy	X	X	X	X	X													
Neighbourhood Plans		X	X	X	X													
Procedural considerations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X							

Key:

DCC – Devon County Council (also Highways Authority, Education Authority and Lead Local Flood Authority)

WDBC – West Devon Borough Council

MDDC – Mid Devon District Council

ECC – Exeter City Council

EA – Environment Agency

HE – Historic England

DLNP – Devon Local Nature Partnership

HA – Highways Authority (now known as Highways England)

SHDC – South Hams District Council

PCC – Plymouth City Council

TC – Torbay Council

NE – Natural England

HCA – Homes and Communities Agency

HoSW LEP – Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership

NHSCB – National Health Services Commissioning Board

CCGs – Clinical Commissioning Groups

ORR – Office of Rail and Road

TDC – Teignbridge District Council

CAA – Civil Aviation Authority

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

2 November 2018

**TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS, SECTION 211 NOTIFICATIONS
(WORKS TO TREES IN CONSERVATION AREAS)
AND HEDGEROW REMOVAL NOTICES
DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

Report of the Trees and Landscape Officer

Recommendation : **That the decisions be noted.**

TPO APPLICATIONS

Teignbridge

Ref: 18/0036 **Holwell Farm, Widecombe** **SX 7419 7737**

Application to crown lift two beech trees. Consent was granted subject to conditions:

1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
2. All works are carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.

West Devon

Ref: 18/0037 **Foxes Holt, Belstone** **SX 6280 9385**

Application to crown reduce four oak and five beech trees. Consent was granted subject to conditions:

1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
2. All works are carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.

Ref: 18/0041 **Okehampton Golf Club** **SX 5820 9385**

Application to fell an ash tree. Consent was granted subject to conditions:

1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
2. Replacement planting of one standard oak tree within the crown spread of the originals during the first planting season following felling.

South Hams

Ref: 18/0039

Bittaford Wood Caravan Park

SX 6685 5668

Application to fell five oak trees and crown lift six oak trees. The trees identified for felling are in poor condition. Consent was granted subject to conditions:

1. Five working days' notice to be given to the Authority prior to the commencement of approved works.
2. All works are carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.
3. Replacement planting of four standard oak trees within the crown spread of the originals during the first planting season following felling.

SECTION 211 NOTICES

Teignbridge

Ref: 18/0040

2 Moorfield, Buckfastleigh

SX 7445 6590

Notification to fell a eucalyptus tree. The tree dominates the small garden.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

West Devon

Ref: 18/0035

Froggy Villa, Drewsteignton

SX 7358 9094

Notification to fell a sycamore tree. The felling will have minimal impact on the character of the Conservation Area.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

Ref: 18/0042

Walkhampton Church

SX 5368 7171

Notification to fell a cypress tree. The tree is in very poor condition.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

South Hams

Ref: 18/0038

29 Church Street, South Brent

SX 6970 6012

Notification to fell a beech and two cypress tree, and reduce a pittosporum. The works will have minimal impact on the character of the Conservation Area.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

BRIAN BEASLEY