

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

7 February 2014

**DEVELOPMENT BRIEF FOR PROPOSAL ASH1, LAND AT
LONGSTONE CROSS, ASHBURTON**Report of the Forward Planner**Recommendation: That Members approve the Development Brief****1 Introduction**

- 1.1 A number of the development site allocations set out in the adopted Local Plan specifically require that they go through a process of Masterplanning or are led by a Development Brief consistent with the Authority's Guidance adopted in March 2013. The purpose of this process is to provide a 'blueprint' for a site prior to any applications coming forward, and to engage with the local community early in the process of preparing a scheme in order provide an opportunity to influence emerging plans.
- 1.2 The Development Brief for Proposal ASH1, Longstone Cross, Ashburton, has been in preparation for some months but has been delayed due to changes in the landowner and developer interest in the site. As this is a small site for only affordable housing this is an example of a relatively 'light touch' Development Brief. Members are referred to the following web link for access to the full document:

<http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/planning/pl-forwardplanning/masterplans-and-development-briefs>

The main site layout plan is attached at Appendix 1 to this report for information.

2 The Site

- 2.1 Proposal ASH1 states "an area of land 1.1 ha in extent between Roborough Gardens and Longstone Cross, Ashburton, is allocated for affordable housing to meet identified local needs". This site is allocated together with the 3.5 ha redevelopment site at Chuley Road (ASH2) towards meeting an affordable housing need of 33 in Ashburton, identified at the last survey (2009).
- 2.2 The site is at the far northern end of Ashburton; it is bounded by a highway to the east and north and surrounded by agricultural land to the west and south. The modern residential development of Balland Park is located opposite the eastern boundary of the site and the linear development of Roborough Gardens is to the south.
- 2.3 The site is split between three landowners (Devon County Council, and two private individuals). The land owner to the southern end of the site is working with Trand and Teign Housing, and the two landowners to the northern part of the site are working with Hastoe Housing. Given this division the scheme may come forward in

two Phases with a likely yield of around 35 units comprising one, two and three bedroom houses; a small number of these will be shared ownership, the rest rented.

3 Engagement

- 3.1 The identification of this site in the DMD means it has already undergone extensive consultation regarding the principle of affordable housing in this location. Hastoe Housing moved forward from this process through discussion with the planning officers to draw together a plan for the whole site of an appropriate level of detail for public consultation. This plan, together with a range of background information was displayed at a public consultation event in Ashburton Town Hall in June 2013. After this consultation the landowner of the southern part of the site entered into an agreement with Trand (working with Teign Housing) to bring forward the part of the site in their ownership. Following this change the two 'developers' have proceeded to work together to bring forward a single Development Brief for the site consistent with the Authority's requirements.
- 3.2 A further consultation on a Brief which reflected the combined interests of the two 'developers' was publicised at a further consultation event in Ashburton in November 2013, followed by a 4 week period of public consultation. A summary of the responses is set out in section 3.3 of the Brief. DNPA officers responded with detailed comments, and Ashburton Town Council has endorsed the proposal pending receipt of a planning application and a draft 106 agreement.
- 3.3 Discussions will continue with stakeholders as the 'developers' prepare the planning application(s) for submission to the National Park Authority. At this point there will be a stage of formal public consultation on the detail of the application(s).

4 Development principles

- 4.1 The Brief sets out a number of design and layout principles which are a design response to the site, informed by discussions at the public consultation and with the landowners, planning officers and highways officer, these include:
- Retaining the existing hedgebank and trees which form the site boundary to the adjacent roads
 - The new western and southern boundaries will be formed in Devon hedgebanks (including standard trees) to reflect the traditional local field boundary treatments
 - The road layout within the site will accommodate through access to retained land as required.
 - The main vehicular access to the development will incorporate pedestrian footpaths and visibility splays, the scheme should also include a reduction in the width of the existing road to 4.8m wide.
 - Additional pedestrian access from the existing road will be incorporated into the scheme, it is anticipated in the Brief that these will be on the southernmost corner of the site, and at the northern side onto Rew Road.
 - The new houses adjacent to the existing road to the east, where possible, will be orientated east-west rather than a linear development parallel to and fronting the road. This will provide occasional views from the road towards the high moor to the west. Orientation of the houses east-west will enable solar panels to be incorporated into the roof construction.
 - The houses will be a maximum of 2 storey in height with pitched roofs. The topography of the site will dictate layout and levels of the houses. This will result in a stepped floor and roof levels.

- The public consultation responses highlighted the preference for a traditional design approach incorporating slate roofs, rendered walls and timber windows. Reference will be made to the Dartmoor National Park Design Guide during the final design process.
- Whilst the current level of information is considered adequate, any planning application will be supported by a Phase 1 ecological survey and any other more detailed surveys as deemed necessary.

5 Timescale for application and delivery

- 5.1 A meeting between the two Housing Associations, the Authority, Teignbridge District Council's housing officer and the Ashburton Affordable Housing Group is planned for February 2014. This will enable discussions to take place around a Section 106 Agreement and Allocations Plan. The 'developers' intend to move forward with public pre-application consultation after this.

6 Conclusion

- 6.1 The Authorities guidance states that in assessing a Development Brief the Authority will consider:

- Stakeholder engagement and influence
- The consistency of the Brief with the Local Plan
- How the proposal will help sustain the vibrancy of the community and contribute towards meeting the settlement vision over the plan period
- The deliverability of the scheme.

- 6.2 On the basis of the above officers consider that this Development Brief has met the requirements and should be approved. It should be recognised that officers are guiding developers on a case by case basis towards a proportionate amount of detail in development briefs according to the relative complexity of any site; this is a relatively 'light touch' brief given it is a small site for only affordable housing. The Parish Council has been sent a copy of the Brief and will be invited to attend the Authority meeting.

7 Equality and sustainability impact

- 7.1 There is no need for specific sustainability appraisal in this case. Sustainability and equality are subjects deeply embedded in the provision of affordable housing; this scheme includes a consideration of the sustainable and inclusive design, as well as having considered engagement (so far, and ongoing) with members of the community with an interest in this site, and the provision of affordable housing in the community.

8 Financial implications

- 8.1 The approval of this scheme has no financial implications for the Authority.

DAN JANOTA

Attachments: Appendix 1 – Site Layout Plan



Indicative building locations

Indicative parking locations



DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

7 February 2014

THE DEVON WASTE PLAN : PRE-SUBMISSION CONSULTATIONReport of the Forward Planner

- Recommendation:** **That Members:**
- (i) **Offer their support for the objectives and policies of the Pre-Submission consultation version of the Devon Waste Plan to Devon County Council;**
 - (ii) **Submit a representation regarding the application of the National Planning Policy Framework nationally designated landscapes major development test, as set out in paragraph 2.4 of this report.**

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Devon County Council is currently in the process of preparing the Devon Waste Plan, which will replace the current Waste Local Plan, adopted in 2006. The Devon Waste Plan covers the county of Devon outside the National Parks and the unitary authorities of Plymouth and Torbay, and looks forward to 2031. Originally planned as a Waste Core Strategy, the Waste Plan now incorporates the waste strategy, development management policies and site allocations in a single 'local plan' document.
- 1.2 Following the publication of a consultation document in May 2012 setting out the preferred strategy, site options and draft policies, Devon County Council has now published a pre-submission consultation version of the plan. This is the version of the plan that the Council intends to submit to the Secretary of State and which will be independently examined by a planning inspector. It offers the opportunity for the public to comment on the plan, with those comments contributing to the overall consideration of soundness matters through the examination process. The consultation period lasts for 12 weeks from 2 December 2013 to 24 February 2014. Submission is anticipated to take place in March 2014, with the examination hearings around June or July 2014.
- 1.3 Officer level comments were submitted on the draft plan in August 2012 and those comments were endorsed by the Authority in September 2012 (NPA/12/039; Minute 2863). The substance of the Authority's response is set out below:
- Strong support for the expectation that the strategic waste management needs of Dartmoor National Park would be met through facilities outside the Park;
 - Concern over the close proximity of an 'areas of search' zone for new waste facilities to the National Park boundary;
 - Recommendations were made in order to improve the robustness of policies on landscape, environmental protection, the historic environment and design by linking them more closely with the protection of the special qualities of the National Park.

- Support for statements in the plan which gave emphasis to National Park purposes, and the need to avoid locating major facilities in locations that may result in an adverse impact upon the National Park.
- 1.4 The consultation responses on the draft plan emphasised the desire to drive waste up the hierarchy, in the direction of sustainable waste management. The hierarchy has disposal at the lowest level, moving through recovery, recycling, preparing for re-use, and has prevention at the top.
- 1.5 The pre-submission version of the Waste Plan differs from the earlier consultation draft in a number of ways:
- Landfill capacity needs have been reassessed along with the overall approach to accommodating future landfill provision, and specific sites for additional future disposal provision have not been included.
 - The broad areas of search for strategic facilities for waste disposal (*in Southern Devon, Northern Devon, Eastern/Mid Devon*) have been dropped. The disposal policy instead incorporates detailed criteria to inform the assessment of proposals; while accepting that this approach will need to be monitored and reviewed.
 - Policies have been restructured to include a clearer approach to waste prevention and the need to move waste treatment to higher tiers of the waste hierarchy.
 - There is more emphasis on the extraction of recyclable materials before energy recovery and maximising the efficiency of energy generation.
 - Strategic energy recovery sites have been identified at five locations; the nearest to Dartmoor National Park being at Heathfield Landfill Site, near Kingsteignton.
 - Most of the development management policies of the plan have been restructured and strengthened to fully address concerns relating to the quality of life of communities, biodiversity, landscape quality, and flooding issues.

2 Comment

- 2.1 The Pre-submission Consultation Waste Plan is different in many ways from the consultation draft of 2012. It reflects in great measure the Authority's response to the consultation draft.
- 2.2 The plan places a stronger emphasis on initiatives to raise the management of waste to higher levels of the waste hierarchy. A monitor / review / manage approach to the need for additional waste disposal facilities is to be welcomed. The deletion of defined areas of search for additional waste disposal facilities is also welcomed. The designation of five locations for energy from waste facilities for Devon appears balanced and proportionate, and none of those locations is in close proximity to Dartmoor National Park.
- 2.3 The development management policies of the plan set out criteria to protect the environmental, heritage and cultural qualities of Devon, including the special qualities of the National Parks. Policy W12 (*Landscape and Visual Impact*) contains the following clause:

2. Waste management development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on the natural beauty, distinctive landscape character and special qualities of Dartmoor National Park, Exmoor National Park or their settings.

- 2.4 The plan, in paragraph 4.3.3, refers to the role of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in setting the overall policy framework relating to the protection of nationally designated landscapes. It errs, in its reference to the policy on major development in the NPPF (paragraph 116), in referring to '*the importance of protecting designated areas from general development*', when the reference in the NPPF is to '*major development*'. This drafting gives the impression that any form of development is constrained in the National Parks, when that is clearly not the case.

3 Conclusion

- 3.1 The Pre-Submission Consultation version of the Devon Waste Plan is welcomed. It is a document which takes forward many of the approaches to the sustainable management of waste that have been promoted in Devon in recent years. It stresses the need to reduce the generation of waste, while treating unavoidable waste as a valuable resource. The importance of recycling and composting is highlighted, and provision is made for operations, such as anaerobic digestion and energy recovery that can make optimum use of the County's waste streams.
- 3.2 Devon's unique landscape and environment, its heritage qualities, and the quality of life and amenity enjoyed by its local communities are appropriately recognised and protected.
- 3.3 In setting a framework for the more sustainable management of waste, the plan offers protection for county and national environmental assets such as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the National Parks.
- 3.4 It is recommended to support the Pre-Submission version of the plan. A representation regarding reference to the correct application of the nationally designated landscapes 'major development test' in the NPPF should also be submitted.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 No direct implications.

5 Equality & Sustainability Impact

- 5.1 It is considered that the approach to the management of Devon's waste adopted in the Devon Waste Plan, which seeks to achieve more sustainable ways of managing this resource, will have positive sustainability and equality impacts on spatial planning in Dartmoor National Park.

DAVID LILLINGTON

Background Papers

Devon County Council (December 2013) Pre-submission Consultation Devon Waste Plan
http://www.devon.gov.uk/pre-submission_consultation_devon_waste_plan.pdf

Devon County Council (December 2013) Pre-submission Consultation Devon Waste Plan – Summary Bulletin
http://www.devon.gov.uk/waste_bulletin.pdf

Devon County Council (November 2013) Pre-submission Consultation Devon Waste Plan – Statement of Consultation
http://www.devon.gov.uk/statement_of_consultation.pdf

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

7 February 2014

RESIDENTS SURVEY 2013

Report of the Director of Communications & Business Support

Recommendations : **That Members note the content of the report**

1 Background

1.1 As part of the Business Plan for 2013/14 it was agreed that a survey of residents living in Dartmoor National Park would be undertaken in order to measure the current understanding and perceptions of Dartmoor National Park Authority. The aim was to use the outcome of the survey to inform actions to help local communities understand the role of the Authority and recognise the work we are doing in pursuit of the statutory purposes and duty.

2 Objectives

2.1 A tender was placed on the Authority's website in August 2013 to invite companies to undertake this work during September and October 2013, with a final report deadline of 8 November 2013.

2.2 The main objectives of the research were to assess:

- Residents' level of awareness of the Dartmoor National Park Authority
- Residents' understanding of and satisfaction with the work carried out by the Dartmoor National Park Authority
- How well the Dartmoor National Park Authority communicates and engages with the residents of the National Park
- Residents' views about living in the National Park
- Residents' opinion on future priorities for Dartmoor National Park Authority

2.3 Specifically the intention was to better understand:

- The level of understanding about Dartmoor National Park Authority and what its roles and functions are
- How residents find out about the work of the Authority
- Residents' preferred means of communication
- Satisfaction with the services provided by the Authority
- Residents' views on how well the Authority supports businesses and economic growth
- Residents' satisfaction with where they live
- Whether residents feel they can influence decisions in their local area
- Opinion on future priorities for the Authority

2.4 It is intended that the information will be used by the Authority to:

- Inform its communication strategy and specifically how it communicates with local residents
- Target service improvements where required
- Provide baseline information to measure future performance
- Inform priorities for the future

2.5 The contract was awarded to Future Focus Research, who commenced the fieldwork in September and completed the sample of 1,000 face to face interviews on 31 October 2013. The methodology included selecting a random sample of addresses across Dartmoor and interviewing residents in their own homes.

3 Equality and Sustainability Assessment

3.1 The company undertaking the survey work approached a random sample of households across Dartmoor, ensuring that they had a proportionate number for age, gender, ethnicity, disability and geographical spread, based on 2011 census data. Arrangements were made to facilitate interviews where disability or language was a barrier.

4 Outcome

4.1 The final outcome report was received from Future Focus Research in November 2013 and is attached at Appendix 1. It was considered briefly by the Audit & Governance Committee at their meeting on 15 November 2013, but was not considered in detail due to the timing of the receipt of the report. In their discussion, however, A&G committee Members were keen for officers to discuss the survey results with their teams and provide a short response to any issues arising to a future meeting of A&G Committee. They also recommended that the survey should be reported to the Authority timed with the budget report.

4.2 Members will note that the survey outcome is very positive, which is pleasing considering the major change agenda, resulting from budget cuts, that the Authority has been undertaking. Of particular interest are the following findings:

- 93% of residents had heard of Dartmoor National Park Authority and understood what the Authority did. The most frequent answer (65%) was *“look after/conserves/preserve the park”*
- 36% understood how the Authority was funded, but 37% did not know and 12% thought we were part of the National Trust!
- 87% of residents had used at least one of the services provided by the Authority with, on average, 93% of users being either fairly or very satisfied with the services provided
- A number of services achieved 100% (or very close to) satisfaction rating
- 77% of residents said they were either very or fairly satisfied with the way the National Park Authority runs things and 98% said they were satisfied with their local area as a place to live
- 74% of residents agreed that the Authority was achieving its first purpose and 70% agreed that it was achieving the second purpose

4.3 Members have already taken into consideration the results from the survey in respect of priorities, when determining the priorities and Business Plan for 2014/15 at their

meeting in January 2014 (NPA/14/002). Members will recall that the six service areas considered most important by residents, in rank order, were:

- Conserving wildlife
- Conserving the landscape
- Maintaining footpaths, Public Rights of Way and access land
- Conserving ancient sites and archaeology
- Providing and maintaining facilities for visitors such as car parks and toilets
- Conserving buildings

Of least importance were: providing public transport (perhaps understanding that this is not the role of the Authority) and managing the effects of climate change.

- 4.4 There were a number of areas in the research which the Authority needs to consider in its future work, particularly around engagement and involvement. It was somewhat surprising to find that only 21% of residents felt they could influence decisions affecting their area and then only 15% stated they wished to be involved in issues where they lived. Even more concerning was that only 4% of residents interviewed were interested in being involved through volunteering.
- 4.5 When considering how the Authority communicates with local communities this survey showed that the main sources of information were local media (37%) and friends and neighbours (29%). These were closely followed by the website, but this was only 21% (supported by the fact that even fewer – 18% - stated they had used the Authority's website). When asked what the preferred method of communication was, 39% said local media, followed by Authority leaflets (25%).
- 4.6 Finally, although 55% of residents surveyed felt they were either fairly or very well informed about the work of the Authority, 40% stated they were either not very informed (26%) or not at all informed (14%). The messages about feeling informed and involved set against residents' interest in being involved together with preferred methods of communication need to be considered in future work with local communities. The mixed messages present a significant challenge, but there is clearly work to be done in improving our communication with residents.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The outcome of this face to face survey of 1,000 residents of Dartmoor National Park has provided some very positive messages in respect of understanding the role of the Authority, achievement of its two purposes and satisfaction with the services provided. It has also provided indicators for future priorities. There is some variation in satisfaction levels and these will be considered further by individual service areas.
- 5.2 The main challenges going forward is maintaining this level of satisfaction with significantly reduced resources and determining how best to keep local residents informed and involved in the work that we do.
- 5.3 It is intended to repeat the survey every 3 years to measure progress.

LORNA BROWN

Attachments: Appendix 1 – Residents Survey Final Report November 2013

Appendix 1 to Report No. NPA/14/014



Dartmoor Residents Survey

Final Report

November 2013



**Prepared For:
Dartmoor National Park Authority**

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1. Executive Summary

Awareness and understanding of the Dartmoor National Park Authority

- 93% had heard of Dartmoor National Park Authority before the interview.
- 65% understood the role of the National Park as *looking after/ conservation/ preservation of the park*.
- 36% chose the correct statement relating to how the National Park is managed and funded – *“It is a special purpose Local Authority funded by Central Government (Defra) at no direct cost to local people”*. A similar proportion (37%) did not know which statement was correct.

Use of and satisfaction with services provided by Dartmoor National Park Authority

- The most used services were *car parks* (used by 55% of residents), *toilets* (43%), *National Park Visitor Centres* (42%), *Rangers* (36%) *walks, talks, events and activities* (34%) and *footpaths, access land and other public rights or way* (30%).
- The services achieving the highest levels of satisfaction, based on mean scores, were the *education service, Haytor Hoppa, Rangers and Children’s club*.
- 36% had used the Rangers service. Of these, 98% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
- 42% had used the National Park Visitor Centres. Of these, 99% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
- 3% had used the sustainable development grants service. Of these, 79% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
- 34% had used the walks, talks, events and activities service. Of these, 86% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
- 55% had used the car parks. Of these, 95% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
- 25% had used the planning advice and applications service. Of these, 62% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
- 2% had used the children’s club. Of these, 96% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
- 43% had used the toilets. Of these, 96% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.

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- 18% had used the NPA website. Of these, 94% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 8% had used the conservation works service. Of these, 96% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 3% had used the advice on the natural environment service. Of these, 96% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 2% had used the advice on the historic environment service. Of these, 88% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 4% had used the tree preservation service. Of these, 93% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 1% had used the Haytor Hoppa service. Of these, all residents were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - No-one had used the advice/support for farmers/landowners service.
 - 1% had used the advice/support to tourism businesses service. Of these, 73% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 3% had used the education service. Of these, all residents were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 30% had used the footpaths, access land and other public rights of way. Of these, 96% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 13% had used the leaflets and information boards. Of these, all residents were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 3% had used the volunteering service. Of these, all residents were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 2% had used the Consultations on Dartmoor National Park Management Plan and/or planning policies service. Of these, 87% were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.
 - 1% had used the Support to develop community projects service. Of these, all residents were either very or fairly satisfied with the service provided.

Importance of services provided by Dartmoor National Park Authority

- The services that were considered to be most important, based on mean scores, were *conserving wildlife, conserving the landscape and maintaining footpaths, public rights of way and access land.*

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- 84% rated “Providing opportunities for residents and visitors to learn about the National Park and its special qualities” as either very or fairly important.
 - 94% rated “Maintaining footpaths, Public Rights of Way and access land” as either very or fairly important.
 - 88% rated “Conserving buildings” as either very or fairly important.
 - 90% rated “Conserving ancient sites and archaeology” as either very or fairly important.
 - 82% rated “Managing development in the National Park (Planning)” as either very or fairly important.
 - 91% rated “Providing and maintaining facilities for visitors such as car parks and toilets” as either very or fairly important.
 - 85% rated “Providing Visitor Centres” as either very or fairly important.
 - 86% rated “Supporting communities” as either very or fairly important.
 - 85% rated “Promoting the National Park as a visitor destination” as either very or fairly important.
 - 82% rated “Providing specialist environmental education to school groups” as either very or fairly important.
 - 87% rated “Supporting local businesses and the rural economy” as either very or fairly important.
 - 85% rated “Providing advice and support to farmers” as either very or fairly important.
 - 94% rated “Conserving the landscape” as either very or fairly important.
 - 94% rated “Conserving wildlife” as either very or fairly important.
 - 86% rated “Organising walks, talks, events and activities” as either very or fairly important.
 - 69% rated “Managing the effects of climate change” as either very or fairly important.
 - 70% rated “Providing public transport” as either very or fairly important.

Information about the work of Dartmoor National Park Authority

- The most popular places for findings out about the work of the Authority were *local media* (37%), *friends and neighbours* (29%) and the *National Park Website* (21%). 22% did not get information from anywhere.
- 55% feel either very well or fairly well informed about the work of the Authority.

- The preferred methods for keeping informed about the work of the Authority were *local media* (39%), *National Park leaflets* (25%) and *National Park Website* (19%). 19% did not wish to be kept informed.

Residents' views of Dartmoor National Park Authority

- 74% agreed (either strongly or slightly) that DNPA “achieves its 1st purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park”.
- 70% agreed that DNPA “achieves its 2nd purpose of promoting the opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public”.
- 55% agreed that DNPA “achieves its duty to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park”.
- 49% agreed that DNPA “is in touch with and understands the needs of local people”.
- 43% agreed that DPNA “gives good support to local communities”.
- 34% agreed that DNPA “gives good support to local businesses”.
- 34% agreed that DNPA “responds in a timely way when contacted”.
- 37% agreed that DNPA “listens and responds to residents’ opinions”.
- 45% agreed that DNPA “gives good advice”.
- 36% agreed that DNPA “makes good planning decisions”.
- 42% agreed that DNPA “provides good value for money”.
- 77% were either very or fairly satisfied with the way the Dartmoor National Park Authority runs things.

Dartmoor National Park Authority as a place to live

- 98% were either very or fairly satisfied with their local area as a place to live.
- 90% feel that they strongly (either very or fairly) belong to their local community.

Involvement with the work of Dartmoor National Park Authority

- 21% feel that they can influence decision affecting their local area that are currently the responsibility of the National Park.
- 15% would like to be more involved with issues affecting where they live.
- 4% would like to be more involved in the work of the authority by volunteering.

2. Background and Objectives

Dartmoor National Park Authority commissioned Future Focus Research to conduct a survey of residents. The information obtained from the survey will be used to:

- Inform the Authority's communication strategy and specifically how it communicates with local residents
- Target service improvements where required
- Provide baseline information to measure future performance
- Inform priorities for the future

The main objectives of the research were to assess:

- Residents' level of awareness of the Dartmoor National Park Authority
- Residents' understanding of and satisfaction with the work carried out by the Dartmoor National Park Authority
- How well the Dartmoor National Park Authority communicates and engages with the residents of the National Park
- Residents' views about living in the National Park
- Residents' opinion on future priorities for Dartmoor National Park Authority

3. Methodology

A door-to-door interviewing approach was chosen to fulfil the objectives of this research.

Questionnaire Design

Future Focus Research worked with the Authority to finalise the questionnaire and CAPI script. The final questionnaire length was around 10 minutes and is included at Appendix A.

Sampling Approach

In order to achieve 1000 interviews, fifty sampling points were chosen at random across the whole of the Dartmoor National Park area. Sampling points were chosen to ensure a proportion sample according to population.

The sampling points were allocated to interviewers and 20 interviews were conducted at each sampling point – totalling 1000. This was however challenging in some areas and additional sampling points were allocated in order to achieve the quota. Interviewers worked in accordance with the pre-agreed quotas as closely as possible. These are shown in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1: Quota Controls based on 1000 Interviews

Area	% of sample	No of interviews
East Dartmoor	46%	460
West Dartmoor	40%	400
South Dartmoor	14%	140
Gender	% of sample	No of Interviews
Male	50%	500
Female	50%	500
Age Groups		
16 – 34	21%	210
35 – 54	22%	220
55 – 64	30%	300
65+	28%	280
Total	100%	1000

Interviewer Conduct

Individual interviewers carried out the following procedures throughout the course of the fieldwork:-

- showed their ID card - all Future Focus Research interviewers carry an MRS identification card
- explained who had commissioned the survey and its purpose
- stressed the confidentiality of the interview
- advised that the interview will be conducted in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Market Research Society,
- gave an estimate of how long the interview was likely to last

Achieved Sample

In line with the brief, 1000 interviews were achieved in total. The demographics of the achieved sample are shown in Table 2 below.

TABLE 2: Achieved sample

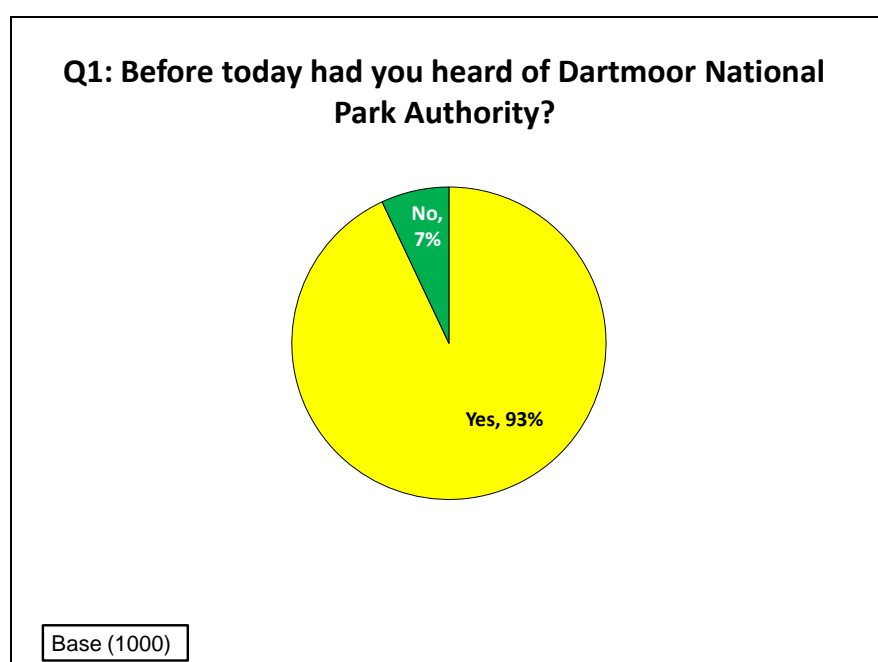
Sample Demographics			
Region	East Dartmoor (Teignbridge)	383	38%
	South Dartmoor (South Hams)	157	16%
	West Dartmoor (West Devon)	460	46%
Gender	Male	980	49%
	Female	1,020	51%
Age	16 – 34	205	21%
	35 – 54	227	23%
	45 – 64	298	30%
	65+	270	27%

4. Research Findings

4.1 Awareness and understanding of the Dartmoor National Park Authority

When residents were asked whether they had heard of Dartmoor National Park Authority before the interview, 93% said that they had. See Figure 1.

FIGURE 1



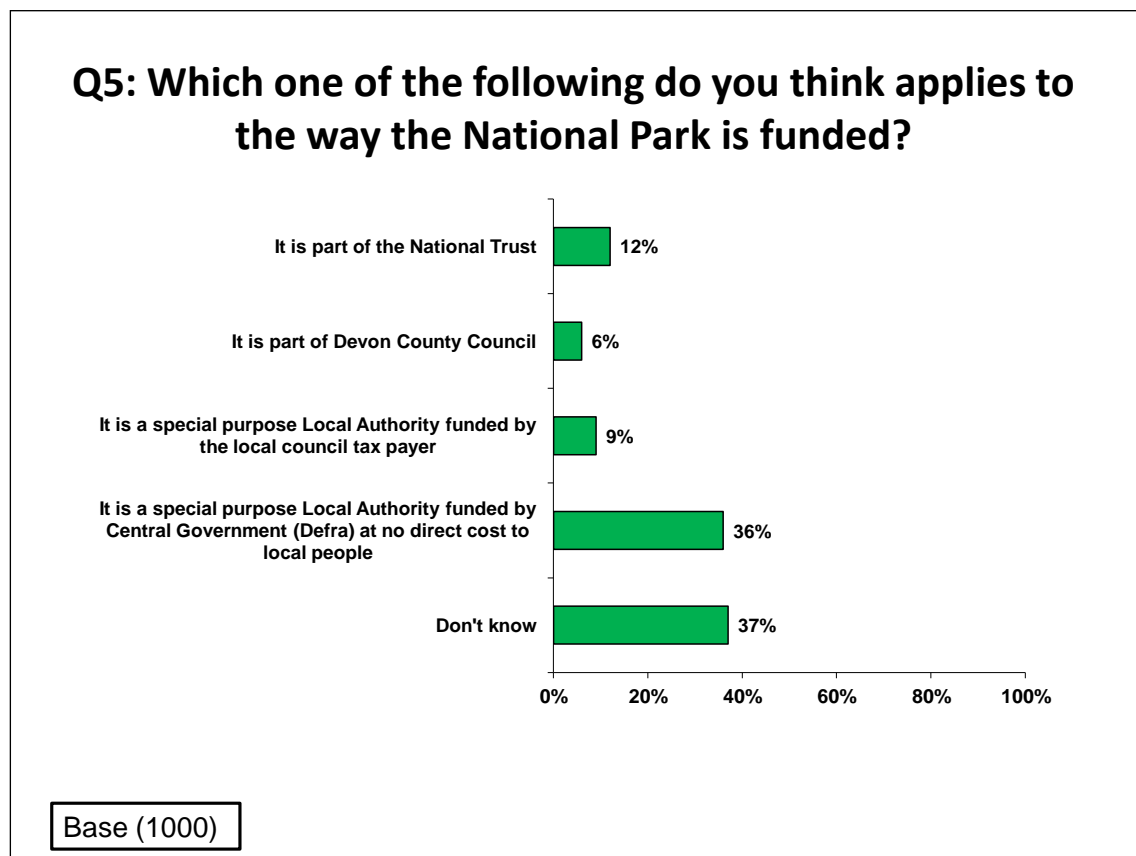
There were no significant difference between the regions and demographic groups.

Most residents would seem to understand the role of the National Park. When asked what they thought their role was the most popular response was *looking after/conservation/preservation of the park* (65%). This was followed by *deal with planning applications* (10%) and *looking after animals/wildlife* (5%).

Just 18% did not know what they did. These were most likely to be 16 – 34 year olds (27%), those who were not working (22%), those who had not used any of the National Park services (44%) and perhaps not surprisingly, those who had not heard of the National Park Authority (44%).

Residents were given a choice of four statements and were asked which one applied to the way the National Park was managed and funded. Over a third (36%) chose the correct statement - *“It is a special purpose Local Authority funded by Central Government (Defra) at no direct cost to local people”*. See Figure 2.

FIGURE 2



4.2 Use of and satisfaction with services provided by Dartmoor National Park Authority

A large proportion (87%) of residents had used at least one of the services provided by the National Park Authority. Those most likely to have used any of the services were those who were working (93%), those living in Teignbridge and South Ham (both 92%). Those least likely to have used any of the services were those aged 65+ (81%) and those living in West Devon (81%).

The most used services were *car parks* (used by 55% of residents), *toilets* (43%), *National Park Visitor Centres* (42%), *Rangers* (36%) *walks, talks, events and activities* (34%) and *footpaths, access land and other public rights of way* (30%). See Table 3.

TABLE 3: List of services

Service	% Used
Car parks	55%
Toilets	43%
National Park Visitor Centres	42%
Rangers	36%
Walks, talks, events and activities	34%
Footpaths, access land and other public rights of way	30%
Planning advice and applications	25%
NPA Website	18%
Leaflets and information boards	13%
Conservation works service	8%
Tree preservation	4%
Advice on the natural environment	3%
Sustainable Development Grants	3%
Volunteering	3%
Education service	3%
Consultations on Dartmoor National Park Management Plan and/or planning policies	2%
Advice on the historic environment	2%
Children's club (Ranger Ralph)	2%
Support to develop community projects	1%
Advice /support to tourism businesses	1%
Haytor Hoppa	1%
Advice /support for farmers & landowners	0%

Residents were then asked how satisfied they were with the services they had used. The services obtaining the highest levels of satisfaction, based on mean scores, were the *education service, Haytor Hoppa, Rangers and Children's club*. The services with which residents were least satisfied were *advice/support for tourism businesses and planning advice and application*. See table 4.

TABLE 4: Satisfaction with services

Service	% Very satisfied	% Fairly satisfied	% Very/Fairly Satisfied	Mean Score ¹
Education service	91%	9%	100%	1.09
Haytor Hoppa	85%	15%	100%	1.15
Rangers	81%	17%	98%	1.18
Children's club (Ranger Ralph)	86%	10%	96%	1.19
National Park Visitor Centres	77%	22%	99%	1.23
Leaflets and information boards	77%	23%	100%	1.23
Advice on the natural environment	79%	17%	96%	1.24
Walks, talks, events and activities	77%	19%	96%	1.25
Conservation works service	72%	24%	96%	1.28
Footpaths, access land and other public rights of way	75%	21%	96%	1.29
Support to develop community projects	71%	29%	100%	1.29
Sustainable Development Grants	62%	17%	79%	1.33
NPA Website	72%	22%	94%	1.35
Car parks	72%	23%	95%	1.36
Volunteering	63%	37%	100%	1.37
Toilets	65%	30%	95%	1.40
Tree preservation	60%	33%	93%	1.50
Advice on the historic environment	50%	38%	88%	1.69
Consultations on Dartmoor National Park Management Plan and/or planning policies	39%	48%	87%	1.73
Planning advice and applications	36%	26%	62%	2.25
Advice /support to tourism businesses	18%	55%	73%	2.27
Advice /support for farmers & landowners	NA	NA	NA	NA

¹ Mean scores are calculated by giving a score of 1 to very satisfied, 2 to fairly satisfied, 3 to fairly 5 for not at all important. The mean of the responses is then calculated. The closer the score is to 1 the higher the level of importance.

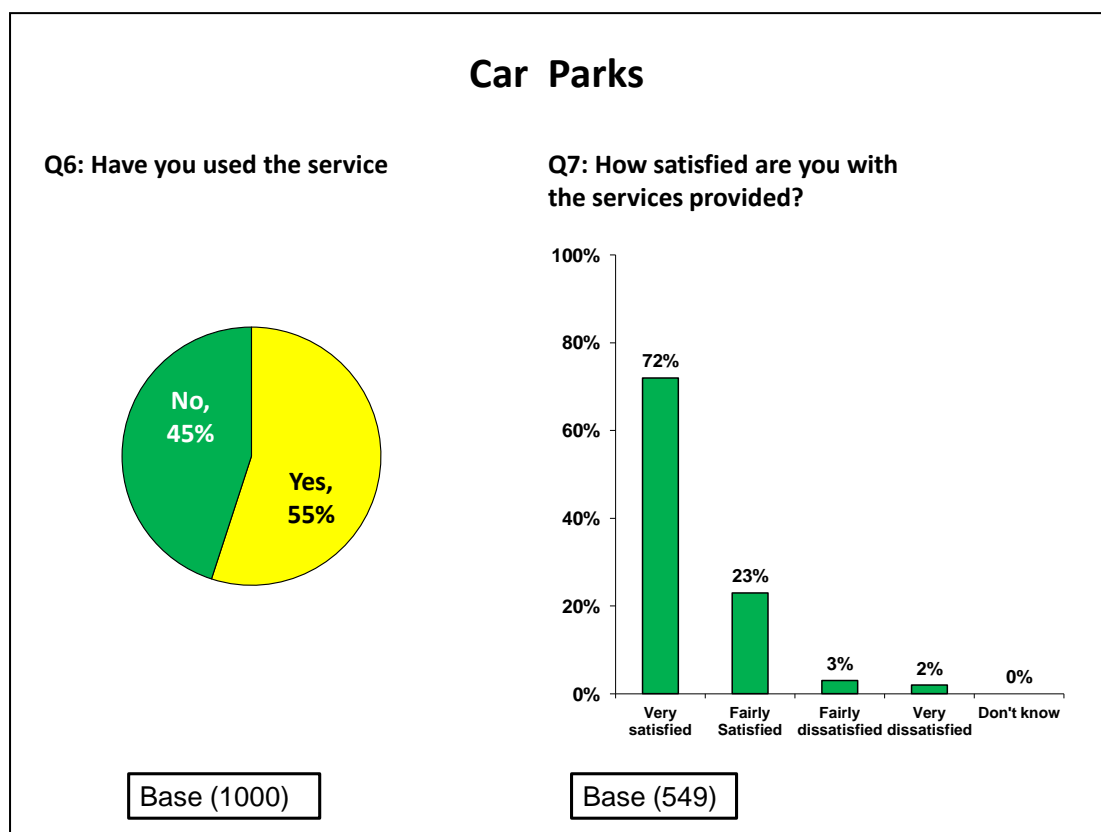
Looking at the most popular services in more detail:

Car Parks

Over a half (55%) had used the car parks. Those most likely to use the car parks were those who were working (61%). Those living in South Hams were more likely to use the service than those living in the other two areas (66% in South Hams compared 54% in West Devon and 51% in Teignbridge).

Almost everyone (95%) was satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, with 72% of these being very satisfied. See Figure 3.

FIGURE 3

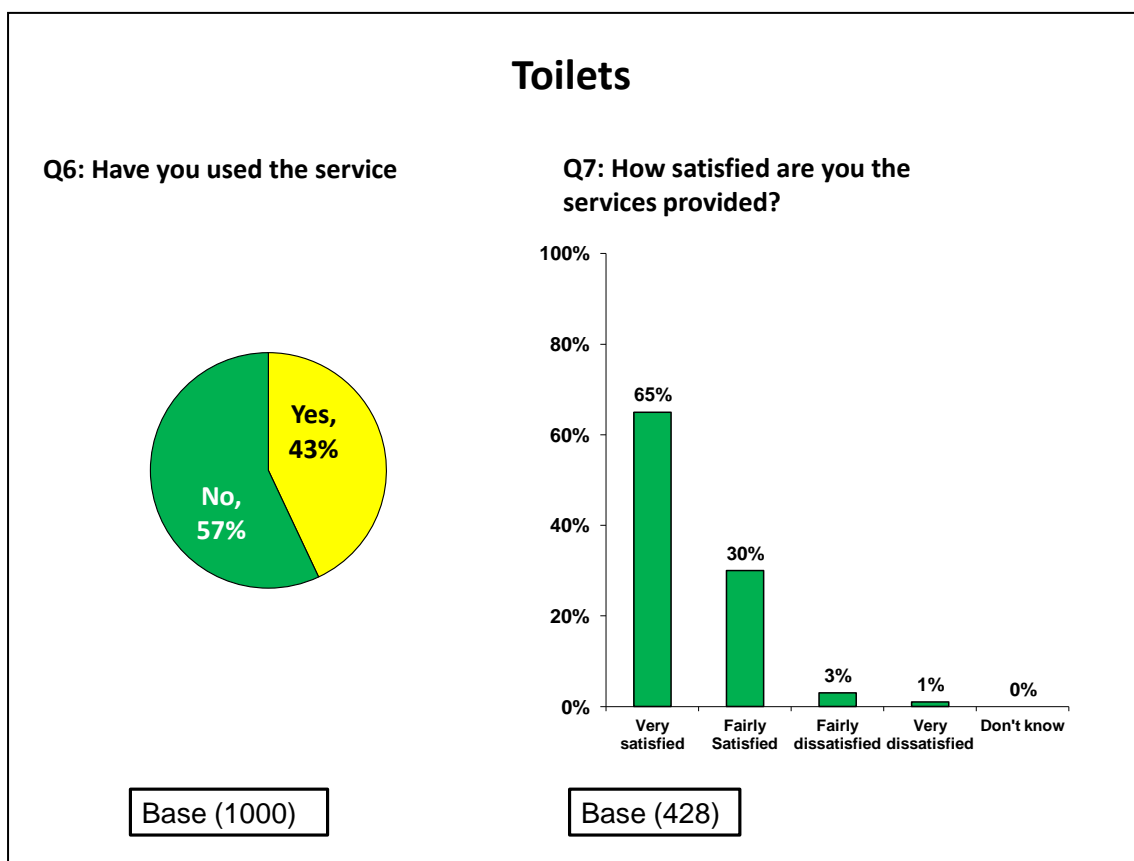


Toilets

Over four in 10 (43%) had used the toilets at the park. Those living in South Hams were more likely to have used the toilets than those living in the other two areas (50% in South Hams compared 43% in West Devon and 40% in Teignbridge).

Almost everyone (95%) was satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, with 65% of these being very satisfied. See Figure 4.

FIGURE 4

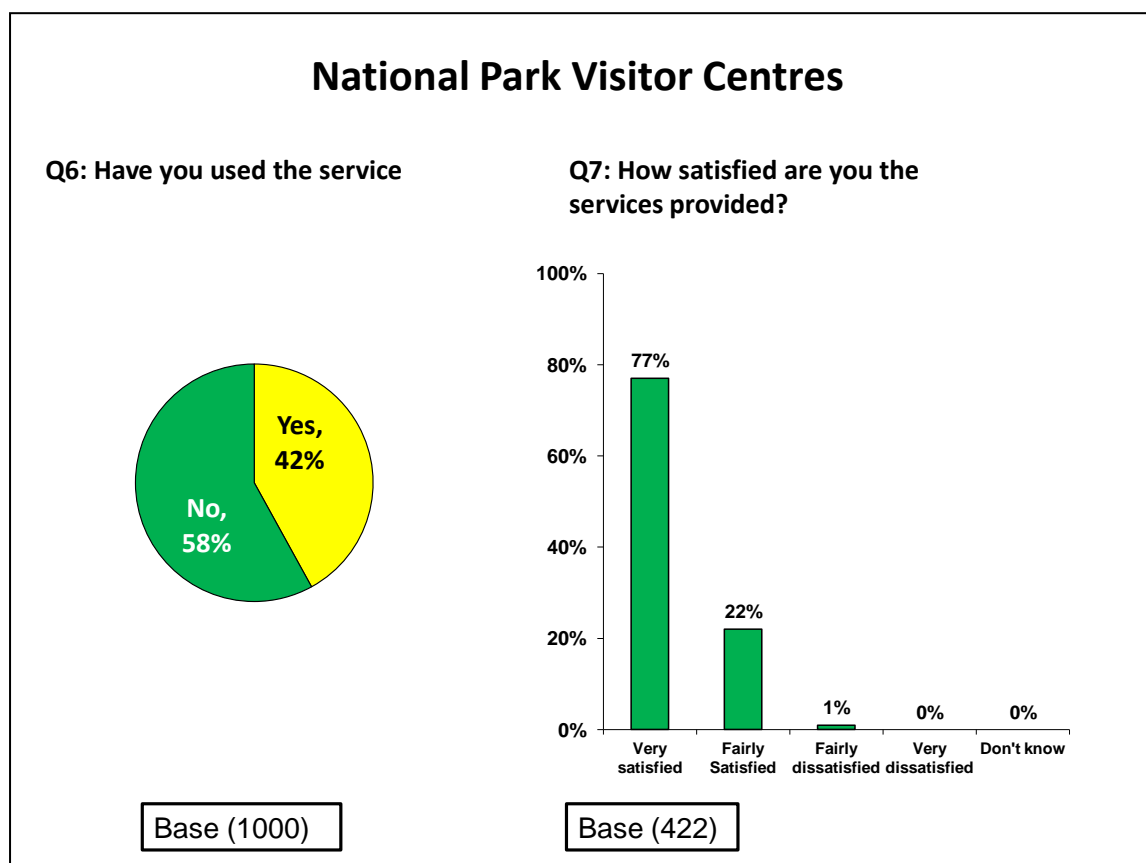


National Park Visitor Centre

Over four in 10 residents (42%) had used the National Park Visitor Centres. Those most likely to have used the service were those who were working (48%). There were no other demographics differences. .

Almost everyone (99%) was satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, with 77% of these being very satisfied. See Figure 5.

FIGURE 5

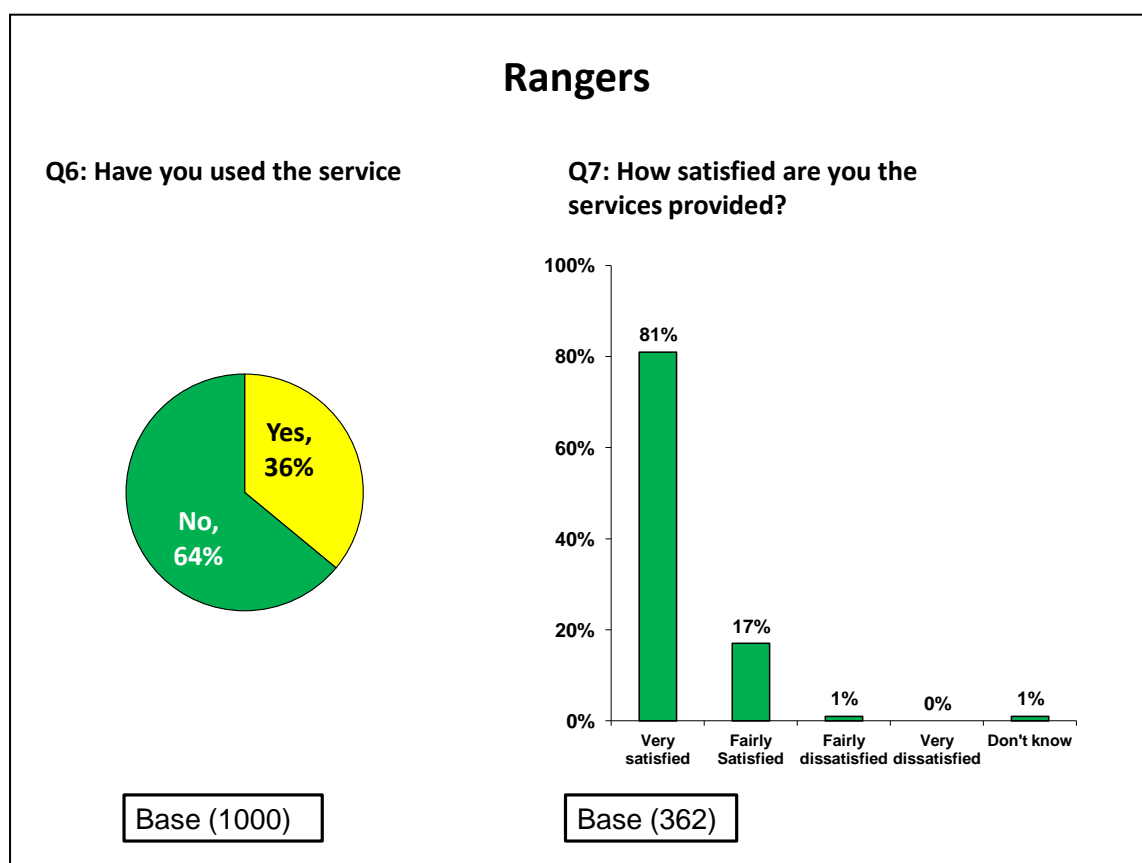


Rangers

Over a third (36%) had used the Rangers service. Those most likely to have used the service were men (39%), those who were working (41%) and those with children in the household (44%). Those living in Teignbridge were much more likely than those in the other two areas to have used the service (46% compared to 32% in West Devon and 26% in South Hams).

Just fewer than 9 in 10 residents (88%) were satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, with 81% of these being very satisfied. See Figure 6.

FIGURE 6



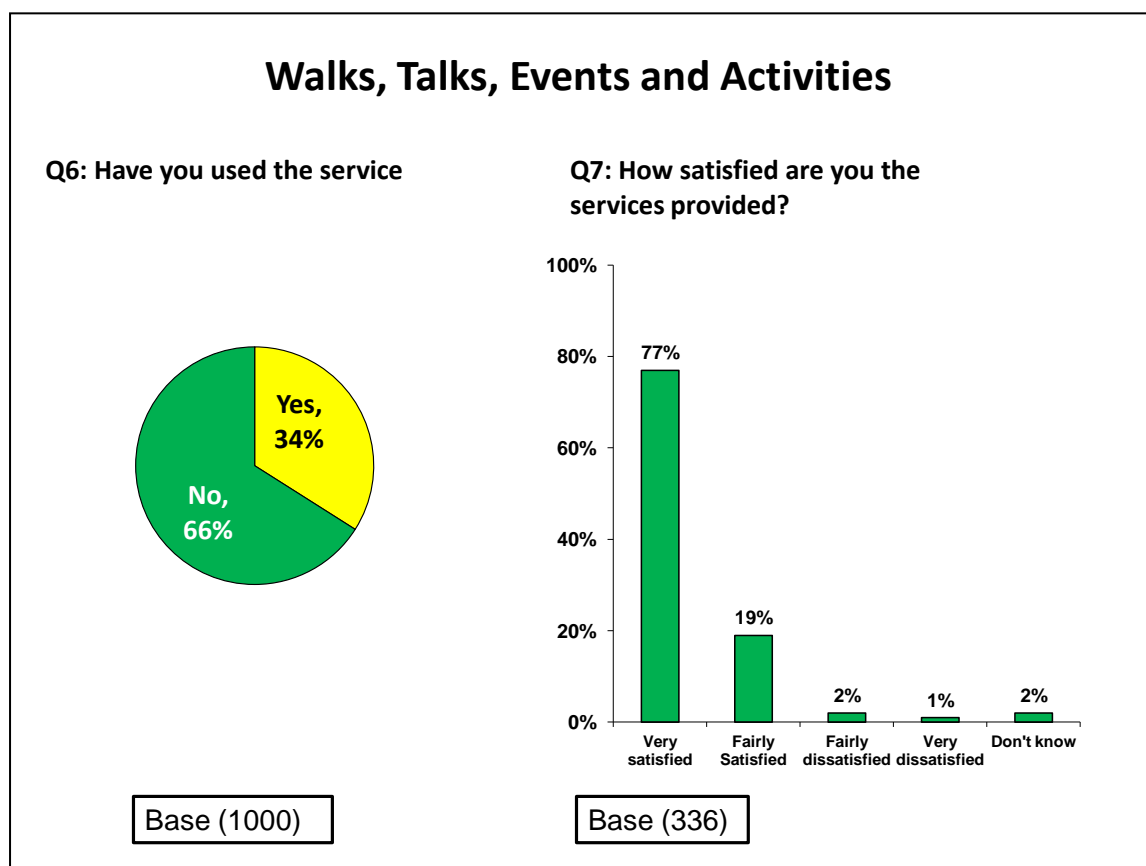
Walks, talks, events and activities

Over a third (34%) had used the walks, talks, events and activities service. Those most likely to have used the service were those aged 16 – 34 (43%) and those with children in the household (41%).

Those living in South Hams (45%) were more likely than those living in the other two areas to have used the service (Teignbridge 34%, West Devon 29%).

Almost everyone (96%) was satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, with 77% of these being very satisfied. See Figure 7.

FIGURE 7

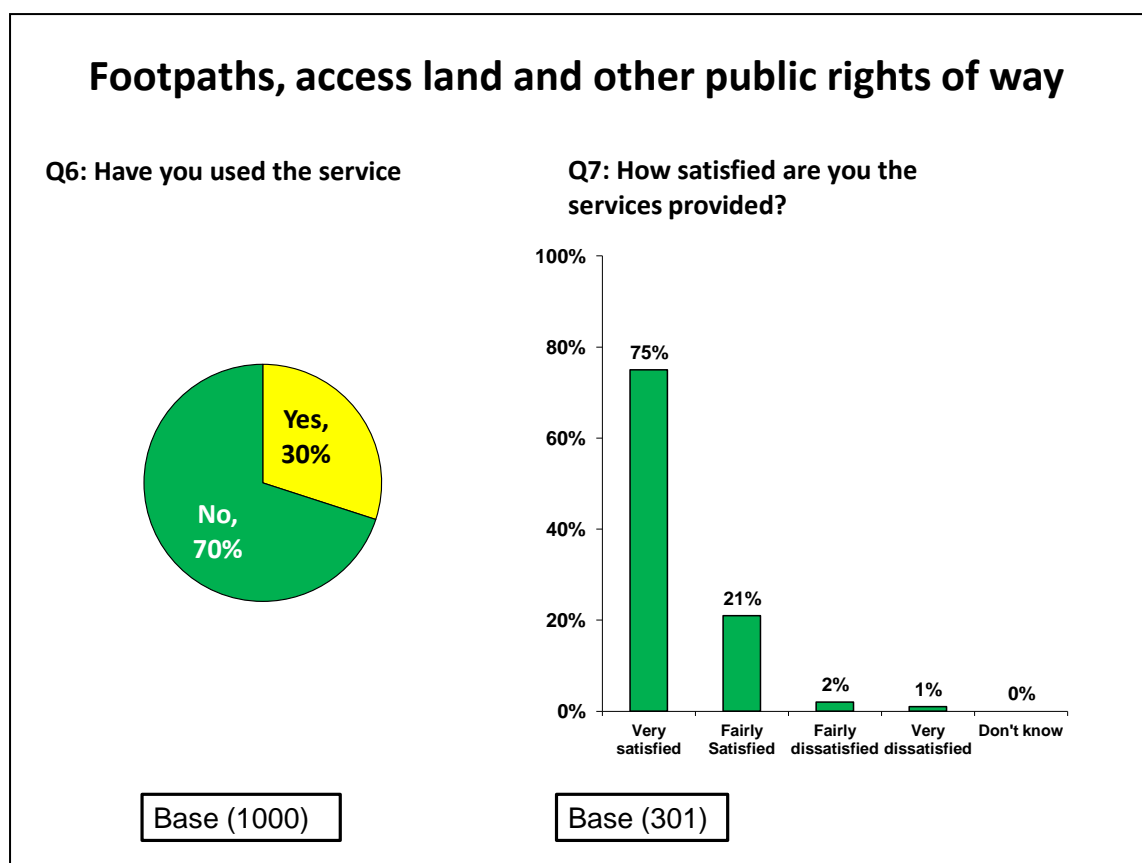


Footpaths, access land and other public rights of way

Three in 10 (30%) had used the footpaths, access land and other public rights of way service. Those most likely to have used the service were those aged 16 – 34 (35%). Those living in South Hams were more likely than those living in the other two areas (64% compared to 31% of those from South Devon and 15% of those from Teignbridge).

Almost all residents (96%) were satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, of which 75% were very satisfied. See Figure 8.

FIGURE 8

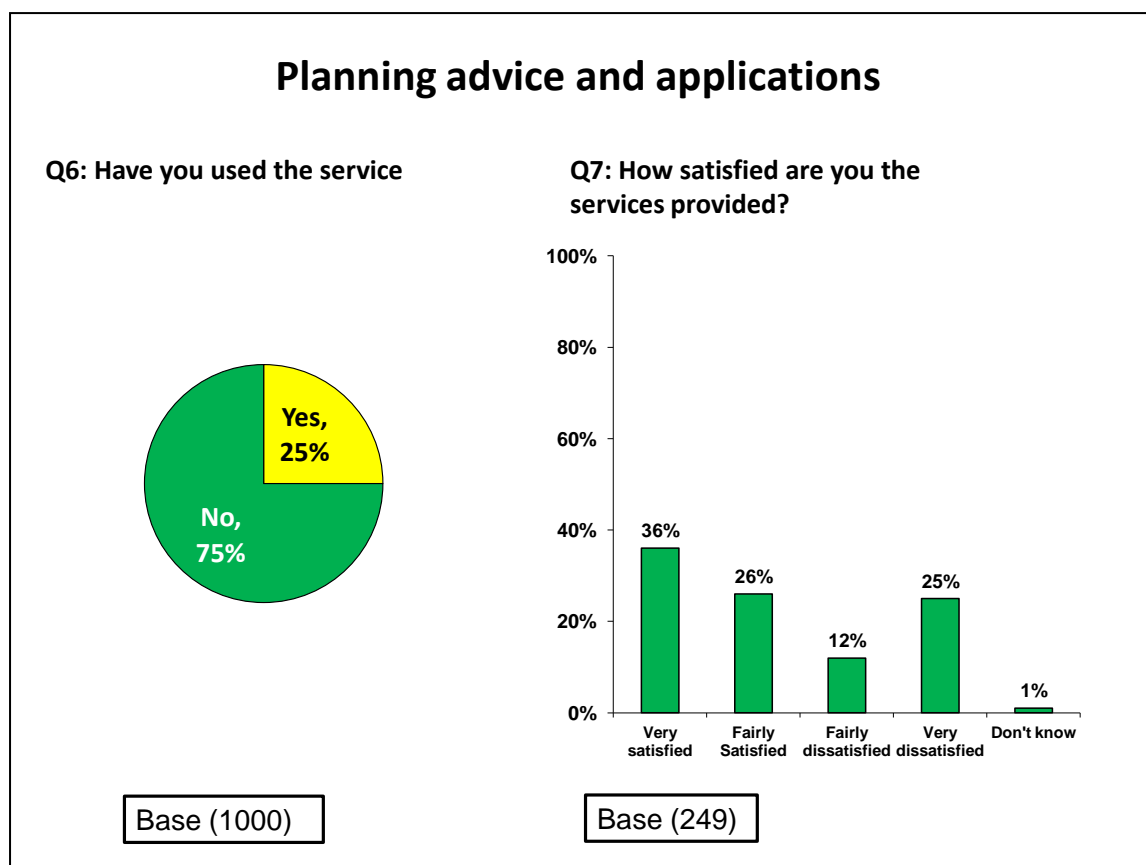


Planning advice and applications

A quarter (25%) had used the planning advice and applications service. Those most likely to have used the service were men (29%), those aged 35 – 54 (33%) and those who were working (28%). Those living in Teignbridge were more likely than others to have used the planning service (32% compared to 22% and 20% of those living in South Hams and West Devon).

Just over 6 in 10 residents (62%) were satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, of which just 36% were very satisfied. A quarter (25%) were very dissatisfied with the service they received. See Figure 9.

FIGURE 9

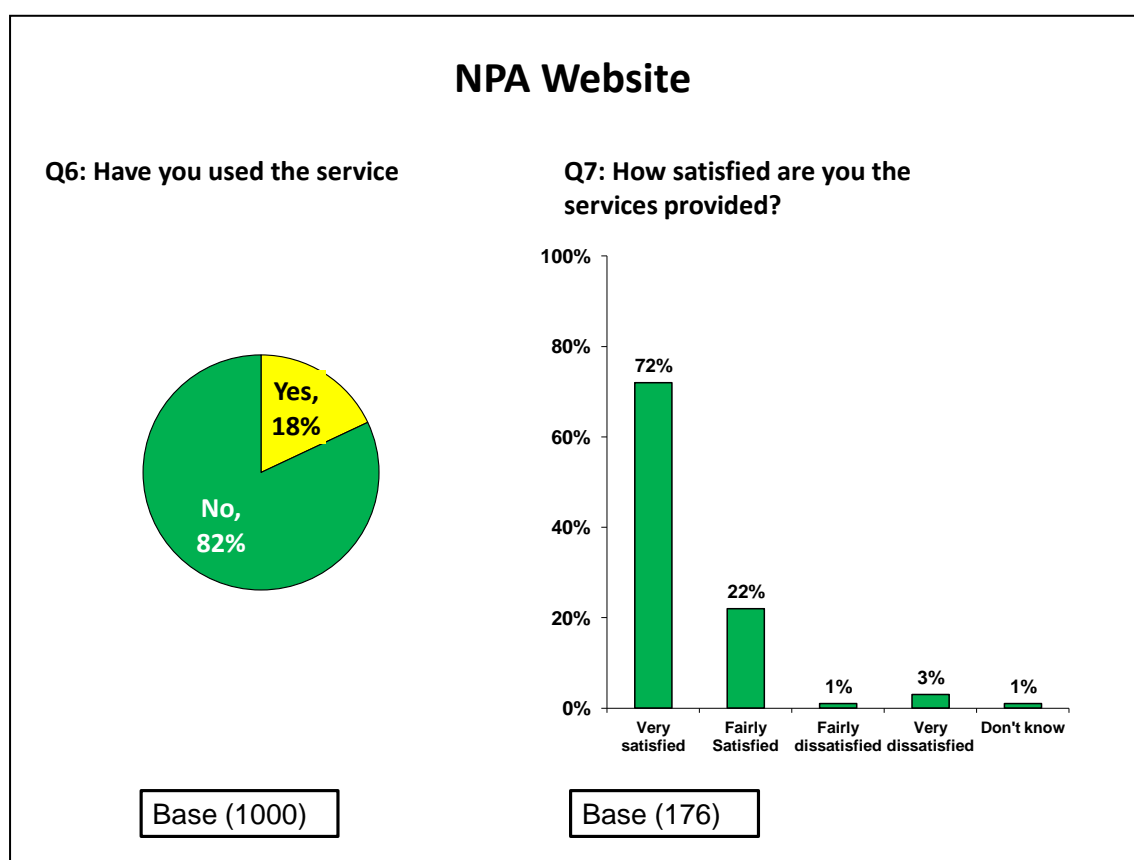


National Park Authority Website

Just under 1 in 5 (18%) had used the National Park Authority website. Those over 65 were less likely than others to use the website (14%).

Almost everyone (94%) was satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, with 72% of these being very satisfied. See Figure 10.

FIGURE 10

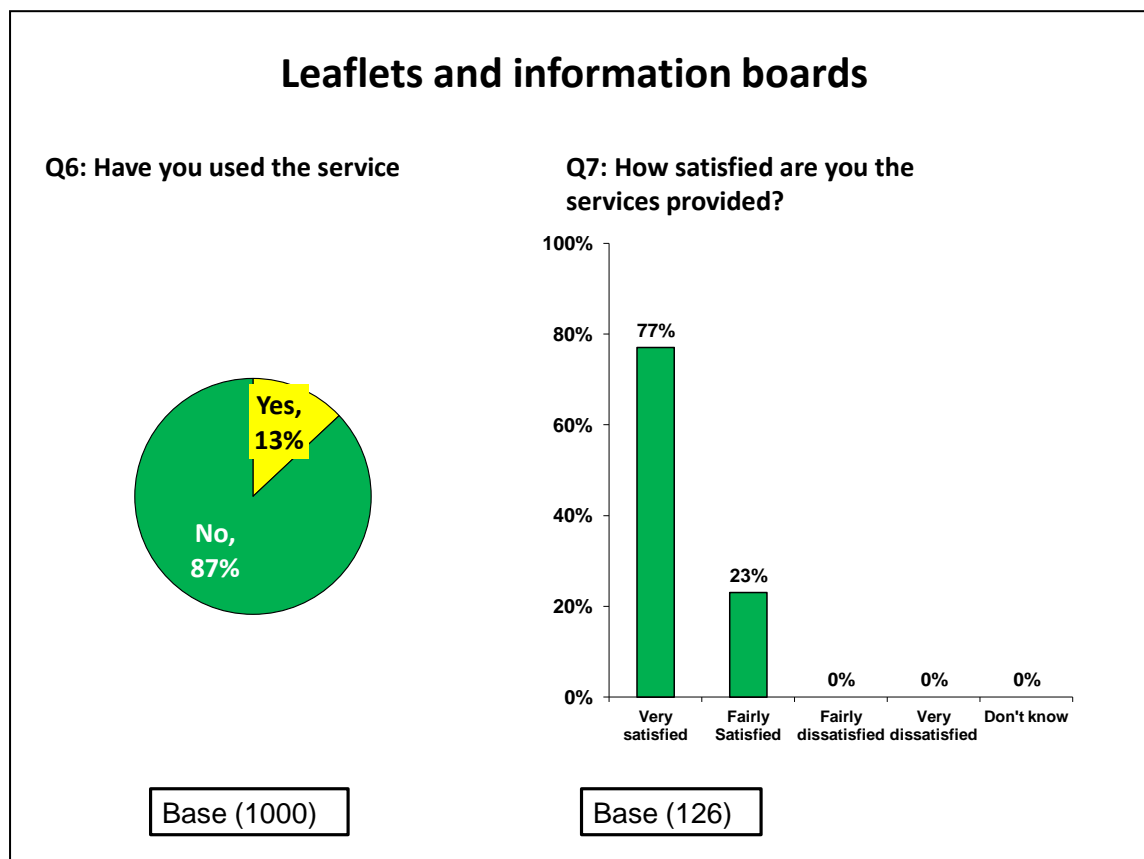


Leaflets and information boards

Around 1 in 8 (13%) had used the leaflets and information boards. Those living in South Hams were most likely to have used the service (21% compared to 15% of those from West Devon and 7% of those from Teignbridge.

Everyone (100%) was satisfied (very or fairly) with the service provided, with 77% of these being very satisfied. See Figure 11.

FIGURE 11



4.3 Importance of services provided by Dartmoor National Park Authority

Residents were read a list of services and were asked how important they thought each one was. The services considered to be the most important, based on mean scores, were *conserving wildlife, conserving the landscape and maintaining footpaths, public rights of way and access land*.

The services considered the least important were *providing public transport and managing the effect of climate change*. See table 5.

TABLE 5: Importance of services

Service	% Very important	% Fairly important	% Very/Fairly important	Mean Score ²
Conserving wildlife	80%	14%	94%	1.28
Conserving the landscape	78%	16%	94%	1.31
Maintaining footpaths, Public Rights of Way and access land	78%	16%	94%	1.31
Conserving ancient sites and archaeology	72%	18%	90%	1.42
Providing and maintaining facilities for visitors such as car parks and toilets	69%	22%	91%	1.44
Conserving buildings	68%	20%	88%	1.48
Supporting local businesses and the rural economy	65%	22%	87%	1.55
Providing Visitor Centres	62%	23%	85%	1.58
Organising walks, talks, events and activities	62%	23%	85%	1.59
Providing opportunities for residents and visitors to learn about the National Park and its special qualities	63%	21%	84%	1.59
Promoting the National Park as a visitor destination	60%	25%	85%	1.61
Providing specialist environmental education to school groups	63%	19%	82%	1.61
Providing advice and support to farmers	63%	22%	85%	1.61
Supporting communities	62%	24%	86%	1.64
Managing development in the National Park (Planning)	61%	21%	82%	1.67
Providing public transport	52%	18%	70%	1.99
Managing the effects of climate change	48%	21%	69%	2.04

² Mean scores are calculated by giving a score of 1 to very important through to a 5 for not at all important. The mean of the responses is then calculated. The closer the score is to 1 the higher the level of importance.

Residents were then asked if there was any service not included in the list above that they thought the Authority should be providing. The following responses were received:

- Provide more litter and dog bin (2 people)
- Promote the work that they do (2 people)
- Advice on what to do if you see and injured animal (1 person)
- Encourage volunteering (1 person)
- Enforce parking regulations (1 person)
- Feeding animals properly during the winter (1 person)
- Keep the hunt under control (1 person)
- Monitor speed limits (1 person)
- Provide a safety guide (1 person)
- Provide advice on driving over the moor (1 person)
- Provide cycle paths
- Provide more campsites

4.4 Information about the work of Dartmoor National Park Authority

Residents were asked where they currently find out about the work of the National Park Authority. The most popular sources were *local media* (37%), *friends and neighbours* (29%) and the *National Park Authority Website* (21%). Just over 1 in 5 (22%) said that they do not get information from anywhere. See table 6.

TABLE 6: Current sources of information

Information Source	%
Local Media	37%
Friends and neighbours	29%
NPA Website	21%
NPA Visitor Centres	10%
Other Tourist Information Centres	8%
Press releases	8%
Parish newsletter	7%
Moor news	6%
Planning events	6%
National Media	5%
Community meetings	5%
NPA publications	3%
Attending activities	3%
Other websites	3%
NPA Rangers	2%
NPA members	2%
Attending meetings organised by the Authority	1%
Other NPA staff	1%
Facebook	1%
Consultation events	1%
Twitter	0%
Other	2%
I don't get information from anywhere	22%
Don't know	2%

Women were more likely than men to get their information from local media (43% compared to 31%), as were those aged 55 – 64 (43%) and 65+ (44%). Those living in West Devon were most likely to get information from local media (43% compared to 34% of those from South Hams and 32% of those from Teignbridge).

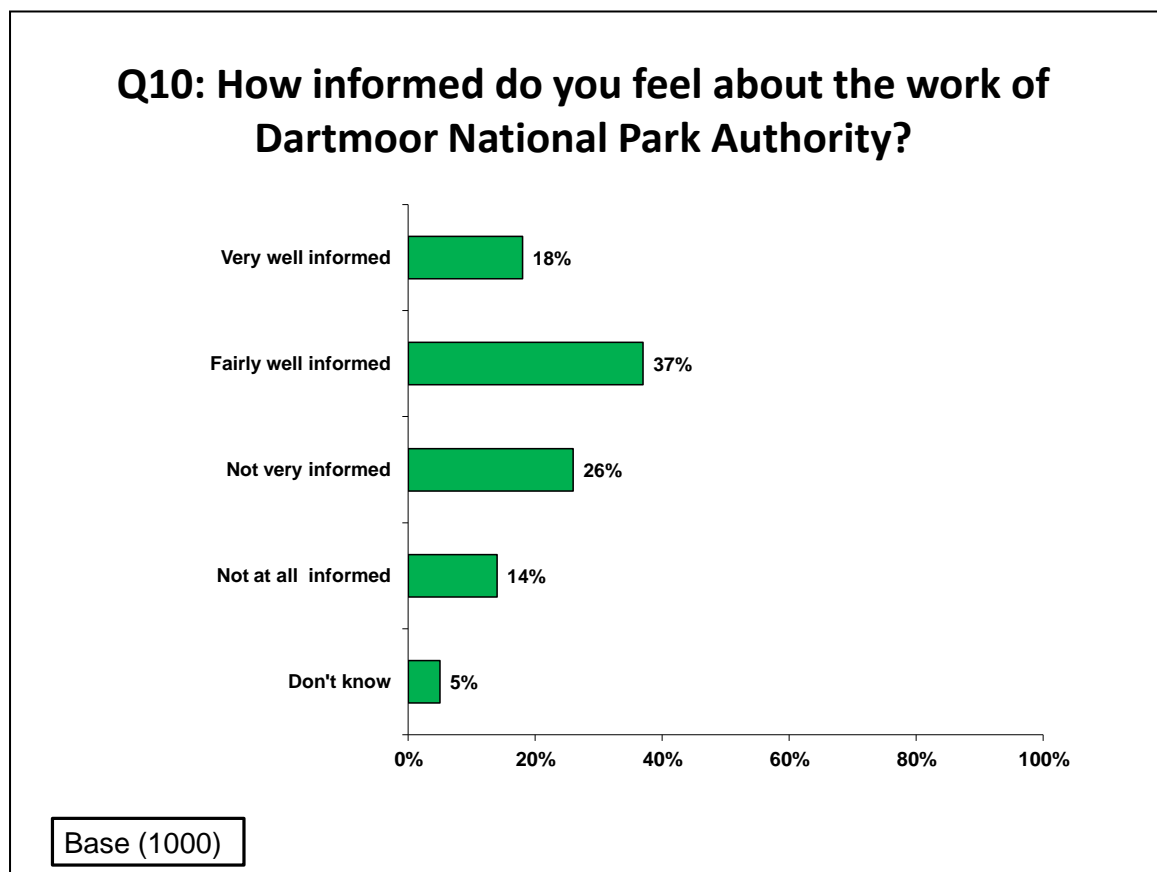
Those living in Teignbridge were more likely to rely on friends and neighbours (44% compared to 21% of those from West Devon and 18% of those from South Hams).

Those aged 35 – 54 were most likely to get information from the Authority’s website (31%) as were those living in South Hams (34%).

Younger residents (16 – 34 year olds) were more likely than other age groups to not get information from anywhere (29%).

When asked how informed they felt about the work of the Authority, just 18% felt very well informed and a further 37% felt fairly well informed. See figure 12.

FIGURE 12



Younger residents (those aged 16 -34) were the least likely to feel informed with just 13% of them stated that they were very well informed. This rose to 20% amongst those aged 55 – 64.

Residents in Teignbridge were most likely to feel very well informed (21%), compared to 16% of those from West Devon and 13% of those from South Hams.

Residents were asked how they would prefer to be kept informed about the work of the National Park Authority. The preferred methods were *local media* (39%), *National Park Authority leaflets* (25%) and *National Park Authority Website* (19%). Just fewer than 1 in 5 (19%) said that they do not wish to be kept informed. See table 7.

TABLE 7: Preferred sources of information

Source of information	% Preferred
Local media	39%
National Park Authority leaflets	25%
National Park Authority Website	19%
National Park Authority E-newsletter	11%
By visiting National Park Visitor Centres	10%
Social Media	7%
National Media	6%
Via friends and neighbours	6%
By attending local meetings organised by the National Park	3%
By attending activities	3%
Other	3%
Don't know	3%
I do not wish to be kept informed	19%

Those aged 65+ were less likely to favour the National Park Website (12%) and they were more likely than other age groups to say that they do not want to be kept informed (25%).

Residents in South Hams were less likely than others to favour leaflets (16% compared to 23% of those from West Devon and 31% of those from Teignbridge) but were more likely to favour the Authority's Website (31% compared to 17% in West Devon and 15% in Teignbridge).

4.5 Residents' views of Dartmoor National Park Authority

Respondents were read a series of statements and were asked to what extent they agreed with each. The statement achieving the highest level of agreement was *Dartmoor National Park Authority achieves its 1st purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park* with 74% agreeing overall, of which 49% strongly agreed. This was closely followed by *Dartmoor National Park achieves its 2nd purpose of promoting the opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public* to which 70% agreed overall (42% strongly).

The statement achieving the lowest level of agreement was *Dartmoor National Park makes good planning decisions*. Only 36% agreed with this statement with just under 1 in 5 (19%) disagreeing with the statement. See table 8.

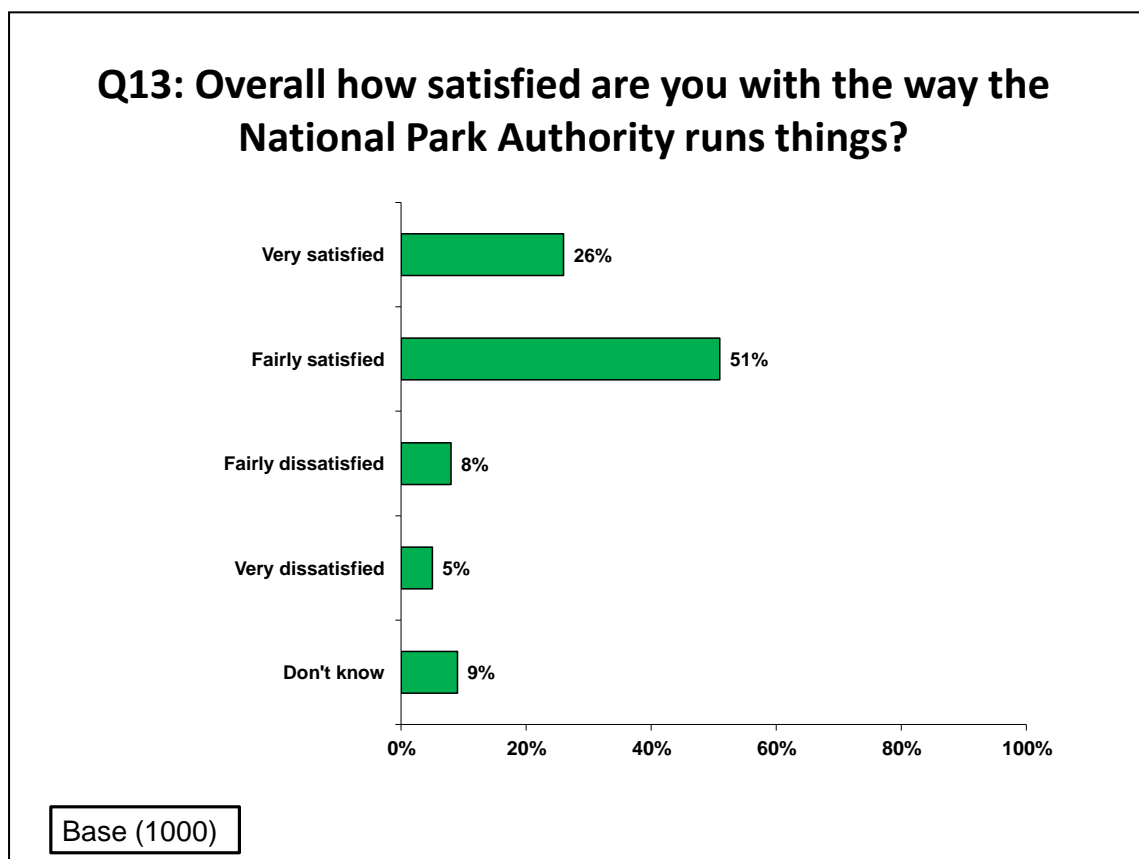
TABLE 8: Level of agreement with statements

Statement Dartmoor National Park Authority.....	% Strongly agree	% Slightly agree	% Strongly/ Slightly Agree	Mean Score ³
....achieves its 1st purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park	49%	25%	74%	1.73
.... achieves its 2nd purpose of promoting the opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public	42%	28%	70%	1.82
....achieves its duty to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park	27%	28%	55%	2.18
....gives good advice	20%	25%	45%	2.34
....provides good value for money	19%	23%	42%	2.39
....is in touch with and understands the needs of local people	24%	25%	49%	2.47
....gives good support to local communities	19%	24%	43%	2.48
....listens and responds to residents' opinions	16%	21%	37%	2.57
....gives good support to local businesses	18%	16%	34%	2.60
....responds in a timely way when contacted	16%	18%	34%	2.65
....makes good planning decisions	14%	22%	36%	2.75

³ Mean scores are calculated by giving a score of 1 to agree strongly, 2 to agree, 3 to neither, 4 to disagree slightly and 5 to disagree strongly. Don't know responses are excluded. The mean of the responses is then calculated. The closer the score is to 1 the higher the level of agreement.

Residents were asked how satisfied they were with the way the Authority runs things. Over three quarter (77%) said that they were either very or fairly satisfied with just over a quarter (26%) of these being very satisfied. See figure 13.

FIGURE 13



Women were slightly more likely to be satisfied than men (81% very or fairly compared to 75%), as were those aged 55 – 64 (84%).

Those living in West Devon were most likely to be satisfied (83% compared to 74% of those from South Hams and 72% of those from Teignbridge.)

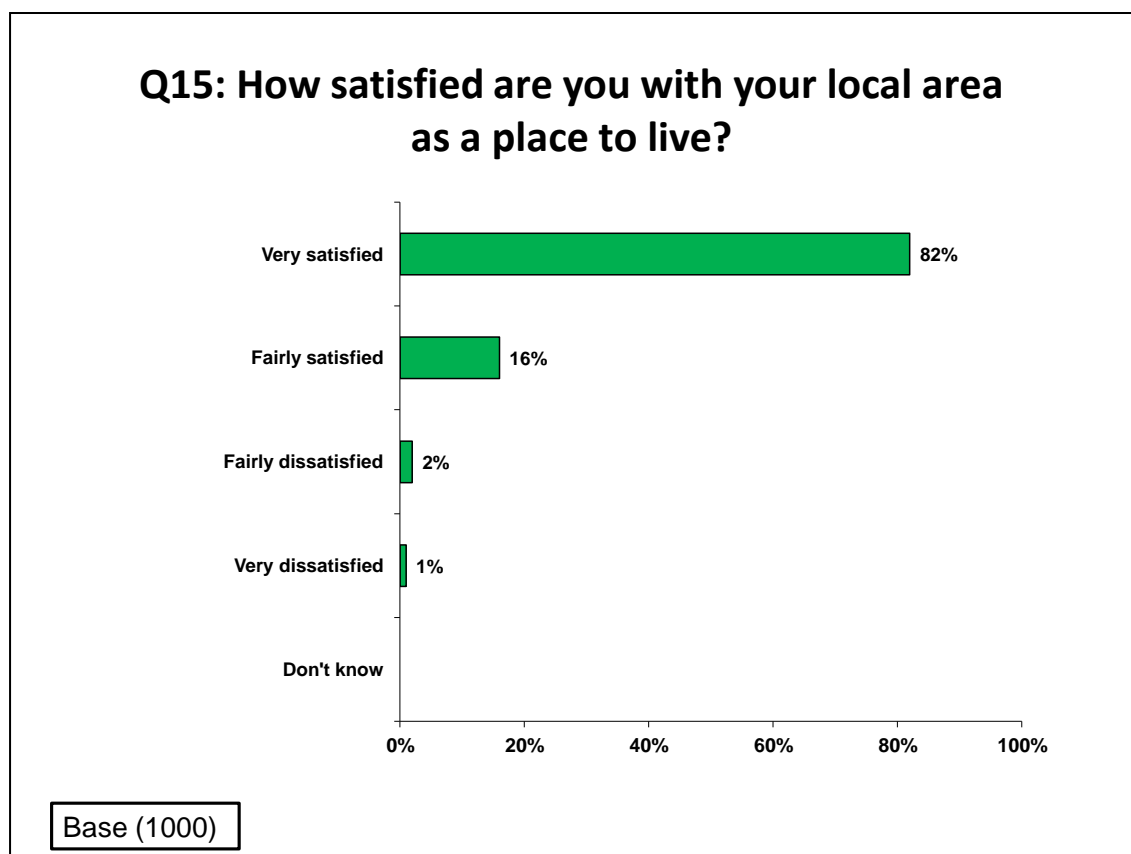
Respondents were asked whether they had any suggestion that would help improve the services provided by the National Park. Suggestions were made by 21% of residents and the main suggestions were:

- Better/more flexible planning advice (23% of those with suggestions, 5% overall)
- Better communication with residents (19%, 4%)
- More publicity/advertising (16%, 3%)
- Better public transport links (5%, 1%)
- More information/information centres across the Moor (4%, 1%)
- Bigger/more litter bins/better cleaning of litter (3%, 1%)
- More funding (3%, 1%)
- Better access to the Moor/footpaths (3%, 1%)

4.6 Dartmoor National Park Authority as a place to live

Residents were asked how satisfied they were with their local area as a place to live. Almost everyone (98%) were satisfied (very or fairly), with 82% of these being fairly satisfied. See figure 14.

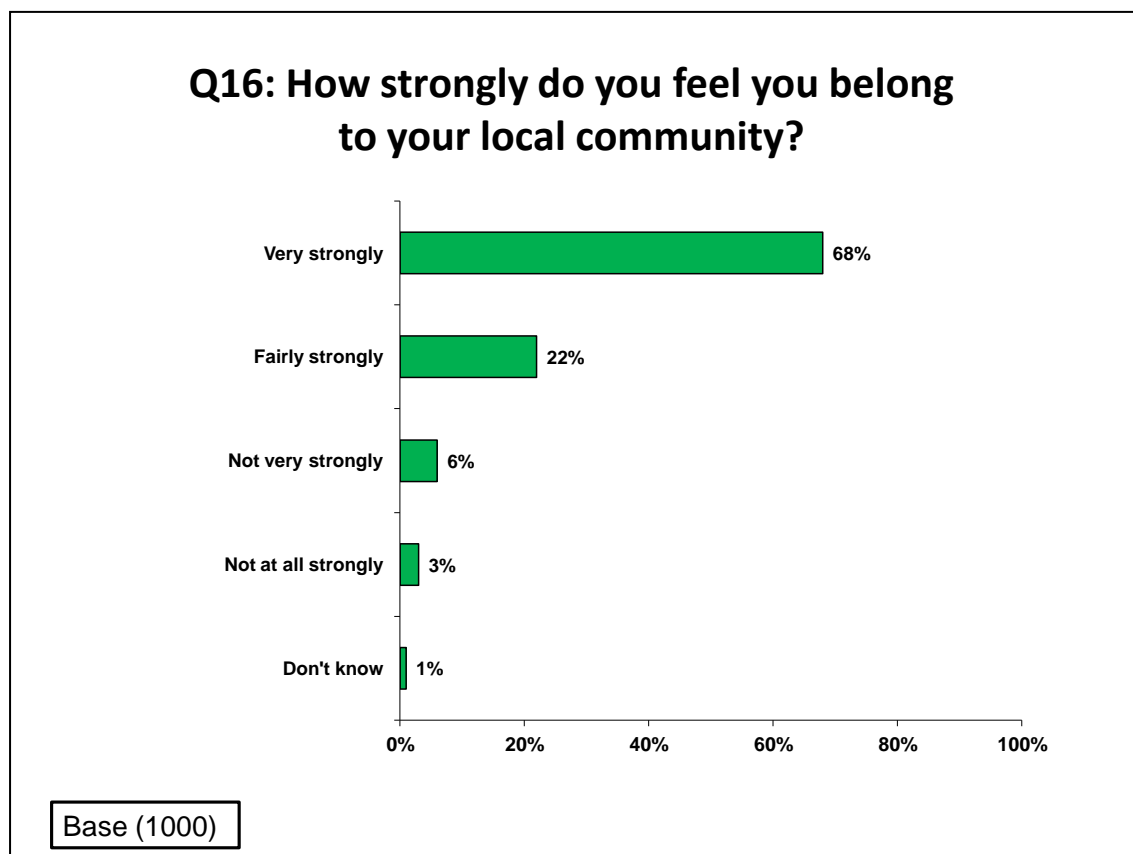
FIGURE 14



Those aged 16 – 34 were less likely to be very satisfied (73%) as were those living in South Hams (76%).

When asked how strongly they felt they belonged to their local community, 90% felt that they belonged either very strongly or fairly strongly, of which 68% stated very strongly. See figure 15.

FIGURE 15

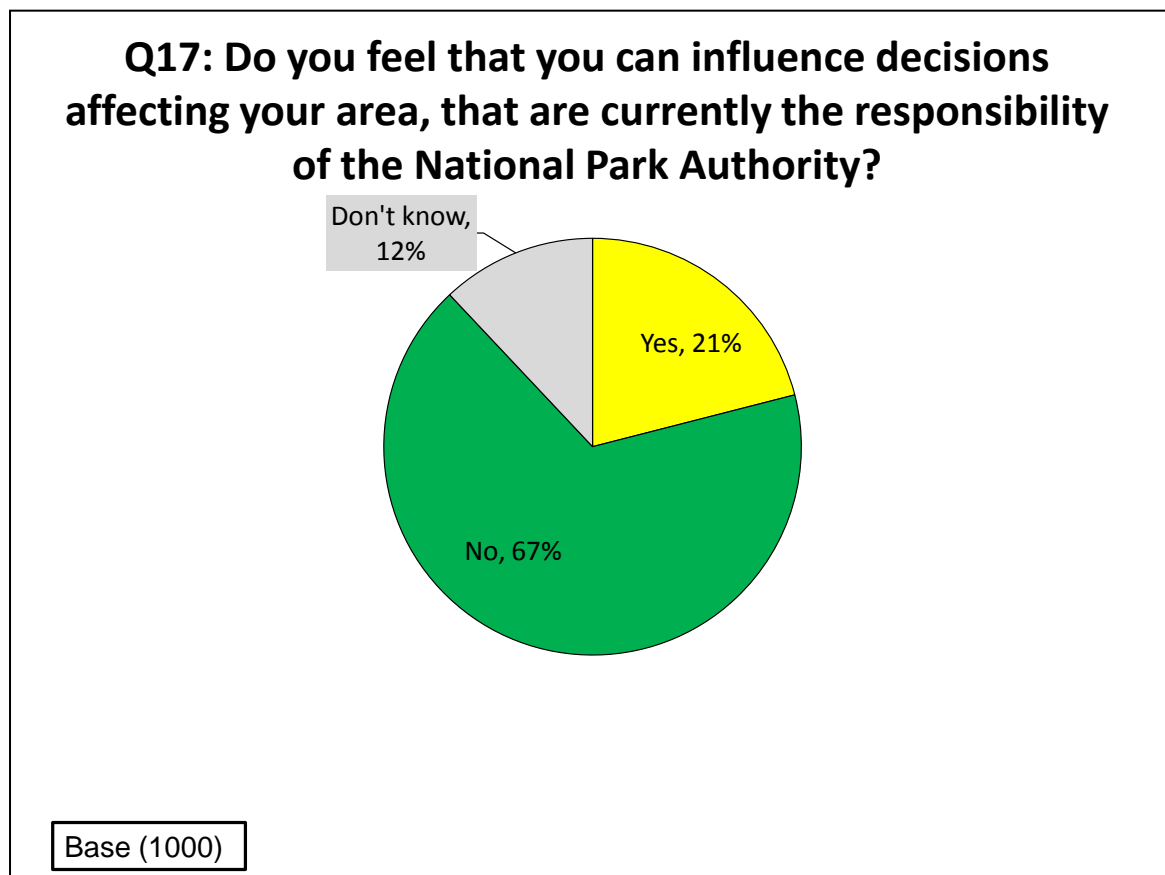


Those aged 55 - 64 were most likely to feel that they belonged to the community (76% very strongly) as were those living in Teignbridge (75%). Those living in South Hams were much less likely to feel that they *very strongly* belonged to the community (48%).

4.7 Involvement with the work of Dartmoor National Park Authority

Just over 1 in 5 (21%) felt that they could influence decisions affecting their area. See figure 16.

FIGURE 16

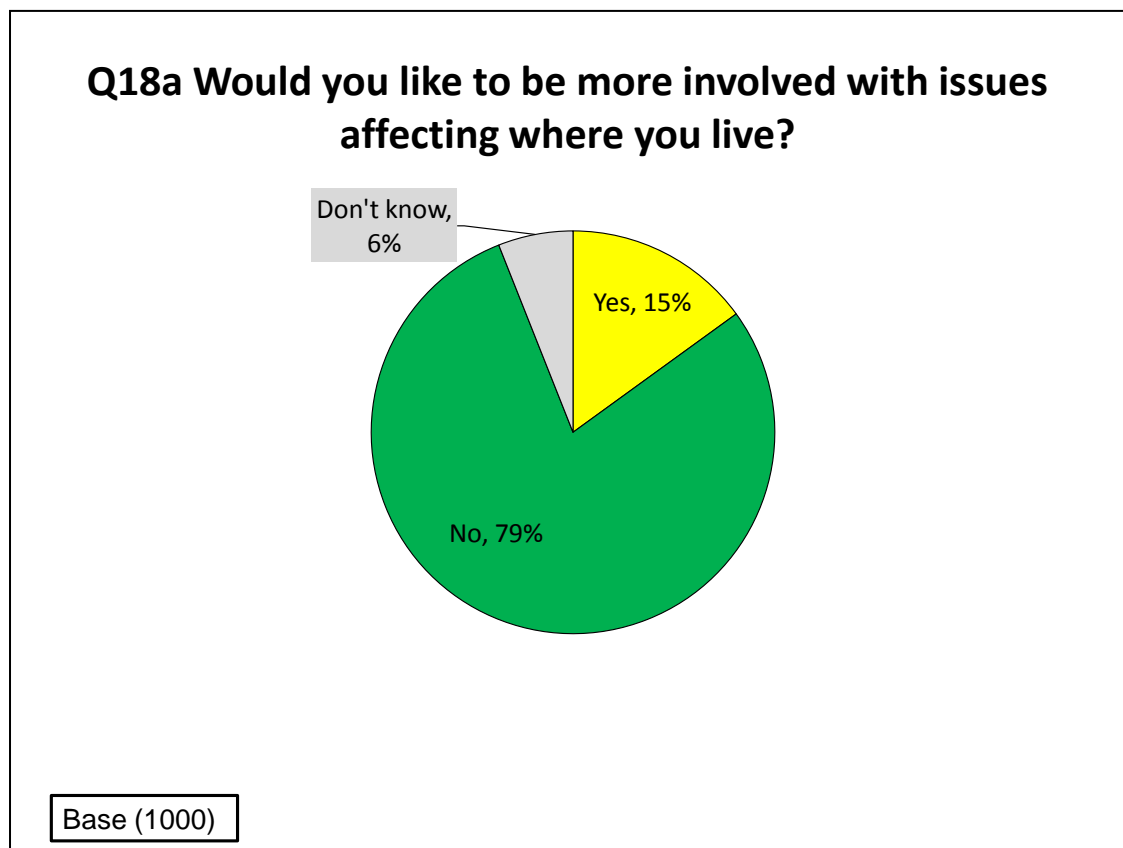


Those aged 55 – 64 were most likely to think that they can influence decisions (26%) as were those living in South Hams (33%).

Those least likely to think they had any influence on decisions were those aged 65+ (17%) and those living in Teignbridge (17%).

When asked if they would like to be more involved in decisions affecting where they live, 15% said that they would. See figure 17.

FIGURE 17



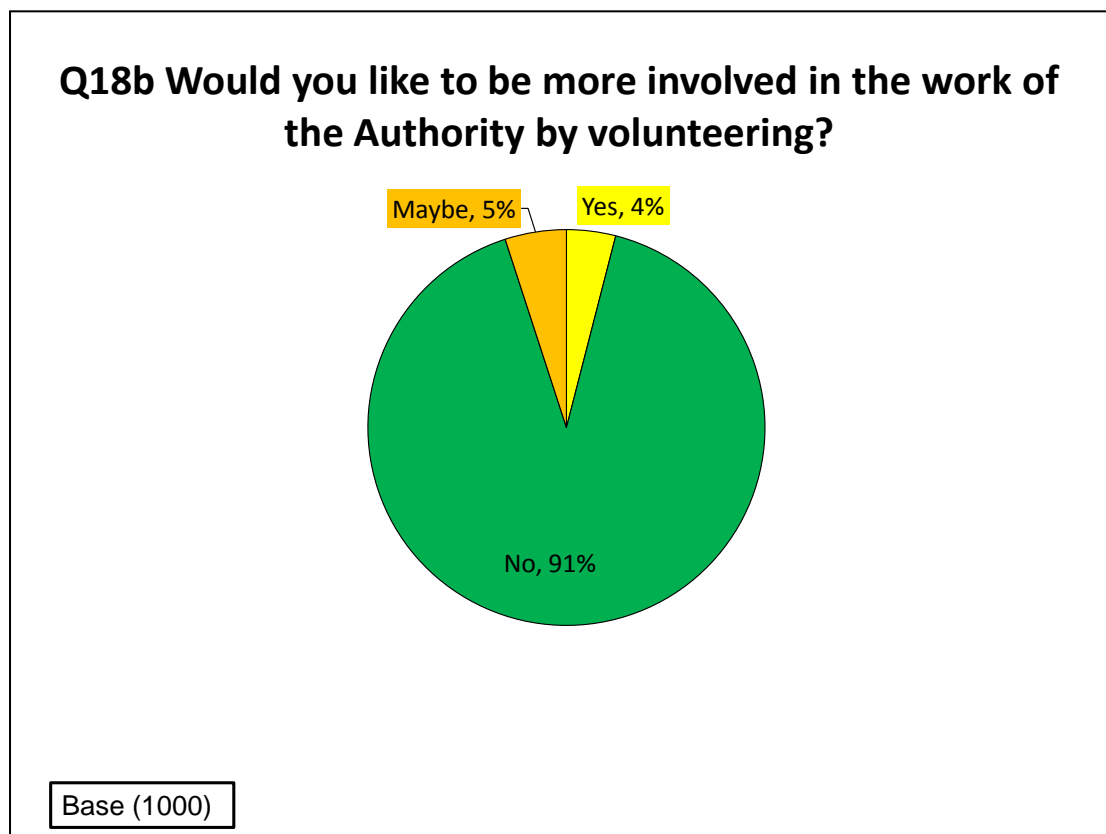
Those aged 65+ were less likely than others to want to be involved (9%).

Those who would like to be more involved were asked how, to which most of them replied *don't know* (68%). Some suggestions included:

- Local meetings (11 people)
- Involved in planning decisions (8 people)
- Being asked for our opinion/listened to (6 people)
- By being consulted about what's going on (6 people)
- By being better informed (3 people)
- Through parish council (3 people)

When asked, just 4% said that they would like to be more involved in the work of the Authority by volunteering, and a further 5% answered *maybe*. (See figure 18).

FIGURE 18



Those most likely to want to volunteer were those aged 16 – 34 (6%) and those living in Teignbridge (6%).

Those living in South Hams were the least likely (1%).

Of those who answered *yes* or *maybe*, almost three quarters (74%) did not know how they would like to volunteer. Suggestions included:

- Conservation/maintenance (6 people)
- Litter picking (4 people)
- Walks (3 people)
- Looking after animals/wildlife (2 people)

APPENDIX A Questionnaire

APPROACH PERSONS AGED 16 YEARS AND OVER SAY: Good morning/afternoon. My name is..... from Future Focus Research. We are calling on behalf of Dartmoor National Park Authority who have asked us to conduct a survey amongst residents of the National Park. The information obtained from the survey will help the Authority determine how best to communicate with residents, to find out what services you think need improving and help them to priorities actions for the future. You have been selected at random to take part in the survey and it will take no longer than 10 minutes. Your answers to the questions will be confidential and your name and address will not be passed back to the Authority. Are you willing to take part in the survey? Yes - continue No - thank and close

INTERVIEWER ID (if test please write in test)

Interviewer to record district Council

- West Devon Teignbridge South Hams

Q1 Interviewer to record gender

- Male Female

Q2 Can you tell me which of the following age bands you fall into?

READ OUT

- 16 - 34 35 - 54 55 - 64 65+

Q3 Before today had you heard of Dartmoor National Park Authority?

- Yes No

Q4 What do you understand is the role of Dartmoor National Park Authority?

Record Verbatim

SHOWCARD 1

Q5 Which one of the following do you think applies to the way the National Park Authority is managed and funded?

- It is part of the National Trust
- It is part of Devon County Council
- It is a special purpose Local Authority funded by the local council tax payer
- It is a special purpose Local Authority funded by Central Government (Defra) at no direct cost to local people
- Don't know

SHOWCARD 2 Q6 Looking at the following list, which of the following services provided by the National Park Authority have you used or come into contact with? Tick all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/> Rangers	<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Visitor Centres
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Development Grants	<input type="checkbox"/> Walks, talks, events and activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Car parks	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning advice and applications
<input type="checkbox"/> Children's club (Ranger Ralph)	<input type="checkbox"/> Toilets
<input type="checkbox"/> NPA Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation works service (practical maintenance across the Moor)
<input type="checkbox"/> Advice on the natural environment (biodiversity, trees and woodlands)	<input type="checkbox"/> Advice on the historic environment (archaeology, listed buildings, historic environment record)
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree preservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Haytor Hoppa
<input type="checkbox"/> Advice /support for farmers & landowners	<input type="checkbox"/> Advice /support to tourism businesses
<input type="checkbox"/> Education service (specialist environmental education)	<input type="checkbox"/> Footpaths, access land and other public rights of way
<input type="checkbox"/> Leaflets and information boards	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultations on Dartmoor National Park Management Plan and/or planning policies	<input type="checkbox"/> Support to develop community projects
<input type="checkbox"/> Other – please specify _____	

Q7 For each of the services that you have used or come into contact with, I would like you to tell me how satisfied you are with each of them READ OUT

	Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Rangers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
National Park Visitor Centres	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sustainable Development Grants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walks, talks, events and activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Car parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Planning advice and applications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Children's club (Ranger Ralph)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Toilets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
NPA Website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conservation works service (practical maintenance across the Moor)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Advice on the natural environment (biodiversity, trees and woodlands)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
Advice on the historic environment (archaeology, listed buildings, historic environment record)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tree preservation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Haytor Hoppa	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advice /support for farmers & landowners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Advice /support to tourism businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Education service (specialist environmental education)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Footpaths, access land and other public rights of way	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leaflets and information boards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volunteering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Consultations on Dartmoor National Park Management Plan and/or planning policies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support to develop community projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other – please specify _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q8 We have talked about the services provided by the Authority, I would now like to ask you for your opinion on what are the most important things the Dartmoor National Park Authority should be doing. How important are the following services provided by the Authority on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being Very important and 5 being not all important?

	1: Very important	2	3	4	5 Not at all important
Providing opportunities for residents and visitors to learn about the National Park and its special qualities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Maintaining footpaths, Public Rights of Way and access land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conserving buildings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conserving ancient sites and archaeology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Managing development in the National Park (Planning)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing and maintaining facilities for visitors such as car parks and toilets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing Visitor Centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	1: Very important	2	3	4	5 Not at all important
Supporting communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting the National Park as a visitor destination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing specialist environmental education to school groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supporting local businesses and the rural economy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing advice and support to farmers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conserving the landscape	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conserving wildlife	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Organising walks, talks, events and activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Managing the effects of climate change	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing public transport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q8b Is there anything else not listed in the question above that you think is an important service that the Authority should be providing?

<input type="radio"/> Yes - and what is that? _____	<input type="radio"/> No
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SHOWCARD 3 Q9 Looking at this list, where do you currently find out about the work of the Authority? Please tick all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/> Attending activities (e.g. Ranger walks)	<input type="checkbox"/> Friends and neighbours
<input type="checkbox"/> Community meetings e.g. Parish meetings	<input type="checkbox"/> Parish newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultation events	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning events
<input type="checkbox"/> Moor News (the Authority's E-newsletter)	<input type="checkbox"/> Press releases
<input type="checkbox"/> Local media (newspapers, TV/radio, local magazines)	<input type="checkbox"/> National media (National press, TV/radio, magazines)
<input type="checkbox"/> Twitter	<input type="checkbox"/> Facebook
<input type="checkbox"/> National Park Authority Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Other websites
<input type="checkbox"/> NPA Rangers	<input type="checkbox"/> Other NPA Staff

foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park						
d) Is in touch with and understands the needs of local people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
e) Gives good support to local communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f) Gives good support to local businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g) Responds in a timely way when contacted	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h) Listens and responds to residents' opinions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i) Gives good advice	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j) Makes good planning decisions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k) Provides good value for money	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q13 Overall how satisfied are you with the way the National Park Authority runs things?

- Very satisfied Fairly satisfied
 Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Don't know

Q14 Are there any general suggestions you would like to make to help improve the services provided by the National Park Authority? _____

Q15 How satisfied are you with your local area as a place to live?

- Very satisfied Fairly satisfied
 Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied Don't know

Q16 How strongly do you feel you belong to your local area/community?

- Very strongly Fairly strongly
 Not very strongly Not at all strongly Don't know

Q17 Do you feel that you can influence decisions affecting your area, that are currently the

responsibility of the National Park Authority?

- Yes No Don't know

Q18a Would you like to be more involved with issues affecting where you live? If yes, please ask how?

- Yes _____ No Don't know

Q18b Would you like to be more involved in the work of the Authority by volunteering? If yes or maybe ask, What activity is most of interest to you?

- Yes _____
 Maybe _____ No

Q18c Would you like us to pass your details on to the Authority so that they can contact you?

- Yes No

Q19 What is your ethnic group?

<input type="radio"/> White	<input type="radio"/> Of mixed background
<input type="radio"/> Black or Black British	<input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British
<input type="radio"/> Chinese	Other (specify) _____
<input type="radio"/> [DO NOT READ OUT] Prefer not to say	

Q20 Which one of these best describes your economic / employment status?

<input type="radio"/> Employed/Self employed	<input type="radio"/> Student
<input type="radio"/> Retired	<input type="radio"/> Caring for child/parent/partner
<input type="radio"/> Sick	<input type="radio"/> Looking after the home
<input type="radio"/> Unemployed	<input type="radio"/> [DO NOT READ OUT] Prefer not to say
<input type="radio"/> Other (specify) _____	

Q21 How many children aged 16 or under live in your household?

Q22 The Equality Act 2010 defines a person as having a disability if he or she 'has a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities'. Do you have such a disability?

- Yes No

The following information is only collected for quality assurance purposes so that backchecking can be undertaken to ensure this interview was conducted appropriately. These details do not form part of the survey and will not be included along with your responses to the survey unless you have asked to be contacted.

Respondents full name

Respondents address (only required if they want details passed on for volunteering/getting more involved)

Respondents postcode

Respondents telephone number

Respondents email address

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

7 February 2014

DARTMOOR HILL FARM PROJECT REVIEW 2003 - 2013Report of the Dartmoor Hill Farm Project OfficerRecommendation: **That Members note the content of the report.****1 Introduction**

- 1.1 This report draws Members' attention to the publication of the *Dartmoor Hill Farm Project Review (the Review)* and provides an update on the future of the project. The Review was put together as a record of the activities and achievements of the Dartmoor Hill Farm Project (DHFP) over the last 10 years. It is timely to produce it now as we enter a period of transition for DHFP.
- 1.2 A copy of the Review can be downloaded from the Authority's website: <http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/livingin/li-hillfarmproject>. A hard copy of the Review will be made available to Members at the meeting on 7 February 2014.
- 1.3 The Review has been sent to Ministers, local MPs, the National Farmers Union, Natural England and Defra, and a copy has been sent to all of the farms on the DHFP database and appears to have been well received and stimulated a number of enquiries and requests.

2 Background and Future of the Project

- 2.1 The DHFP was set up in 2003 following the *State of Farming on Dartmoor 2002* report commissioned by the Authority. This report highlighted the critical importance of maintaining a viable hill farming economy on Dartmoor. A number of recommendations were made, including the need for a Dartmoor hub for knowledge transfer, cooperation projects, arranging events and giving advice. These recommendations resulted in the creation of the DHFP the following year.
- 2.2 The DHFP has been able to take advantage of different sources of funding, with the bedrock of support from the Authority and the Duchy of Cornwall. Most recently, from December 2009 – December 2013, the DHFP has been funded under the South West Uplands Initiative, through the Rural Development Programme for England, now administered by Defra. The DHFP was part of an umbrella project which also funded Exmoor Hill Farm project and Bodmin Healthy Livestock Initiative.
- 2.3 The work of the Hill Farm Project is overseen by a Steering Group comprising seven farmers, representatives from Defra and the Duchy of Cornwall and officers from the National Park Authority. The Steering Group is currently chaired by the Deputy Chairman of the National Park Authority who is appointed to the Group by the Authority. Three part-time staff are employed on the project, equating to 1.9 FTE.
- 2.4 In December 2013 the Authority, as host for the DHFP, was informed that it had been successful in a bid for transition funding for the project, to provide continuity until December 2014. By this time, we hope that there will be more certainty about the

next tranche of EU funding and any potential future role for the DHFP in delivery of the next Rural Development Programme.

3 Outcomes 2003 - 2013

- 3.1 The DHFP's projects arise from farmers' concerns and suggestions. Many are started by the DHFP and then continue under independent governance, such as Dartmoor Farmers' Association and the Mule Group. The Review highlights some of these projects and the benefits that they bring.
- 3.2 An evaluation of the South West Uplands Initiative was carried out in 2013 and concluded that the project had been of value to the farmers and should be continued in some form in the future. This document can be accessed on the website: <http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/livingin/li-hillfarmproject>.
- 3.2 Financial benefits highlighted by farmers during the evaluation include:
- help in finding out about and applying successfully for grants
 - increased sales through collaborative selling groups such as Meat Dartmoor
 - higher prices achieved as a result of animal health management
 - savings through innovations such as on-farm parasite monitoring equipment
- 3.3 Non-financial benefits included:
- increasing awareness of grants, training, changes in legislation and new ideas
 - providing opportunities to share ideas with other local farmers
 - broadening outlook and raising awareness of opportunities
 - encouraging the younger generation to continue farming
- 3.3 Specifically the evaluation highlighted that a key strength of all three uplands projects was their close relationship and good communication with the farmers, that their thorough understanding of local issues instilled confidence in the farmers and that they were adaptable and responsive to opportunities. One area for improvement highlighted was to improve the monitoring of benefits on the farm.
- 3.4 DHFP staff have recently reviewed their database and files and estimate that over the 10 years they have supported 80% of the farms listed on the database in some way and had contact with 67% of the family members listed. The database is under constant review and improvement to try to ensure that all farms and all family members active on the farm are listed.
- 3.5 The report provides a useful summary of activities during the first decade and a basis for discussion with Dartmoor farmers and partner organisations about future priorities and opportunities. Members will note the innovative and successful range of projects facilitated through the Project, including Moorskills, Dartmoor Farmers Association, Moorwool and, more recently, the Healthy Livestock Initiative.

4 Conclusion

- 4.1 The Dartmoor Hill Farm Project has been in existence for 10 years. The ongoing success of the Project relies on continued engagement with the farming community and being responsive to emerging issues. The long term future of the Project is

uncertain and will depend on the future RDPE programme. Transition funding for 2014 will allow the team to help farmers identified, potential future schemes which may be funded by the new RDPE, and further develop a number of existing projects such as the Health Livestock Initiative.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications. This work was funded through agreed budgets.

6 Equality & Sustainability Impact

6.1 The DHFP works with all members of the farming family, providing many events that are open to all and other activities that may appeal specifically to certain groups, notably the “Next Generation” activities, where younger people can be confident they will not be heavily outnumbered by the older generation. There is also a Dartmoor Women in Farming group which meets once a month.

6.2 As an example of the spread of our work, in 2013, there were 516 attendances at our events, of which 61% were men and 39% were women.

KATE TOBIN

Background papers: Dartmoor Hill Farm Project Review 2003-2013, October 2013

DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK PLANNING AUTHORITY

7 February 2014

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

Report of the Trees and Landscape Officer

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

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER APPLICATIONS

Teignbridge

Ref: 13/0040

Ashburton Hospital

SX 7614 7032

Application to fell a suppressed sycamore and ash tree and to reduce a linear group of trees by 3-4m. The works will have minimal impact on amenity of the area. Consent was granted subject to the following 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: 13/0043

Langstone Manor Caravan Park

SX 5244 7383

Application to fell three western red cedars and pollard a Holm oak. The trees are in very poor condition with a short life expectancy. Consent was granted subject to the following 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 three standard oak trees within the crown spread of the originals during the first planting season following felling.

SECTION 211 NOTICES

Teignbridge

Ref: 13/0038 **7 Greenawell Close, North Bovey** **SX 7392 8394**

Notification to fell a semi-mature spruce and reduce the crown of a mature silver birch. The works have minimal impact on the character of the Conservation area.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

West Devon

Ref: 13/0039 **East Grange, Lydford** **SX 5129 8503**

Application to reduce the height of an ash tree by 2m. The works will have minimal impact on the health or appearance of the tree.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

Ref: 13/0041 **5 Stannary Place, Chagford** **SX 7007 8741**

Notification to reduce the height of a mature silver birch by 2m. The works will have minimal impact on the health or appearance of the tree.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

Ref: 13/0042 **Ramsley Lodge, South Zeal** **SX 6519 9325**

Notification to fell a mature scots pine. The tree is in poor condition with a short life expectancy.

A Tree Preservation Order has not been made.

BRIAN BEASLEY