

About you

- First name: Jinni
- Surname: King
- Address: [REDACTED]
- I am completing this form as: A resident
- If other, please specify: •
- Job title: Driving instructor and Home Energy Advisor
- Organisation: Self Employed/Freelance advisor working with South Dartmoor Community Energy
- On behalf of: •
- Email address: [REDACTED]
- Did you submit comments on the Regulation 18 (First Draft) Local Plan?: No
- Local Plan Consultee List: I would like to be added to the Local Plan consultee list

Share your comments

- Does your comment relate to a paragraph, policy or policies map?: Policy
- Please tell us which paragraph/policy your comment relates to: Policy 6.6(2)
- Do you consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant?: Yes
- Do you consider the Local Plan to be sound?: No

- Do you consider the Local Plan to be compliant with the duty to co-operate?: Yes

The Soundness requirement states that the plan must be :Positively prepared – providing a strategy which, as a minimum seeks to meet the area’s objectively assessed needs, and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring authorities is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development. It is my assessment that Policy 6.6(2) preventing large-scale renewable development within the park is inconsistent with achieving sustainable development. We have legally binding national carbon reduction targets and are in a state of climate emergency, in England we have a target to be net zero by 2050. In addition, DNP has, itself declared a Climate Emergency and is a signatory to the Devon Climate Emergency. Policy 6.6(2) directly contradicts this national target. The NPPF has a presumption in favour of sustainable development (paragraph 11), so that sustainable development is pursued in a positive way and: "c) an environmental objective – to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity,

- Please tell us why you have answered yes and/or no to the questions above: using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy." This cannot be achieved by banning large scale renewable energy which will be necessary to mitigate the damaging effects of climate change on current and future generations, and on biodiversity. Further to this we have some of the best wind energy resource and sites in the country, therefore banning large scale renewable energy is not a prudent use of land. According to the IPCC report we have 10 years to act and make a difference to prevent some of the most catastrophic impacts of climate change, we will not be able to do this on Dartmoor, and wider in Devon, if we ban large scale renewable energy generation. Onshore wind and solar are the cheapest forms of energy generation we have according to the UK government, and are the technologies most able to support us to achieve net zero by 2050, but they have been singled out in policy 6.6(c) as unacceptable for Dartmoor. Dartmoor is in a fairly unique position locally, in still being at a stage where the local plan could be modified to reflect the Climate Emergency. Most local plans were finalised prior to the recent paradigm shift in understanding of the scale of changes needed. Dartmoor has time to reflect this in

the plan, and also contains some of the best opportunities to contribute to Devon's Climate change effort. It saddens me that this opportunity is being missed.

It seems to me that allowing wind turbines to be placed on the high hills, where the wind resource is greatest, could complement and enhance the position of the Park as a beacon of Nature. For without significant renewable generation, we risk losing the very species on behalf of whom the views are currently being protected, us. Were another service, a sewage treatment plant for example, to be needed; policy would not prohibit the development. Rather, policy would guide on how to best meet the needs of society whilst minimising negative consequences. I believe we are beyond the point where we can choose to see large scale renewables as anything other than a vital service. If we are to survive and turn the Climate Emergency around we need to accept the need of the service, and work out how it can best be delivered. A change to policy 6.6(2) to permit large scale renewable generation in, and close to, the park would better meet the criteria of sustainability, as it would put us further on the path to mitigating Climate Change and the associated risks to landscapes and people. Without the change, reaching net-zero in Devon is a near impossibility, as supported by the research presented in the response from SDCE.

- What modifications do you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant and/or sound?:

- Do you wish to participate in hearing session(s)?:

Yes, I wish to participate in hearing session(s)

- If you answered yes to the hearing session(s), please tell us why you consider this to be necessary:

As a resident of Dartmoor, a frequent visitor/hiker in the park and also a Director of a Dartmoor based Community Energy group, I feel very invested in this issue.