DARTMOOR LOCAL PLAN
guiding planning applications in Dartmoor National Park

Consultation: Issues for the new Local Plan

See the full document here: www.dartmoor.gov.uk/localplan

This consultation sets out the likely scope and main issues for the new local plan for Dartmoor National Park. It gives an early opportunity for residents, communities, visitors, businesses and other organisations to offer views on what the new local plan should say.

It is a starting point for discussion that we hope will get us talking together about future development on Dartmoor.

This consultation aims to:

- identify all of the topics which the new local plan should cover
- highlight the information we will collect (the evidence base) to help us decide what the policy in that area should say
- set out some of the issues and changes we may need to consider

We will cover seven topics, which will form the chapters of the new local plan.

Your details

Name:
Address:
Email:

Do not feel you need to respond to all of the suggested Talking Points set out below, focus on your area of interest or knowledge, or tell us what you feel needs changing, or should stay the same. You might like to consider the following general questions.

a) Have we identified the right issues? Have we missed anything?

b) Will the information we are collecting tell us what we need to know?

c) What are your views on current policy, and the decisions it leads to? What might we need to change, what shouldn't we change?

TOPIC 1 – Strategy and Planning Applications: *Including the overall strategy for where new development is allowed, design issues, amenity, and flooding*

1.1   What makes your village or town a good place to live, and what do we need to do to protect it, or improve it?

1.2   The current strategy concentrates development in larger villages and towns with just development which is needed locally in some smaller villages. How do we get this balance right in the new local plan?

1.3 Does the approach of supporting different levels of development in Local Centres (larger villages and towns), and Rural Settlements (smaller villages) need to change, if so how?

1.4 Is new development in the National Park well designed, and well built?

1.5 Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this topic? (see also Topic 7 - Towns, Villages and Development Sites)

TOPIC 2 - Environment: *Including habitats and wildlife, landscape, archaeology, and listed buildings*

2.1   How should the local plan strike the right balance between protecting habitats and wildlife, and allowing new development?

2.2   How should we protect Dartmoor's landscape from inappropriate change?

2.3   How should the local plan conserve and enhance Dartmoor's archaeology, conservation areas and historic buildings?

2.4   How do we ensure our farm buildings and farmsteads are protected from poor development, and find viable new uses if they are no longer in use?

2.5   Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this topic?

TOPIC 3 – Housing: *Including new housing, conversions, affordable housing, homes for agricultural workers, and self-build*

3.1   Should we plan to meet Dartmoor's entire housing requirement, or should we continue to prioritise local need and affordable housing?

3.2   How might the local plan be more flexible to meet the needs of younger people, gypsies and travellers, older people, farm and rural workers and other employees, or self-builders?

3.3   The current local plan restricts affordable housing to local people in housing need, who cannot afford to buy a house. Should we look at different restrictions such as 'local occupancy' (local, but not affordable), or 'principal residence' (not a second home) for new homes on Dartmoor?

3.4   What, in your opinion, makes someone a 'local' person?

3.5   Should we continue to limit the size of extensions and replacement houses, if so, how?

3.6   Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this topic?

TOPIC 4 – Communities, Services and Infrastructure *Including health and education facilities, sport and green space, roads, parking and transport*

4.1   Who do you think should pay to support existing and new services and infrastructure needed in the National Park, and how?

4.2   Please help us to update our Infrastructure Delivery Plan. What services and infrastructure do you believe need improving in your community?

4.3   Where development outside the National Park, such as housing, has an impact on Dartmoor, should it be expected to pay for projects or works which reduce that impact?

4.4   Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this topic?

TOPIC 5 – Economy, Business and Leisure: *Including shops, business premises and employment sites, farming, horse keeping, and tourism*

5.1   How do we ensure farming on Dartmoor can be sustainable, both in economic and environmental terms?

5.2   The current local plan focusses on expanding existing business sites and premises. Should the new local plan give more opportunities for new business to locate in the National Park?

5.3   The current local plan restricts the use of holiday homes, to ensure they are available for this use and do not become open market housing. Should the new local plan be more flexible around other short term use of holiday homes?

5.4   An increasing number people who live on Dartmoor work from home. How could the local plan help to meet the needs of these home workers?

5.5   Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this topic?

TOPIC 6 – Minerals, Waste and Energy: *Including quarrying, waste, and renewable energy*

6.1 The current local plan resists large renewable energy development on Dartmoor, but allows for smaller projects. Is this the right approach to take?

6.2 What changes are needed to current minerals policies so they effectively control the operation and impact of existing and new quarries?

6.3 The current local plan resists large scale quarrying, but supports small scale building stone quarries. Is this the right approach to take, and should we be more encouraging of local building stone quarries?

6.4 Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this topic?

TOPIC 7 – Towns, Villages and Development Sites: *Including policies for specific towns and villages, and land allocated for development*

7.1 We must show we can deliver housing over the life of the local plan, or we will not be able to defend planning decisions in the future. What is the best way to make sure Dartmoor's towns and villages have enough land for housing?

7.2 Should we allocate sites for housing development in the main settlements?

7.3 Should we allocate sites for employment uses, and other mixed uses or redevelopment?

7.4 Do you have land in or adjoining a town or village which could be available for housing or employment development in the future? If so you may complete a separate form to submit land for assessment.

7.5 Do you have any other thoughts or comments about this topic?

Any further comments

Please ensure we receive your comments by 13 January 2017

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